



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 23, 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 25th 8:15AM @ St. SJ
+Thomas & Alice Ehr, Living & Deceased Family Members

Wednesday, November 26th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Jerome Glodowski

Thursday, November 27th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Myron Meshak

Friday, November 28th
→ Please note: No Mass or Communion Service this day

Saturday, November 29th 4:00PM @ SJ
+Loecher Family, Living & Deceased Family Members

Sunday, November 30th
8:30 AM @ SJ +Leonard T, Leonard J, and Delphine Shulfer
10:30AM @ SJ Parishioners of Our Two Parishes

Always be **Thankful and Grateful**



Oh, God, when I have food,
Help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work, help me
To remember the jobless;
When I have a warm home,
Help me to remember the homeless;
When I am without pain,
Help me to remember those who suffer;
And remembering, help me
To destroy my complacency
and bestir my compassion.
Make me concerned enough to help,
by word and deed, those who cry out
for what we take for granted.
Amen

*Have a Blessed
Thanksgiving*

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!

The painters continue the prep work on the walls in the cry room and reconciliation room. The damaged and cracked plaster is being repaired and readied for painting.



Please continue to pray for the success of the restoration and the safety of all the workers. Keep the painters in your prayers as they travel home for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Thank you to all for your continuous generous support of maintaining St. Mary of Mount Carmel Church for future generations!



St James

Week Ending November 16, 2025

Received	\$2,602		
Budget	<u>\$3,462</u> (\$860)		
	Month of Oct 2025	Current Fiscal YTD Oct 2025	Prior Fiscal YTD Oct 2024
Received	\$15,315	\$59,096	\$50,281
Budget	<u>\$15,000</u>	<u>\$60,000</u>	
	\$315	(\$904)	

St Mary of Mount Carmel

Week Ending November 16, 2025

Received	\$4,026		
Budget	<u>\$3,923</u> \$103		
	Month of Oct 2025	Current Fiscal YTD Oct 2025	Prior Fiscal YTD Oct 2024
Received	\$11,976	\$51,792	\$57,909
Budget	<u>\$17,000</u>	<u>\$68,000</u>	
	(\$5,024)	(\$16,208)	



Scrip Gift Cards



SMMC Scrip Update

Our next gift card sales will be at the 10:30am Mass on December 7th, the 4:00pm Mass on December 20th and the 10:30am Mass on December 21st.

If you are planning on a large Christmas order, please call Pat Zielinski at (715) 824-3762 by December 1st to ensure your cards will be received by Christmas.

St. James Scrip Update

St. James scrip cards will be sold on Sunday, November 30 (after 8:30am Mass), on Saturday, December 6th (after 4pm Mass) and on Sunday December 7th (after 8:30am Mass).

Special orders for Christmas gift cards should be placed early. Cards available for special order through Pacelli are listed on the back of the St. James order form.

Contact Hydrie Laidlaw at (715) 347-3544 with any questions.

Thank you!

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



Adult Faith Formation is back this week! Please join us Monday evening beginning at 5:30pm at St. James as we continue to view the exciting video program *"Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls"*. The Dead Sea Scrolls give amazing insights into the world Jesus Christ lived and died in—and into the New Testament, early Church, and the Catholic faith today. Don't worry if you want to attend for the first time now....all are welcome and it's not too late!

Thank You Please gather on Sunday, December 7th after the 8:30am Mass to thank Tina Maves and Sandy Trzebiatowski for their years of service in the parish office and wish them well in retirement! Additionally, we want to warmly welcome Veronica Bruske who will continue their good work.

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.

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

St. Elizabeth of Hungary was born in 1207, the daughter of a king.

She married a prince at the age of 14. She insisted on a simple wedding instead of the usual elaborate celebration for someone of her stature. She bore three children and cared for them lovingly. Sadly, her husband died when she was 20 years old.



She was known for performing works of mercy, caring for the poor who came to their castle by feeding, clothing and paying off their debts.

After her husband died, she was banished from the castle by her brother-in-law. She used her dowry to establish a hospital. She completed menial tasks that no one else would do. She died in 1231.

She was an early member of the Third Order of St. Francis, and is honored as their patroness. She is the patroness saint of hospitals, nurses and the homeless. A quote from St. Elizabeth: *"How can I bear a crown of gold, when the Lord bears a crown of thorns and bears it for me"*.

By reading about the saints, we can learn many things. As I read her quote, I noted that she focused on a single verse from John 19:2: *"And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head"*. They were mocking Jesus. Historians tell us this crown resembled a helmet.

When one reads the bible slowly, contemplating the meaning of the words, one can search for a way to incorporate the teaching into one's own life. This is what St. Elizabeth did by using her riches to serve the poor.

For this upcoming season of Advent, what can we do to show that we remember what Jesus did for us as he was crowned with thorns?



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe!

When we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King this Sunday, we declare to the world and remind ourselves that Jesus is the Lord of the Church and of the entire universe. Christ's kingship is rooted in the Church's teaching on the Incarnation. Jesus is fully God and fully man. He is both the divine Lord and the man who suffered and died on the Cross. One person of the Trinity unites himself to human nature and reigns over all creation as the Incarnate Son of God. The Church calls us to acknowledge Christ's kingship with our whole lives:

- ♦ He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ.
- ♦ He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God.
- ♦ He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone.
- ♦ He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, *'as instruments of justice unto God.'*

Advent—A Time of Preparation

The season of Advent begins next Sunday, November 30th.

Advent is the four weeks we set aside for preparing our hearts before the annual celebrations of Christ's birth on Christmas. The Incarnation – God becoming man – is the turning point of history. Our Heavenly Father loves us so much that He promised to send us a Savior after the Original Sin of Adam and Eve - and He kept His promise.

The Son of God was born in Bethlehem to give His life for us on the cross so that our sins can be forgiven, so that we "may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10). This preparation during Advent is to include interior penance, which involves a conversion of heart toward God and away from sin. Let us take Advent seriously by taking more time for prayer, offering small sacrifices for peace in families and the world, and receiving the Sacrament of Penance.



To help you prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ child, Advent Material, including the Little Blue Book for Advent and Christmas, will be available next weekend at entryways. The Sacred Worship Advent Tree and Basket where you will find a spiritual exercise attached to each ornament or candy cane will once again be available beginning next weekend.



FAITH STEP

Imagine you could only participate in Mass one more time before meeting God for the Final Judgment.

How would you prepare? What would you wear? What intentions would you bring to that Mass? Who would you pray for knowing you wouldn't see them again in this lifetime? It's impossible to know when your last Mass will be. But in any case, the best way to prepare yourself for that day is to approach each Mass you are blessed to attend, as if it were your first Mass, your last Mass, your only Mass.

One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

Psalm 27:4



Area Events

Evenings of Hope with Sarah Hart at St. Anne

Nationally acclaimed composer and presenter Sarah Hart will present a three-night Advent series at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 1, 2 and 3 at St. Anne Parish, 700 W. Bridge St., Wausau. Through music, scripture, story and silence, Sarah's "Waiting in Joyful Hope" will offer a gentle introduction to Advent utilizing song, scripture, story and silence. The series is sponsored by Resurrection, St. Michael and St. Anne parishes. All are welcome!

35th Annual Cookie Walk Event. Saturday, December 6th. St. Joseph Family Center (1709 Wyatt Ave, Stevens Point). 9-11am or until sold out. Featuring gift baskets, Christmas crafts, homemade cookies and chocolates.

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.



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..... bulletininfo06@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 | Laura Trzebiatowski-Przekurat