4th Sunday of Advent

Merry Christmas

WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (ST. MARY) PARISH
The Very Reverend James Volkert, Pastor • The Reverend Carlos Zapata, Associate Pastor
108 McHenry St. • Burlington, WI • www.stmbparish.org • 262-763-1500

DECEMBER 24, 2017

NEXT SUNDAY IS THE 5TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AND WE WILL HAVE AN OUTREACH COLLECTION AND A FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST
**Mass Intentions**

**12/25 Monday**  Christmas Day
9:00 AM Mass (Church)  8:40 AM Sacred Music
Living and deceased members of St. Mary Parish
and those being remembered with Christmas Memorials

**12/26 Tuesday**  St. Stephen
8:30 AM Mass (St. Joseph)  8:00 AM Rosary
8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles)  8:00 AM Rosary

**12/27 Wednesday**  St. John
8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles)  8:00 AM Rosary

**12/28 Thursday**  The Holy Innocents
8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles)  8:00 AM Rosary

**12/29 Friday**  St. Thomas Becket
8:30 AM Mass (St. Mary)  8:00 AM Rosary
† Rosemary Roanhaus (Family)
† Luella Uebele (WM)

Feast of the Holy Family Jesus, Mary & Joseph

**12/30 Saturday**
4:30 PM Mass (Church)
† Kathleen Kobasick (Family)

**12/31 Sunday**
8:00 AM Mass (Church)
Living and deceased members of St. Mary Parish
10:30 AM Mass (Church)
† Amy Zott (Family)

Thank you to all of you who continue to make contributions to the upkeep of our adoration chapel. May God bless you this Christmas and always!

**Visitation/Communion Schedule**

- **Hospital**: December 23-24  Marlene Daniels  December 30-31  Ann Wiemer
  

- **Bay at Burlington** Week: 12/24 Robert Zarek

- **Monday Veterans Home** (9:00 AM) Al Raboine, Mary Repke, Mae Fleming

- **Tuesday Pine Brook** (11 AM) Homebound Team, Sr. Emma

- **Tuesday Riverview** (1:00 PM) Homebound Team

- **Wednesday Bay at Burlington** (3:15 PM): Jim & Kaye Daun, Romayne Degen, Maureen Gebhardt

- **Fri. Arbor View** (11 AM): Mae Fleming, Mary Repke, Al Raboine, Ray Andres, Rosary Chaplet.

Bay at B (4 PM) Al Raboine

**St. Mary Parish**: 262.763.1500
St. Mary Preschool: 763.1501
St. Mary School: 763.1515
225 W. State Street, Burlington
Catholic Central High School: 763.1510  148 McHenry Street

After hours emergency priest phone: 262.210.9588

**This Week at Saint Mary Catholic Church**

**12/25 Monday**  Christmas Day
- 9:00 AM Mass (Church)
- Parish Office Closed
- Eucharistic Adoration closed through January 1st

**12/26 Tuesday**
- 8:30 AM Mass (St. Joseph)  8:00 AM Rosary
- 8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles)  8:00 AM Rosary
- Parish Office Closed

**12/27 Wednesday**
- 8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles)  8:00 AM Rosary

**12/28 Thursday**
- 8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles)  8:00 AM Rosary

**12/29 Friday**
- 8:30 AM Mass (St. Mary)  8:00 AM Rosary
- 12:00 PM Parish Office Closed

Feast of the Holy Family Jesus, Mary & Joseph

**12/30 Saturday**
- 3:30-4:00 PM Reconciliation (Chapel)
- 4:30 PM Mass (St. Mary)

**12/31 Sunday**
- 8:00 AM Mass (Church)
- 10:30 AM Mass (Church)

Office Hours:  Monday-Friday 8-12 & 1-4.
Note: The office will be closed all day on 12/25-26 and will close at Noon on 12/29.

Volunteers Needed: Church Cleaning Group
One of our volunteers who helps vacuum the church is unable to continue. We are looking for volunteers to join us on the first Thursday of the month. If you would like to volunteer, please call 763-1500. Thank you.

**Daily Readings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st/2nd READING</th>
<th>PSALM</th>
<th>GOSPEL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/26 Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59</td>
<td>Ps 31:3,4,6,8,16,17</td>
<td>Mt 10:17-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/27 1 Jn 1:1-4</td>
<td>Ps 97:1,2,5,6,11,12</td>
<td>Jn 20:1-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/28 1 Jn 1:5-2:2</td>
<td>Ps 124:2-8</td>
<td>Mt 2:13-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/29 1 Jn 2:3-11</td>
<td>Ps 96:1-3,5,6</td>
<td>Lk 2:22-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/30 1 Jn 2:12-17</td>
<td>Ps 96:7-10</td>
<td>Lk 2:36-40</td>
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**Bulletin Announcements**
All bulletin information is due to ssmith@stmb.org before Noon on Tuesdays.
**A Message from Fr. Jim . . .**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

I know some people who are already tired of Christmas. For weeks we have been hearing Christmas carols: on the radio, in shopping centers, in the supermarkets and even over the telephone when we’re put on hold and Christmas decorations have been up since Halloween. We all know the reason for this commercialization of Christmas. It is “good for business”. Many retailers make a good part of their year’s profit in these final weeks of the year. We may say that we dislike the commercialization of Christmas, however, are we aware that it has a Christian origin? Do you know why we give gifts at Christmas? We give gifts to one another at Christmas because it is the time when God gave us the greatest gift of all: His Son.

Even though today is Christmas Eve it is first and foremost the Fourth Sunday of Advent. This morning the Church asks us to reflect on Readings that are very much Advent in character. The central figure in today’s Gospel is our Blessed Mother Mary. We hear that the Angel Gabriel appears to her to tell her that she was chosen by God to become the mother of the Savior of the world. As Gabriel explains God’s plan to her regarding the birth of Jesus, Mary listens quietly. Then after some reflection she simply says, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.”

Many times during the course of our lives we have asked others to pray for us especially when we are in difficult circumstances, facing some crisis or suffering an illness. Priests receive this request all the time. How fitting it is then to ask, as we Catholics constantly do, the intercession of the saints who are now with God in Heaven. In particular, we can ask for the prayers of our Blessed Mother in the more difficult times of life. She never gave up when things may not have been that clear to her and she may not have fully comprehended the events that were unfolding. She is a woman who believed that God could accomplish the impossible. What better preparation could we make for Christmas on this final Advent Sunday than to imitate the trust and fidelity of our Blessed Mother Mary.

Merry Christmas!
Fr. Jim Volkert

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**Christmas Mass Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Christmas Eve Event</th>
<th>Christmas Day Event</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St. Mary</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/24 Christmas Eve</td>
<td>4:00 PM Children’s Pageant</td>
<td>9:00 AM Sacred Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/25 Christmas Day</td>
<td>8:40 AM Sacred Music</td>
<td>9:00 AM Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St. Charles</strong></td>
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<td>12/24 Christmas Eve</td>
<td>5:00 PM Mass</td>
<td>12/25 Christmas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/25 Christmas Day</td>
<td>8:00 &amp; 10:00 AM Masses</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St. Joseph</strong></td>
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<td>12/24 Christmas Eve</td>
<td>5:00 &amp; 9:30 PM Masses</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/25 Christmas Day</td>
<td>9:30 AM Mass</td>
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**Outreach Recipients**
The envelopes and cash/coin next weekend will be distributed as follows:

- **Local**: 100% St. Vincent de Paul store in Waterford.
- **State**: 100% Open Door Café at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee.
- **National**: 50% Covenant House, New York; 50% Mercy Home for Boys and Girls, Chicago.
- **Global**: 100% Food for the Poor, Coconut Creek, FL.

Please pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

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**FREE 5th Sunday Pancake Breakfast, December 31st 8:30 AM to Noon**

St. Mary’s Knight’s of Columbus Council 15665 will once again be having a free 5th Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, December 31 in the Grade School cafeteria. Because this falls on the 31st, we are celebrating the new year by offering mimosas with your breakfast. Please join us for food & fellowship. Enjoy pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs and a yogurt bar. Donations welcome.
In Loving Memory
We wish to extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Luella Uebele. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

St. Vincent de Paul Society
Providing Assistance to Those in Need in Racine County since 1934: We serve the needy in the greater Racine area by providing assistance and compassion, especially through our home visits. We operate a Thrift Store at 822 Forrest Lane, Waterford, that helps provide funds and items for our services. We are all volunteers from Racine’s north side parishes, from south side parishes, and from West of I-94 parishes. We appreciate your volunteering in our programs & donating quality used goods. To volunteer, contact Don Mueller, County President at 262-456-4345, or mueller.77@hotmail.com.

Your Outreach Dollars At Work:
We received the following thank you letter from St. Catherine Parish, Milwaukee.

Dear St. Mary Parish,
Thanks to the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church for supporting the missions of St. Catherine Parish. Your donation will help as we continue our work in the Sherman Park community. Your partnership in serving the poor is greatly appreciated.

Peace, Carole Poth, St. Catherine Administrator

St. Mary School Buddy Classes
2nd and 5th grade buddy classes are enjoying time together playing a drawing game. It is always nice for classes to share time. Older students role model their leadership skills and help in games and projects with their special buddy.

Bookkeeping Note
As the end of the calendar year approaches, we have been reminded by the Archdiocese that per IRS regulations, charitable contributions must be applied to the year in which they are received or POSTMARKED. If a donor submits a check after year end 2017, no matter what the date is on the check, it may not be attributed to 2017. Contributions not put in the collection basket or postmarked 2017 by December 31st will be for 2018.

5th Grade Catechist Needed
The Sunday Morning Tri-Parish Religious Education Program needs a catechist for the fifth grade. If you are interested, please contact Margie Robers at mrobers@stmb.org or 262-661-9125. Safeguarding All of God’s Family Certification is a requirement.

St. Mary School Kindergarten Students
Kindergarten students worked on a STEM project together. Materials were provided in their environment for this self-directed activity in which their team organized thoughts, drew up an architectural design, discussed, built and rebuilt. Their finished product was a city they built for their cars.

Please join us Christmas Eve at 9:30 PM in church. The adult choir will begin their Christmas Concert at 9:30 PM before the 10:00 PM Mass.

St. Mary School Buddy Classes
2nd and 5th grade buddy classes are enjoying time together playing a drawing game. It is always nice for classes to share time. Older students role model their leadership skills and help in games and projects with their special buddy.

Our local SERRA Club, a Catholic organization which promotes vocations and personal spiritual growth, will be providing every family with the gift of a book after all Christmas Masses. The “Perfectly Yourself: Discovering God’s Dream For You” books by Matthew Kelly have been paid for by “Friends of SERRA”. Merry Christmas from SERRA Club.
PLEASE MAKE SURE TO RETURN YOUR PLEDGE CARD EVEN IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A CHANGE FOR 2018

As of December 18th, 294 pledge cards returned equaling 28% of 1053 that were sent out. Blank forms are available in church and office. Thank you for all you do to keep our parish community vibrant and active.

God Bless Our Troops

Please pray for the safety of all military personnel who are serving our country, especially the following parishioners, relatives or friends of our parish:

Nicholas Callahan, U.S. Navy
LCpl. Katie Cash, U.S. Marine Corps
Caroline, Bill & Peter Coppernoll
Jim & Beth Graves, U.S. Air Force
James Graves, U.S. Air Force
Steven Kojis, U.S. Air Force
Toby May, Spc. Army National Guard

John S. Krause, U.S. Navy
Gregory A. Roberts, U.S. Army
Second Lieutenant Jacob Schiltz, U.S. Marine Corps
Devon J. Seitz, U.S. Navy
Second Lieutenant Kyle Smith, U.S. Air Force
Jacob A. Thorpe, Private, US Marine Corp, Infantry

FORMED.ORG

We have a Parish-wide subscription to this website, which provides Catholic formation programs, movies, audio, and books and all of their material is available to you as a parishioner. You can watch, listen, or read at home. Please make use of these resources for adults and children!

Homebound Catholics

Homebound Catholics unable to attend Christmas Mass at their parish this year may tune in to one of the following stations for a full, eager and enthusiastic congregation. Please note: For those who can get to church, the TV/radio liturgy will not meet the Mass obligation.

Monday, December 25, 2017

Relevant Radio – 100.1 FM/1640 AM, 6 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.
WCGV-TV, Channel 24, 9 a.m.
WISN, Channel 12, 12 a.m.
(Midnight Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee, with closed captioning)

The Big 920 AM, 9 a.m.

Christmas Masses at the Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee has a full schedule planned for Christmas. December 24th 11:30 PM Prelude Music by the Cathedral Choir, Brass, and Timpani Musical Prelude. 12:00 AM Midnight Mass: Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki, Archbishop of Milwaukee, presider. The Midnight Mass will be televised LIVE on WISN Channel 12 and our YouTube channel.


All are welcome to attend/tune in as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

CCHS Athletic Benefit Calendars

2018 Athletic Benefit Calendars are now available for $20 each. Calendars may be purchased at the CCHS and St. Mary Parish offices. Thank You for your support.

Mass Time Assistance: Wheelchair
available in the closet of the Good Shepherd Chapel that is for your use if you need assistance getting in to or out of Church. Hearing Assistance Available: Please contact ushers.

Father, in the power of the Spirit, you send us forth to build up your kingdom. I pray especially for those whom you are calling to serve the church as priests, deacons, sisters and brothers. Help them to hear and answer your call to discipleship.
Mission Statement:
St. Charles Borromeo, St. Joseph, Immaculate Conception, (St. Mary), united in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through His saving death and resurrection, by calling, forming and sending disciples to go out and make new disciples. As a people, we are called to encounter Jesus, and grow as disciples through the sacramental life of the church.

Tri-Parish Pastoral Council Members
Brian Daniel (Chairperson, 763-7317), George Whitehead (Vice Chairperson, 414-870-1980), Marilyn Putz (Secretary, 763-9075), Pam Aldrich (262-716-6324), Mark Ehlen (763-8194), Geri Henningfield (767-1854), Mary Ann Johnson (262-812-7547), Jacki Scholze (763-4611), Randy Tritz (312-310-4306).

We warmly welcome new members to our faith community. If you would like to join our parish, registration forms are available in church. Please complete the form and return it to the church office.

Sacraments: Marriage-Couples should call St. Mary Catholic Church’s pastor 6 months to one year before the wedding date. Baptism-Call the office prior to your child’s baptism. A preparation class for parents is required. Baptisms are held the first and third weekend of the month. Reconciliation-is held the second, fourth and fifth weekend of the month from 3:30-4 PM in the chapel. Communion, Confirmation and Anointing of the Sick-Call the office. If it is after hours, listen for the emergency number.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to Mass each week for the local food pantry.

Please Call 763-1500: If you are at the Hospital, Shut-in, or Homebound & would like to receive Holy Communion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministers</th>
<th>4:30 PM December 30</th>
<th>8:00 AM December 31</th>
<th>10:30 AM December 31</th>
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<td>Greeters:</td>
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<td>Pederson</td>
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<td>Servers:</td>
<td>T. Kresken</td>
<td>K. Frey</td>
<td>S. Dujardin</td>
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<td>G. Kwiatkowski</td>
<td>W. Kaelber</td>
<td>O. Gutchow</td>
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<td></td>
<td>A. Peterson</td>
<td>A. Miller</td>
<td>N. Mann</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bread 1</td>
<td>Krysta Dittmar</td>
<td>Barb Vos</td>
<td>Jean Karpinski</td>
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<td>Ken Essman</td>
<td>Ron Jadin</td>
<td>Doreen Vande Velde</td>
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<td>Bread 2</td>
<td>Marcy Essman</td>
<td>Jo Jadin</td>
<td>Terri Rach</td>
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<td>Bread 3</td>
<td>Mary Norgaard</td>
<td>Janet Vogelsang</td>
<td>Sue Novasic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cup 1</td>
<td>Diane Coddington</td>
<td>Paula Martin</td>
<td>Babette Monteé</td>
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<td>Cup 2</td>
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<td>Lector</td>
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<td>Lector</td>
<td>J.P. Wolter</td>
<td>B. Milroy</td>
<td>Ed Nadolski</td>
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<td></td>
<td>L. Dujardin</td>
<td>P. Wettengal</td>
<td>Ken Sommers</td>
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Parish Staff Directory (262) 763-1500
Fr. Jim Volkert (Pastor); Fr. Carlos Zapata (Associate Pastor); Susanne Snyder (Director of Music); Sue Vrzan (Director of Administrative Services); Dianne Smetana (Parish Secretary); Cheryl Theigs (Pastoral Minister to the Aging, Sick and Homebound); Loretta Jackson (School Principal); Deb Butler (Assistant Principal); Denise Morrissey (Director of Religious Education); Kathy Martin Youth Ministry (Life Teen).

Finance Council: Dan Creek (Chairperson 763-2604), Stacy Alan, Tyler Galstad, Loretta Jackson, Jim Schuster, Tim Spiegelhoff, Randy Tritz & Fr. Jim Volkert.

Parish Trustees
Terri Newbury, Phone: 262-210-0234
Jim Schuster, Phone 262-763-0897

Parish Festival Contact Information
Brooke & Dylan Beck - Parish Festival Chairpersons brookealdrich22@gmail.com or 262-210-8361

Please Call 763-1500:
If you are at the Hospital, Shut-in, or Homebound & would like to receive Holy Communion.

Amount collected 12/17 from 160 envelopes $10,631.00
Offertory $649.13
Monthly We Share 149 contributors 19,671.38
We Share 6 contributors 335.00
Total $31,016.51
Amount Given Fiscal Year to Date $442,345.02
Amount Budgeted to Date (25 week) $478,406.25
Difference $-36,061.23
Amount Budgeted for fiscal year (52 weeks) $995,085.00
Amount still needed for this fiscal year $552,739.98
Amount needed per week to reach budget (27 weeks) $20,471.85

Stewardship Report
Please pray for the men and women serving in the armed forces.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to Mass each week for the local food pantry.
CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS
St. Mary Church #542590
108 McHenry Street
Burlington, WI 53105

TELEPHONE
262 763-1500
Cell 262 325 8505

CONTACT PERSON
Sara Smith

SOFTWARE
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Windows XP Professional

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Hp Photosmart 8250

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS