

Saint Matthew Catholic Church

December 14, 2025

3rd Sunday of Advent

“This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending My messenger ahead of You; he will prepare Your way before You.” Mt 11:10



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses
Wednesday, December 24th

- * 4:30 pm
- * 10:00 pm

Christmas Day Masses
Thursday, December 25th

- * 8:00 am
- * 10:00 am
- * 12:00 pm Español

Mass Schedule - Horario de Misas

Weekends: Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, **10:00 am
Español-Spanish: 12:00 noon

Weekdays: Monday: **6:00 pm
Tuesday: **12:05 pm
Wednesday-Friday: **8:00 am

** Ways to watch a “Live-Streamed Mass”

- www.stmatthewausau.org - near top of page “Click to Watch the Mass” on YouTube then scroll down to watch the Mass you want.
- Our YouTube Channel: “St. Matthew Wausau” Subscribe to get live-streamed notifications.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

30 minutes before every Mass
Saturday: 3:00 pm - 4:20 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday & Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
(~4:30 pm: Evening Prayer,
Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction)

First Fridays

Mass in Spanish at 5 pm, followed by
Flame of Love Holy Hour, followed by all
night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament,
ending with Mass in Spanish at
6 am on Saturday morning.

Parish Office - Oficina

227 S 28th Avenue - 715-842-3148

Office Hours - Oficina Horas

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday: closed

Website: www.StMatthewWausau.org

YouTube: [St. Matthew Wausau](https://www.youtube.com/StMatthewWausau)

TV Sunday Mass

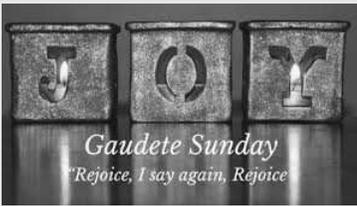
Channel 7.4 WSAW - Sunday 9 am

Cable TV

Channel 12: Sunday 6:30 am

Ch 980 Public Access: Sat 6 pm & Sun 9 am

Diocese of La Crosse: www.dioc.org



Reflection
Third Sunday in Advent

Good news, we are making progress in our Advent journey, and it's time to pause and rejoice in the Good News that our Savior will return in victory one day. Today's readings on this Gaudete ("Rejoice") Sunday are full of reminders of God's ultimate victory over suffering and injustice, and the encouragement to remain steadfast in our mission to living as faith-filled disciples.

Such a day almost seems too good to be true, especially when we look around at the dire circumstances we face in our world today. But by faith, we know this day is coming. Lest we grow weary as we wait for the glorious day of Christ's return, St James, in our second reading, offers wise counsel. "Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord....Make your hearts firm...Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged."

This is excellent advice for us, as we face the challenges of daily life in our broken world, especially during the hectic days before Christmas when stress can cause us and those around us to be less than our best. St James reminds us that we have the power to choose our response to both the major strains and minor annoyances of life. We can "make our hearts firm" through practicing patience with others and refusing the temptation to complain.

Remember, we have the choice to see and rejoice in God's presence with us, regardless of the circumstances we face. This is a source of hope and optimism that can guide us through the challenges of our daily lives.

The Tradition of the "Nativity Scene"

Families are encouraged to set up the Christmas crib at home together so children learn the facts of the mystery of God's love that was revealed in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem Grotto.

The Nativity Scene can help us understand the true meaning of Christmas because it expresses the humility and merciful goodness of Jesus Christ, who *though He was rich He made Himself poor* for us (2 Corinthians 8:9). Christmas brings joy, peace and hope to those who, like the shepherds in Bethlehem, accept the angel's words: "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." (Luke 2: 10-12) This is still the true meaning of Christmas.

We need a Savior; the Son of God came to us as a tiny infant in the poorest of circumstances. Jesus is the Savior because in Him and through Him is the grace necessary for us to overcome all of the dysfunction, sinfulness, shame and guilt which separates us from God and from one another. In Him is the grace to overcome all obstacles to friendship with God. In Bethlehem "a Savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."



He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain...Rev 21:4

Our Prayers & Sympathy go to the Family & Friends of:



Rosalie Mertens

She died Sunday - November 30, 2025
 She is the Sister of Mrs Lou Przesmicki

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. Amen



WAUSAU AREA HIGH SCHOOL

CATHOLIC YOUTH ARE INVITED TO

CORAM DEO

An evening of adoration, prayerful reflection, sacred music, and fellowship

SUNDAY, DEC. 14TH AT 6:00PM

Hosted at St. Matthew Parish



God's Personal Word to You

The following words from Sacred Scripture reveal God's love for you: He will never forget you; He knows you by name! You belong to Him.

"Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child in her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands." (Isaiah 49:15-16)

- ✦ God loves each person and He desires that we develop a deeper relationship with Him.
- ✦ We sin, which places barriers between us and God, and can even cause separation.
- ✦ Jesus gave His life to save us and be our bridge back to the Father.
- ✦ What is our response to God's desire that we develop a deeper relationship with Him?

Parish Staff (715-842-3148)

Pastor: The Very Rev. Sebastian Kolodziejczyk
padreseko@icloud.com

Deacon: Deacon John McDonnell - jmcdonnell@diolclergy.org

Deacon: Deacon Tom Tierney - ttierney@diolclergy.org

Pastoral Care: Dorothy Giallombardo & June Pritzl
dorothy@stmatthewausau.org

Parish Secretary: Joy Orozco - joydre@stmatthewausau.org

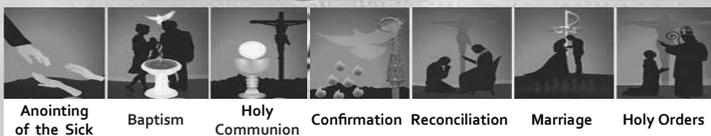
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Plant Manager: Jason Seliger

Bulletin Editor: Rosemary Butzen - bulletin@stmatthewausau.org

Bulletin Submission: see Holiday Bulletin Submission Dates page 4
To get bulletin link emailed to you: www.parishesonline.com



CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

Call the Parish Office (715-842-3148) to make arrangements for:

✦ **Confession** - by appointment outside of scheduled Confession times.

✦ **Baptism** - Baptisms take place the 2nd Sunday of each month.

The Baptism Preparation Class must be attended by parents. Godparents are encouraged to attend. **You must register at least one week before the class by calling the Parish Office.**

Next Baptism Class: Tuesday, January 13th at 6:00 pm.

✦ **Bautismo** - Los bautismos se llevan a cabo el segundo domingo de mes. Para los bautismos los padres y padrinos deben tomar una clase y no faltar a misa los domingos. Los padrinos deben presentar comprobante de que recibieron el sacramento de la Confirmación y no pueden estar viviendo juntos. Para mayor informes y registrarse para la clase llame a Joy al 715-842-3148

✦ **Marriage** - Contact Fr Sebastian 6 months in advance.

✦ **Anointing of the Sick and Home Communion Visits**

- * **Anointing of the Sick** - for those seriously ill and before a scheduled surgery.
- * **Holy Communion Visits to the Homebound** - for those at home, a rehab center, assisted living facility, or nursing home.
- * **Hospital Visits** - If you are anticipating a hospital stay, call and let us know. The hospital doesn't always inform us.
- * **In Need of Extra Prayer?** - Our prayer group is always ready to pray for you! **Call Bonnie: 715-675-9876.**

Prayer

The most powerful weapon against trials.
The most effective medicine against sickness.
The most valuable gift to someone you love.

Please pray for the members of Saint Matthew Parish:

"Dear Jesus, please help and heal all parishioners who are homebound, lonely, depressed, grieving, sick, in the hospital, those who are terminally ill and those who have died. Amen



Eucharistic Revival - A Minute with Jesus

Jesus Wants To Stay With Us Always



Jesus loves each one of us so much that He gives Himself to us in Holy Communion at Mass. We receive Jesus Himself. When the priest prays the words of Jesus over the bread and wine at Mass, they are no longer bread and wine but the Body and Blood of Christ. Jesus gives Himself to us because He wants to stay with each one of us always.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week:

"Jesus, thank You that You desire to stay with us always."

Read from Scripture about the birth of the Christ Child in Luke 2:1-7



Support a Lifetime of Service

Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need, usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for senior men and women religious. Please give generously.

Thank you for your donations!



Holy Name of Jesus Parish Fundraiser
Supporting NCCS: Holy Name

Greece & Turkey Pilgrimage Raffle

Following the Footsteps of St. Paul with Father Samuel Martin and Mater Dei Tours (fully Catholic pilgrimages)
September 2027 (dates to be determined)

\$40 a ticket or 3 for \$100

Grand Prize: Greece and Turkey Pilgrimage for 2 (approximate value \$12,000 - no cash value)

Second Prize: \$1,000 cash

Third Prize: \$500 cash

Drawing: Saturday, February 14, 2026
Following the Mardi Gras Fundraiser
Holy Name of Jesus Parish
1104 S. 9th Ave
Wausau, WI 54401
Need not be present to win

Tickets can be purchased at the parish or school office, or by completing the order form and mailing it in.



Diocese of La Crosse Guidelines for Reporting Instances of Child Abuse

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its policies and procedures, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. **Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities.** Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.



This Week at Saint Matthew Parish

Wednesday, December 17

- Men's Morning Bible Study - McGarty Hall: 6:00 am
- Ray's Breakfast Club (all men) - Blue Willow Restaurant: 9:00 am
- Marlene's Breakfast Club (all women) - Breakfast Bear Restaurant: 9:00 am
- Gaudete Choir Practice - Church: 6:30 pm

Thursday, December 18

- Bible Study - McGarty Hall: 9:00 am
- Christmas Family Choir Practice - Church: 6:00 pm
- Healing Fire of the Spirit Prayer Group - Angelorum: 6:30 pm

Friday, December 19

Bulletin Submissions Due for Bulletin on Sunday, December 28th

Saturday, December 20

Blessing of Baby Jesus Nativity Scene Statues after 4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, December 21

- Blessing of Baby Jesus Nativity Scene Statues after Masses
- Youth Choir Practice at 11:00 am
- Church Christmas Decorating at 1:00 pm - All invited to help decorate!

Parish Offices will be closed the week of December 22nd.

Holiday Bulletin Submission Dates

Bulletin submission dates change during the upcoming holidays. Please refer to the schedule below for submitting announcements for the bulletin. Please submit announcements by 11 am on the deadline date or on the day before at:

bulletin@stmatthewausau.org or call the office at 715-842-3148



For Bulletin on: Sunday, December 28 - Friday, December 19
Submission Deadline: Sunday, January 4 - Tuesday, December 23



Sharing God's Blessings



Thank you for your support!

Weekly Minimum Amount Needed per Budget:
\$11,073.00

Envelopes (December 7th).....To be Announced

Adventure Camp

**For current 5th - 8th Graders
 June 21—26, 2026
 Cost: \$475 + Transportation**



The high adventure gives young people a chance to challenge themselves physically and mentally while being encouraged by their fellow campers. The most important aspect of Adventure Camp is that young people deepen their relationship with Christ and connect it to every aspect of their lives. There will be at least one priest at camp at all times. This allows us to have daily Mass, confession throughout the week, and a special time for Adoration.

Contact Stacie at 715-842-4543 or Stacie@holynamewausau.com for information or questions.



Mass Intentions December 15 - 21, 2025

Pray for Us

- Mon, Dec 15 - 6:00 pm - †Joanne Myszka
- Tue, Dec 16 - 12:05 pm - †Emily Bidu Eaton
- Wed, Dec 17 - 8:00 am - †Arthur Hummer
- Thu, Dec 18 - 8:00 am - †William Bretl
- Fri, Dec 19 - 8:00 am - †John Bant
- Sat, Dec 20 - 4:30 pm - †Deceased Strehlow & Larson Families
- Sun, Dec 21 - 8:00 am - †Paul Wiegert
- 10:00 am - Living & †Deceased Ellenbecker & Stettler Families
- Spanish - 12 noon - St Matthew Parishioners

Daily Mass Readings

Monday, December 15

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17/Ps 25/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday, December 16

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 17

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday, December 18

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72/Mt 1:18-25

Friday, December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25/Ps 71/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday, December 20

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Lk 1:26-38

Sunday, December 21 - 4th Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24



Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 20 4:30 pm	Sunday, December 21 8:00 am	Sunday, December 21 10:00 am
Lectors		
Jeanne Alexejun	Justin Loew	Lee Peek
Musicians		
Cindy Blair Anne Paul	Brittany Kavajecz Sara Schmitt	Lynn Meyer Annette Southworth
Ushers and Greeters		
Tom Line John Bocke Brian Mleziva	Pat Ruesch David Krause Nic Schmitt	Bob Charlier Sharon Charlier Tom Brzezinski
Altar Servers		
Logan Mleziva Nolen Mleziva	Joey Huebsch Eddie Vue	Natalie Bergo Carolina Bergo
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion		
Mary Holm	Bernie Dohr	Jane Holl
Children's Liturgy of the Word		Jeannie
SCRIP: Ann Line	Dottie Baxter	Vicki Tierney



**Pick Up
Your
Orders**



Baxter's Famous Maple Glazed Pecans

**Saturday & Sunday:
Dec 13 & 14, after Masses**

**Made to order by: St Matt's Men's Club
Thank you for your support!**

**Special Blessing
of Your Nativity
Baby Jesus
Statue**



After Masses on
**December
20th & 21st**
The baby Jesus
nativity scene
statues will be
blessed at the
communion rail.



Decorating the Family Christmas Tree

**Don't forget to bring your children's
decorated ornaments and hang them on the
"Family Christmas Tree" in the Angelorum!**

**All parishioners are invited to bring an ornament from home
and hang it on the Family Christmas Tree.**

Buy SCRIP Gift Cards for Everyone this Christmas!!!

They make great gifts & help the parish!

Next SCRIP Sales in Angelorum:

**December 20th & 21st
after 4:30 pm, 8 & 10 am Masses**

You can always buy SCRIP at the Parish Office.

**This Christmas, give Scrip Gift Cards
as a gift or to buy gifts with.**

We still have Circle K Holiday Gift Cards for sale for locations in Merrill, Rhinelander, Eagle River, Wisconsin Rapids, etc.

Gift Cards for Teachers, Babysitters and the other people that are special in your life are for sale here. This is the last week before our schools start their Christmas Break, so remember your gas cards for those visits with family, restaurant cards for gathering with friends, and those last minute presents you forgot about.

Due to the Christmas Break at NCS, beginning 12/22-1/2/26 our inventory will not be restocked until next year. We will continue to sell in the Angelorum on 12/20-21 and 12/27-28, but please purchase what you need this week to avoid being disappointed.

Thank you for buying SCRIP! Merry Christmas!



Donations for Christmas Flowers (this year donations are for flowers only, not candles)

Christmas is a time to give thanks to God for the special people in our lives. We can honor them by donating flowers in their name.

Put your donations in an envelope along with the following information:

- * Your Name
- * If it is "in memory of" OR "in honor of" and Their Name
- * Put in the Collection Basket, Bring to Office or Mail to:

St Matthew Parish, 227 S 28th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401

Join our Christmas Family Choir

St Matthew is planning again this year to have a Family Choir lead hymns for the 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass. **There will be a rehearsal on December 18th at 6:00 pm in the church.**

Please email Andrea Huebner at azinkgraf33@gmail.com if your family would like to participate. Voices & instruments welcome!



Ray's Breakfast Club

All men are invited to join us for breakfast on **Wednesday, December 17th at 9 am** at the **Blue Willow Restaurant**

Join us the 3rd Wednesday of each month at various restaurants for good food and good fellowship!



Marlene's Breakfast Club

All ladies are invited to join us for breakfast on **Wednesday, December 17th at 9 am** at the **Breakfast Bear Restaurant**

Join us the 3rd Wednesday of each month at various restaurants for good food and good fellowship!



**We are Thankful
for our Advertisers!
Please support them!**

Church Christmas Decorating Come join us to help decorate the church on

Sunday, December 21st at 1:15 pm

It's always a lot of fun!! See you there!!



**Adoration Time Available
Wednesdays: Noon - 1:00 pm**

**Looking for Someone to
Spend an Hour with Jesus**

If anyone is interested or has questions, please call Nancy at 715-675-6796

There are many benefits and graces that come to us as we "rest an hour in His Holy Presence".

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