



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; Pastor
Deacon Art Schaller

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
8:30AM—1:00PM

Parish Website: sjsmmcc.weconnect.com



November 16, 2025

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.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, November 18th 8:15AM @ St. SJ
+John & Lillian Wierzba, Living & Deceased Family Members

Wednesday, November 19th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Michael & Emily Wierzba

Thursday, November 20th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Al & Theresa Wroblewski

Friday, November 21st 8:15AM @ SJ
+ Sandy Konkol

Saturday, November 22nd 4:00PM @ SJ
+ Myron & Vera Rzentkowski

Sunday, November 23rd
8:30 AM @ SJ Parishioners of Our Two Parishes
10:30AM @ SJ +Ray & Verona Groholski,
Living & Deceased Family Members



Lord,

welcome into your presence your children
whom you have called from this life.

Release them from all their sins,
Bless them with eternal light and peace,
Raise them up to live forever with all your
saints in the glory of the resurrection.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Adoration Schedule

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

Confession Schedule

After weekday Masses and Saturday at 3:30 PM at St. James.
Sunday after 10:30 AM Mass at St. James.

St. Mary Renovation Update

Prep work continues!

Prep work continues in the sacristies and the stairwells off the sacristies. One area was so bad the painters had to remove the plaster down to the bricks.

There are always some surprises when working with an older building!

With the arrival of the towers that will be placed on top flooring of the scaffolding, work will begin next week on the ceilings.



This week we will be making another large payment on the project. A friendly reminder to please continue to make payments on your pledges. A sincere thank you again to everyone (from both parishes) for your generous financial and spiritual support of the St Mary renovation project.



If you have not already donated to this very necessary project, please consider donating to the *St. Mary of Mount Carmel Inspired by the Spirit fund*. Contact the parish office if you need further information.

St James

Week Ending November 9, 2025

Received \$4,817
Budget \$3,462
\$1,355

	Month of Oct 2025	Current Fiscal YTD Oct 2025	Prior Fiscal YTD Oct 2024
Received	\$15,315	\$59,096	\$50,281
Budget	\$15,000	\$60,000	
	\$315	(\$904)	

St Mary of Mount Carmel

Week Ending November 9, 2025

Received \$3,100
Budget \$3,923
(\$823)

	Month of Oct 2025	Current Fiscal YTD Oct 2025	Prior Fiscal YTD Oct 2024
Received	\$11,976	\$51,792	\$57,909
Budget	\$17,000	\$68,000	
	(\$5,024)	(\$16,208)	



Scrip Gift Cards

Presents with purpose!

Purchase scrip gift cards for all your Thanksgiving groceries and Christmas gifting and earn money for St James or St. Mary parish in the process! If Pat or Hydrie do not have the gift cards you're looking for in stock, they will be happy to place an order for you! For every gift card purchased, we receive a % back from the retailer...and it costs you nothing extra!

SMMC Scrip Update

Our next gift card sale will be at the 10:30am Mass on December 7th.

Remember....Christmas is just around the corner! Please place your Christmas order early. Do you need a list of cards available through Pacelli—or need to place an order? Please call Pat Zielinski at (715) 824-3762.

St. James Scrip Update

Cards can always be purchased at any time by calling Hydrie Laidlaw at (715) 347-3544 or stopping by the parish office.

Are you, or someone you know, homebound? If you would like a weekly bulletin, please contact the parish office. Also, Father Jerzy would once again like to visit his homebound parishioners this Advent season. Please contact the parish office to have your name placed on his list for a December visit.



Friendly reminder. There are still a few 2026 Lector Workbooks waiting for pick up in the SJ sacristy.

Years ago, hospitals and assisted living homes would automatically notify a parish when a parishioner was admitted. This no longer happens. If you or your family member is admitted to the hospital or an assisted living facility and you would like Father Jerzy to know about it, you or a loved one will need to call the parish office.

No Adult Faith Formation this week. Please note there will be no video program or prayer this Monday evening (11/17). We'll see you again next Monday! And...it's not too late! If you are interested in viewing the video program '*Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls*', you are welcome at any time!

Thanksgiving Day Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, November 27th @ 8:15am (SJ). If you are able, please join us in celebrating and giving thanks to our Lord.



A sincere Thank You to our Bingo Committee for hosting our recent Bingo Events! A good time was shared by all who attended!

We have new booklets of our Diocesan seminarians available at the entrances. Please pick one up for your household and pray daily for our seminarians.

Looking Ahead—

Monday, December 8th

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated at 8:15AM and 6:00PM (both at SJ)

Monday, December 15th

Confessions at Saint James beginning at 6:00PM

Wednesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve (SJ)

Masses will be celebrated at 4:00PM and 10:00PM

Thursday, December 25th—Christmas (SJ)

Mass will be celebrated at 10:00AM

Did You Know?

From our Sacred Worship Committee

Due to my interests, my TikTok algorithm generally sends me to either CatTok or CatholicTok. This is where I learned about a community of religious sisters called the Norbertine Canonesses of the Bethlehem Priory of St. Joseph. They live a life of liturgy and contemplation in the hills east of Bakersfield California.

Of special note, they hold a nightly "Motherhood Hour" at midnight to pray for mothers. They offer intercessions for strength, peace, and endurance. The goal is to remind mothers they are not alone during these demanding and exhausting hours. I thought these prayers to mothers were a wonderful part of their vocation!

To add to my delight with this community, they help support themselves by operating a dog breeding program of AKC Labrador Retrievers and AKC Anatolian Shepherd dogs! Many of these dogs are then used as service dogs. They also raise sheep and dairy cows.

Closer to home in Door County, there is a community of sisters called the Missionaries of the Word. Aside from their prayer life, they serve with Catholic Youth Expeditions (CYE), an apostolate to youth and young adults through expedition retreats in Door County. The mission of this apostolate is "*To encounter Jesus Christ and Foster Catholic Christian Community through expedition retreats of prayer, proclamation of the Gospel, and outdoor adventure.*" The website is cyexpeditions.org. They have expeditions for teens, young adults and adult/families. Check them out!

And the next time you wake up in the middle of the night, say some prayers of intercessions for the mothers who are up with their young children. I'm sure it will be appreciated!



Praying for Loved Ones Who Have Passed Away

Continue to pray for those from our parishes who passed away this past year and for those who mourn their loss. November is the month that we pray for all the holy souls in Purgatory. Say extra prayers for your loved ones who have passed and for those who have no one to pray for them.

*Eternal Rest Grant onto them O Lord
and let the Perpetual Light shine upon them.
May they, and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

† Amen.

FAITH STEP



How many people know you're a Christian because of your loving lifestyle? You can't live a loving lifestyle as a hermit. You spell love T-I-M-E. It takes time to love other people. If you love your friends, you've got to spend time with them. If you love your kids, you've got to spend time with them. If you love Jesus, you've got to spend time with him. Love always costs time and energy. But it's always worth it. People are attracted to Christ more than they are persuaded to him. They're attracted by the love of God shown through the people who claim to follow him. And they wouldn't care what we know until they first know we care.

Everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

John 13:35

Area Events

St. Adalbert Harvest Dinner. Saturday, November 22nd. Serving 4PM-7:30PM. Menu: Homemade chicken soup, baked chicken, ham, kielbasa & sauerkraut, rolls, glazed carrots, dressing, potatoes, gizzards and gravy, dessert, coffee, and milk. Cost is \$18.

St. Peter Parish Family Life Presents their 22nd Annual Christmas Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 13th from 7:30 am - 10:30 am at Kolbe Hall - located in the lower level of St. Peter Church, 800 Fourth Avenue, Stevens Point. Cookies and Candy. \$10 per pound.



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.

Anointing 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

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
Laurie plhintz5@gmail.com
Darlene 715-592-4443
Barb 715-824-3649

Parish Staff

Office

Veronica Bruske (715) 824-3455
catholiccentral54406@gmail.com

Please send your ambo announcements into the office via email by 4:30pm Tuesday

Parish Life Administrator

Ann Hemmy
sjsmparishlife@gmail.com

DRE

Michelle Shulfer
sjsmdre@gmail.com

Bulletin

bulletinfo06@gmail.com
Please send your bulletin requests via email by 4:30pm Tuesday.

Church Councils

Pastoral Council

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

Finance Council

Mark Doll SM
Gilbert Patoka SM
Sandy Trzebiatowski SJ
Pat Kwiatkowski SJ

Committees Chairperson and Co-chairs

Family Life: Laura Gould
Sacred Worship: Judi Marquard &
Barb Groholski

Social Concerns: Pat Zielinski and
Laura Trzebiatowski-Przekurat