

# Epiphany of the LORD

We saw  
his *star*  
at its *rising*  
and have  
come to do  
him *homage*.

*Matthew 2:2*

St. Mary's Catholic Church • January 7, 2024

The Adoration of the Kings by Carlo Dolci, 1649

©Diocesan





## Liturgy Schedule

**Monday, January 8th • The Baptism of the Lord**

**8:15 AM** Pope Francis

**Tuesday, January 9th**

**8:15 AM** For an End to Abortion & Euthanasia

**Wednesday, January 10th**

**7:00 PM** †John Kowatch, including living & deceased family members

**Thursday, January 11th**

**8:15 AM** World Peace

**Friday, January 12th**

**8:15 AM** †Robert H. & Leonore Bengal, including living & deceased family members

**Saturday, January 13th**

**4:30 PM** †Fred Martin, including living & deceased family members

**Sunday, January 14th • The Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**8:00 AM** People of the Parish

**10:00 AM** †Julius & Angela Thelen, including living & deceased family members



The Sanctuary Lamp for this week is  
in loving memory of  
*Fred Martin*

## Upcoming Spiritual Growth Opportunities

### January

**The Omega Project-Bible Study** is held upstairs in the ARK every Monday night from 7 – 8:30 PM.

**Readings for January 8 (session 10):**

1 Samuel (entire book)

**Topic of Discussion:** Rise and fall of King Saul

**What's the Point(s)?**

God prefers obedience over sacrifice.

**Come and join us and bring a friend!**

***Save the Date for SATURDAY JANUARY 20, 2024!***

**St Mary's Marriage Ministry is hosting Holy Happy Hour 2024:**

The evening begins with Holy Hour in the Church at 6 PM, with your spouse and Jesus. Then we move to the hall for Happy Hour(s), with local brewers and cider/winemakers generously offering free tastings! Drinks and appetizers will also be available. See the St Mary's Marriage Ministry Facebook page for more details!

***Renowned Catholic Speaker coming to St. Mary's!***

Kim Zember from Overcome Ministries will be here **January 29th & 30th**. More details to come!

### ***Spiritual Direction Training Course***

This upcoming week I will be away to participate in the ninth module of a nine-part course on Spiritual Direction. As you may recall this program is split into one-week segments which take place over three years. After this week, I will only need to complete a retreat to finish the requirements of the program. The course is offered through the Institute for Priestly Formation and takes place on the campus of Mundelein Seminary – just north of Chicago. Please keep me in your prayers this week that the time away may bear fruit and know of my prayer for you.

Father Eric

### ***Thank You Very Much***

Thank you to all who sent me Christmas cards, best wishes, checks, money, enrollment in Masses, and other gifts during the Christmas season. Your kindness and generosity are truly amazing. I am extraordinarily blessed to be the Pastor of this beautiful and faith-filled community. May God pour out His graces abundantly upon you and your families.

Father Eric

### ***We Need Your Help!***

For the past several years we have offered Eucharistic Adoration on almost every Friday. This ministry relies on many volunteers. **We need at least one person, preferably two to be with Jesus each hour.** Once Jesus, in the Blessed Sacrament, is exposed in the Monstrance, He must not be left unattended. We are asking for one hour a month or in other words 12 hours a year. Make a New Year's resolution to spend more time with Jesus in this special way!

These are the time slots that need to be filled:



#### **First Fridays of each month**

1-2 PM                      4-5 PM  
7-8 PM

#### **Second Fridays of each month**

3-4 PM

#### **Third Fridays of each month**

12-1 PM                      1-2 PM  
3-4 PM                      4-5 PM

#### **Fourth Fridays of each month**

12-1 PM                      1-2 PM  
4-5 PM

**Please call the parish office 989.587.4201 to volunteer!**  
**If you sign up for Adoration and are not able to make your scheduled time you can find your own sub or you can contact the parish office and we will open up the time slot on our sign up genius.**

## **Week at a Glance**

### **Monday, January 8th**

<b>5:45 AM</b>	<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>
<b>11:30 AM</b>	Blood drive/Parish hall (Until 5:15 PM)
<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Reconciliation</b>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Holy Hour</b>

### **Tuesday, January 9th**

<b>6:00 PM</b>	COF/Hall B
<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Lost Sheep Holy Hour</b>
<b>7:30 PM</b>	AA (Office Basement)

### **Wednesday, January 10th**

<b>5:45 AM</b>	<b>Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:45 AM)</b>
<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Reconciliation</b>
<b>7:30 PM</b>	RCIA/parish office library

### **Thursday, January 11th**

<b>5:45 AM</b>	<b>Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:45 AM)</b>
<b>7:00 PM</b>	Choir Practice

### **Friday, January 12th**

<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:00 PM)</b>
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### **Saturday, January 13th**

<b>8:15 AM</b>	<b>Marian Devotions</b>
<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>Reconciliation</b>



## **Weekend Ministry Schedule**

### ***January 13th • The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time***

#### **4:30 PM Mass**

<b>Rosary</b>	Dave Wohlfert
<b>Readers</b>	Amy Bearss, Carolyn Norton
<b>EMC</b>	Roger Luna, Ken & Janice Schafer
<b>Servers</b>	Brandon Buskalic, Ethan Pohl, Brandon Theis
<b>Ushers</b>	Luke Pohl, Ryan Hengesbach, <b>2 volunteers</b>

### ***January 14th • The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time***

#### **8:00 AM Mass**

<b>Rosary</b>	Tommy Lyons
<b>Readers</b>	Mitchell Feldpausch, Kevin Fox
<b>EMC</b>	Eunice Arens, Helen Hengesbach, Tommy Lyons
<b>Servers</b>	Joseph Lyons, Therese Lyons, Emily Thelen
<b>Ushers</b>	Tim Bengal, Joe Bengal, Darrell Hengesbach, Bill Hengesbach

#### **10:00 AM Mass**

<b>Rosary</b>	Rick Droste
<b>Readers</b>	Doug Huhn, Laurie Sillman
<b>EMC</b>	Cindy Birchmeier, Dennis Fox, Luke Thelen
<b>Servers</b>	Jonah Halfman, Hudson Nurenberg, Ilah Smith
<b>Ushers</b>	Brett Thelen, Lee Schrauben, Jason Fox, Cameron Trierweiler

### ***Kindergarten Registration for the 2024/2025 School Year***

We have started the registration process for the next school year for kindergarten.

Students five years of age on or before September 1, 2024, are eligible for kindergarten enrollment. Students who will turn 5 in September, may be considered depending on enrollment numbers.

Kindergarten registration for parish families with a child who will turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024 opened Friday, December 1st.

Please call the school office, 587-3702, to register a student.

If you are undecided about the school your child will be attending, we invite you to call and learn about all the great things St. Mary School has to offer.

### ***RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE***

**Monday, January 8th • St. Mary Parish Hall • Donation Time Period: 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM**

To schedule an appointment, scan the QR code with your phone's camera, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) (sponsor code: Westphalia) or call 1.800.REDCROSS. Walk-in donors are also welcome if there are open slots.



## RCIA Rite of Acceptance & Rite of Welcome

**The Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens** is for inquirers in the RCIA process who are preparing for their Baptism. They are now ready to publicly declare their intention to continue their journey toward becoming Catholics. At this Rite, they are asked to more fully embrace the Gospel message with the help of God, and are also signed with the Cross to show that they now belong to Christ, the Shepherd of souls. In this Rite, the parish community has the opportunity to more fully participate in and pray for those in the RCIA process. This Rite places these catechumens in a formal relationship with the universal Church. This year we have 2 children who will join the Order of Catechumens: Oliver Borodychuk and Declan Gleason.

The **Rite of Welcoming** is for inquirers who have been previously baptized and are ready to publicly declare their intention to continue their journey toward full communion with the Catholic Church. At this Rite, they are asked if they are ready to listen to the apostles' instruction, gather with the worshipping community in prayer, and join that community in the love and service of others. They are signed with the Cross to show that they belong to Christ. This year we welcome Chad & Lisa Borodychuk and Randi Gleason.

The Rite of Acceptance & Rite of Welcome will be celebrated this **Sunday, January 7th at the 10:00 AM Mass**. Let us rejoice with our Catechumens and those seeking Full Communion with the Catholic Church as they take this next step in their formation.

## Prayer Corner

This week we pray for the people who are on the list for our prayer network, those listed in our bulletin and those included in The Book of Intentions located near Our Lady of Westphalia.

*If you would like your name or a loved one's name added to our bulletin for prayer please call the parish office at 989.587.4201*

Brooke Badgero	Barb Kurkowski	Stanley Schafer
Gladys Bengel	Mary Lou Lehman	Steve Schmitz
Joe Bengel	Dan Martin	Hilda Schmitz
Bill Bengel	Ed Martin	Nancy Schueller
Brad Bierstetel	Luke Martin	Nick Schrauben
Jillian Chapman	Quincey Martin	Jane Scollon
Helen Cook	Bill Mattila	Jeffrey Sillman
Brian Davis	Rachel Mauren	John Sillman
Brent Drake	Hunter Meyers	Rosalie Simon
Bob Droste	Viola Meyers	Jeanne Sleight
Millie Droste	Don Miller	Brody Smith
Sister Joanne Fedewa	Sharon Miller	Carolee Smith
Elinor Feldpausch	Justin Norton	Gerry Smith
Mabel Feldpausch	Rose Nurenberg	Sandy C. Smith
Marie Feldpausch	Brad O'Dell	Leroy Spitzley
Sue Fox	Gemma Paintner	Ruth Spitzley
Mary Theresa Gross	MaKenzie Patrick	Christian Teachworth
Lisa Grove	Bev Platte	Dave Thelen
Pam Haan	Mark Platte	Delbert Thelen
Ray Hart	Nancy Platte	Jason Thelen
Mary Hengesbach	Josie Pohl	Luke G. Thelen
Mark Hengesbach	Mary Pohl	Philip Thelen
Fr. Dennis Howard	Darin Pung	Suzanne Thelen
Kevin Howard	Frank Rademacher	Tom Thelen
Michelle Huhn	Ofelia Ramereiz	Dane Van Ells
Leone Hufnagel	Jim Ricci	David Walker
Lisa Koenigsknecht	Sharon Rock	Sarah Weber
Rose Kolp	Jess Sanchez	Doug Werner
Jude Kramer	Adeline Schafer	Tony Wirth
Kendall Kramer	Aurelius Schafer	David Witgen



### In Remembrance Ginny Weber Colleen Heiden

Eternal rest grant unto them  
O Lord and let perpetual  
light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace.

### Healing Prayer Ministry

The healing prayer team will be available after the 10:00 AM Mass on Sundays and after the 7:00 PM Mass on Wednesdays on the following dates:

**January 7 & 17,  
February 11 & 21,  
March 10 & 20,  
April 14 & 24,  
May 5 & 22.**

If you would like to make an appointment, please call Vicki Noeker at 989.587.4211.

### Prayer Network members will pray for your intentions:

If you or a loved one are in need of prayer please call the prayer network: 989.587.4132 • 989.587.6624 • 517.285.3783 or email [btrierweiler@gmail.com](mailto:btrierweiler@gmail.com)





## Scripture Readings for the Week of January 7th

<b>Monday</b>	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b> Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Mk 1:7-11
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Mk 1:21-28
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mk 1:29-39
<b>Thursday</b>	1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45
<b>Friday</b>	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-17, 18-19; Mk 2:1-12
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Memorial of Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mk 2:13-17
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

## Marian Devotions

On First Saturdays beginning on January 6th through May, we will be reflecting on all 20 mysteries of the Rosary through the Five First Saturday Devotions. This devotion was asked of each of us by Mary and our Lord surrounding the events at Fatima. God's will is to establish in the world devotion to Mary's Immaculate Heart. Mary promised special graces for those who follow this devotion. Devotions will begin at 8:15 AM in the church (come in person or join anytime via our parish Facebook livestream) and will last around 45 minutes.

**Requirements:** on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, one shall confess (+/- 20 days), receive Holy Communion (Sunday obligation is acceptable), recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep Mary company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary (both will be fulfilled for those who attend), all with the intention of making reparation for the sins of blasphemy and ingratitude committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

*Mary, you know the practices of this devotion will lead us closer to your Son and bring conversion and peace in our hearts, our homes, and ultimately to the world.*

*Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!*

*Mary, Conversion of Sinners, pray for us! Jesus, we trust in You!*

## Weekly Contribution Totals

**December 24, 2023**

**Total Amount Received.....\$47,499.15**

**Weekend Collection.....\$30,577.00**

**Number of Envelopes ..... 143**

**Holy Days ..... \$325.00**

**EFT & MARS ..... \$4,256.15**

**Transactions ..... 75**

**We Share.....\$12,341.00**

**Transactions ..... 115**

**Weekly Amount Needed \$25,000.00**

### Special Parish & Diocesan Donations:

Building Maintenance ..... \$450.00

Sr. Myra Beltz Scholarship ..... \$20.00

Christmas Flowers ..... \$100.00

ARK ..... \$100.00

Cemetery ..... \$400.00

Religious Retirement ..... \$20.00

Propagation of Faith ..... \$50.00

**Christmas ..... \$15,300.00**

*The collection for December 31st will be published in the January 14th bulletin.*

**Next Baptism Class: January 16th  
at 7:00 PM in the school library.  
Call the parish office to register  
989.587.4201.**

### The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated from Thursday, January 18 - Thursday, January 25, 2024, the Octave of St. Peter and St. Paul. This week brings together Christian denominations from around the world to pray that Jesus' desire that his followers be one come true (John 17:21-23). This year's theme is "You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27). **An Ecumenical Prayer Service, co-officiated by Bishop Earl Boyea of the Catholic Diocese of Lansing and Bishop David Bard of the United Methodist Church of Michigan, will take place at St. Therese Church on Friday, January 19, at 6:30PM.** A reception will follow in Fr. Murray Hall. St. Therese Church is located at 102 W. Randolph Street, Lansing. For more information, please contact Fr. John Fain at 517.487.3749. Please come and pray with your fellow Christians!

# St. Mary's Catholic Church

201 N. Westphalia St.  
Westphalia, MI 48894  
Tel: 989.587.4201  
[office@stmarychurch.net](mailto:office@stmarychurch.net)  
[www.stmarychurch.net](http://www.stmarychurch.net)

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 267  
Westphalia, MI 48894

## Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday:  
9:00 AM—4:00 PM

Wednesday & Friday:  
9:00 AM—3:00 PM

**Closed for lunch: 12:30-1:00 PM**

**Rev. Fr. Eric Weber, Pastor**  
[father@stmarychurch.net](mailto:father@stmarychurch.net)

**Father Peter Lawrence,**  
Associate Pastor (RCIA)  
[pjlawrence@stmarychurch.net](mailto:pjlawrence@stmarychurch.net)

## Parish Office Staff

**Julie Trierweiler,** Business Manager  
[jltrierweiler@stmarychurch.net](mailto:jltrierweiler@stmarychurch.net)

**Beth Markel,** Office Manager  
[bamarkel@stmarychurch.net](mailto:bamarkel@stmarychurch.net)

**Barb Spitzley,** Secretary, Baptism, RCIA  
[baspitzley@stmarychurch.net](mailto:baspitzley@stmarychurch.net)

**Vicki Noeker,** Evangelization &  
Discipleship Coordinator  
[vsnoeker@stmarychurch.net](mailto:vsnoeker@stmarychurch.net)

**Austin Fox,** Director of Religious Ed. &  
Youth Minister  
[afox@stmarychurch.net](mailto:afox@stmarychurch.net)

**Brian Flynn,** Music Director  
[bdflynn@stmarychurch.net](mailto:bdflynn@stmarychurch.net)

**St. Mary School Office**  
Tel: 989.587.3702

**Helen Hengesbach,** Principal  
[principal@stmaryschool.us](mailto:principal@stmaryschool.us)

**Holly Feldpausch**  
[hjfeldpausch@stmaryschool.us](mailto:hjfeldpausch@stmaryschool.us)

**Amy Cook**  
[ascook@stmaryschool.us](mailto:ascook@stmaryschool.us)

**Laura Fedewa**  
[lefedewa@stmaryschool.us](mailto:lefedewa@stmaryschool.us)

## Bulletin Article Submissions:

Please send your bulletin article as  
an attachment to:

[office@stmarychurch.net](mailto:office@stmarychurch.net)  
by Monday morning - 9:00 AM.

## St. Mary's Church Gift Shop

Open by appointment. Please call  
Cindy Miller 989.640.5533 or  
Cindy Fedewa 989.640.5332

Rose Kolp turns 99 on January 20th. Help her celebrate by sending a card to:

Portland Assisted Living & Memory Care

Attn: Rose Kolp

223 Charlotte Hwy

Portland, MI 48875

Happy Birthday Rose!



## Coming to Formed.org January 15th

Do you ever feel like it's almost impossible to raise holy kids who love God (and sit still in Mass!) in our modern world? You're not alone. This six-episode series features

real Catholic families like yours sharing their daily struggles and victories. Created by the Augustine Institute and Catholic Sprouts, The Catholic Parent aims to encourage you as a mom or dad as you embrace your God-given role to form your family in the richness of the Catholic faith. Watch the series with your spouse, with friends, on your own, or as part of a small group! The participant guide—coming January 15—includes questions for group discussion, topics for personal reflection, and ideas to try at home.

## To sign up for Formed.org:

1. Go to: <https://stmarychurch.formed.org>
2. click on *get a parish subscription*
3. search for *St. Mary Westphalia*
4. type in your name and email address and then submit; you should be able to access the website at that point or they may send you a link in your email.

## Priest, Prophet, King Retreat-St Joseph Parish-Pewamo

**January 20th, 8 AM-5:30 PM**

Come join St. Joseph Parish-Pewamo for an incredible day centered on Christ present in the Eucharist. This retreat is a guided reflection of faith including Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Praise & Worship, Small Group Discussion, Interactive Prayer Experiences, two workshop breakouts, lunch, Eucharistic procession, and Mass. The entire day is designed to help you intentionally embrace Jesus Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament and in your daily life. Workshops being presented by Fr. Darrel Kempf, Fr. Michael Hodges, and Tammy Graves. This year's theme is Ordering the Kingdom. "For Americans and others living under democracy, the concept of a king can seem quite foreign, quaint, and curious—perhaps even silly. The United States was formed directly in opposition to rule by a king, and the past century witnessed the end of many kingdoms." In biblical times the King was the central and key figure in both political and religious affairs. Learn how to put God back in His true place as the King of your life. This retreat is free, but does require registration. Learn more and register at [stjosephpewamo.org](http://stjosephpewamo.org).

Sanctuary Academy of Dewitt is enrolling new families! We are a Catholic Homeschool Support Program at the St. Francis Retreat Center. We are offering an Enrichment Day (1 day/week) and a Hybrid Program (2 days/week) for the 24/25 school year. If your family is looking for support on your homeschool journey, or seeking a hybrid education option, please see our website for program information: [www.sanctuaryacademydewitt.com](http://www.sanctuaryacademydewitt.com). Also please join us for a Parent Information Night on **Sunday January 14th, from 3-5:30 PM** at the Retreat Center. Email Monica to register: [monicarpoff@gmail.com](mailto:monicarpoff@gmail.com).





## St. Mary School Dinner & Raffle News

Many hands make light work! The St. Mary School Dinner & Raffle event takes place Saturday February 3rd. Last year, a handful of generous parishioners answered the call and came to the gym the morning after the event, to help get the gym back in order for school the next day. This was a tremendous help so we are asking anyone to **please consider coming to the gym on Sunday February 4th after the 8am or 10am Mass to offer a helping hand. 10 minutes or 1 hour, anything helps.** Thank you in advance.

### 2024 Committee Members

<b>Bill &amp; Sara Badgero</b>	<b>Gregg &amp; Kristin Trierweiler</b>
<b>Dean &amp; Andrea Weber</b>	<b>Ben &amp; Kelly Sedlecky</b>
<b>Keith &amp; Nicole Thelen</b>	<b>Kyle &amp; Katie Pung</b>
<b>Ryan &amp; Ana Pung</b>	<b>Brian &amp; April Witgen</b>

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