



ST. JAMES
ST. MARY OF MOUNT CARMEL
PARISHES

453 S. Main St. P.O. Box 280
Amherst, WI 54406
715-824-3455

-- Fr. Jerzy Rebacz --
Deacon Art Schaller

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Parish Website:
sjsmmcc.weconnect.com



Easter, March 31st, 2024

Mission Statement:

We, the stewards of St. James and St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parishes in the Diocese of LaCrosse, strive to live as disciples of Christ.

Vision Statement:

As Parishioners of St. James and St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parishes, we are called as stewards to celebrate the presence of Christ in our life as we worship together in prayer, in liturgy and in the Sacraments. We endeavor to strengthen our Catholic faith and Christian service as individuals, as families, and as a parish community as we seek to spread the teachings of Christ through our words, through our witness, and through our actions.



Weekday Mass Intentions

- Tuesday, April 2nd, 8:15 AM @ SJ
..... Richard Shaver
- Wednesday, April 3rd, 8:15 AM @ SM
..... Andy Kurszewski
- Thursday, April 4th, 8:15 AM @ SM
..... Brandon Somers / Stephen Hodgkins
- Friday, April 5th, 8:15 AM @ SJ
..... Josephine Hoyer

Weekend Mass Intentions

- Saturday, April 6th, 4:00 PM @ SM
..... Richard Rzentkowski
- Sunday, April 7th, 8:30 AM @ SJ
..... Diane Konkol
- Sunday, April 7th, 10:30 AM @ SM
..... Parishioners of Our Two Parishes

THE RESURRECTION MYSTERY

"O truly blessed Night," sings the Exsultet of the Easter Vigil, "which alone deserved to know the time and the hour when Christ rose from the realm of the dead!" But no one was an eyewitness to Christ's Resurrection and no evangelist describes it. No one can say how it came about physically. Still less was its innermost essence, his passing over to another life, perceptible to the senses. Although the Resurrection was an historical event that could be verified by the sign of the empty tomb and by the reality of the apostles' encounters with the risen Christ, still it remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith as something that transcends and surpasses history.

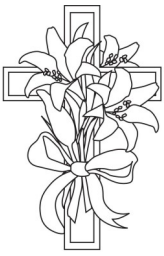
-Catechism of the Catholic Church, #647

ADORATION:

St. Mary: First Thursday of the month after morning Mass.
St. James: First Friday of the month after morning Mass; First Thursday of the Month 4:30-5:30 PM

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

After weekday Masses at respective Church. Saturday at 3:30 PM at St. Mary of Mount Carmel.
Sunday after 10:30 AM Mass at St. Mary of Mount Carmel.



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
 In every Holy Mass we repeat:
*“Deliver us, Lord, from every evil,
 graciously grant us peace in our days,
 that by the help of your mercy, we may be
 always free from sin and safe from all
 distress, as we await the blessed hope and
 the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ”.*

This prayer expresses trust in God, who is the foundation of hope - not in any god, but in God who has a human face and loved us to the end.

Jesus Christ is the name and face of God's love for each of us. By his suffering and death, he saved us from sin and confusion, and his resurrection is a pledge of our resurrection. However, the first gift of the Risen One is peace.

We live in a world of confusion, wars and conflicts, both powerful and bloody between countries, but also those that concern our nation, local communities or families. We are faced with a new arms race and confusion of concepts, in which even the value of human life is denied. Therefore, I wish that our families will be harmonious and happy, full of faith and trust in God. I also convey wishes of peace and hope that with God we can overcome all dangers and fears. I don't think anyone needs to be convinced how much we need peace. In the Bible, its fruit is not only the absence of war and confusion, but also happiness, success, and even good health.

I extend my warmest wishes for the Resurrection and the Easter Season! May the Risen Christ give you joy of heart, health of soul and body. May He lift your spirits, give you peace and strengthen your love!

Happy Easter!

Fr. Jerzy



2023 Diocese of La Crosse Annual Appeal

Update as of 3/25/2024:

The Diocesan Annual Appeal (DAA) is extremely critical to the needy in our Diocese and beyond. Many of you have generously made a contribution and your contributions are greatly appreciated.

St James is at 64% of target: \$16,209 pledged against a target of \$25,285 with 36 families contributing.

St Mary is at 52% of target: \$16,390 pledged against a target of \$31,475 with 46 families contributing.

Both parishes have previously met and exceeded target for the DAA for the past **6 years – thank you!**

Your parish needs your financial support for the 2023-2024 DAA. Remember, any shortfall to the DAA target must still be paid to the Diocese. Any shortfall gets paid out of our general funds, which we need to support our day-to-day operations.

The deadline is June 30, 2024.

Please prayerfully consider and act on a contribution to the DAA. Every contribution, any amount helps! If you have any questions and/or are not able to find your DAA pledge cards, please call the parish office for assistance at 715-824-3455.



Stewardship a way of living

St James			
Week Ending March 24, 2024			
Received	\$2,795		
Budget	<u>\$3,430</u>		
	(\$635)		
	Feb 2024	Jul 2023 - Feb 2024	Jul 2022 - Feb 2023
Received	\$10,873	\$102,123	\$112,936
Budget	<u>\$14,578</u>	<u>\$116,624</u>	
	(\$3,705)	(\$14,501)	

St Mary of Mount Carmel			
Week Ending March 24, 2024			
Received	\$3,173		
Budget	<u>\$3,564</u>		
	(\$391)		
	Feb 2024	Jul 2023 - Feb 2024	Jul 2022 - Feb 2023
Received	\$13,783	\$134,123	\$121,355
Budget	<u>\$15,148</u>	<u>\$121,184</u>	
	(\$1,365)	\$12,939	

Support Scrip Gift Cards

SMMC SCRIP UPDATE:

Our next Scrip gift card sales will be on April 6th & 7th and April 20th & 21st.

Cards can be purchased at any time by calling Pat Zielinski at 715-824-3762.

*Thanks to everyone
 who supports our Scrip program*

ST. JAMES SCRIP CARDS:

Scrip cards make excellent gifts while supporting your parish.

Stop by the parish office during office hours or contact: Hydie Laidlaw at 715-347-3544.

*Please contact Hydie Laidlaw or
 Pat Zielinski for more information.*

Parish News...

SATURDAY 4:00PM MASS:

Beginning May 4th, the 4:00pm Saturday evening Mass will take place at St. James through the end of October.

OFFICE CLOSED:

In celebration of Easter the Parish Office will be closed Monday, April 1st (*No Foolin'*).

First Thursday, April 4th, at St. Mary: Mass at 8:15am followed by Exposition and Benediction.

First Friday, April 5th, at St. James: Mass at 8:15am followed by Exposition and Benediction.

FIRST THURSDAY ADORATION ON APRIL 4th, AT ST. JAMES, 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Do you want your spiritual senses to be awakened, restored, sharpened & strengthened, then come spend just one hour with God in Adoration. He is waiting for you.

THANK YOU:

The Family of Elizabeth Chojnacki would like to thank all of those who volunteered and helped with the funeral for our Mother. The funeral Mass, the heartfelt music, and the luncheon were wonderful. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

BIBLE STUDY AT ST. JAMES:

We will not be having Bible Study on Monday, April 1st. We will resume classes the following week on April 9. ***Have a Blessed Easter!***

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING MORNING MASS ON DAYS THAT WE HAVE A FUNERAL:

There WILL BE morning Mass on days that we have a funeral, even if the funeral and morning Mass are at the same parish.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA...

Begins on Good Friday. Pamphlets with the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Intentions for each day of the Novena are at the entryways of Church.

THE PASCAL CANDLE:

The new Paschal candle towers over the Easter assembly, a majestic symbol of the joy and glory radiated by the risen Lord. Its stature is both inspiring and pragmatic, for it will burn at every Easter season Mass and every funeral rite during the year. This pillar of Christ is lowered into the baptismal font three times at the Easter Vigil in a symbolic relationship that gives birth to the baptized so they may "rise to the life of newborn children through water and the Holy Spirit."

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED DURING HOLY WEEK:

There are so many people to thank for giving of their time and talent or for participating in many ways, to help make Holy Week a truly wonderful and Holy Week. THANK YOU to Father Jerzy, Deacon Art, the musicians, the Lectors, EMHC, the Servers, those who helped decorate the church, those who participated in the procession on Palm Sunday, the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday, the Carrying of the Cross on Good Friday, and for those who helped with the behind the scenes prep work for each day and those who attended each day. Holy Week, and especially the Triduum, is the most solemn time in the Liturgical Church year. The three days of the Triduum is a period of time that traces the final days of Jesus' life, his death, and his resurrection from the dead, through which comes our Salvation. Today as you celebrate the Risen Christ on this glorious Easter day, say a prayer of thanksgiving for those who helped to make this week truly special. Have a Blessed Easter. - *Sacred Worship Committee*

"DID YOU KNOW"

from the Sacred Worship Committee

Before the Council of Nicaea in AD 325, the date for Easter was based directly on the Jewish Passover, though there were variations among Christian communities. Passover was documented to begin the fourteenth day of the Jewish month of Nisan (our March or April) because that was when the sacrificial lambs had been slain in Egypt (Exodus 12:6, Lev 23:5, Num 9:5). The Jewish calendar is based on lunar cycles, with a month beginning with the new moon. Therefore, the fourteenth day of the month is the day or night on which there is a full moon.

There was a desire in the Christian world of AD 325 to be able to better predict when Easter would be. Because some Christians and all Jews continued to use the lunar calendar and some used the solar (Julian) calendar – which is more similar to ours – the council created the formula which is still used today, primarily as a compromise between the two but also keeping possible proximity to Passover. Easter is the *first Sunday following the first full moon following the spring equinox* and can fall between March 22 and April 25.

MARRIAGE:

Couples requesting the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage should contact the office at the time of engagement, at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage.

If a couple wishes to be married as a registered parish member, they must actively participate in the faith (Sunday worship) and be a registered member of our parish at least 3 months prior to requesting the Sacrament of Marriage.

Weddings are not celebrated during Lent.

BAPTISM:

Parents may request the baptism of their infant at least two months prior to the anticipated date of baptism. Family should be members of our parish, they must actively participate in the faith (Sunday worship) and be a registered member of our parish. To request baptism, please call the parish office at 715-824-3455.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:

If you or a loved one is in need of the Anointing Sacrament especially before a hospital stay or procedure - please contact the office.

UNITED PRAYERS TO HEAVEN

PRAYER CHAIN:

Notice to all Parishioners. If you or anyone you know is in need of prayers, please let us know. We will keep your name & prayer request confidential. Names are included only if you so desire.

CONTACTS FOR PRAYER CHAIN:

Laurieplhintz5@gmail.com
Darlene..... 715-592-4443
Barb 715-824-3649

CHILI DINNER & RAFFLE:

Sacred Heart, Cassel Pro-Life Chili Dinner and Raffle. April 7th - 9:30am-2:00pm. 222761 Cty. Rd. S. Marathon. Adults: \$8.00; Children 6-12: \$4.00; 5 and under: Free. All you can eat chili, crackers, bread, cheese, pickles, milk or coffee and 1 dessert. Carry-outs available: \$6.00. Raffle tickets: \$1 per ticket, available at the door. Drawing at 2:00 pm.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST:

St. Bronislava Holy Name Society's "All You Can Eat Breakfast" will be held Sunday, April 7, 2024 from 8:30AM to Noon at St. Bronislava Catholic Church located at 3200 Plover Rd in Plover. The Menu includes buttermilk & potato pancakes, French toast, breakfast sausage links & ham (Limit 4 in combo), milk, juice & coffee. Cost is \$10.00 for ages 13-adult, \$4 for ages 5-12 & Free for ages 4 & under. The meal is cooked by the men of Holy Name and table service is provided by St Bron's Boy Scout troop #201. Proceeds from the breakfast go towards the Parish, School & Youth Needs.

Thank you for your support.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:



Everyone is welcome to Sacred Heart Parish on **Sunday, April 7th** as we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday!

In a series of revelations to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, our Lord called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today, we know that feast

as Divine Mercy Sunday, named by Pope St. John Paul II at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30th, 2000. Adoration will be from 9:00am – 3:00pm. At 3:00pm they will have Divine Mercy hours / chaplet, and procession of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction. Confession will be held from 12:30 pm until 3:00 pm. Father Todd Mlsna will give a presentation at 2:00 pm and the day will end with a Mass at 4:00 pm.

Parish Staff

Office:

Tina Maves PH: 715-824-3455
catholiccentral54406@gmail.com

Send your Ambo announcements into the office via email by Noon Tuesday

Parish Life Administrator:

Ann Hemmy
sjsmparishlife@gmail.com

DRE:

Michelle Shulfer
sjsmdre@gmail.com

Bookkeeper:

Sandy Trzebiatowski
sjsmbkkpr@gmail.com

Bulletin:

bulletininfo06@gmail.com

Please send your request via email by **midnight Sunday**. Please refrain to a maximum of 100 words and in a word document.

Church Councils

Pastoral Council

Cindi Borski SM
Justen Pacocha SM
Barb Gutschow SM
Judy Zinda SM
Michael Juris SJ
Michelle Shulfer SJ
Christine Thompson SJ

Finance Council

Mark Doll SM
Gilbert Patoka SM
Sharon Stratton SJ
Sandy Trzebiatowski SJ

Committees Chairperson and Co-chairs

Family Life: Laura Gould

Sacred Worship: Judi Marquard & Barb Groholski

Social Concerns: Pat Zielinski and

Laura Trzebiatowski-Przekurat