# Saint Mary's Church

15164 Juniper Dr. Marne, MI 49435 / 616.677.3934 / www.saintmarysmarne.org December 18,  $2022 \sim Fourth Sunday of Advent$ 



#### Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4:30PM St Mary Sunday 8:30AM St Michael Sunday 10:30AM St Mary Sunday 4:30PM St Michael

#### **Weekday Mass Schedule:**

Tuesday 9AM St Mary

Adoration begins after Mass until 2:00 pm

Wednesday 9AM - St Michael

Adoration begins after Mass until 2:00 pm

Thursday 9:00 AM St Mary Friday 9:00 AM St Michael

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday 3:30 PM—4:15PM-St Mary Sunday 3:00PM -4:00PM St Michael

Wednesday 2:00 PM—3:00 PM St Michael

(or anytime by appt. please call parish office)

### St. Mary Parish Office

Monday - 8:00AM - 4:30PM Tuesday - 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Wednesday - 8:00AM - 11:30AM Thursday - 8:00AM to 4:30PM

St Mary's Mission Statement: We, the Roman Catholic community of St. Mary's, by our baptism have become the People of God, dedicated to living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are a community built on faith and the sharing of individual talents, abilities and skills for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Empowered by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by prayer and the sacraments, we continue the mission of Jesus to reveal God's presence in all of human life.

#### Pastor:

Rev. Michael Hodges / frmhodges@grpriests.org 616.677.3934

For emergency please call: 616.745.1409

#### Deacon:

Deacon Tom Roberts / troberts@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.3934

#### Parish Secretary:

Cathie VanGessel / secretary@saintmarysmarne.org

#### **Business Manager:**

Todd Kline / businessmanager@saintmarysmarne.org

### **Director of Religious Education:**

Rebecca Chicklon / dre@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.5065

### Youth Minister—Life Teen grades 9-12

Rebecca Chicklon / dre@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.5065

**Director of R.C.I.A:** Jill Brown-616.677.3934

Maintenance/Custodian: Jim & Marian Looks: 677.3934

### **Liturgical Minister:**

Gary Karr / 616.677.3934 / gkarr@saintmarysmarne.org

#### **Music Director:**

Dr. Bernie Stanko 616.490.3836 / berniestanko@hotmail.com

#### **Pastoral Council:**

Sharon Davis, Becky Warners, Vito Dolci, Geary Farrell, Doug Frantz

#### **Finance Council:**

Lisa Bradley, Jose Gomez, Ruth Kasul, Todd Kline, Scott Lampe, Mel Northup

**Martha League:** Parish Office: 16.677.3934 (assistance with meals during illness or injury)

#### **Prayer Line:**

Parish Office 616.677.3934 or Linda at 677.3269 for evening requests call Darlene 616.453.0157 or email: bfa1414@yahoo.com

#### **Our Cluster Parish:**

St Michael's - 17150 - 88th Avenue Coopersville, MI 49404 616.384.4026 www.saintmichaels.us

## **Mass Intentions**

Saturday Decem 4:30PM	ber 17 † Ross Schoenborn by M/M Stan SchoenbornMA Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary	
<b>Sunday Decemb</b> 8:30AM 10:30AM 4:30PM	† Hunter Bajema by Ed & Dorothy Alt	
Monday December 19 NO MASS		
<b>Tuesday Decem</b> 9:00AM	ber 20 † Bob Bacon by Jim & Karen HeidingaMA Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm	
Wednesday Dec 9:000AM	tember 21 † Merlin & Angela Steffes by Ann CramerMI Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM	
Thursday December 22 9:00AM † Jaime Hernandez-Aldama Jr. by Parish FamilyMA		
Friday Decemb 9:00AM	er 23 † Bill Stegman by Joe HitchingsMI	

4:00PM 4:00PM 9:00PM	† C	Our Parish Family Our Parish Family Our Parish Family	MI
9:00PM	† C	Our Parish Family	MI
Sunday 8:30AM	December 25	The Nativity Vigil	
		arl Goosen by Marcy Goosen	
10:30AM	† O	ur Parish Family	MA

Saturday December 24 The Nativity of The Lord (Vigil)

MA=St. Mary

**Please Note:** When there is inclement weather (where Coopersville Public Schools or Kenowa Hills Public Schools are closed) The Parish Offices will be closed and all events scheduled for that day will be cancelled. Daily Mass will also be cancelled. The Mass intention for that day will be rescheduled at our earliest opportunity. Additionally, when a Funeral Mass has been scheduled, Daily Mass will be cancelled

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—4:00 PM - St Michael

MI=St. Michael's

#### Readings for the week of December 18, 2022

Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24	
Monday	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25	
Tuesday	ls 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38	
Wednesday	Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church	
	Sg 2:8-14; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45	
Thursday	I Sm 1:24-28; I Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56	
Friday	Memorial of Saint John of Kanty, Priest	
	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9,10 & 14; Lk 1:57-66	
Saturday	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14 a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29; Lk1:67-79	
Sunday	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)	
	Vigil Mass: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17,	

22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25	
Mass during the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13;	Ti
2:11-14: Lk 2:1-14	

Mass at Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15

Mass during the Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

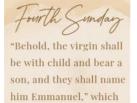
St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers			
	Dec 24 / 4 PM	Dec 24 / 9 PM	Dec 25 8:30 AM
Altar Servers	Alivia Kosten	Pete Nielsen	Peter Nielsen Dennis Zimmer
Eucharistic Ministers	NEED FIVE	NEED FIVE	Chris Albrecht Jennie Taylor Jennifer DeMull Rosemary Weigel Denise Parish
Lector	Lyndsey Kosten	NEED ONE	Carl Pohlman
Sacristan	NEED ONE	NEED ONE	Rosemary Weigel
Ushers	NEED FOUR	NEED FOUR	NEED FOUR
Music	Anna Jonaitis	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers			
	December 24 4:30PM	December 24 9:00PM	December 25 10:30 AM
Sacristan	Need One	Need One	Need One
Altar Servers	Need Two	Need Two	Calvin Davis Hannah Davis
Host	Deacon Tom Lauren Greenland Need One	Need three	Becky Warners Bruce Kamp Austin Lampe
Cup	Need Two	Need Two	Steve Lampe Michelle Lampe
Hospitality Ministers	Need Four	Need Four	Need Four
Lector	Vito Dolci	Rita Carmody	Geary Farrell
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko

#### A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

### December 18, 2022: 4th Sunday of Advent

The child born to Jesus and Mary was named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Every child is EMMANUEL, reminding us "God is with us." Children are signs of God's continuing presence in our lives.

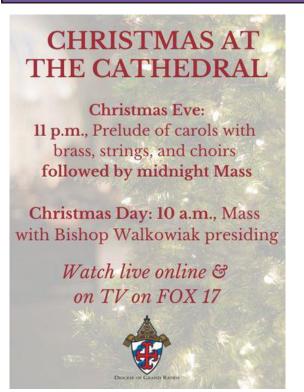


Matthew 1:23



means "God is with us."

# **Cluster News and Community News and Events**



Save the Dates		
Dec 24	The Nativity of The Lord ~ Christmas Eve Vigil 4:00PM, 9:00PM ~ St. Mary - Fr Mike 4:00PM, 9:00PM ~ St. Michael - Msgr. Stasker	
Dec 25	The Nativity of The Lord ~ Christmas Day 8:30AM ~ St. Michael - Msgr. Louis Stasker 10:30AM ~ St. Mary - Fr Mike	
Dec 31	The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God 4:30PM ~ St. Mary - Fr. Mike	
Jan I	Sunday, January I 8:30AM ~ St. Michael - Fr. Mike I0:30AM ~ St. Mary - Fr Mike	
Feb 3	Hope, Health and Healing Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick. 7PM St Mary	

#### **Knights of Columbus News**

# St. Mary's Knights of Columbus #11581

The St Mary's Knights meet on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. For more info please visit:

https://www.saintmarysmarne.org/knights-of-columbus

Next Blood Drive: February 12

#### St. Michael's Knights of Columbus #9909

The St. Michael's Knights meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit https://saintmichaels.us/knights-of-columbus-9909

#### St Mary & St Michael Christmas Mass Schedule

The Nativity of The Lord (Christmas Eve Vigil) - Saturday, Dec 24

4:00PM, 9:00PM ~ St. Mary - Fr Mike

4:00PM, 9:00PM ~ St. Michael - Msgr. Louis Stasker

The Nativity of The Lord - Sunday, Dec 25 Christmas Day

8:30AM ~ St. Michael - Msgr. Louis Stasker

10:30AM ~ St. Mary - Fr Mike

The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God - Saturday, December 31

4:30PM ~ St. Mary - Fr. Mike

The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God - Sunday, January I

8:30AM ~ St. Michael - Fr. Mike

10:30AM ~ St. Mary - Fr Mike

The Nativity of The Lord - Sunday, Dec 25 Christmas Day

8:30AM ~ St. Michael - Msgr. Louis Stasker

10:30AM ~ St. Mary - Fr Mike

The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God - Saturday, December 31

4:30PM ~ St. Mary - Fr. Mike

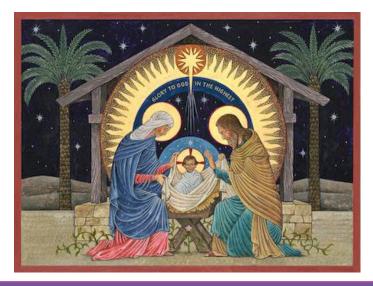
The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God - Sunday, January I

8:30AM ~ St. Michael - Fr. Mike

10:30AM ~ St. Mary - Fr Mike

Liturgical Ministers are needed for all Christmas Masses.

Sign up Sheets are Posted in the Narthex. We still have many open positions available.



# **High School Youth Ministry**

### Youth Ministry is for all 9-12th grade youth and their friends.

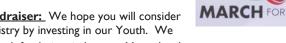
Please contact Rebecca for more information about weekly gatherings. 616-677-5065 or dre@saintmarysmarne.org

March for Life Trip in Washington D.C. is January 19-21. \$50 deposit and forms due to participate.

Contact Rebecca for register or for more information.

Spiritual Stock Fundraiser: We hope you will consider supporting Youth Ministry by investing in our Youth. We will offer a Spiritual Stock fundraiser in January. More details to come.





#### St. Mary's Parish News

#### **Religious Education**

#### **Religious Education**

will be on Christmas/New Years break until January 11. Classes resume January 11.

#### **Advent Family Activity:**

Jesus went out of his way to show kindness to people who needed it. Have each person in your family make a pledge to help someone who needs it. Each evening this week, share how you have spread Jesus' kindness.



Children's Liturgy of the Word will be offered on Sunday, Dec. 18. we will be on Christmas/New Year break beginning next Sunday and will



**Questions or comments** 

resume on Jan. 8, 2023.

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at 616-677-5065 or dre@saintmarysmarne.org

Youth Ministry is for all 9-12th grade youth and their friends.
SEE CLUSTER PAGE FOR
MORE DETAILS



#### **Parish Office Holiday Hours**

Please note the Parish Office Hours for the Holidays. Thursday, December 22 - 8AM to 11AM Friday, December 23 - Closed Monday, December 26 - Closed Tuesday, December 27 - Closed NO MASS/NO ADORATION Wednesday, December 28 - Closed Thursday, December 29 - Closed Friday, December 30 - Closed Monday, January 2 - Closed



#### St Mary Parish Prayer Line

If you would like to request a prayer for our parish prayer line please contact the parish office or Linda at 677.3269. For evening requests call Darlene 453.0157 or email: bfa1414@yahoo.com Please continue to pray for all of our sick, hospitalized & homebound parishioners and all of the personal intentions that St Mary's Parish parishioners hold close to their hearts.

#### OCTA

We ask for your prayers for Julia D. who made a public step on December 11 in the Rite of Acceptance and Welcome. She has completed her period of Inquiry and is now a part of the Church in the Order of Catechumens. With your continued prayerful support she will grow in her faith and relationship with God, and our faith community. **Prayer for OCIA Candidates** 

Lord and God, you know the secrets of our hearts and reward us for the good we do. Look kindly on the efforts and the progress of those who seek to complete their initiation into the Church. Strengthen them on their way; increase their faith and hope; and accept their repentance. Open to them your goodness and justice, and lead them to share in your sacraments on Earth until they finally enjoy your presence in heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.







\$7582.80

#### **Knights Of Columbus #11581 News**

Knight Person of the Month for December -

In Loving Memory of Frank Lampe

Knight Family of the Month for December-

Dave & Vicki Benedetti

The Knight Person / Family of the month is a way of recognizing someone who has gone above and beyond, or done something extra for the council or the church community.

Congratulations and Thank your for service and commitment to our Parish Family!

#### **Christmas Cards and Peanuts & Almonds Sales**

The Knights of Columbus will be selling Christmas Cards and Peanuts & Almonds after All Masses. Proceeds from the sales help fund their charitable donations throughout the year. Please support out Knights!

#### 

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

**Total** 

### St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News— Thank you to our 17 families that purchased Scrip this week.

Our total profit was \$295.71. We are carrying limited amounts of McDonald's Scrip, in \$10 and \$25 denominations.

### St. Michael's Preschool

Have you considered St. Michael's Preschool for your child or grandchild? If not, you should! Come see what a great experience St. Michael's Preschool can provide. Come meet our Director/Teacher, Cindy Lindberg! Preschool meets on MWF from 8:45—I I:45 am (Mon. 8:45am-2:30pm for 4-year-olds). For more info, call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026.



### St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: this program is offered during Sunday morning Masses. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore the Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint. We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading. In today's Gospel the angel shares God's plan with Joseph. Joseph took care of Mary and Jesus. He help to raise Jesus in a loving family. We can be like Joseph when we listen to God's word by caring for others. We will not have CLW next Sunday due to Christmas.

**Elementary Faith Formation:** This program is for students in grades I-5. We meet on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30 pm. Contact Debbie if you have any questions. (616) 384-4026. Elementary Faith Formation is on Christmas break and will resume on January II, 2023. Have a safe and blessed Christmas!

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 will meet on Sundays after the 8:30am Mass, from 9:45 to 11:15 in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation. Thank you for supporting our Middle-Schoolers by donating to the Giving Tree. Thank you! Next week Middle School Faith Formation will be on Christmas break and will resume on January 15, 2023. May you and your family experience the true meaning of Christmas and keep

it with you throughout the New Year!

The Giving Tree: Thank you to all of St. Michael's parishioners who so generosity donated to our giving tree. Your help in supporting Coopersville Cares is greatly appreciated. May God bless you as you have bless others. Merry Christmas!



# St. Michael's Bulletin Sponsor of the Week PHIL'S LAWN SERVICE

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# St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +Deceased Members of the O'Bradovich Family

## St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Carmen Dietrich, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Ken Heflin, Winnie Spencer, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.

# CATHOLIC BOOKS NEEDED! PLEASE!

The selection of Catholic books is quite low. If you would like to donate books, this would be so appreciated. Catholic books help others to grow deeper in our Faith. They are offered free to take. The Catholic book table is located near the entrance to the Family Center. Thank you!

# For 2022 charitable deductions and tax credits, the IRS



has ruled that charitable gifts are deductible only in the year the organization received the donation. To be considered a charitable donation for 2022, gifts must be dropped off at the parish office no later than Friday, December 30. Mailed contributions must have a Dec. 31, 2022 postmark.

# Decorating for Christmas —

Due to the date Christmas falls on this year, we will be decorating the church for our Christmas Masses on Friday, December 23, after the 9 AM Mass. If you are able, please come to help out. Many hands make light work!

Giving Back to God		
December II, 2022		
Adult Envelopes	\$3,506.00	
Loose Cash	\$189.00	
Online Giving	\$1,185.00	
Children's Envelopes	\$22.75	
Holy Day	\$298.00	
Total	\$5,200.75	
Building Fund	\$50.00	
Christmas Memorial Flowers	\$1,150.00	
Retirement for Religious	\$1,205.00	
Thank you for your continued support!		



# An Unambiguous Sign

atthew and Isaiah both speak of the virgin who conceives as a sign of *Emmanuel*: Godwith-us. The Incarnation or enfleshment of God took place when God the Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, was conceived in Mary and of Mary without any act of human intercourse. Jesus, the fruit of her womb, is called Emmanuel because he is truly God and truly man. He is God-with-us as a human being.

God had to take flesh in Mary in order to be truly human. Jesus was not prefabricated in heaven from some divine stuff and then put into Mary's womb. His body was formed from hers.

Mary had to be a virgin so that it would be clear that Jesus was divine. If he had no human father, it would be clear that Jesus was conceived by the power of God. Mary's virginity was an unambiguous sign that Jesus is both divine and human.

Jesus visible as Emmanuel, God-with-us, is an unmistakable sign of God's love for us. Jesus' "being there" cannot be explained except as the sign, the proof, the

expression of God's desire to be with us, to reveal God's self to us and to save us. Jesus' every human word and action flowed from this desire, which reached its apex in Jesus' offering himself for us on the cross. In every Mass we celebrate his death and resurrection to new life.

The Church is the continuation of Jesus' visible, human presence and action in

the world. In the Church, Christ's Body on earth, the Incarnation is extended in time; Jesus continues to be Emmanuel, God-with-us. The existence, witness and ministry of the Church cannot be explained except as the continuation of Jesus' divine presence and action

**DECEMBER 18, 2022** 

# 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

in us, the human members of his Body on earth.

For years Catholics have described sacraments as visible signs instituted by Jesus Christ to give grace. A sacrament gives grace through some visible, human action. The sacraments do not depend on any human power, even on the holiness of their ministers. Like the virginity of Mary, they are signs of God's action taking place through human beings, but without using any human power to produce their effect. Unless Jesus Christ is speaking and acting through these signs, the water of Baptism does not cleanse, the bread and wine

of Eucharist do not nourish, the words of absolution do not pardon, the vows of marriage do not commit irrevocably, the laying on of hands at Confirmation and ordination do not consecrate and empower, and the oils of Anointing do not heal.

When we receive the sacraments, we give unambiguous signs of faith in Je-

sus-Emmanuel, God still with us in the flesh. The way we express and experience the invisible faith we have in God, in Jesus and in the Church is through visible, human gestures which do not make complete sense unless we have that faith.

God has chosen to act with divine power through human words and actions

Saint Paul's claim to "be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God," consecrated and empowered for ministry, is based on this same faith. Beginning in a radically new way with Jesus and continuing in the Church, God has chosen to act with divine power through human words and actions. Jesus was born of Mary "according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power"—not with the human power that comes from wealth, education, connections or the authority to command armies, but "according to the spirit of holiness," by abandoning all human power on the cross and by his "resurrection from the dead." The Church's ultimate refusal to rely on human power to spread the Good News is the clearest sign of its reliance on God's power.

# REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

#### Fourth Week of Advent

**Pray daily:** God, you chose to redeem the world through human beings acting with divine power, beginning with Jesus, your Son. Teach me to open myself to your power so that you might do through me what you desire. Amen.

Monday: Luke 1:5-25. The angel said, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah ... Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John." How did John's birth differ from that of Jesus? What does this difference show about them? How were you reborn as a Christian? Was this simply human training or the power of God? How does it make you different?

**Tuesday:** Luke 1:26-38. Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." What are you ready to surrender to God, to be done according to God's word?

**Wednesday:** Luke 1:39-45. Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out, "And why has this happened to

me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?" What does it mean to say that Jesus Christ comes to you in Holy Communion? Is your appreciation for that growing?

**Thursday:** Luke 1:46-56. And Mary said: "The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name." What great things has God done for you? How do you remember and celebrate them?

**Friday:** Luke 1:57-66. "Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son." Was John's birth more important to God than yours? Than anybody else's?

**Saturday:** Luke 1:67-79. "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably upon his people and redeemed them." What signs in the world proclaim this same truth today?

# LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

**As Christian:** Put a picture of Mary where you will see it frequently. Imagine her pregnant. Remember that you are also giving flesh to God.

**As Disciple:** Reread one of the Sunday readings. Then reflect on it, ask questions about it and make a decision in response to it.

**As Prophet:** Realize that you belong to the Body of Christ. Each day consciously do something that can be explained only by your faith.

**As Priest:** Through some word or action, minister to someone else, conscious that you are sharing the love of Jesus Christ within you.

As King: Before each thing you do this week, remind yourself that God's power enables you to bear fruit for the Kingdom of God.?

at

# Harmony

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