

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – PASTOR: Father Shane Campbell

“Make straight his paths,” Isaiah cried out, prophesying that the LORD would come to rescue and comfort the people of God. Centuries later, Mark quotes this call at the very beginning of his Gospel, presenting John the Baptist as the prophet who took this to heart, preparing the way for the Lord. Now, two millennia later, during this season when we prepare for the Lord’s coming into our lives and into our hearts, how can *we* “make straight his paths”?

Mass Etiquette-Please come to Mass early enough to not disrupt. Leave late enough not to insult.
Worship reverently enough not to distract. And dress proudly enough not to offend.

Monday, December 11	No Services
Tuesday, December 12	5:30 PM at St. Bernard's – Novena and Mass
Wednesday, December 13	8:30 AM at St. Bernard's –+Richard J. Kessel by Geoff/Debra Obrigewitsch
Thursday, December 14	6:30 AM at St. Mary's – Adoration 7:30 AM at St. Mary's –+Don & +Irene Fisher by Charles/Mary Theis
Friday, December 15	8:30 AM at St. Bernard's –+Fr. Casimir Paluck by Bernadine Jacobs
Saturday, December 16	4:00 PM at St. Bernard's –+Rose Redmond and deceased members of the Jerry/Rose Redmond family
Sunday, December 17	8:30 AM at St. Bernard's – Parishes 10:30 AM at St. Mary's –+Ted Frank by Carol & family

Sacrament of Reconciliation: St. Mary's: Sunday – Before Mass
St. Bernard's: Saturday –3:15-3:45 pm- Sunday – Before Mass

Ministers for Sunday, December 17th

Commentator/Reader
Lynette Silbernagel

Servers
Jake Streitz

Ushers

Matt Frank / Pat Frank

Rosary Leader

Kathy Kuylen

If you are not able to be at your appointed Mass, please find a replacement.

Vocation View – How are you preparing the way for the Lord? What needs straightening in your life? Call on God in prayer to help you. (Matthew 3:1-12)

Thought for the week – Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.

Please Remember in Your Prayers the sick, especially: **Tom Metz, Mick Riesinger, Don Sanders, Mary Peters, Ken Lefor, and Greg Taylor** and for all our parishioners who are homebound, in assisted living or in nursing homes. *Prayers will remain on the list for four weeks. If you would like to add, request, or update list, please call the parish office at 677-5886.*

If you come to this parish on a regular basis, consider becoming a member. Call the parish office at 677-5886.

Poinsettias – If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, the envelopes are on the table in the entrance of the church. The cost is \$18.00 apiece.

Church Christmas Decorating – Sunday, **December 17th**, after Mass.

Food Pantry Drive – The Christian Mothers are holding a food drive for non-perishable food and personal care items.

Christian Mothers “Giving Tree” – This year we are focusing on bringing some joy to the elderly in our area that are in need. We have received wish list items from the nursing homes. If you know of an elderly individual in our parish/community that is in need, please fill out the form found in the envelopes on the bulletin board and turn them in to either Karen Kostelecky or Rhonda Steffan so they can be added to the tree. Please select a tag from the tree and bring the gift (either wrapped or unwrapped) WITH the tag to the parish office or to the church by December 17th.

Retirement Fund for Religious – 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 nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious.

Remember your loved ones, at Mass, as we celebrate the anniversary of their death:

December 13: Joseph Krushensky 1949

December 14: Joseph Heiser **1959**, Louie Meduna **1976**, Anna Binstock **2019**

John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US Bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live – the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards."

Stewardship Thought: We are all stewards – managers of the many gifts God has bestowed upon us. Our challenge as Christians is to make good use of those gifts.

Sunday, December 3rd:

Adults:	874.00
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Loose: 142.25

Total: \$ 1,016.25

