



ST. BARTHOLOMEW, TREMPPEALEAU



ST. MARY'S, GALESVILLE



3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday Bulletin December 15, 2024 Year B

Pastor: Father Sebastian Saleth Pitchai

Phone: 608-534-6652

Deacon Kent Jacobson

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Emails: Fr. Sebastian - ssebastian@diolclergy.org

Deacon Kent Jacobson - kjacobson@diolclergy.org

Secretary: Cherie - secretary@stmstb.diolcparish.org

Parish Councils

St. Bartholomew Parish

Finance: Dan Lilla, Ed Smith, Roger Amundson, Larry Sonsalla, Tom Greylak, Patty Behan, Kris Krett, Laurelle Lettner, Joe Plunger.

Pastoral: Cherie Schwertel, Darlene Schlessler, Roger Amundson, Daniel Lilla, Al Joyce, Candice Guenther, Kay Richtman.

St. Mary Parish

Finance: Tom Ladwig, Dave Mueller, Becky Harris, Sandy Salsman, Bruce Reedy, Roger Betthausser, Don Teska,

Pastoral: Kent Jacobson, Dave Mueller, Cindy Baer, Melissa O'Neill, Cindy Anderson

Rejoice in The Lord Always

My Dear Brothers and Sisters, Today is the third Sunday of Advent popularly known as “Gaudete Sunday.” The term Gaudete simply means “to rejoice.” As we come closer to the feast of Christmas, the church encourages us to rejoice because God is about to fulfill his promise to us.

Today, all our readings exalt us to be happy, and joyful as we wait for the Lord’s coming.

The first reading calls us to shout for joy! The reason is simple! Our Lord comes with lots of good gifts like justice, liberation, and peace. Above all, he is ready to visit us personally if we dispose ourselves well.

In the second reading Paul insists the Philippians and every one of us: “I want you to be happy always in the Lord. I repeat, what I want is your happiness.” It is very important to note carefully that what Paul says is: “Be Always Happy in The Lord.”

So, the joy that Paul speaks of here is not that which comes from mere fantasy or from the material wealth of this world. Rather, it is a very profound sentiment that proceeds from a very strong faith in God and sprouts from God’s promises.

In today’s Gospel John the Baptist provoked a great yearning for change in his listeners. We must ask the same question that the people asked John the Baptist: “What must we do?”

For our joy to be complete this season we must be charitable, forgiving, just, and be modest in our actions. Also, we must seek reconciliation and live in peace with one another. Above all, we must shun all acts that can make life difficult for others.

So, we need patience and constancy in prayer. These will lead us to sanctity and the fullness of joy. As we wait joyfully for the fulfillment of God’s promises to us this season, may He fill our hearts with charity and peace of mind. God Bless You All!

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING

	SBT	SMG
Envelopes	\$2,377.00	\$ 2,326.00
Plate	154.00	102.60
Electronic Dep.	780.85	23.95
Christmas Flowers	475.00	177.00
Ret. Fund for Rel.	865.00	344.00
Youth Envelopes	<u>6.00</u>	<u>10.00</u>
Total Offering	\$4,657.85	\$ 2,983.55

Counters: Judy Kowalewski, Lori Mahoney

**Intention
December 16 – December 23**

- Monday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**
+ Kyle Dahl
- Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. St. Mary**
Exposition and Confession at 5:00 p.m.
+ Nick & Barb Pientok
- Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**
+ Dee Hare
- Wednesday: 6:15 p.m. St. Mary**
All the Youth of Our Parish
- Thursday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**
Exposition and Confession at 9:00 a.m.
+ Jim & Sallyann Keeffe
- Friday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**
+ Deanna Sadler
- Saturday: 4:00 p.m. St. Mary**
+ Anita Lilla
- Saturday: 5:30 p.m. St. Bartholomew**
+ Pastor’s Intention
- Sunday: 8:30 a.m. St. Bartholomew**
+ Jim Walske
- Sunday: 10:30 a.m. St. Mary**
All the People of Our Parishes

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, Dec. 21

St. Mary 4:00 p.m.
Ushers: Sandy Salsman, Volunteer
Lector: Sheila Collom
Comm. Min: Sandy Salsman

St. Bartholomew 5:30 p.m.
Ushers: Greg Heinz, Volunteer
Lector: Judy Heinz
Servers: John Severson
Comm. Min: Judy Heinz

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, Dec. 22

St. Bartholomew 8:30 a.m.
Ushers: Bruce Brenengen, Jason Hilton
Lector: Shannon Krett
Servers: Jaylen Hilton, Wyatt, Rademacher
Communion Minister: Anne Bagley

St. Mary 10:30 a.m.
Ushers: Bruce Reedy, Sheryl Reedy
Lector: Cindy Anderson
Servers: Sarah Sagler, Steve Grover
Comm. Min: Cindy Anderson

FAMILY PRAYER CORNER:

At 7:00 p.m. Every evening all parish families are asked to pray: **1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and 1 Glory Be to the Father** with this intention in mind: **Pray that we may all experience and understand this Advent season.**

Personal Prayer Request: For someone who is not worshipping with others at a weekend Mass.

ATTENTION ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISHIONERS.

- ◆ **Rescheduled Pastoral Council** meeting on Thursday, December 19 at 4:00 p.m. in the rectory.
- ◆ **Thank you to our parishioners** for all the baking, help, donations and supporting us with purchases for the cookie/candy sale last Saturday. Raffle winners will be posted in the entry of the churches, congratulations winners! It was a great success.
- ◆ Please return the gifts wrapped with the name tag on the gift and place it under the tree by Dec. 15th. We will be delivering the gifts to the families later this week.
- ◆ **Need prayers** for any health or anxiety issue - big or small. Contact the prayer chain, Doreen Backler, 608-534-6118, Ethel Ouellette, 608-534-6520 or the Knights of Columbus (Greg Goltz) @ 608-865-1518.

ATTENTION ST. MARY PARISHIONERS

OUR MISSION: To love God, love others and go make disciples!

OUR VISION: To awaken the faithful, reach the Lost, and make Church matter!

- ◆ **FAITH FORMATION FAMILY MASS** at St. Mary's, Wednesday, December 18, 6:15 p.m. Mass-Is-Class.
- ◆ **Church Cleaning:** Monday, Dec. 16 4:00-6:00 Please come help us get our church ready for Christmas! Bring cleaning rags/dust cloths, vacuums & extension cords. There are jobs for everyone even if you can only donate an hour of your time.
- ◆ **PRAYER MINISTRY:** Jesus promised that "those who believe in Me will lay their hands on the sick & they will recover." A prayer team will be available immediately following Sunday Mass to pray for anyone who would like prayer for healing.
- ◆ **St. Mary's PCCW** will be doing **two Advent Projects** this year: **We will** be collecting items for **Marinuka Manor's** bingo games for the residents, families and Eden House residents. Suggested items are: king sized candy bars, aftershave, small decorative items for their rooms, body spray, quilts or throws. **Our PCCW** will also be collecting monetary donations for the **Casa Hogar Optical Mission**. Doctors, medical personnel and lay people make an annual trip to help 1,000-1,500 with eye care. Used eye glasses are collected and reused. The volunteers pay their way and donate their time. Donations will be used to purchase readers, sunglasses and other supplies needed. The next mission trip is in January 1025. Checks can be written to **St. Mary's PCCW** and put into the collection basket. Please **designate Casa Hogar Optical Mission on the envelope or memo**.
- ◆ **Thank you to our parishioners** for all the baking, help, donations and supporting us with purchases for the cookie/candy sale last Saturday. Raffle winners will be posted in the entry of the churches, congratulations winners! Our St. Mary's proceeds will all be donated to the Casa Hogar Optical Mission and the Trempealeau County Jail to sponsor their Christmas Hope Pack for inmates this year.
- ◆ Need God's Help? Contact St. Mary's Prayer Chain, Ellen Karow 608-582-2688 or ekarow@hotmail.com or the Knights of Columbus (Greg Goltz) @ 608-865-1518.

THE HOLY SPIRIT & YOU:

What is a characteristic of the baptism in the Holy Spirit?

- + A characteristic of this is an immersion into the supernatural dimension of life which had previously been hidden.
- + He gives an interior revelation of the love of God and the active lordship of the risen Jesus,
- + and along with His charisms, a new and greater facility to hear & receive the Word of God,
- + which leads one, **if** one is willing, to a transformed life in the power of the Holy Spirit.

COMMUNICATION TO ALL

- ◆ **Mass Intentions are needed.** Please remember your dearly departed and have a Mass said for them. The donation for a Mass is \$20.00.
- ◆ **Our women and men religious offer gratitude.** A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week.
- ◆ **Bible Study: Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life.** The next class will be Saturday, December 21st, at 9:00am in the church hall for a wonderful study about Jesus.
- ◆ **LIVING WATER!** prayer meeting, Sunday evening, December 15th, 6:00-7:30 PM, St. Mary's Rectory. Following: "LIFE IN THE SPIRIT Seminar, Session 6 of 7: Receiving God's Gift" with Fr. Al Lauer.

Diocesan Annual Appeal

	<u>Target:</u>	<u>Pledged:</u>		<u>% Reached</u>
SBT:	\$23,555.00	\$24,005.00	Over \$450.00	102%
SMG:	\$13,420.00	\$5,580.00	Under \$7,840.00	42%

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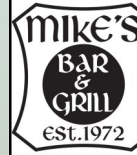


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Christmas during Advent.



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