

March 23, 2025



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

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 25, (SH)

8:15 am +Dwight Hucke by Cheryl Hucke

Wednesday, March 26

8:15 am +Josephine Radomski

by LeRoy & Pat Wierzba

6:15pm Stations of the Cross—Sacred Heart

Thursday, March 27 (SH)

7-8 am Adoration 7:30-8 am Confessions

8:15 am + Regina Gagas by Family

Friday, March 28

7-8 am Adoration 7:30-8:00 am Confessions

8:15 am +Denny Stransky by Nora & Family

Saturday, March 29, (SH)

8:15 am +Raymond Gagas by Family

+Sophie Koziczowski by Marie & Family

+Ray Groshek by Virginia Groshek

+Clarence Ramczyk by Mannie & Carmen Estrada

2:45 pm Confessions

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

Sunday, March 30, Fourth Sunday of LENT

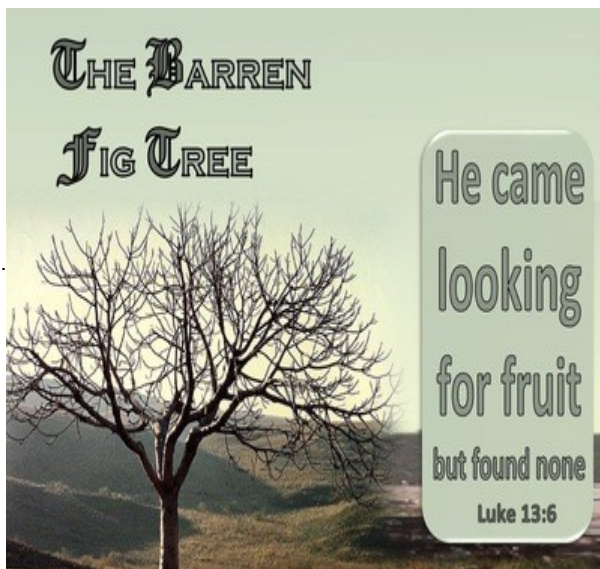
8:00 am (SH) +Edward Drefcinski

by Conrad & Delores Lepak

9:25 am STATIONS OF THE CROSS

10:00 am +Rita & Harlan Glodowski

by Elsie & Family





My precious and crucified Lord, I offer You this Lent. I offer it to You with total abandonment and trust. I offer You my prayers, sacrifices and my very life this day. Do with me, Lord, as You will. I pray that this Lent will be fruitful. I know You have much to say to me and much to do in my life. May this Lent be a time through which Your mercy is poured in abundance into my soul, and into the souls of all Your faithful. Dearest Lord, help me to especially see my sin, this Lent. Humble me so that I may see clearly. Give me courage and strength to confess my sins, and to turn from them with all my heart. Enlighten me with Your Holy Word, dear Lord. Help me to come to know You and to deepen the gift of faith in my life. Show me the plan You have for me, and place my feet upon the path You have chosen. My suffering Lord, I thank You for the fullness of Your perfect Sacrifice. I thank You for holding nothing back, giving Your life to the last drop of blood. May I offer You my very life as a sacrifice, trusting in Your mercy with every offering. Keep me faithful to my Lenten promises, and bring forth new life through these sacrifices of love. Amen (Prayer for a fruitful Lent)

A Minute with Jesus: Spend time in Jesus' Presence and you will Gradually Come to Know that Jesus is Indeed There. The desire to strengthen your faith requires some action on your part. It helps to go to the church and spend time with the mindset that Jesus is there. Take your problems and speak with Jesus. Even if you leave without anything seemingly having happened, you will gradually come to know Jesus is indeed there. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: *Lord, help me to spend a few minutes in church and speak with You.*

This week, read how Jesus appears to Thomas who was not present when He first appeared to the apostles after His Resurrection. Thomas, when He does see Jesus, falls before Him and says "My Lord and My God" (John 20:19-29).

The Important Season of Lent

During the season of Lent, the major focus is on three pillars: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Regarding prayer, a transformative way of praying is incorporating a daily examination of conscience. This simple process takes about five minutes. Before climbing into bed, think back over the day in a broad sweep and give thanks to God for two things. Also, think back on how personal selfishness was manifested in your dealings with others and ask the Lord to forgive you. Fast from one thing that you particularly like, such as some type of social media, a type of food or a TV program, etc. Offer up this sacrifice for a member of your family who is struggling. Almsgiving is about sharing what we have with the poor - not only money but also ourselves - by serving someone in need.

This Lent, Pray for an Increase of Hope!

Jubilee of Hope 2025 is meant to foster greater spiritual renewal through deepening our relationship with Jesus. Pope Francis entitled the theme of this year "Pilgrims in Hope." Hope is not something that we muster up ourselves. We were given this gift in baptism and we nourish and renew hope by asking Jesus to increase it in us. We can make simple acts of hope by saying, "Jesus, I trust in You." We may also post the following Scripture verses on a mirror, and repeat them each day. "For You O Lord are my hope...my trust is in You" (Ps. 146:5). "I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for woe so as to give you a future of hope" (Jer. 29:11). For further details on the Jubilee of Hope, visit diolc.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope

Lent: Step out of your comfort zone and "Unplug" for 15 minutes! During the season of Lent, we are called to become less attached to the things of this world. In "giving up" 15 minutes on the phone each day, this time becomes available for quiet reflection. A compelling way to deepen your friendship with Christ is to read one chapter from sacred Scripture each day. How about starting with the Gospel of Luke, which includes the full life of Jesus? Read from your Bible or search Luke 1 Bible Catholic or bible.usccb.org/bible/luke/1

WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT March 16

Offertory	\$ 145.25
Easter Flowers	25.00
Adult Env & ACH	1130.00
Total	\$ 1300.25



*Stations of the Cross
Sundays at 9:25am at St. Mary's I.C. Wednesdays at 6:15pm at Sacred Heart.* Sacred Heart School children will have Stations at 2:00pm on Fridays: March 28th and April 11th. 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

THE NEXT FAMILY MASS WILL BE SUNDAY, March 30th.

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:
Trevor Kluck, Kenny Rozek, Adam Cohen, Valerie Stanczyk, Henry Gagas, Jean Miller, Sharon Zblewski, Cindy Klish, Jerry Lepak, Denny Elsenrath, Joe Raschka, Shirley Pliska, Ken Wierzba, Ruthie & Lenny Pliska, Jim Zblewski, 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 the parish. Hospitals do not make us 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.



Building Together Uniting Hearts and Spaces

Church Hall Update:

We have Diocesan approval to complete Phase 1. We already had approval for the rectory asbestos abatement and house removal. The abatement will happen as soon as the local permits are received. Next step will be to remove any items in the rectory that are salvageable. Once weight limits are removed, the rectory will be removed. We expect this to happen within the next 6 weeks. We are in process of getting final quotes on all aspects of Phase 1 and are working to secure a General Contractor. Meetings continue to occur and we will continue to update you as the project moves forward. We hope as progress becomes more visible, you will be as excited as we are to make this dream of our gathering space become a reality.



St. Mary's Immaculate Conception
Faith Formation

Scan this QR code and join!



CAN A WEEK Campaign

Portage County
population in 2025
is 70,804 Median

income is \$49,716 and 10.2% are below the poverty level. Let's help them NOW with food supplies they need, by donating towards our **CAN A WEEK Campaign**. Plan to donate a can of non-perishable food weekly during Lent to help those that need an extra hand this Spring. **This coming week is our last week to support the Can a Week program.** Please drop your donation off at church by March 30th. Monetary donations especially SCRIP appreciated; please put in an envelope marked Can A Week and deposited in the church collection box. Deposit food in the shopping cart at entrance of church. **Expired cans will be thrown in the garbage.**

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



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

24th-Lousie Betro & Larry Zwicki
27th-Kenny Rozek

FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO OUR SPRING



Pancake
BREAKFAST

*Sunday
April 6th*

FOLLOWING THE 8 AM
MASS AT ST. MARY'S

DONATIONS OF EGGS ARE GREATLY
APPRECIATED.

PLEASE DROP OFF IN THE CHURCH
REFRIGERATOR BETWEEN
MARCH 30TH-APRIL 4TH

Liturgical Appointments

SUNDAY, March 23

LECTOR Deb **USHERS** Kyle & Vincent
SERVERS Samantha, Spencer
MONEY COUNTERS Jeremy, Lisa, Marie
MUSICIANS Mary & Cheryl

SUNDAY, March 30

LECTOR Nora **USHERS** Anthony
SERVERS Hutton, Keaton, Nolan
MONEY COUNTERS David, Rosemarie, Tom
MUSICIANS Bob & Sandie

SUNDAY, April 6 8:00 AM

LECTOR Christine **USHERS** Ron & Betty
SERVERS Maddie & Elizabeth
MONEY COUNTERS Kirk, John C
MUSICIANS Jacque & Carolyn



St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish celebrates its 150th Anniversary November, 2025. We are in need of several people to assist in the following ways:

1. We are creating a picture memorial that needs pictures from parishioners that we can use in a digital record of all the special memories from our history. Any pictures or other memorials will be returned once digitized. Please let the office know what you may have.

If you are willing to assist with this project, please let the office know right away as it will take all of us to contribute to this effort.

2. We are planning to have a special celebration and need volunteers to assist with planning, invitations, activities, decorating, etc. If you have any ideas or are willing to help, please contact the office. Many hands make light work. Once we know who wants to assist, a meeting to organize duties will be held with those who have stepped forward so far - Eunice Zwicky, Marie Helminiak, Carolyn Iwanski. This celebration is a major undertaking for the parish, so please be willing to assist. Thank you in advance for stepping up to help celebrate this incredible milestone.



"For we are co-workers;
you are God's field,
God's building."
1 Corinthians 3:9

1 CORINTHIANS 3:9

DIOLC.ORG/COWORKER

GOAL \$22,455.00



PLEGGED AND RECEIVED \$18,337.50

OF DONORS 70

Percent of Goal Received: 81.66%

BUY SCRIP After Mass
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE:

**Scrip will be Sold on
APRIL 6th & 27th**

If you need scrip before Scrip Sunday, please call Shelly (715-592-3775) Thank you for supporting our scrip program



Women on a Mission was established several years ago to provide educational, networking and community activities for all women of the Parish. Some of the most rewarding were the Caring Bags filled each November with donations from the entire parish, Moments with Mary bracelets, making blankets for young mothers, making and selling cookies and cookies and soup in a jar. Items sold allowed us the funds to provide other community services such as the once a year dinner at the Salvation Army. Over time, less individuals participated and it was determined to discontinue. There was still some funds in the account and it was determined that any remaining funds would be donated to the Building Together fund. That was recently done. This group will always be thankful for the support of the parish.

Sacred Heart School is accepting new registrations grades 4K through Grade 6 for the 2025-26 school year. Sacred Heart School, provides a safe and nurturing environment with small class sizes that educate each unique child of God spiritually, academically, physically, and emotionally. Our tuition is affordable with financial assistance available. We invite you to COME AND SEE what we have to offer. Let your child come and grow with us! Please call the office (715) 600-6942 for more information or to schedule a visit. Also visit our website at www.sacredheartpolonia.com.