

# St. Mary & St. Charles

# St. Mary & St. John Parishes

## We Welcome You

We welcome you to Pastorate #1. If you would like to become a member of one of our parishes, please call 608-723-4990. For those who are interested in becoming Catholic or returning to the Catholic faith, please contact the parish office.

## Sacraments:

### Pastorate Daily Mass Times

8:15 a.m.-St. Charles Church (Tues)  
8:15 a.m.-St. Mary Church, Bloomington (Thurs)  
8:15 a.m.-St. Clement Church (Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri)  
8:15 a.m.-St. Andrew Church (Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri)

### Reconciliation

Saturdays except

8:00-9:00 a.m. at St. Clement Church, Lancaster  
3:45-4:15p.m. at St. Charles Church, Cassville  
4:00-4:45 p.m. at St. Clement Church, Lancaster  
7:15-7:45 p.m. at St. Mary Church, Glen Haven

### Baptism

May God bless our new parents! Please contact the parish office to schedule the baptism of your child and to attend a baptismal preparation session.

### Marriage

Congratulations on your upcoming marriage! Please call the parish office at least six months before the wedding. One of the parties must be a practicing Catholic.

### Anointing of the Sick

If someone is seriously ill, hospitalized, or is dying, please contact the Bloomington parish office immediately. Please call the parish office if there is someone who would like to be included in the Mass prayers.

### Vocations

Please contact a parish office if you or someone you know would like to learn more about becoming a priest, brother, sister, deacon, or lay church minister. Please pray for more vocations to the priesthood and all religious ministries!

### Our Catholic School-Faith, Family and

### Academic Excellence

To register your child, please call Mrs. Kelly Copsey at 608-994-2435 for St. Mary School or Mrs. Cheryl Junk at 608-725-5173 for St. Charles Montessori Education Program. St. Mary and St. Charles admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin.

**Bulletin Notices** - Please submit bulletin notices to the parish office ([sunday7@tds.net](mailto:sunday7@tds.net)) by Monday.

### St. Charles Parish Office Hours (608) 725-5595

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 a.m.-noon  
[stchas@tds.net](mailto:stchas@tds.net) (Cheryl Junk)

### St. Mary's Parish Office Hours (608) 994-2526

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
[sunday7@tds.net](mailto:sunday7@tds.net) (Julie M Jentz)

Our parish website: [swicatholicparishes.com](http://swicatholicparishes.com)



**They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

– Matthew 2:11b

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

**563** No one, whether shepherd or wise man, can approach God here below except by kneeling before the manger at Bethlehem and adoring him hidden in the weakness of a new-born child.

**Rev. Stephen Brunner**

[frsteve@saintclementparish.com](mailto:frsteve@saintclementparish.com)

**Rev. Mark Miller**

[frmark@saintclementparish.com](mailto:frmark@saintclementparish.com)

**Rev. Sudhakar Reddy Devarapu**

[frsud@saintclementparish.com](mailto:frsud@saintclementparish.com)

**608-723-4990**



## Liturgy Schedule

Sat.	1/6	8:00-9:00 AM	No Adoration	(Bloomington)
		4:30 PM	Pro Populo	(Cassville)
		8:00 PM	Pat Walz	(Glen Haven)
Sun.	1/7	8:00 AM	Living and deceased members of St. John's CCW	(Patch Grove)
		10:00 AM	Larry French	(Bloomington)
Mon.	1/8	8:15 AM	No Mass	
Tues.	1/9	8:15 AM	Marie Stoney	(Cassville)
Wed.	1/10	8:15 AM	No Mass	(Cassville)
		8:45 AM	No Adoration	(Cassville)
Thurs.	1/11	8:15 AM	Bernard, Marilyn & Frank Meister	
				(Bloomington)
Fri.	1/12	8:15 AM	No Mass	(Bloomington)
Sat.	1/13	8:00-9:00 AM	No Adoration	(Bloomington)
		4:30 PM	Gary and Steve Adams and deceased family members	(Cassville)
		8:00 PM	Pro Populo	(Glen Haven)
Sun.	1/14	8:00 AM	Velma McCabe	(Patch Grove)
		10:00 AM	Sharon Coffin Burkland	(Bloomington)

## Scripture for the week of January 8, 2024

Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11  
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28  
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39  
 Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45  
 Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12  
 Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17  
 Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

## January 13 & 14 Weekend Mass Schedule\*

Fr. Sudhakar will be away from the Pastorate visiting his family from January 2-February 3. There will be no Wednesday and Friday daily Masses at St. Charles and St. Mary's, Bloomington and no Saturday Adoration and confessions at St. Mary's during this time.

Fr. Mark and Fr. Steve will be celebrating Mass at all the churches with the help of a visiting priest who will have Mass at St. Clement Church at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays.

\*This schedule may change due to weather or illness.

## Knights of Columbus 4416 News

The Council encourages all members to attend the next **KC Meeting on January 16, 2024 at 7:30 P.M. in Saint Mary's Church Basement in Bloomington**. The Council needs to decide on a new Grand Knight, whether to close the Council or to merge Council 4416 with Council 2820 of Lancaster. The current Grand Knight is willing to mentor a new Grand Knight. The Council has an excellent Financial Secretary (Daniel Herbers) and an excellent Secretary (Scott Knox). These important decisions will be made that evening. Please make your best effort to attend. Thank you.

## Year End Giving

As we celebrate the joy of the Christmas season and the new year, please know that your financial support is deeply appreciated and needed for the operation of our parishes and Catholic schools. God bless!



## The Epiphany of the Lord

We celebrate Epiphany today and hear how God's very self is revealed to people of all nations through the Incarnation. The emphasis today is on this revelation to foreigners: the foreign nations that will now pay tribute to the restored Jerusalem, the Gentiles whom Paul recognized now being copartners through the gospel, and the magi from the east who recognized the Messiah and paid him homage. For us gathered in this holy place, may we be like the magi searching for Christ so that we may worship him and give him the gift our love.

## The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the Christmas season, and will be celebrated on Monday, January 8, since there is not a Sunday between the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord and the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time this year. It serves as a kind of threshold between the celebration of the Incarnation of the Lord as a baby and Jesus as an adult, beginning his public ministry. Do you know on what day you were baptized? This Sunday is a good day to commemorate it by lighting a candle (your baptismal candle, if available) and thanking God for the Catholic Church and the graces we receive in Baptism.

## Where are we in the process of Into the Deep?

Dear Parishioners of Pastorate #1:

The transition team and I are proposing to you six saints/ name options for the naming of our new parish. They are:

- Queen of the Apostles Parish
- Ss. Isidore and Maria Parish
- All Saints Parish
- St. Joseph the Worker Parish
- Christ the King Parish
- St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish

Remember, your church will retain its name, but the parish entity will have a new name. For example, you might say, I go to St. John's in Patch Grove, but I'm a member of Saint XYZ Parish. The transition team and I have finalized the details on the process of voting. Some details include:

- Parishioners can submit a suggested saint name if they feel so moved. If multiple parishioners have similar suggestions we will add the name to the list. See the flyer available a the back of church.
- All members of the parish can vote, assuming they have reached the age of reason (i.e. generally 7-8 years old, i.e. those who have just received first reconciliation).
- The plan is to vote for 3 saints/names at the Saturday and Sunday masses on January 6 and 7 during Mass. The ballots will be counted on Monday, January 8. The final 3 names will be announced at the weekend masses of January 13 and 14.
- These 3 names will be submitted to Bishop Hying by February 14, 2024. Bishop Hying will analyze the names for all of the pastortates and make the final decision so that no names are duplicated.

Our next Transition Team meeting will be Sunday, January 21, 2024 at noon.

Thank you for your attention, and may God bless you,  
 Fr. Steve

*What we do in life echoes in eternity.*



## ST. MARY'S SCHOOL NEWS

**Faith, Family and Academic Excellence**  
We hope that the new year brings everyone in our parishes happiness and joy from the love of Christ. The calendar raffle will be pulled each day in January, and winners will be contacted.

**SCRIP:** Scrip is available at school and also at Economy Feed Mill or if you have a special order you may call Molly Breuer, the Scrip Coordinator, at 563-608-5734 .

### St. Mary's Italian Supper

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Supper at St. Mary's School on the evening of Saturday, January 27, 2024.

### Family Faith Formation

The next class will be held at St. Charles School, Cassville on Wednesday, January 10 at 6:45 p.m.

### Thank You's

Thank you to those who helped put up the Christmas decorations and those who will help to put them away until next year.

Thank you to Weber Chiropractic for the generous donations to St. Mary's School during 2023.

### Fr. Paul Fagan's News Letter

Fr. Paul Fagan's annual newsletter is available a the back of each church.



### Help Needed With Snow Removal

Winter weather has arrived. We are in need of someone(s) to keep St. Mary's Church steps and sidewalks clear of snow and ice this winter. We will pay \$20/hr. and the parish has two snow blowers available. Please contact the parish office at 608-994-2526 for more information about this position.



### 2023 HARVEST FUND

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to St. Mary's Harvest Fund! We are very grateful to the families who have given donations totaling \$24,755.00 so far. We hope all of our parish members will be able to share their bounty and blessings to help with fall and winter expenses for the parish. We appreciate all contributions large or small and thank the many generous parishioners for their continued support.

<b>Goal:</b>	
\$50,000	
\$45,000	
\$40,000	
\$35,000	
\$30,000	
\$25,000	
\$20,000	
\$15,000	
\$10,000	
\$5,000	
\$0	

### St. Mary Parish Council

President: Melanie Mergen  
Members: Rose Bierman, Janet Patterson, RJ Osterhaus, Len Pritchett, Bill Mezera, Gary Mumm, Paul Wegmann

### St. John Parish Council

President: Ray Breuer  
Members: Cindy Morgan, Leo Breuer, McKenzie Stagman, Kayla Needham

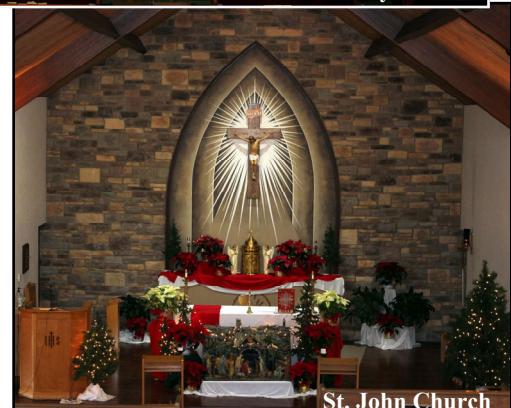


### Our Beautiful Churches

**+** Thank you to all who gave donations for the flowers and decorations and to everyone who helped to make our churches beautiful for the Christmas season.



St. Mary Church



St. John Church

### Parish Financial Updates

#### PLEASE HELP US PAY OUR EXPENSES

St. Mary's Collections for the period ending December 29, 2023	
Church Support.....	\$6,910.00
Offertory.....	\$927.00
Harvest Fund.....	\$500.00
Gift.....	\$100.00
Family Faith Formation Fees.....	\$450.00

St. Mary's families are asked to generously contribute toward the support of parish expenses. Single members are asked to contribute \$500.00 and family are asked to contribute 1,000.00.

St. John's Collections for the week ending on December 29, 2023	
Church Support.....	\$555.00
Offertory.....	\$300.00

St. John's families are asked to generously contribution toward the support of parish expenses.

#### St. John's Ministry Schedule for Jan. 14, 2024

##### 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass

Lector:	Barb Stagman
Communion:	Volunteer needed
Ushers:	Charlie Martin, Volunteer needed
Servers:	Ty & Matthew Tolle

#### St. Mary Ministry Schedule for January 14, 2024

##### 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass

Lector:	Marcia Hampton
Communion:	Marcia Hampton
Sacristan:	Marcia Hampton
Gifts:	Dave & Ione Meoska
Ushers:	Jeff Myhre, Ken Kluesner
Servers:	Leif & Gabe Kluesner



## Our Beautiful Churches

Thank you to all who gave donations for the flowers and decorations and to everyone who helped to make our churches beautiful for the Christmas season.



St. Charles Church



St. Mary Help of Christians Church

## Family Faith Formation Classes

The next class will be held at St. Charles School, Cassville on Wednesday, January 10 at 6:45 p.m.

### St. Charles Catholic Montessori Early Education Program

If you have questions or if you would like to register your child, please contact Cassie Okey at [cassie.okey@stcharlescassville.org](mailto:cassie.okey@stcharlescassville.org).

### Catholic Question and Answer

**Question:** How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

**Answer:** The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about.

### St. Charles Parish Council

President: Denny Uppena

Members: Judy Adrian, Suzanne Brinkman, Agnes Hughes, Isaac Okey, Gina Kartman, Cliff Tennesen, Joe Uppena

### St. Mary Help of Christians Parish Council

President: Joe Breuer

Members: Ed Breuer, Sue Kuenster, Tracy Walz, John Smith, Doug White

### Reflection

"They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." - Matthew 2:11

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

### PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATES

#### PLEASE HELP US PAY OUR EXPENSES

##### St. Charles, Cassville for December 23, 2023

Church Support.....	\$1,535.00
Offertory.....	\$304.00
Bless Our Priests Collection.....	\$100.00

##### St. Charles, Cassville for December 24, 2023

Church Support.....	\$1,080.00
Offertory.....	\$550.00
Bless Our Priests Collection.....	\$60.00
Maintenance.....	\$200.00
Fuel Fund.....	\$200.00

*St. Charles suggested giving is \$1,400.00 a year for a married couple and \$700.00 a year for a single household.*

##### St. Mary's, Glen Haven for December 23, 2023

Church Support.....	\$1,020.00
Offertory.....	\$55.00

##### St. Mary's, Glen Haven for December 24, 2023

Church Support.....	\$1,540.00
Offertory.....	\$392.00

##### St. Mary's, Glen Haven for December 30, 2023

Church Support.....	\$120.00
Offertory.....	\$27.29

### St. Charles' Ministry Schedule

#### 4:30 p.m. Mass on January 13, 2024

Lector: Abby Tasker  
 Communion: Holly Fishnick  
 Servers: Brielle Fishnick, Audrey Tasker  
 Ushers: Taskers

#### St. Mary's, Glen Haven

#### 8:00 p.m. Mass on January 13, 2024

Lector: Renee Schwantes  
 Communion: Cindi Breuer  
 Servers: Dave Schwantes, Kurt Breuer  
 Ushers: Timothy Breuer



## Celebrate Life

"Life is always a good. ... Why is life a good? This question is found everywhere in the Bible, and from the very first pages it receives a powerful and amazing answer. The life which God gives man is quite different from the life of all other living creatures, inasmuch as man, although formed from the dust of the earth (cf. Gen 2:7, 3:19; Job 34:15; Ps 103:14; 104:29), is a manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory (cf. Gen 1:26-27; Ps 8:6). This is what Saint Irenaeus of Lyons wanted to emphasize in his celebrated definition: 'Man, living man, is the glory of God'. Man has been given a sublime dignity, based on the intimate bond which unites him to his Creator: in man there shines forth a reflection of God himself" (The Gospel of Life, n. 34).

## Life Begins at Conception!

At 18 days a baby's heart begins to beat and by the 43rd day after conception a baby's brain is coordinating movements. All of a baby's organs are functioning at 8 weeks and a baby can smile, suck his/her thumb and make a fist by 12 weeks.

## Help is Available

If you need support for an unplanned pregnancy, please contact the Clarity Clinic of SW Wisconsin at 608-348-5787 or email at [clientservices@claritywi.com](mailto:clientservices@claritywi.com) or the Women's Care Center in Madison, WI at 608-241-8100. For more information on pro-life issues, visit [www.WisconsinRightToLife.org](http://www.WisconsinRightToLife.org).

## St. Catherine Ministry: We are here to support families through miscarriage

St. Catherine Ministry is here to accompany anyone who has received the sad news of a miscarriage. From providing miscarriage kits to referring for burial sites to crying with you, we want to help because we have been there, too. It's as simple as contacting St. Catherine Ministry director Laura Karlen at [ljkarlen@hotmail.com](mailto:ljkarlen@hotmail.com) or 608-445-2064.

## Madison Retrouvaille Program

Is your marriage tearing you apart? We invite you to find help through Retrouvaille, (ret-tro-vi), where husbands and wives are helped to re-discover each other. Couples discover they are not alone. There is hope and grace.

The upcoming Retrouvaille program is January 26 – 28, 2024 at the Green Lake Conference Center. Follow up sessions will be in Madison. Call 608-249-2377 or check our

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

 "They prostrated themselves and did him homage." As we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, let us give homage to the presence of God in our marriages. Strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage sacrament by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences on Jan 26-28 in Brookfield, WI; Feb. 9-11 in Geneva, IL; March 9-10 in Wisconsin or April 27-28 in Mundelein, IL. Visit our website at - [alife-timeoflove.org](http://alife-timeoflove.org) or call (888) 574-5653.

*I will go peaceably and firmly to the Catholic Church: for if Faith is so important to our salvation, I will seek it where true Faith first began, seek it among those who received it from God Himself.—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*



## MEETINGS

\*January 9-St. Mary Parish Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. in Bloomington

\*January 16, 2024-Knights of Columbus meeting at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary Church, Bloomington. The Council needs to decide on a new Grand Knight, to close the Council or to merge Council 4416 with Council 2820 of Lancaster.

\*January 21 - Transition Team meeting at noon at St. Clement Church

## EVENTS

\*January 9, 2024- St. John's Food Pantry 12:00-1:00 p.m.

\*January 27-St. Mary's School Supper

\*January 28-February 3 -Catholic Schools Week

\*February 13- St. John's Food Pantry 12:00-1:00 p.m.

\*February 14-Ash Wednesday

\*March 8-St. Mary's Fish Fry in Bloomington

## JESUS AND THE EUCHARIST STUDY GROUP!

All parishioners of PASTORATE 1! We are offering a 7-Session "Jesus and the Eucharist" study group beginning in January. Our world is hurting, families are hurting, our hearts, too, many feel broken. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength, Jesus Christ, who saved us through His passion, death and resurrection. Jesus Christ invites us to be healed and return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist, where He gives Himself to us.

Please join us for this study at S.S. ANDREW-THOMAS SCHOOL starting at 6:30 P.M. on the following dates: Monday, January 8 & 22; Monday, February 5 & 19; and Monday, March 4, 18 & 25. Please email Kathy Bartels at [samman@chorus.net](mailto:samman@chorus.net) or call 608 778-0855 to join the study group or if you have any questions.

## Long-term 3/4K Substitute Teacher Needed

St. Andrew-Thomas School in Potosi is seeking a long term substitute teacher in February when their 3/4K teacher will be on maternity leave. Please contact SS. Andrew-Thomas School at 608.763.2120 for more information.

## Cassville AA and Al-Anon Meetings

The AA meetings are every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building in Cassville.

## The National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

 Call, text or chat 988 to reach a trained counselor. These trained counselors will listen, understand how problems are affecting a person, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary. **There is help specifically for farmers.**

## Catholic Herald

Each week the *Catholic Herald* gives its readers a Catholic perspective on national and international news with articles from Catholic News Service. The *Catholic Herald* also keeps readers up to date locally with coverage of events happening around the diocese. If you do not subscribe but wish to receive the *Catholic Herald* print or e-Edition in your home, contact your parish office. The cost is \$20.00 per year.