

# NATIVITY of MARY

313 E. WALL STREET • JANEVILLE, WISCONSIN 53545-3047

## Rectory

313 E. Wall Street  
Janesville, WI 53545-3047

Website ..... www.nativitymary.org  
Phone ..... (608) 752-7861  
Father Rob Butz ..... (608) 620-9910  
Pastor ..... Rev. Robert Butz  
Email: pastor@nativitymary.org  
Dir. of Pastoral Outreach....Sr. Ruth Brings  
Email: rbrings@nativitymary.org  
Dir. of Liturgy ..... Bob Craig  
Email: liturgy@nativitymary.org  
Coord. Religious Ed....Kathy Hookham  
Email: re@nativitymary.org  
Business Manager ... Arwen Twitchett  
Email: accounts@nativitymary.org  
Parish Secretary.....Sharlet Collins  
Email: psec@nativitymary.org

## St. Mary School

307 E. Wall Street  
Janesville, WI 53545-3047  
Phone ..... (608) 754-5221  
Principal.....Kim Ehrhardt  
Secretary .....Sue Vodak &  
Sue Dickman

## Religious Education

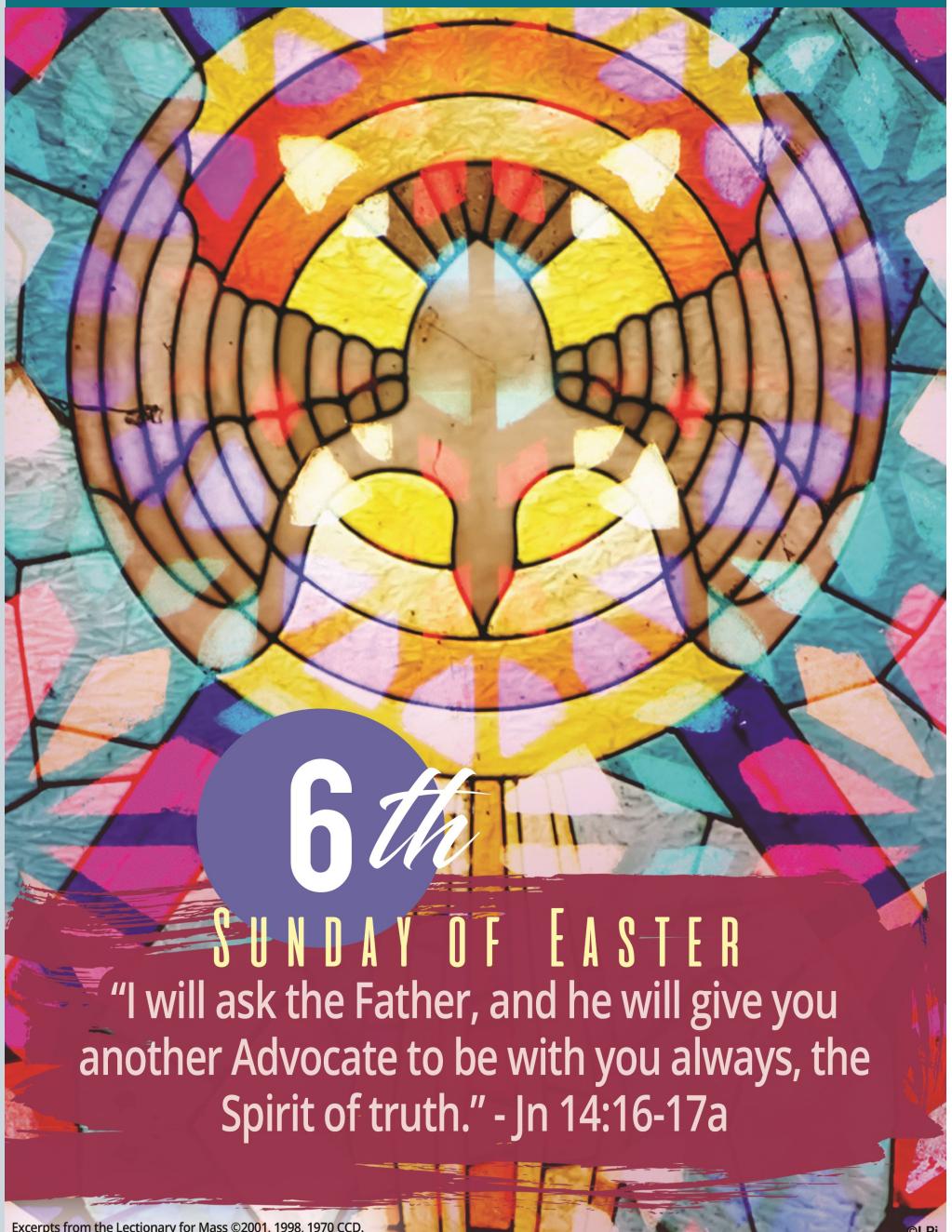
Phone .....(608) 752-7861  
Coordinator.....Kathy Hookham

## Prayer Network

Mary Ann Venable.....(608) 754-5284

## Janesville/Milton Mass Times

Nativity of Mary ..... Sat. 4:30 pm  
Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 am  
St. Patrick.....Sat. 7:30 am & 4:00 pm  
Sun. 9:00 am  
Spanish Mass - Sun. 12:00 pm  
St. John Vianney .....Sat. 8:15 am  
& 5:00 pm  
Sun. 8:15 & 10:00 am  
St. William.....Sat. 4:00 pm  
Sun. 8:00 & 10:30 am  
St. Mary - Milton .....Sat. 4:00 pm  
Sun. 8:30 am



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

We, the Catholic family of Nativity of Mary, are empowered by the Holy Spirit to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Through worship, the sacraments, fellowship, evangelization and outreach, we will share the word of Christ in our community. **-Mission Statement**

# NEWS & NOTES

## From the desk of Father Rob .....

Dear Families of Nativity of Mary Parish:

Under the provisions of the Governor's "Safer at Home" order, gatherings of up to 9 people have always been permitted for religious exercises. The "Best Practices" of the Diocese of Madison directed us to be even more cautious than that - having a minimal number of necessary individuals present for Mass. That was relaxed during Holy Week to help us facilitate the liturgies of Palm Sunday and the Triduum. After a meeting of the diocesan College of Consultors, the Diocese amended its best practices to permit (though not require) priests to celebrate Mass with up to 8 other people present.

We recently began taking advantage of this permission. Because of the number of individuals already present for ministries at Sunday Mass, attendance for Masses will be limited to the weekday liturgies Tuesday through Friday.

Those who are at higher risk of complications from COVID-19 should consider their risk before deciding to attend. Also, if you have tested positive or have symptoms of COVID-19, please, for the safety and well-being of all, do not attend.

The only practical way to limit the number of people attending each Mass is to ask people to arrange in advance for a place. We will use a program called Sign Up Genius for advance attendance registration. **Please only sign up for one Mass per week to allow as many registered parishioners as possible the opportunity to attend.** The day before each Mass, if there are still spots available, those who have already attended Mass that week can reserve any open spaces.

**To register, please go to our Sign Up Genius link -**  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4DABA82CABFE3-weekday>

Please contact Sharlet Collins by calling (608) 449-7736 or at [psec@nativitymary.org](mailto:psec@nativitymary.org)] if you need any assistance with the Genius program or have any questions.

While we realize this is not perfect, it is an effort to allow some individuals to attend Mass in person. Nevertheless, for those not able to attend, we will continue to live stream Mass Tuesday through Friday at 8:15 AM and Sundays at 8:30 AM on our Facebook page.

Stay healthy. God bless you all.

-Fr. Robert Butz

### Confessions

Tuesday 5:00-6:00 pm  
Saturday 9:30-10:30 am



# NEWS & NOTES

## St. Mary School



God Bless our students and teachers!

SCRIP can still be purchased from the school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-10:30 a.m.

**"Flocknote"** - We're in the process of introducing a new method of communication. In cooperation with the Diocese of Madison and other local Catholic parishes, we'll be implementing "Flocknote" to email parishioners and ministry members with pertinent parish information. To help us reach **you**, please take a moment and send your current email address to Sharlet at [psec@nativitymary.org](mailto:psec@nativitymary.org). Please indicate the name associated with the email; one for each adult in your household that would like to receive communication.

### Cemeteries and "Safer at Home"

Diocese of Madison Cemeteries are open. Please come decorate the graves of your loved ones (while observing the decorating regulations and the social distancing requirements). Burials continue, and we work closely with funeral homes to maintain safety during times of loss.

During this health emergency, we have established safe practices for grave sales. Our offices are closed to the public, but you can buy a grave starting with a phone call. Our family advisors can meet you outside at a safe distance to select graves. All paperwork and payment can be handled remotely. And while Wisconsin's "Safer at Home" order is in effect, we are offering special financing options.

Contact us by calling Mount Olivet in Janesville or Mount Thabor in Beloit at 608-754-3472; or Resurrection in Madison at 608-238-5561. Or contact us online at <https://madisondiocese.org/cemeteries>.

# MONEY MATTERS

## Money Counts for 2019-2020

	Received	Budgeted	Variance
<b>Week 45</b>			
05-10-2020	9,243.55	10,199.08	-955.53
<b>YTD</b>	\$540,795.07	535,201.77	5,593.30

# FOCUS ON FAITH

## Please Pray For Our Parishioners

Bill, Sandra Barrette, Judy Bever, Valerie Boggs, Karen Bullis, Noah Cotter, LeeAnn Gilligan, Gerri, Jackie H., Alice Jensen, Paula Kimler, Pat & Mark, Penny Patterson, Max Rammer, Heather Saalfeld, Madelynn Schieve, Colleen Schroeder, Andrew Stuehler, Edna Thorp, Lola Williams, Avalon Widner, Lucille Willegal



Due to the pandemic  
Fr. Rob and Sr. Ruth will not be making pastoral visits to the hospital, nursing homes, or to those who are homebound except for people who are end of life or are very seriously ill.  
If you, a family member, or someone you know fits this description, please contact the parish office at 608-752-7861.

# SCRIPTURE

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live." (Jn 14:18-19)

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We hope for many things: passing an exam, finding our true love, securing sustainable work, or surviving an illness. We often seek to have God be a part of what we hope for and desire, almost trying to convince Him that our agenda is what is ultimately important. While our particular hopes may appear to be what needs to be achieved in order for us to be happy, they really are not. Our lesser, more personal hopes can distract us from true hope.

When God became a human being, a powerful message was sent: all that is authentically human is found in the divine. As the human Jesus lived and died in order to show us that he truly is the universal Christ, we have to keep our sight focused on our eternal truth and destiny and who we truly are. We have to be careful when we allow our earthly concerns to distract us. True hope is found when we place our trust in Christ's promises and don't rely on our own strength. True hope focuses on striving toward the fulfillment of God's promises and not simply on achieving what we think we need in this life. Hope always travels with two friends — faith and love. In this trio of virtues, we find the very presence of God born in every human being. These are God's greatest gifts, and they lead us to the fullness of His presence.

As with faith and love, we cannot see hope with just our human eyes. We don't carry this virtue within us to use solely for our own personal agenda. Hope is not something that simply comes with the human package. As with faith and love, hope is a gift that is given to us to draw us closer to our eternal truth. Faith, hope, and love are signs that there is something far greater going on in us and something greater to persevere in obtaining. The true divine gift of hope is what will endure any hardship we encounter, especially those that will come from authentically living the Gospel. With all that is happening in our lives, in our church, and in our world, what is the reason for our hope? Ask God for the fortitude to see His eternal gift as the reason we get up in the morning and do the things we do.



## Readings for Sunday, May 17, 2020

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 / 1 Pt 3:15-18 / Jn 14:15-21

## Readings for Next Sunday, May 24, 2020

### The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 / Eph 1:17-23 / Mt 28:16-20

## Sacraments

**Reconciliation:** Tuesday evening from 5:00 - 6:00 pm and Saturday morning from 9:30-10:30 am.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please call us at 752-7861 when a loved one has a serious illness.

**Weddings:** Please contact the rectory six months in advance. One party must be a parish member in good standing.

**Infant Baptism:** Registered members of the parish are welcome to arrange for their baby's baptism by signing up for the necessary preparation program for parents.

## RCIA

Please call anytime if you would like to discuss Catholicism and see how joining the Church may offer you a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

## Catholic Women's Club

Contact Jan Bier at 752-4387 for more information.

## Knights of Columbus

Contact Ed Gilligan 449-6468 for more information.

## Adult Catholic Spirit Club

Contact Dolores Dilley 752-2587.

## Bulletin Deadline

Mondays at 9:00 AM. Please contact Sharlet Collins at the Rectory, 752-7861 or email psec@nativitymary.org.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## A Message from Dr. Kim Ehrhardt, St. Mary School Principal:

It is hard to believe that this is week seven of our move to distance learning at St. Mary's School. And while I think we have the structure down for this method, the worst part is not seeing the kids every day and working with them directly. The ZOOM classes help but are not the same. Thanks again for everything you are doing to support learning with your children. You're doing a great job! For the next couple of weeks, I will be sharing teacher updates with all of our families.

**Mrs. Sarah Hodge:** This week, I hosted an *Art Makes You Smart Kahoot*, which was really neat. I had students attend who I have not seen in a while. I dropped off our Bee Special Community art project at the Rotary Gardens. Shout out to the Suiters for sponsoring this! I sent information regarding the RCHS community art project to a few families to adopt a heart and paint it for display on the Tallman Lawn across from the hospital as a thank you for healthcare workers. Christy and Maddie Olson, Britten, and Jackson Bertagnoli and my kids completed one. I encourage elementary kids (via the art grid) to see the heart display. You can still get one ... I sent out a new art grid for elementary school students this week. Note: Avayah, Danielle, Spencer, Noah, Mason, and Lila are doing an incredible job. The Creative Lancer Coloring Contest was sent to students via all classroom platforms. Entries are due May 15th.

**Mrs. Huff:** Kindergarteners will be recording their presentations on SeeSaw tomorrow for their community helper unit. I am hoping to find a way to share them with at least staff since we were initially going to be coming to classrooms to present them.

**Mrs. Olson First Grade:** My favorite part of the online lessons is the little "I miss you" messages I get from the kids at the end of their recordings or typed into their sentences. Those little pick me ups make all the distance learning challenges worth it. I really miss my class!

**Ms. Sierra Pursley:** Students completed their Wisconsin reports and presented them digitally; they were all very impressive and well done. It was clear how much work and heart each student had put into the project that each of them chose. Even with the hurdle of having to present them digitally, students' creativity was not stopped. We had beautiful trifold boards, box dioramas, paper mache, lego tables, and a stop-action lego animation film. Each student gave a well thought out presentation to their classmates and other teachers who were able to join and support their projects. A few previous students in attendance commented, remembering back to their presentations and projects. This year proved that students could achieve great things even in difficult situations, and it gave me a few ideas for next year.

## Middle School

**Mrs. Werner:** Participation in Zoom meetings for a few students that had not been previously attending. I have been sharing positive notes with those students who have improved their engagement. I had a few issues with Zoom with students saying they could not enter. I had them exit and re-enter versus tapping the "wait to respond" option. So far, it is helping. A lot of kids missing their alarm clocks this week! Lessons are recorded so you can go back and revisit them.

**Mr. Michael Barrette:** To increase participation in my zoom classes, I have been hosting more Kahoots and drawing names from a hat for students to answer questions. I am also asking everyone to keep their cameras on for the majority of our meetings so that when I show videos, I can see student reactions. Technological issues exist, and I had one parent meet me at school to replace the Chromebook. That seemed to resolve the issue. Each week I offer small group and individual tutorial sessions for students who may need more help and assistance. Sad faces this week related to the DC field trip.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Dr. Ehrhardt:** I have been teaching an integrated instructional unit known as *The Pandemic*. I am using the strategy of the "teachable moment" to help students engage in the real-world issues that this event has created. Our investigation is from a leader's perspective. How should a leader respond to a crisis and make the best decisions when circumstances are clearly not black and white.

As part of the learning, students are required to complete current event logs where they document the topic as it is reported in the media and then draw conclusions about the significance of the content presented. In so doing, students are discovering who the important experts are, what are the emerging facts about the COVID-19 pandemic, and what is the role of government and politics in the crisis. And finally, the significant economic impact of the pandemic at local, state, national and international settings is examined. We are fortunate to have Dan Cunningham (who is the Vice President of *Forward Janesville*) join me as a co-teacher sharing his authentic experience with the Better Together—the Badger Task Force plan to help reach state benchmarks for reopening the state.

Finally, students will have a variety of choices and options to represent their learning in this final capstone project as a student at St. Mary School. I also informed students the completion of this project is a requirement for the receipt of their diploma-- Ask your student which option they have selected.

*Next week we will share happenings from the other teachers about their distance learning experiences with our students.*

Flower Sale Big Success: A special thank you to Sue Vodak and her committed team of helpers as they put together the flower sale this year. These efforts are much appreciated and will raise some \$3000 for St. Mary School!

Thank you to the St. Mary Home & School Association for their kindness during Teacher Appreciation Week . Our staff is doing an incredible job in this new environment.

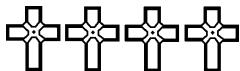
Also, our gratitude and appreciation to those members of the medical community. They are working on the front lines of this health crisis. Happy National Nurses Week!



## ***A Prayer for Teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week***

*Lord, bless the teachers who give their heart to teaching.  
Thank you for the special gift that You have given them,  
a spirit of grace and compassion.  
May they have strength and endurance to perform their many  
tasks, and may they know and feel the deep gratitude of those  
whom they teach. Amen.*

## STAY CONNECTED



Go to [www.nativitymary.org](http://www.nativitymary.org) for parish information, bulletins, uplifting stories, current news and other relevant Catholic content. Check in frequently to view the video series "A Moment with the Bishop". Here, Bishop Hying takes a few minutes with us, nearly every day, to reflect on the gospel, scripture, the sacraments and more, delivering worthwhile messages about our Catholic faith directly to parishioners of the Madison diocese.

A link to our Facebook page, as well as one to St. Mary School's website can be found here, too.

**Fr. Rob prays the Rosary every day at 3:00 pm, with the exception of Friday, when he prays the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 pm. Both are livestreamed on Facebook.**

**Mass is livestreamed on Facebook Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:15 am and on Sunday at 8:30 am. Watch recorded videos of the Mass at our website as well.**

### Other Live Stream and Televised Masses:

**WISC-TV / Channel 3000 Sunday 6:00 AM**

**TVW and Direct TV 14 Sunday 7:00 AM**

**EWTN Live Weekdays at 7:00 AM**

(replays during the day)

<https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live>

### An Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present  
in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.*

*O Mary, you shine continuously  
on our journey as a sign of salvation  
and hope.*

*We entrust ourselves to you, Health  
of the Sick.*

*At the foot of the Cross you  
participated in Jesus' pain,  
with steadfast faith.*

*You, Salvation of the Roman People,  
know what we need.*



*We are certain that you will provide,  
so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting  
might return after this moment of trial.*

*Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves  
to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:*

*He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our  
sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the  
Resurrection. Amen.*

*We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother  
of God.*

*Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test –  
and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed  
Virgin.*

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.

### Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.  
Be our defense against the wickedness  
and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou,

O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God,  
thrust into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits,  
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.  
Amen.

### Good news!

**Weekday Masses can now be attended in a limited fashion, by reservation only.**

**To register, please go to our Sign Up Genius link -  
[https://www.signupgenius.com/  
go/9040A4DABA82CABFE3-weekday](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4DABA82CABFE3-weekday)**

Please contact Sharlet Collins  
by calling (608) 449-7736 or at  
[psec@nativitymary.org](mailto:psec@nativitymary.org) if you  
need any assistance with the  
Genius program or have any  
questions.

