

MARCH 1, 2026

2nd Sunday of Lent



St. Mary 's Immaculate Conception Parish

7176 Esker Road, Custer, WI 54423

Phone: 715-592-4330

Website: www.stmaryscuster.net

Please submit bulletin notices to stmary@wi-net.com
by noon on Tuesday.

PARISH CLERGY

Fr. Mark Miller, Pastor 715-600-6942

fr.miller@sacredheartpolonia.com

Deacon Jim Sniadajewski

dcn.jim@sacredheartpolonia.com

You may reach Father Miller for both emergency and non emergency situations by calling Sacred Heart office at any time of the day.

PARISH STAFF

Secretary-Donna Wierzba....stmary@wi-net.com

Bookkeeper-Rebecca Jones

stmaryicfinance@gmail.com

Coordinator of Religious Education-
Jessica Bielen

Custodian-Jeanne Hintz

Maintenance/Grounds keeping

Josh Genskow

Parish Mission Statement

St Mary's Parish is a practicing Catholic Community providing spiritual, social and educational opportunities for all God's people that we may deepen our love of God and one another through prayer and deed.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 3, @ SH

8:15 am +Dolores Kurszewski by Virginia Groshek

Wednesday, March 4

***8:15 am +Mr & Mrs Henry Klesmith
by Kathy & Tony Gaetz***

Thursday, March 5 @ SH

7 am Adoration 7:30-8 am Confessions

8:15 am +Virginia Lepak

by Conrad & Delores Lepak

Friday, March 6,

7:30-8 am Confessions

8:15 am +Courtlyn Rabska

by Samantha Klish

9 am Silent Adoration

3 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet Closing Benediction

Saturday, March 7, @ Convent

8:15 am +Larry & Nancy Pulchinski

+Ray & Dorothy Gagas by Tom & Julie Wanserski

2:45 pm Confessions

4:00 pm St. Mary's I.C. & Sacred Heart
Parish Families

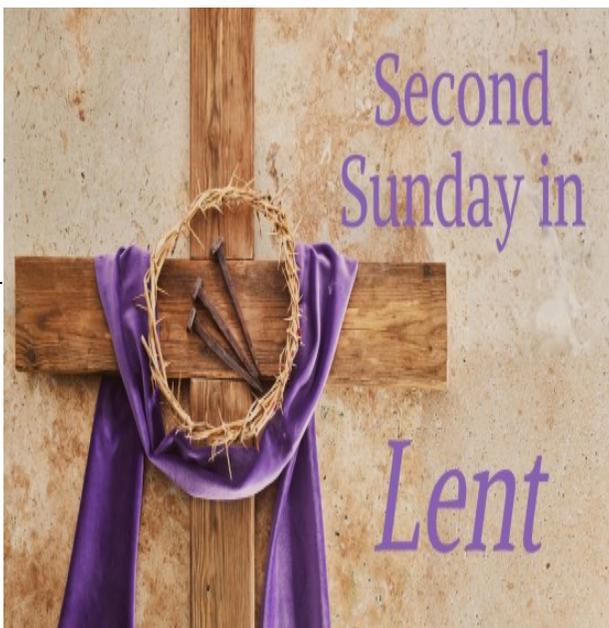
Sunday, March 8, Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 am @ SH

+Gary Perron by Jason & Melissa Kluck

****9:25 am Stations of the Cross***

***10 am +Bill Kolinski & Dennis Przybylski
by Denise Glodowski***





Dear Jesus, in the Sacrament of the Altar, be forever thanked and praised. Love, worthy of all celestial and terrestrial love! Who, out of infinite love for me, ungrateful sinner, assumed our human nature, shed Your most Precious Blood in the cruel scourging, and Expired on a shameful Cross for our eternal welfare! Now illumined with lively faith, with the outpouring of my whole soul and the fervor of my heart, I humbly beseech You, through the infinite merits of Your painful sufferings, give me strength and courage to destroy every evil passion which sways my heart, to bless You by the exact fulfillment of my duties, supremely to hate all sin, and thus to become a Saint. Amen.

(Prayer to overcome sinful passions)

WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Last week

Offertory	\$ 473.00
Adult Env & ACH	1,031.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$1,504.00</i>

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED AND CONTINUE TO DONATE TO OUR BUILDING FUND



Envelopes for the Ground Level Hall and Church Renovations can be found in your Parish support envelopes. This project is for current and future generations of St. Mary's parishioners.

BUY SCRIP After Mass *March 8th & 22nd*

If you need scrip before Scrip Sunday, please call Shelly (715-592-3775)

Thank you for supporting our scrip program

February Total Sales =
\$10,210.00
Profit Total = \$ 507.00

St. Mary's I.C. Meeting: *Pastoral Council -* *March 12, 6:30 pm*

If any member of the parish has an item that they would like discussed or added to the Pastoral agenda, please contact any of the members.

Fr. Mark Miller,
Deacon Jim, Nora Stransky,
Marie Helminiak, Jacque Wille, Randy Maslowski

THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST

John 19:2 And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head and clothed him in a purple cloak.



During Lent, the crown of thorns and purple cloak symbolize the mockery, humiliation, and suffering Jesus endured, while simultaneously affirming his true identity as King. These objects represent the Passion, focusing on his sacrifice, royalty, and ultimate victory over sin

Crown of Thorns

Suffering and Humiliation: Twisted together by soldiers, it was intended to inflict pain and ridicule Jesus' claim to be the Messiah.

Sacrifice: It serves as a reminder of the immense pain Jesus bore for the redemption of humanity.

True Kingship: While meant to mock, it symbolizes the paradoxical nature of Christ, whose glory is found in suffering and sacrifice

Purple Cloak (Robe)

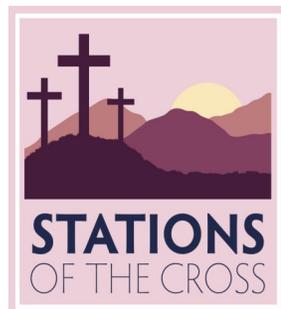
Mockery of Royalty: Purple was the color of kings, so soldiers used the robe to mock Jesus' claim to be King of the Jews.

Symbolism of Penance and Mourning: In the church, purple is the liturgical color for Lent, symbolizing repentance, preparation, and somber reflection.

Stations of the Cross

St. Mary's I.C. on Sundays at 9:25am

Sacred Heart on Wednesdays at 6:15pm.
Sacred Heart School children will be having Stations at 2:00pm on the following Fridays: March 6th, 13th, and 27th. Anyone is welcome to attend.





St. Mary's I.C. Faith Formation Program

Coordinator of Religious Education Jessica Bielen
(715)347-3367 or jwier319@gmail.com

Prayers for those in need are so very important; so if you would like someone added to the list please contact the parish office. Always be sure you have permission to add someone's name.

Please remember in your prayers

Please pray for the following and all who are ill in our parish:
*Kenny Rozek, Joe Raschka, Henry Gagas, Valerie Stanczyk,
Shirley Pliska, Sharon Zblewski, Ruthie & Lenny Pliska,
Anna Sipe, Denny Elsenrath, Jim Zblewski, Ken Wierzba,
Jerry Lepak, Adam Cohen, Bob Zimauer, Brigid & Al Pellatt*

If anyone is in need of spiritual care at your home or hospital (e.g. Confession, Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick) please call the parish to make arrangements. Father Miller is here for your spiritual and sacramental needs. Also, be aware that if you are in the hospital for an extended period of time, and would like a visit, please contact parish. Hospitals do not make aware of these situations.

For prayer support through the unpublished
St. Mary's I.C. Parish Prayer Chain

*please call Elsie Mansavage 715-592-4174, or the Parish Office
715-592-4330 or stmary@wi-net.com FIRST NAMES ONLY will be
used; members promise to respect your request in confidence.*

A CAN A WEEK campaign



Please donate a can of nonperishable food weekly during Lent.

As we gather during Lent, let us help the people in Portage County that have less. The federal program that has given extra benefits to these people has been changed. How much is your grocery bill? YES, we know how expensive it is, but think if you had no income, how much in that grocery cart could you afford. Your weekly CAN A WEEK donation can BE A LARGE help to others. Monetary donations especially SCRIP appreciated! Deposit food in the shopping cart at main entrance of church. **Expired cans will be thrown in the garbage.**

If you know of a friend or neighbor that needs help, let us know, recorder is always on at 715-592-4330 or 715-592-4971.

Lent: Let God Love You...and THEN, Learn to Love Him Back!

Remember, as we move through Lent, we always want to start with our focus on God's love for us. So, what is the story of your life this past week? Have you let God love you? Very specifically, how have you recognized one way in which you have experienced God's love for you – concretely, how He has blessed you? Spend a few minutes thinking through that situation and ponder the way in which He loved you in that experience.

Sin wounds the relationship we were created for—a life of love and communion with God. The Father's mercy, revealed through the death and resurrection of His Son, reaches its fullness when we approach Him with a humble and contrite heart. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus offers us the opportunity to be restored to friendship with God, the Church, and one another. Instituted by Christ on the evening of His Resurrection, this Sacrament allows us to experience His mercy and healing love in a deeply personal way. Further, in this purification from sin, we experience enlightenment, which is the grace of the Holy Spirit, guiding us in the way of goodness and truth.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1st-Rosemarie Cieslewicz
- 3rd-Ruthie Pliska
- 7th-Rosemarie Wanserski
- 11th-Sharon Zblewski
- 12th-Pasty Charneski
- 17th-Terry Fritschler
- 19th-Jenny Yenter
- 20th-Cheryl Gagas
- 22nd-Marlene Bronk
- 24th-Larry Zwicky
- 27th-Kenny Rozek

Join us Sunday,

**March 8th after the
10 am Mass for our**



**COFFEE & DONUT SOCIAL
ALL ARE WELCOME**

Hosted by Family Life & Religious
Education Committees

SACRED HEART PARISH

7379 CHURCH ST.
CUSTER, WI 54423



SUNDAY, MARCH 8th

STARTS AT 1:00 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00 AM

OVER \$800.00 IN CASH PRIZES!

**CONCESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE:
BARBECUES,
HOTDOGS, POPCORN,
ICE CREAM, PIES,
AND DESSERTS**

**50/50 RAFFLE
CHERRY TREE**



Knights of
Columbus

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Fundraiser

Support Pacelli Catholic
Schools Learning
Resource Program

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

5-8PM

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL

401 West Clark Street, Stevens Point WI 54481

**MARCH
11**



Spaghetti and Meat Sauce w/ Garlic
Bread or Beef Bbqs w/Potato Chips

Includes water, milk and coffee
Additional drinks can be purchased at the bar

**ADULTS | \$10
UNDER 12 | \$7
UNDER 5 | \$5**



Funds raised from this event will help train PCS
Learning Resource teachers to better support
students with learning challenges, empowering
them to thrive in the classroom.

Liturgical Appointments

SUNDAY, March 1

LECTOR Emily **USHERS** Betty & Ron
SERVERS Hutton, Elizabeth
MONEY COUNTERS Brad, Bette, Kirk
MUSICIANS Jacque & Carolyn

SUNDAY, March 8

LECTOR John **USHERS** Randy & Travis
SERVERS Sammi & Spencer
MONEY COUNTERS Lisa, Jeremy, Randy
MUSICIANS Mary & Jim

St Adalbert Parish



3305 Saint Adalbert Rd, Rosholt, WI 54473

Friday Fish Fry Schedule

Feb 13, Feb 20, Feb 27,
Mar 6, Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27
Serving 4pm to 7:30pm

Menu: Fried or Baked Fish, Fried Shrimp or Combo
with choice of

French Fries, Baked Potato or Potato Salad
All meals include coleslaw, bread and dessert
Regular \$15 or Small-Child/Senior \$12

Dine In or Take Out
Phone 715-677-4518

Served in Church Hall with Elevator Available

**St. Wenceslaus
Lenten/Centennial Retreat**
Saturday, March 21
Milladore, WI
Starting at 2pm
ending with Mass at 6pm



Please join us for an afternoon of
reflection, fellowship, confession,
prayer, and Mass

2pm - 3pm - Fr. Damian Joseph Redfern

"Back Blocks of New South Wales, Australia to the Catholic Faithful of Rural Wisconsin"

3pm - 3:45pm - Light Slunch (lunch/dinner) fellowship in the church basement

All are Welcome!

4pm - 4:45pm - Fr. Sam Martin

"Increasing the Faith of the Faithful"

5pm - 5:50pm - Confessions with Fr. Biju, Fr. Sam, and Fr. Redfern

Prayer and Personal Reflection

6pm - Mass Fr. Sam and Fr. Biju01

St. Maximilian Kolbe's Annual St. Patrick's Day Ham Dinner



Sunday, March 15, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Dine-In or Carry-out



Menu: Ham, Mashed Potatoes
& Gravy, Baked Beans, Corn,
Coleslaw, Rolls & Butter,
Coffee, Milk, Homemade Pies

Adults \$14.00
Children 6-12 \$6.00
Children 5 & under free

**We will also be hosting the Country Store,
Basket Raffle, and a 50/50 Raffle.**

Masses at 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

St. Maximilian Kolbe | 8611 State Highway 54, Almond WI, 54909 | 715-824-3380

The "Madre Peregrina" - Pilgrim Mother is a life-size sculpture depicting the Virgin Mary in her apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Americas. Originating from the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, this replica is crafted to closely resemble the original miraculous image as a living apparition. The primary purpose of the Madre Peregrina sculpture is to bring the spiritual presence and intercessory power of Our Lady of Guadalupe to communities worldwide, fostering peace, love and hope among Catholic pilgrims. The veneration experience will take place at Christ the King Chapel at Holy Cross Diocesan Center March 13 - 15, 3710 East Ave. S. La Crosse. Also at St. Peters, Stevens Point, April 16 - 22.



Trust!

God's Gift of Hope Never Disappoints

Christian hope anchors our souls to the promises of God, who is faithful and true. It assures us that no matter our failures, His mercy and love are stronger.

Hope is not simply optimism or wishful thinking. **It is a virtue given by God in Baptism that enables us to trust in His promises,** even when all may seem lost. The gift of hope reminds us that no matter how dark life becomes, God's love endures. Hope grows within us as we place "our trust in Christ's promises and rely not on our own strength, but on the help of the Holy Spirit." (CCC 1817).

Hope, then, lifts our hearts beyond fear, failure, or weakness. Hope keeps us from discouragement, opens our hearts to future blessings, and leads us to live in charity. Pope Benedict XVI wrote, "I can always continue to hope, even if in my own life, or the historical period in which I am living, there seems to be nothing left to hope for. Only the certitude of hope that my own life and history, despite all failures, are held firm by the indestructible power of God's Love...this gives them their meaning and importance; only this kind of hope can give the courage to persevere."

In every age, God raises up witnesses to rekindle hope in the hearts His people. The humble St. John Vianney lived at a time

when faith and hope had grown dim in France. Yet through his perseverance, prayer, and deep trust in God's mercy, he became a radiant sign of hope for thousands who came to him seeking God's forgiveness and peace.

St. John Vianney knew weakness well but embodied that certitude – a supernatural confidence in God. Though he struggled with his studies and nearly failed to become a priest, his steadfast trust in God never wavered. As a confessor, he wept with those burdened by sin and encouraged them to begin again in the mercy of Christ. His message was simple: *"God is quicker to forgive than a mother to snatch her child from the fire."* Those words reveal his unshakable conviction that God's mercy is always greater than our sins. That is the heart of Christian hope — the certainty that Christ's love is greater than any darkness.

When he was sent to the small village of Ars, St. John Vianney found a community indifferent to God. Instead of despairing, he turned to prayer, fasting, and the sacraments. Soul by soul, he rekindled faith and hope. St. John wept for the sins of the penitents in confession and had the constant hope of seeing sinners turn back to God. The power of God's mercy flowed through his tireless ministry as confessor, and the Lord restored hope to sinners who thought themselves beyond forgiveness.

We, too, are called to live this same hope. When we are burdened with any difficulty, the virtue of hope reminds us that Christ has already won the victory. Buoyed up by hope, we are preserved from turning inward on ourselves and led to the

joy that flows from helping others.

Let us turn to Jesus at any time of need and ask Him to help us cooperate with the grace we receive in the Holy Eucharist and Confession. Hope is rekindled by the same Spirit who strengthened St. John Vianney. Then, like him, we may persevere in confident trust, proclaiming by our lives that *"hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit."* (Romans 5:5)

Like St. John Vianney, let us turn to Christ each day with confidence, praying:

O Lord, give us the trust that comes from the Good News of the Gospel, and help us to cling to that sure and certain hope that for those who love God all things come to good. "For You, O Lord, are my hope... my trust is in You." (Psalm 146:5)

Find more here: diolc.org/virtues

By Ann Lankford
Office for Catechesis &
Evangelization

Priest Calendar – March 2026

1st – Pope Leo XVI
2nd – Bp. Battersby
3rd – Fr. Mark Miller
4th - Fr. Todd Mlsna
5th – Fr. John Muthuvijayan
6th – Fr. David Nowicki
7th – Fr. John Ofori-Domah
8th – Fr. David Olson
9th – Fr. Daniel Oudenhoven
10th – Fr. Timothy Oudenhoven
11th – Fr. Cryton Oustschoorn
12th – Fr. Woodrow Pace
13th – Fr. Isaac Pecha
14th – Fr. Chinappann Pelavendran
15th – Fr. John Potaczek
16th – Fr. Peter Raj
17th – Fr. Jerzy Rebacz
18th – Fr. Damian Redfern
19th – Fr. Joseph Richards
20th – Fr. Timothy Riether
21st – Fr. Rick Roberts
22nd – Fr. Douglas Robertson
23rd – Fr. Derek Sakowski
24th – Fr. Joseph Saleth
25th - Fr. Barry Saylor
26th – Fr. Robert Schaler
27th – Fr. Anbalagan Shanmugam
28th – Fr. Levi Schmitt
29^h – Fr. Daniel Sedlacek
30th – Fr. Allan Slowiak
31st - Arockia Amirtha Stanislaus



Please pray some kind of prayer for the priests listed each day. It's good to pray for our priests in general of course, but also specifically. Thank you.