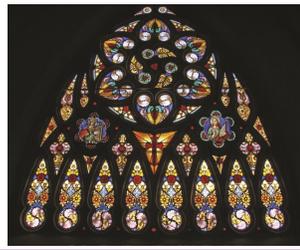


October 3, 2021 • Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



NATIVITY of MARY

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

Rectory

313 E. Wall Street
Janesville, WI 53545-3047

Website www.nativitymary.org
Phone (608) 752-7861
Pastor Msgr. Daniel Ganshert
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Coord. Religious Ed... Colleen Szerlong
Email: re@nativitymary.org
Business Manager Sandra Lee
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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 Lisa Nemeth

Religious Education

Phone (608) 752-7861
Coordinator Colleen Szerlong

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



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 Msgr. Dan

Respect Life Month this October continues to place our all important focus on the precious gift of human life from conception to natural death. It is a familiar reminder to all of us that the cause to defend the human right to life, especially for the unborn, is still to be at the center of our prayer and action as American citizens. Many strides have been made over the years and there is genuine confidence that our country will override the legalization of abortion. We are always cognizant of the need to reach out to expectant mothers in their need for support and assistance. May this month renew our focus and commitment. May it help to intensify our prayers and active support for defending the right to human life for the most vulnerable, especially the unborn.

October is the Month of the Rosary. Our Knights of Columbus will be leading the praying of the Rosary following the 8:30 Sunday morning Masses. This prayer has engendered a deep and universal devotion to Our Blessed Mother for centuries and invites us to pray the rosary for one another this month and beyond.

Congratulations to our Fall Festival Sweepstakes winners and abundant thanks to all of you who made it possible!

-Msgr. Dan



Respect Life Sunday

Each October the Catholic Church throughout the United States observes Respect Life Month. Catholics across the nation join together to witness the inherent equality and transcendent value of every human being from the moment of conception to natural death.

This weekend the Respect Life Collection is being conducted in all parishes throughout the diocese of Madison. An envelope was included in those mailed to your home; you can simply mark an envelope for this purpose as well, to make your donation.

Please consider how you can make a difference!

NEWS & NOTES

St. Mary School



Dear Parishioners,

The school held a Fun Assembly last week. The assembly was the brainchild of our new physical education teacher, Mr. Peter Larson, whose goals for St. Mary's students are to have a positive attitude toward physical activity, develop healthy habits and have fun in the process.

The event started with a warm-up, followed by a scooter relay race, a crazy dance competition, modified lightening game, and finished with a tug of war between the faculty and parents.

During the assembly, Student of the Month certificates were given. This student recognition is new this year, organized by Mrs. Gregerson.

Enjoy the weekend with your family. God bless.

- Dr. Kim Ehrhardt, Principal



Rest in Peace

Karen Bullis and Patrick Gorman, the former Director of Liturgy and Worship for the Diocese of Madison, were recently called to eternal life.

Please remember them, and all who mourn the loss of a loved one, in your prayers.

2021 Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal

Status as of September 24, 2021

Our parish goal for this year is \$56,225.00

We have currently received pledges from parishioners totaling \$56,309.00.

We have already paid in \$54,914.64.

We have roughly \$1,300.00 left to collect in pledges made, and we will have exceeded our parish goal for 2021! The number of contributors from the parish is 135 at this time.

A sincere "Thank You" to all who are helping us to meet this important financial obligation for St. Mary's.

Msgr. Dan

FOCUS ON FAITH

Please Pray For Our Parishioners

Ben, Michael and Randy, Bill, Valerie Boggs,
 Mary Casper, Noah Cotter, Sue Creek,
 Mary Lynn Fox, Gerri, LeeAnn Gilligan,
 Corbin Grieving, Hannah, Jackie H.,
 Alice Jensen, Christine Ansier Katzer,
 Greg Kraft, Mary McGuire, Patricia Mosher,
 Pat & Mark, Richard Peck, Max Rammer,
 Fran Rivera, Heather Saalfeld,
 Madelynn Schieve, Colleen Schroeder,
 Andrew Stuehler, Tammy, Cory & Barb,
 Mary Tullis, Avalon Widner



Prayer Network

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.—John 14:1

Bring your cares to Jesus. Storm heaven with a string of prayers by calling Mary Ann 608-754-5284. Your prayer intention remains anonymous. No names are used as it is passed along, and taken to our Lord by the faithful, compassionate members of St. Mary's Prayer Network.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Wednesday 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. Contact Colleen Szerlong at 608-752-7861 x 104 or email re@nativitymary.org.

Catholic Women's Club

Contact Jan Bier at 774-5916 for more information.

Knights of Columbus

Contact Jim Mullen at 608-201-9860 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.

SCRIPTURE

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

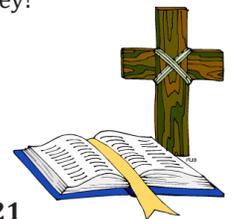
"Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." (Mk 10:9)

Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, "It takes three to make love, not two: you, your spouse, and God." Apart from the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, nothing speaks better of God's incarnate love than marriage. God designed it this way. We place great value on love and rightly so. What we fail to realize, however, is that love, its very presence and place in our lives, is not simply part of the human package deal. Love comes from God. It is one of God's greatest gifts to human beings. When we begin to realize that our very ability to love is sacred, it changes up how we see the essence of life, and purpose and sanctity of marriage.

God is love. It stands to reason then that if we follow the path of unconditional, self-emptying love we will then stumble upon God. It is precisely this intimate wedding of God with love that gives such eloquence and honor to the love between husband and wife. As a living sign of Christ's love for the Church and for humanity, husbands and wives speak volumes of God's unconditional incarnate love for all of his children! The Divine power that brings unity and life to marriage is so strong that once joined, it really cannot be separated.

Admittedly, marriage covenants can be extremely difficult to negotiate and, at times, very painful to experience. God's perfect divinity always meets our broken and imperfect humanity. God is okay with this setup as he created it this way. Our loving is never as unconditional as God's and often tainted by our own imperfections, needs, memories, hurts, sinfulness, and weakness. All of this baggage negatively impacts even the most well-intentioned marriages, causing them to be hurtful and empty. We are love works in progress. God can succeed in perfecting our love only if we keep our eyes fixed on him as the source of that love. That's why marriage is always about three and not just two.

The Divine intimacy at the heart of marriage is what can make them celebrations of great union and happiness. Couples who are still madly in love with each other after many years, still looking at each other with that timeless twinkle in their eyes, best tell the story of God's oneness with humanity. Honor, celebrate, and support those who have accepted a vocation to marriage. Living in a world that easily pulls relationships apart, may they find hope and inspiration from their faith companions who are on the same journey!



Readings for Sunday, October 3, 2021

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 2:18-24 / Heb 2:9-11 / Mk 10:2-16

Readings for Next Sunday, October 10, 2021

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 7:7-11 / Heb 4:12-13 / Mk 10:17-30

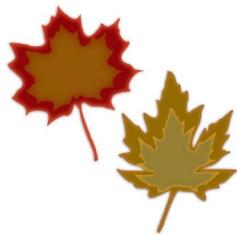
WHAT'S HAPPENING



Thank you everyone who participated in making our Virtual Fall Fest and Sweepstakes a smashing success!

Sweepstakes Winners:

Grand Prize \$3000	Richard Fay
\$1500	Katie Hanson
\$500	Noah Jacque
\$500	Mike & Shanda Fitzgerald
\$500	Bethany Mongiat
\$100	Kathleen Stuttgen
\$100	Tyler & Jeannette Schimke
\$300 SCRIP	Tim Shields
\$300 SCRIP	Nathan Weigel
\$200 SCRIP	Marge Murphy
TV	Michael Williams
Comfort Basket	Brandon Hanna
Holiday Basket	Donald Imhoff
Golf Outing	Sandra Czubek



SCRIP puts your regular shopping dollars to work supporting your parish and school with over fifty retailers. Grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, department stores, hardware stores, movie theaters, spas and more!

SCRIP can now be purchased digitally with MyScripWallet.com for your phone and ShopWithScrip.com for your desktop. To get set up, call the school office at (608) 754-5221 x 110.

St. Mary's congregation will be hosting the **G.I.F.T.S. Men's Shelter** the week of October 17-23. We're in need of volunteers to help in providing meals. If you have any questions, or already know what you'd like to make, please **call Pat at 608-289-3911** to sign up. Look for a place to do that in the church vestibule next weekend, as well.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome,," Matthew 25:35

GIFTS Men's Shelter NEWS

GIFTS Thrift Store GRAND OPENING

GIFTS Thrift Store, 1141 Black Bridge Rd in Janesville, will host its grand opening from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday, October 16. The celebration will feature special sales on merchandise plus the opportunity to meet staff and volunteers. Shoppers will also learn more about what items are acceptable to donate and volunteer opportunities.

Proceeds benefit GIFTS homeless men's shelter that provides meals, daily devotional services and education that allows program participants to rebuild their life skills, and address addiction issues and prepare to re-enter the workforce.

To discover volunteer opportunities at the GIFTS Thrift Store now, please visit giftsshelter.org and fill out a volunteer application. The resale shop is open Monday through Saturday.

Any questions, call Dave Ellis, Thrift Business Manager at 608-563-2116.



Catechists needed!!

Our Religious Education program has just begun, and we're excited to have our parish children join us and grow in faith. However, we have a catechist who is no longer available, as well as several new students. This leaves us in need of at least 2 catechists for our elementary students. If you feel called to teach our youngest parishioners, please let me know right away. We meet Wednesdays from 5:45-7pm. You can contact me at re@nativitymary.org or 752-7861, x 104.

Blessings,
Colleen Szerlong—RE Director

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Blessing of Catechists

Jesus, on the road to Emmaus,
your followers were frightened and alone;
you had just been put to death on a cross.
They met a man on the road
leading away from Jerusalem
who told them all about you
and what your presence among them meant.
They did not realize that the man
speaking and walking with them was you,
raised from the dead.

When their eyes were opened
and they received the gift of faith,
they turned around to spread the word.

We ask you to bless all your disciples
who now work as catechists
in our parish and school at St. Mary's.
Bless them and give encouragement to their work,
that it will have an impact upon the world.
We ask all this in your name, Jesus,
our companion on the road from Emmaus.

Amen.

Heartfelt thanks to our St. Mary's Church & School Catechists

Mr. Dan Bekta
Mrs. Jan Bier
Sr. Ruth Brings
Mrs. Pat Brotzman
Mrs. Rose Donagan
Dr. Kim Ehrhardt
Mrs. Lisa Ehrhardt
Mrs. Katie Field
Msgr. Dan Ganshert
Mrs. Connie Gregerson
Ms. Joy Kirchoff
Ms. Andrea Meidl
Mr. Shae Mitchell
Ms. Jennifer Nelson
Mrs. Christine Olson
Mr. Joe Sanovich
Mrs. Jeannette Schimke
Mrs. Jean Simmons
Mr. Tom Smith
Mrs. Colleen Szerlong
Mrs. Rosalind Voegeli
Mrs. Joan Wanninger



The word "catechesis" means "to echo." Literally, we are to echo the good news of Jesus Christ to the world. This is not a suggestion; it is a command of our Lord. Some people are called and set apart in our communities as catechists, those formally trained and charged with passing on the Gospel to children and adults, inside and outside of our communities. On Catechetical Sunday, we acknowledge them and remind ourselves of the need for formation and growth in all of us. To be a catechist is a privileged calling, and today be sure to say "thank you" to one in your community.

However, it would be wrong on this day to only look to those bearing the NAME of catechist for an echoing of good news. ALL of us are called to echo and share the Gospel message. Parents are the first and primary catechists in a child's life. But we also are important catechists in the lives of our coworkers, our spouses, our relatives, and our friends. Some say catechesis begins in the home, and while that is true, it carries with it a parent/child connotation. But where does catechesis really begin? It begins in the HEART. This year on Catechetical Sunday, may your heart be moved to motivate you to share with others the good news of Jesus Christ.



Our **Catholic Update** program, for parents and parish adults, will run from 6-6:30pm each Wednesday in room 315 of our school. Catholic Update is a quick half hour on timely, relevant and often wondered about Catholic topics. There will be a brief 10 minute lesson, a handout or two, and then time for Q & As. Please join us in chatting and learning more about being Catholic, and helping us all to grow in love and faith!!

Mass Intentions

♥ = Living

Monday, October 4

No Mass

Tuesday, October 5

12:10 PM Max Rolland

Wednesday, October 6

8:15 AM Robert Warner, Jr.

Thursday, October 7

8:15 AM Joseph Viertel

Friday, October 8

8:15 AM Rick L. & Karen Zweck Patton

Saturday, October 9

4:30 PM Hartzell Kas

Sunday, October 10

8:30 AM Edna Thorp

10:30 AM Joseph Putsch—1 Year

Adoration

Friday, following 8:15 AM Mass

Confessions

Wednesday 5:00-6:00 PM

Saturday 9:30-10:30 AM

NEWS & NOTES

A Prayer for Life

Father and maker of all,
you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty,
and fashion human lives in your image and likeness.
Awaken in every heart
reverence for the work of your hands,
and renew among your people
a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life.
Grant this through our Lord
Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God forever and ever.

Amen

Agrace Hospice

In October, grief support specialists from Agrace are offering two virtual (accessible with a tablet, computer or smartphone) grief support groups for adults:

- **Bridges (virtual)** meets online October 13 and 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- **COVID-19 Loss Group (virtual)** meets online October 6 and 20, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Pre-registration is required for all groups. For details, fees or to register, visit Agrace.org/GriefGroups or call (608) 327-7118.

Agrace is seeking volunteers across Rock County to visit with hospice patients or support its Janesville thrift store. Volunteer orientation will take place at Agrace's Janesville office October 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Call (608) 327-7163 or visit Agrace.org/volunteer to fill out an application.

Current guidelines for Mass attendance:

Wearing a mask in church is strongly encouraged.

Whether or not you are fully vaccinated, wearing a face mask while indoors, in public spaces, will help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community. This is the current recommendation from both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Rock County Health Department.

Those who are at greater risk of illness should stay at home and join us for Mass from there; weekend Masses are livestreamed on our Facebook page, or look for the a video recording on our website, at www.nativitymary.org.

As always, if you or a family member are not feeling well, please stay home and rest. Together, we can help one another to stay healthy.

"Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

Transportation to Vaccine Appointments:

The Rock County Public Health Department and the United Way 211 have partnered to offer resources to help people get a ride to their vaccination appointments. Rock County residents can call 211 Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm and ask about transportation resources.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Pray the Rosary— Gather with the Knights of Columbus, following 8:30 am Mass, the first Sunday each month, to pray the rosary together.



Rosary Procession:

October is the month of the Holy Rosary

All are welcome to join in a Marian rosary procession at St. Patrick's Church on Sunday, October 3rd at 3:30pm. Girls between the ages of 5-12 who want to participate as flower girls should wear a white dress and come at 3:15pm to get into position.