

# HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

Feast of the Holy Family

December 27, 2020

[www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org](http://www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org)

## THIS WEEK

All Meetings held via "Zoom" unless noted

**MONDAY 28 DEC** / *1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-5, 7-8/Mt 2:13-18*

- SIGN UP FOR Jan 2/3 Public Masses
- **6:30 AM - St. Stephen Parish**

**TUESDAY 29 DEC** / *1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-3, 5-6/Lk 2:22-35*

SIGN UP FOR Jan 2/3 Public Masses

- **8:15 AM - Live Stream MASS** (+ Marian Skibba) FSB
- 9:30 AM - Staff Meeting/Prayer
- 4 PM - Salvation Army Meal Ministry

**WEDNESDAY 30 DEC** / *1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-10/Lk 2:36-40*

- SIGN UP FOR Jan 2/3 Public Masses
- **8:15 AM - Live Stream MASS** (+ Rosemary O'Dowd) FSB

**THURSDAY 31 DEC** / *1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-13/Jn 1:1-18*

- SIGN UP FOR Jan 2/3 Public Masses
- **6:30 PM - Live Stream MASS** Vigil: Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (+ Charles Quinn) FSB
- Parish Offices Closed

**FRIDAY 1 JAN** / *Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21*

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

- **8:15 AM - Live Stream MASS** (+ Mary Ann Powell) FSB
- Parish Offices Closed

**SATURDAY 2 JAN** / *1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 1:19-28*

- 9-10 AM - Reconciliation, Ministry Center/Library

## LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

Epiphany of the Lord / Jan 2/3

*Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/Eph 3:2-3, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12*

- **5 PM - Public MASS** (+ Marge Ostrowski) FSB
- **8 AM Live Feed/Video MASS** (+ PCCW) FSB
- **10 AM - Public MASS** (+ Bill Loggin & family) FSB

## Gathering Christmastide Gifts

Items collected from the Advent Christmastide Giving Calendar will be collected as we celebrate the Epiphany - a day on which we celebrate giving gifts. You can leave your items in the Ministry Center Gathering Space.



## Christ our Cornerstone Campaign

Recently, our Cathedral parish of St. Joseph the Workman in La Crosse announced a historic campaign to repair and restore our magnificent Cathedral. This historic landmark is the cornerstone of our diocese. It is at the Cathedral that our Priests and Deacons are ordained. From there they are sent to bring Christ's mission and their ministry to serve across our entire diocese. At the annual Chrism Mass, the holy oils are blessed and the chrism consecrated to be sent and used in all of our parishes for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Anointing of the Sick. You see, while the Cathedral may be located in the city of La Crosse, its impact is diocesan wide. As Christ is the cornerstone of our faith, our Cathedral is the cornerstone of our diocese.

This campaign, aptly named, **Christ Our Cornerstone**, will reach diocesan wide. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing more details with you about the campaign and the exciting opportunity before us. We invite you to begin prayerfully reflecting on your personal response to the call from our Mother Church.

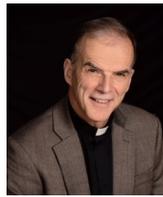
## Point Catholic Discipleship

A new ministry area Jessica has embarked on this semester is discipleship. She had a desire to walk with students on a more intentional level, to help them deepen their faith and more recognizably acknowledge the call we are all given "to go therefore and make disciples of all nations". For over a month now, she has been journeying one on one with 8 women weekly to talk, listen and ultimately lead them to have a stronger relationship with Christ. This ministry has been an incredibly fruitful and powerful experience for Jessica as she witnesses the growth and desire to go deeper with these women in the last month alone. They have been reading through *Into His Likeness* by Edward Sri. Jessica highly recommends it to anyone looking to be transformed deeper as a disciple of Christ.

Dear Holy Spirit Parish:

“The child grew....”

(Luke 2:40)



It was a Christmas like no other. But our Advent season helped us make good use of the stillness and the solitude of this “Safer At Home” Christmas. With our schedules simplified, our reading and watching tuned into life-giving subjects, our hearts calmed by no longer playing the Messiah role and our wills surrendered like Mary’s, the path from the head to the heart was made straight. And there, in the simplicity and stillness, did not the Prince of Peace come to us? Whether at Christmas Mass in the Church or at home, did not the story of Christ’s coming in History open our hearts to let him be born this Christmas in Mystery? Surely, the love and hope we all felt is still in its infancy, but alive and real nonetheless. Let us nurture that new life so that.... “The child might grow.”

After nine months of isolation we finally have reason to believe that in 2021 we will be freed from the pandemic. Vaccines are already being distributed to medical people and those in nursing homes. After months of day to day survival decisions we now begin to imagine life after the pandemic. We all agreed we don’t want to go back to the way things were before the pandemic, because life was full of serious problems before Covid-19. In fact, we know we can’t go back because there has been a permanent shift in all of our lives toward working at home and doing business online. But what will the new normal be?

At our last Pastoral Council Meeting, on December 17<sup>th</sup>, the Council charged our Parish Ministry Committees with developing visions for a post Covid Holy Spirit Parish. Along with the mission of each individual Ministry Committee there are several overarching tasks before us. First of all we need to continue our move from Cultural Catholicism to Intentional Discipleship. Only a community of people who are personally committed to Christ and filled by that relationship with hope and love will be able to hand on faith in the present culture. The long term future of Holy Spirit rests squarely on this evangelization of our community of life long Catholics. We can be so proud of our worship space and ministry center. Now we need to focus fully on the community that fills it.

As we continue to build God’s Church made of living stones, we need to take the good parts of both St. Stanislaus Parish and Newman University Parish and make something new called Holy Spirit Parish. So much progress has been made in this regard. There are a few areas of ministry where I feel we are still working this out. One is the place and priority Campus Ministry is given in use of our facilities and in our programming. Another is how we engage in the social issues of our day. And thirdly is in our Sunday worship. Remember the discussions about whether the church should be loud or quiet before Mass? We can use these remaining Covid days to work on these issues so that when we do come back together it will be as a more united and more faithful people.

Of course we need to be thinking of far more than just Holy Spirit Parish. This weekend John Clifford spoke at all of the Masses about our call to support the work of the larger church. He shared with us news of the new Diocesan Campaign to repair the Cathedral steeple which is experiencing serious structural problems. All will be receiving a brochure explaining the needs. January 9 & 10 those who are able will be invited to make a pledge to assist with its repair.

2020 has been a very challenging year. 2021 opens up before us with exciting opportunities for “the child to grow.”

*Fr. Steven J. Brice*

## HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

*Disciples called to worship,  
sent to serve.*

[www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org](http://www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org)

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### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Justine Brilowski, Bill Fehrenbach, Bob Ostrowski, Paul Peterson, Chet Przybylski, Dave Rosenthal, Joanna Slattery, Ginny Williams, Susan Zach

### FINANCE COUNCIL

Chairs: John Clifford, Vern Schroth

## Keep in touch

The Parish Offices are closed, however, during regular business hours, the staff is still working. Be assured that email and voice mail are checked regularly by all staff members. We will continue to use email and Flocknote to be in touch with you. The Church is open for personal prayer between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily. Watch Masses live on YouTube at 8:15 a.m. Tuesday through Friday and 8 a.m. on Sunday. Our YouTube channel is titled ***Holy Spirit Parish Stevens Point.***

### BEING GOOD STEWARDS

Of time, talent and treasure

## HOLY SPIRIT PARISH GIVING

### Week Ending Dec. 11th

Parish Envelopes.....\$8,121.55

ACH Giving.....\$7,043.37

Offertory.....\$55.00

Total: \$15,219.92

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