

# Catholic Faith Communities of



## St. Mary

15 S. County Road J  
Cato, WI 54230  
(920) 775-4365

Email: stmarycm@tds.net

## & St. Michael

110 W. Menasha Ave. – P O 206  
Whitelaw, WI 54247  
(920) 732-3901

Email: stmichael3901@comcast.net



Church Website: [www.stmarystmichael.com](http://www.stmarystmichael.com) School Website: [www.school.stmarystmichael.com](http://www.school.stmarystmichael.com)

The weekly bulletin can be found on the website

**Deacon Randy Jaeckels, Pastoral Coordinator,** [rjaeckels@stmarystmichael.com](mailto:rjaeckels@stmarystmichael.com)

**Very Reverend John W. Girotti, Priest Celebrant**

**Deacon Randy Meidl**

### MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarks Mills, and St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Whitelaw, in union with the Roman Catholic Church, inspire all to grow as followers of Jesus Christ through the sacraments, faith education and social outreach to our members and the wider community.

#### Bulletin Sponsored:

**IN MEMORY OF JAMES & ELEANORE ROBERTS**

#### Bulletin Sponsored:

**IN MEMORY OF VIC, AGGIE, PATTI & GLEN KONOP  
& DAN BERKLAND**

#### Sanctuary Candle Sponsored:

**IN MEMORY OF FRANCIS & LAURINA SCHUMACHER**

#### Sanctuary Candle Sponsored:

**IN MEMORY OF VIC, AGGIE, PATTI &  
GLEN KONOP & DAN BERKLAND**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 24, 2023

### Mass Schedule

#### ST. MARY

Sunday: 9:30 AM (Confessions 8:45-9:15)

#### ST. MICHAEL

Saturday: 4:00 PM (Confessions 3:00-3:30)

Sunday: 11:00 AM (No Mass 4th Sunday of Month)

St. Mary Parish – 775-4365

For Emergency – (920) 246-6841 Dc.RandyJaeckels

Parish Secretary: Casey Braun - 775-4365

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 11-3

SM/SM School Principal: Jane Schueller-775-4366

Director of Religious Education:

Grades 1-8: Teresa Pederson – 775-4876

Parish Council Chair: Lisa Sherman - 629-0013

St. Michael Parish – 732-3901

For Emergency – (920) 246-6841 – Dc.

RandyJaeckels

Parish Secretary: Judy Ebert - 732-3901

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 8 - 1

SM/SM School Principal: Jane Schueller-775-4366

Director of Religious Education:

Grades 1-8: Teresa Pederson – 775-4876

**GETTING MARRIED?** Please call the parish office soon after you are engaged to begin the marriage preparation process, which is geared for your married life together, not simply the wedding day. Preparation is to begin at least nine months before the wedding, according to diocesan policy.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** Parents are asked to begin preparing for their child's Baptism early. Please contact Deacon Randy Jaeckels for an appointment to facilitate the preparation.

**COMMUNION/VISITS FOR THE HOMEBOUND:** Please contact the parish office to arrange for Communion to be brought to the homebound and for regular visits by Deacon Randy Jaeckels.

**PLEASE USE SCRIP: Available – St. Mary:** At Sunday Mass; in the parish office: Mon.- Fri. 8:00-3:00. For large or special orders call Jean Shimon at 758-2276 by Saturday evening. Order form is available on website.

**St. Michael:** ½ hour until 10 minutes before weekend masses and after mass; in the parish office Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9-noon; or by contacting Colleen at 732-3115. Order form is available on website.

**WORSHIP  
SCHEDULE  
DEC 23-JAN 1**

**Saturday, December 23**

4:00 PM(SM) Jill McCulley, John & Grace Schamburek (Choir)

**Sunday, December 24**

9:30 AM (IC) Melissa Pederson-Zipperer

11:00 AM (SM) **No Mass**

4:00 PM (IC) Monica Pivonka-Schmidt Family (Choir)

8:00 PM (SM) Bamman & Crabtree Families, MaryAnn Matthew & Carl Kangas, Theodore Schoenke (Choir)

**Monday, December 25**

11:00 AM (IC) Tim & Tom Nate (Choir)

**Tuesday, December 26**

8:15 AM (IC) **No School Mass**

**Thursday, December 28**

8:15 AM (SM) **No**

**Liturgy of the Word**

**Saturday, December 30**

4:00 PM (SM) Chris & Rita Linsmeier

**Sunday, December 31**

9:30 AM (IC) Living & Deceased of The John Pritzl Family

11:00 AM (SM) Living & Deceased Members of the Reedsville Knights of Columbus

**ICSt. Mary/SM St. Michael**

**MINISTRIES  
DECEMBER 30-31**

**Proclaimers:**

4:00 PM(SM) Charles Lemberger

9:30 AM(IC) Karen Schweitzer-Olson

11:00 AM(SM) Judy Ebert

**Extraordinary**

**Ministers:**

4:00PM(SM) Deacon Randy Meidl

9:30 AM(IC) Deacon Randy Meidl

11:00 AM(SM) Deacon Randy Meidl

**Servers:**

4:00 PM (SM) Bernard McCulley

9:30 AM (IC) Cassidy & Gloria Walesh

11:00 AM (SM) Andy Resch

**December Ushers:**

4:00 PM(SM) Al & Lois

Kiel, Ken Brunner

9:30 AM(IC) Ray Berres, Bob

Staudinger

11:00 AM(SM) Joe Resch Family & Jim Muench

**Christmas Day Mass**

**St. Mary's Parish 11:00 AM**

**Proclaimer:** Lisa Sherman

**Extraordinary Minister:** Deacon Randy Jaeckels

**Parish Holiday Office Hours: St. Michael's:** Tuesday, December 26 & Thursday, December 28 8am-1pm. **St. Mary's:** Friday, December 29 11am-3pm. **Both offices** will also be closed on New Year's Day, January 1.

Any **financial contributions** or offerings received by the parishes by December 31, 2023 will be recognized for the 2023 tax year.

**St. Mary's 36th Annual Raffle Calendars** are now available in the front of St. Mary's Parish and the back of St. Michael's Parish and the parish offices. The price is \$25 a calendar.

The bell is ringing again at **St. Michael's Parish!** Through the generosity of the late Bernice and Joseph Resch, funds were provided to repair and update the system which controls the operation of the bell. The bell is now tolling on the hour, before masses, ringing the Angelus, and has other special features. Thank you to them for thinking of our parish and providing this beautiful donation towards the bell system!

The roof repair project for **St. Mary's Parish** has been approved by the Diocese of Green Bay. IEI General Contractors of DePere has been awarded the project. In the near future, a start date will be determined and the project schedule will be released. Watch for more information to come!

**St. Mary's Parish** is now offering El Tequila scrip in \$25 increments with a percentage of 14% that gives back to our Church!

**St. Michael's & St. Mary's Parish:** Effective Jan. 1, 2024 will no longer carry Culvers in \$5.00 increments. There is still some in their inventory that may be purchased.

**St. Mary's Parish:** Thank you very much to everyone at St. Mary's Parish. We appreciate your generous donations and are grateful to have your support. Hope all have a blessed Christmas- The Crossing

**Marian Council:** Thank you for your past support of our Help Desk and Food Pantry we take this opportunity to wish your council a very Blessed Christmas - St. Vincent De Paul

*Welcome*

Welcome to our celebration of Mass today. We sincerely hope you feel you are among friends.

**Bulletins are published online:** To access the Church website visit: [www.stmarystmichael.com](http://www.stmarystmichael.com) and to access the school website [www.school.stmarystmichael.com](http://www.school.stmarystmichael.com)

**Bishop Ricken's Sunday Mass:** If unable to make it to Mass due to illness or homebound Sunday Mass is available at 7:30am on channel 5 (WFRV).

**Save the Date:** Winterfest 2024 will be held on Saturday, February 3 starting at 5:00pm at 7 Lakes Golf & Dining. We hope to see you there!

**The family of Roger O'Connor** are extremely thankful for the out pouring of care, prayers, cards and concerns shown to us with the loss of our husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. God Bless.

**Coping with Grief?** While the holidays pass by so quickly, so do our family gatherings. And for those of us that have lost loved ones, this time of winter can be an especially challenging time of the year. Please know that you are not alone; we are with you. We simply desire to accompany you through all these feelings, special days and experiences yet to come. We invite you to participate with our Coping with Grief group at St. Thomas the Apostle rectory (8100 Brunner Rd, Newton), behind the church, every first Monday of the month beginning at 2:00pm on January 8. Whether it's your first year of your twenty-first year, all are welcome.

**The Crossing to St. Michael's Quilters:** We appreciate your generous donations and are grateful for your support. Have a Blessed week! - Krystal

**The Salvation Army to St. Michael's Quilters:** Would like to thank you for your donation of quilts, total of 60. As we reach out to families in need, each donation is crucial. Because of your thoughtfulness and support, together we can continue our work here in Manitowoc County. Thank you for giving as generously as you have. Thank you for the blessing of these handmade quilts. I know that our families will appreciate them this Christmas! -Jenny Moffitt, Lieutenant Corps Officer

#### **Church Cleaning Families -December 30/31**

St. Mary: N/A

St. Michael: Al & Lois Kiel, Bill & Colleen Korinek, Carol Kortenhorn

**Scrip Sellers-St. Michael:** Saturday, December 30; Colleen Meidl. December 31; Vicki Baumann.

### **SCHOOL NOTE**

Thank you to everyone who helped with our or ordered from our cookie sale. We raised over \$700 for The Valders Food Pantry! Our Christmas Program last Thursday was beautiful! Thank you to all who were able to join us. The students and staff of St. Mary/St. Michael School would like to wish you all a very Blessed and Merry Christmas!

Mrs. Michele Arnold – 1st & 2nd Grade Teacher

This week's winners from **Football CharityMania** is Charlie Walesh who won \$20 and John Leist who won \$50. Congratulations! Is Week #16 your time to win?

**Winterfest,** St. Mary/St. Michael School's largest fundraiser, will be held Saturday, February 3, 2024 starting at 5pm at Seven Lakes Golf & Dining. Raffle tickets are now available and are being sold for \$100 each. Only 300 tickets are being sold! You do not need to be present to win! Prizes are as follows: Grand Prize \$10,000, 2nd \$3000, 3rd \$1000, 4th -8th \$200. See any school family or the school office to purchase your tickets before they are gone!

## **RESPECT LIFE**

**RESPECT LIFE GROUP – ST. MARY & ST. MICHAEL PARISHES** wishes you a very blessed Christmas! Rejoice, "for nothing will be impossible for God." – Luke 1.37

**WORD OF LIFE:** "O Blessed Mother, at the angel's word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations... Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid." -- USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, Prayer for Radical Solidarity ([www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity](http://www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity))

**WORD OF LIFE:** "An old Irish proverb says, 'It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.' Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life's end, we may not know how best to 'shelter' them. Here are some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them: [usccb.org/end-of-life-care](http://usccb.org/end-of-life-care)." -- USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End

**WORD OF LIFE:** "I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. ...But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. ... The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation." -- Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, no. 99. © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

**ST. MARY**  
December 17, 2023

Support	\$4,743.00
Offertory	327.00
Online Giving	160.00
Mass Stipends	40.00
Catholic Life Finc.	1,000.00
Advent Books	8.00
Christmas Flowers	230.00
Christmas Donation	<u>545.00</u>
	\$7,223.00

Weekly Avg needed \$4,680.00  
2,543.00

Retirement Collection \$40.00

Capital Improvement \$435.82

Scrip Sales	\$9,131.41
Profit	566.86

**ST. MICHAEL**  
December 17, 2023

Support	\$3,782.00
Offertory	290.10
Bulletin Sponsors	90.00
Candle Sponsors	40.00
Mass Stipends	70.00
Candles	17.00
Christmas Flowers	390.00
Christmas Offering	<u>145.00</u>
	\$4,824.10

Weekly Avg needed \$4,300.00  
524.10

Scrip Sales	\$14,955.00
Profit	679.62

Retirement Collection \$225.00

Capital Improvement \$293.00

**WEEKLY  
STEWARDSHIP**

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT**

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."  
Luke 1:31-33

**From the Grapevine by Deacon Randy J**

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." With these two sentences Mary shows us how much faith she has in God and the deep love she has for God.

With this great faith and love, Mary abandons the plans she had for herself (and for Joseph too) in order to participate in God's plan for her. She totally gives herself over to God despite all the potential risks. Would Joseph believe her story or leave her? As a betrothed woman found pregnant, she could be stoned to death. Even if Joseph stuck by her side, what would it be like to be in the presence of the Son of God for the rest of her life?

During Advent, we hear of others who also heard the word of God in their lives – King David, Zechariah, Elizabeth, and John the Baptist – and how they responded. The Word of God comes to us too. How are we answering God? How often do we provide God with a "Yes" for his plan for us? I encourage you to place your trust in him just as Mary did. In doing so, we can bring Jesus into our world!

At this most wonderful and joyous time of the year, I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas! May Jesus our Savior be reborn into your life, and you continue to grow in your faith and love for him. I am so grateful for this opportunity to be here with you, and I look forward to what the New Year will bring to our faith communities. May God bless you!

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
ST. MARY & ST. MICHAEL**

**Saturday, December 23**

Confessions 3:00-3:30pm at St. Michael's

**Sunday, December 24**

Confessions 8:45-9:15am at St. Mary's  
Christmas Eve Mass 4:00pm at St. Mary's  
Christmas Eve Mass 8:00pm at St. Michael's

**Monday, December 25**

Christmas Day 11:00am Mass at St. Mary's

**Wednesday, December 27**

No Religious Education Classes

**Saturday, December 30**

Confessions 3:00-3:30pm at St. Michael's

**Sunday, December 31**

Confessions 8:45-9:15am at St. Mary's

**Monday, January 1**

New Year's Day 11:00am Mass at St. Michael's

**ST. MARY CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS: WEEK #51 – 12/17/23-12/23/23:**

**\$50 WINNERS:** Kenneth Marsicek, Whitelaw & Mike & Melissa Anderson, Barron.

**\$25 WINNERS:** Andrea Hofreiter, Two Rivers; John Sloma, Reedsville; Jamie Benson, Denver, CO; Barbara Pankratz, Manitowoc and Shirley Bubolz, Manitowoc.