WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
(ST. MARY) CATHOLIC PARISH

December 31st

The Very Reverend James Volkert, Pastor • The Reverend Carlos Zapata, Associate Pastor
December 31st, 2017 • 108 McHenry St. • Burlington, WI • www.stmbparish.org • 262-763-1500

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST DECEMBER 31ST
8:30 AM TO NOON IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

December 31st,
This Week at Saint Mary Catholic Church
1/01 Monday  Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
• Jan. 1st is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year
• 8:30 AM Mass (St. Mary) 8:00 AM Rosary
• Parish Office Closed
• Eucharistic Adoration closed
01/02 Tuesday
• 8:30 AM Mass (St. Joseph) 8:00 AM Rosary
• 8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles) 8:00 AM Rosary
• 9:00 AM-9:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)
01/03 Wednesday
• 8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles) 8:00 AM Rosary
• 9:00 AM-9:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)
01/04 Thursday
• 8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles) 8:00 AM Rosary
• 9:45 AM CCHS Mass (Church)
• 6:30 PM Adult Choir (Church)
01/05 Friday
• 8:30 AM Mass (St. Mary) 8:00 AM Rosary
Epiphany of the Lord
01/06 Saturday
• Baptism Weekend
• 4:30 PM Mass (St. Mary) Anointing of the Sick following Mass
01/07 Sunday
• 8:00 AM Mass (Church)
• 9:15 AM Religious Education Classes (School)
• 10:30 AM Mass (Church)
• 4:00 PM Family Life Mass/Night (St. Charles)

Daily Readings

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<th>1st/2nd READING</th>
<th>PSALM</th>
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<td>01/01 Numbers 6:22-27 Galatians 4:4-7</td>
<td>Ps 67:2-8</td>
<td>Lk 2:16-21</td>
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<td>01/02 1 John 2: 22-28</td>
<td>Ps 98:1-4</td>
<td>Jn 1:19-29</td>
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<td>01/03 1 John 2:29-3:6</td>
<td>Ps 98:3-6</td>
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<td>01/04 1 John 3:7-10</td>
<td>Ps 98:1,7-9</td>
<td>Jn 1:35-42</td>
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<td>01/05 1 John 1:43-51</td>
<td>Ps 100:1-5</td>
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<td>01/06 1 John 5:5-13</td>
<td>Ps 147:12-15,19,20</td>
<td>Mk 1:7-11</td>
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<td>01/07 Isaiah 60:1-6Ephesians 3:2-6</td>
<td>Ps 72:1,2,7-13</td>
<td>Mt 2:1-12</td>
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Visitation/Communion Schedule

Hospital  December 30-31 Ann Wiemer
          January 6-7 Sr. Kasey and Sr. Rose
          Mon: Ellen Voslar, 1st, 3rd & 5th Wed. Karen Ehlen;
          2nd & 4th Wed: Cheryl Theigs  Fri: Bob Zarek

Monday Veterans Home (9:00 AM) Al Raboine, Mary Repke, Mae Fleming, Diane Coddington.
               Mike Rynka (10:15) timber Oaks (11:00)

Tuesday Pine Brook (11:00) Homebound Team, Sr. Emma

Tuesday Riverview (1:00) Oak Park Place (1:45) Homebound Team

Wednesday The Bay (3:15 PM): John Anderson, Larry Dornacher


Rosary: Oak Park Place (9:00), Pinebrooke (1:00), Riverview (3:00), The Bay (4:00).

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

Mass Intentions
01/01 Monday  Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
8:30 AM Mass (St. Mary) 8:00 AM Rosary
   † Ken Heck (Ralph and Ruth Heck)
01/02 Tuesday  Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
8:30 AM Mass (St. Joseph) 8:00 AM Rosary
8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles) 8:00 AM Rosary
01/03 Wednesday
8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles) 8:00 AM Rosary
01/04 Thursday  St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
8:30 AM Mass (St. Charles) 8:00 AM Rosary
9:45 AM CCHS Mass (Church)
01/05 Friday  St. John Newmann
8:30 AM Mass (St. Mary) 8:00 AM Rosary
   † Loretta Brierly (Family)
   † Mr. Hilary Naborowski (MM)
   † Dorothy Phillips (MM)

Epiphany of the Lord
01/06 Saturday
4:30 PM Mass (Church)
   † Donnie Warren (Family)

01/07 Sunday
8:00 AM Mass (Church)
   † Bob and Darlene Aldrich (Family)
10:30 AM Mass (Church)

Living and deceased members of St. Mary Parish

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8-12 & 1-4.
Note: The office will be closed all day on 01/01.

Bulletin Announcements

All bulletin information is due to ssmith@stmb.org before Noon on Tuesdays.
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

"[H]e thought the one who had made the promise was trustworthy." Abraham trusted in God, although what God had promised seemed impossible. And yet, God fulfilled his promise to Abraham and Sarah and gave them a much-longed-for son, through whom the people would be as numerous as the stars of the sky. Mary and Joseph fulfilled the law of God by bringing Jesus to the temple for the customary rites. They obeyed the law of the Lord, even though it could be argued that Jesus, being God, was exempt from the law. We see in their example how faith in God is considered "an act of righteousness." We can follow in their footsteps and believe that the Lord is one whose promises are trustworthy.

God’s Word Has Been Fulfilled

In this joyous Christmas time, it is fitting that we turn our attention from all the angels and shepherds and kings to take a look at the more intimate picture of the Holy Family in their ordinary life. They come with Jesus to consecrate him to the Lord, as is written in the law, and they come upon Simeon and Anna, prophets of the Lord, who have amazing things to say about this child and Mary, his mother. One can wonder what Mary must have thought when Simeon told her that "you yourself a sword will pierce." We interpret that in hindsight she would suffer greatly at the crucifixion of her beloved son. But what must she have thought at the possible literal interpretation of this prophecy? And yet she was, as always, obedient to God and accepting of God's word for her.

Two Prophets

Simeon and Anna recognized in this infant the Messiah of God. Both were "righteous and devout" and prayed in the temple constantly. Simeon spoke at length to Mary and Joseph about this child, and Anna proclaimed to all the salvation of Israel in Jesus. Throughout the centuries, God had made use of many prophets to proclaim the coming of Jesus, as Jesus explained to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus after his death and resurrection. But people, being hard-hearted and somewhat clueless, did not recognize these prophecies as referring to the Messiah and later, to Jesus. Many in his time heeded the words of the prophets and believed, but many walked away. To those who believed, he gave the words of eternal life. They believed that "the one who had made the promise was trustworthy." These loving parents would protect and raise this miraculous child, and he "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him."

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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.

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.

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.
Trees of Kindness

Trees of Kindness are in 4th grade classrooms. Each day the students read one note from the tree. The note explains an act of kindness that the students are asked to complete before the end of the day at school or at home. Random acts of kindness truly express the spirit of Advent. This Christmas season please join in and be kind to someone in your daily life.

Knights of Columbus

If you are a Catholic man who wants to help people in our parish and community, please consider joining the Knights of Columbus. We appreciate your help. For details, please call Wayne Bush at 262.210.2810.

Pilgrimage with Auxiliary Bishop Haines

The Most Reverend Jeffery R. Haines invites you to join him on a nine day pilgrimage to Ireland, August 19-27, 2018. Highlights of this spiritual pilgrimage include daily Mass with the Auxiliary Bishop, participation in the World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis and Catholics from around the world, and deluxe coach touring with a professional guide throughout Galway, Connemara, Knock, Cliffs of Moher, Clonmacnoise, and Dublin. The all-inclusive price for this once in a lifetime spiritual event is $3640.00 (includes round trip transport to airport, round trip airfare, registration for World Meeting of Families, entrance to all itinerary sights, double occupancy first class lodging, gratuities, and daily breakfast and dinner). For a detailed brochure and registration, contact Rich Harter, Director of Evangelization, Marriage, and Family Life, Archdiocese of Milwaukee, at harterr@archmil.org or 414-758-2215. The enrollment deadline is February 1, 2018.

Pulpit Announcements

The deadline for pulpit announcements is Noon on Fridays. Send requests to ssmith@stmb.org so they may be approved by Father Jim.

St. Mary School 1st Graders

Our 1st graders made prayer pillows. Sending many prayers to our parish community this holy Christmas season.
**Please 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.

**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!

**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
- 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 Schultz
- 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
- John S. Krause, U.S. Navy
- Gregory A. Roberts, U.S. Army
- Second Lieutenant Jacob Schultz
- 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

**God Bless Our Troops**

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**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.

**Everyday Stewardship**

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, and wedding engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation. When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the good news? Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable. Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to him, the more we will want to share about him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to others might be the gift that changes their history.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**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.

**CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

**TOPPER TAILGATE**

Come learn more information about Catholic Central prior to a CCHS Basketball Game!

Meet the Principal, Coaches and CCHS basketball team members!

Refreshments will be provided. Free admission to the game with attendance to the tailgate!

**Marian Activity Center**

148 McHenry St.
Burlington, WI

For more information contact:
Karen Schwern
Admission Director
kschwern@cchssnet.org
262-763-1510
Ext. 225
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.

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)).

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.

Tri-Parish Pastoral Council 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), Jackie Scholze (763-4611), Randy Tritz (312-310-4306).

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.

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

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.

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.

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<th>Ministers</th>
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Please pray for the men and women serving in the armed forces.
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
MSPublisher 2003
Adobe Acrobat 10.0
Windows XP Professional

PRINTER
Hp Photosmart 8250

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION
December 31, 2017

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT
1 through 6

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS