



**ST. BARTHOLOMEW, TREMPPEALEAU**



**ST. MARY'S, GALESVILLE**



**4th Sunday of Advent**

**Sunday  
Bulletin  
December 22, 2024  
Year C**

**Pastor: Father Sebastian Saleth Pitchai**

**Phone: 608-534-6652**

**Deacon Kent Jacobson**

Contact Parish office at: **St. Bartholomew, 11646 South Street, Trempealeau 54661**

Our website: [www.saintbartholomew.net](http://www.saintbartholomew.net)

Emails: Fr. Sebastian - [ssebastian@diolclergy.org](mailto:ssebastian@diolclergy.org)

Deacon Kent Jacobson - [kjacobson@diolclergy.org](mailto:kjacobson@diolclergy.org)

Secretary: Cherie - [secretary@stmstb.diolcparish.org](mailto: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 Betthausen, Don Teska,

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

The Joy of Christmas

My dear Brothers and Sisters, the 4th Sunday of Advent invites us to be ready for the coming of Jesus. The readings help us prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas.

In the First Reading, God promises to send a ruler from Bethlehem. He will shepherd Israel, bring peace, and his greatness will reach the ends of the earth.

The Second Reading tells us that Jesus came to do God's will. Christ replaced old sacrifices with his own body, fulfilling God's will. His sacrifice made us holy once and for all.

The gospel presents us the visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. Despite her pregnancy, Mary still found time to visit her cousin to share her joy and to assist her. Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, blessed Mary for her faith and for bearing the Lord. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Like the visit of Mary to Elizabeth, God has planned to visit us personally to bring us transformation and it will provoke peace and greater joy in our hearts as it did for Elizabeth and the child in her womb.

**The Joy of Christmas:** Jesus was born in Bethlehem, which means "house of bread." Because there was no room in the inn Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger, which is significant because it is a feeding trough for animals.

This was all part of God's plan for His birth on Earth, to point to the fact that Jesus came to save us. This is really the whole meaning of Christmas. Jesus came to give us Himself as food – He literally is the Bread of Life that saves us, that spiritually nourishes and strengthens us with His grace.

God has made this feast day a feast of love. With great compassion, God so loves the world that He sends His Only Son. This is His Christmas gift.

May the Child Jesus come to you with the gift of Love, the blessing of Hope and the promise of Peace. I wish all of you Merry Christmas.

**LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING**

	<b>SBT</b>	<b>SMG</b>
<b>Envelopes</b>	\$2,019.00	\$ 1,636.00
<b>Plate</b>	176.00	120.00
<b>Electronic Dep.</b>	0.00	0.00
<b>Christmas Flowers</b>	80.00	25.00
<b>Ret. Fund for Rel.</b>	60.00	50.00
<b>Youth Envelopes</b>	6.00	0.00
<b>Total Offering</b>	\$2,341.00	\$ 1,831.00

**Counters: Charlene Joyce, Lori Mahoney**

**Intention  
December 23 – December 29**

- Monday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**  
+ Henry & Rose Kohnle
- Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. St. Mary**  
+ Jerry Emerson & Leif Erickson
- Christmas Eve: 8:00 p.m. St. Bartholomew**  
+ George Richtman
- Christmas Day: 8:30 a.m. St. Bartholomew**  
+ Peter & Betty Knepper
- Christmas Day: 10:30 a.m. St. Mary**  
+ Mary Ladwig
- Thursday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**  
+ Francis Haines & Family
- Friday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**  
+ Bonnie Kroes
- Saturday: 4:00 p.m. St. Mary**  
+ Pastor's Intention
- Saturday: 5:30 p.m. St. Bartholomew**  
+ Dan & Imelda Lilla
- Sunday: 8:30 a.m. St. Bartholomew**  
+ Martha Wood
- Sunday: 10:30 a.m. St. Mary**  
All the People of Our Parishes

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, Dec. 28**

**St. Mary 4:00 p.m.**

**Ushers: Doreen Emerson, Volunteer**  
**Lector: Theresa Haines**  
**Comm. Min: Theresa Haines**

**St. Bartholomew 5:30 p.m.**

**Ushers: Phil Palzkil, Volunteer**  
**Lector: Doreen Backler**  
**Servers: John Severson**  
**Comm. Min: Doreen Backler**

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, Dec. 29**

**St. Bartholomew 8:30 a.m.**

**Ushers: John Giemza, Carter Giemza**  
**Lector: Joe Plunger**  
**Servers: Annilise, Brian**  
**Communion Minister: MaryKay Plunger**

**St. Mary 10:30 a.m.**

**Ushers: Tim Babros, Deb Babros**  
**Lector: Ellen Karow**  
**Servers: Sarah Sagler, Steve Grover**  
**Comm. Min: Ellen Karow**

**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 all may understand the true meaning of Christmas.**

**Personal Prayer Request: For the priest who administered you the sacrament of Holy Eucharist.**



**Christmas Mass Schedule**  
**St. Mary's St. Bartholomew's**

**Solemnity of Mary Masses**  
**St. Mary's St. Bartholomew's**

Caroling starts at

**Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.**

**December 31 4:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Day: 10:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m.**

**January 1**

**8:30 a.m.**

**ATTENTION ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISHIONERS.**

- ◆ **Welcome to Lyra Cindy Gappa**, daughter of Dylan & Caitlin Gappa who was baptized last Sunday.
- ◆ Please volunteer for the ministries for Christmas. There is a paper in the vestibule to sign up on.
- ◆ We need more Saturday ushers, lectors and communion ministers. Sunday morning we could have more lectors, communion ministers and choir members. Call the office, 608-534-6652.
- ◆ **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!

- ◆ **ST. MARY PCCW** meeting on Tuesday, January 7 @6:30 church hall.
- ◆ **THANK YOU CLEANING CREW:** for cleaning St. Mary's top to bottom on Monday! It shows how important our church is to all of our parish family. Thank you for getting it ready for our families and guests at Christmas.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ Need God's Help? Contact St. Mary's Prayer Chain, Ellen Karow 608-582-2688 or [ekarow@hotmail.com](mailto: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?

- + Per St Paul & the Catechism, a characteristic is receiving more spiritual gifts than those we heard about in CCD.
- + The Holy Spirit gives these to a person, not because of any holiness on their part, but for the benefit of others.
- + When we see someone healed, or hear a prophecy, we know that the Holy Spirit is present & at work.
- + Seeing or experiencing this, it's hard to even think that God is distant or dead!
- + And during this season, let's thank our Father for sending the Spirit, Mary's Spouse, to bring us His Son. Amen!

**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.
- ◆ **Bible Study: Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life.** The next class will be Saturday, January 4th, at 9:00am in the church hall for a wonderful study about Jesus.
- ◆ **LIVING WATER!** prayer meeting, Sunday evening, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00-7:30 PM, St. Mary's Rectory. Following: "LIFE IN THE SPIRIT Seminar, Session 7 of 7: Transformation" with Fr. Al Lauer.
- ◆ Father is leaving for holidays on January 1 after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. He is going home to India, please keep him in your prayers for a safe trip. He plans to be back by Feb. 11.

**Diocesan Annual Appeal**

	<u>Target:</u>	<u>Pledged:</u>		<u>% Reached</u>
<b>SMG:</b>	<b>\$13,420.00</b>	<b>\$5,630.00</b>	<b>Under \$7,790.00</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>SBT:</b>	<b>\$23,555.00</b>	<b>\$26,330.00</b>	<b>Over \$2,775.00</b>	<b>112%</b>

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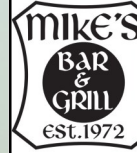
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## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASSES

DEC. 31 4:00 SMG  
JAN. 1 8:30 SBT

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