



ST. BARTHOLOMEW, TREMPEALEAU



ST. MARY'S, GALESVILLE



# Sunday Bulletin January 11, 2026 Year A

**Pastor: Father Sebastian Saleth Pitchai**

**Phone: 608-534-6652**

**Deacon Kent Jacobson**

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Secretary: Cherie - [secretary@stmstb.diolcparish.org](mailto:secretary@stmstb.diolcparish.org)

## Parish Councils

### **St. Bartholomew Parish**

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

**Pastoral:** Cherie Schwertel, Darlene Schlesser, Daniel Lilla, Al Joyce, Candice Guenther, Kay Richtman, Jessi Haney, Laurelle Lettner.

### **St. Mary Parish**

**Finance:** Bruce Reedy, Tom Ladwig, Dave Mueller, Becky Harris, Sandy Salsman, Roger Betthauser, Don Teska, Kris Gengler, Sarah Sagler

**Pastoral:** Kent Jacobson, Cindy Baer, Cindy Anderson, Sarah Sagler, Joseph Hellerude

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

When we hear today's Gospel we might ask, "Why did Jesus want to be baptized by John?" After all, He is the incarnate Son of God, the sinless 2<sup>nd</sup> Person of the Trinity.

True. So why?

Jesus didn't need to be baptized! His intention was to reveal God's love us even though we have sinned against Him. He was identifying Himself with sinful humanity—with you & me, emptying Himself of His divine glory & joining Himself to us in our state of alienation from the Father. Jesus' baptism wasn't so much for Him as it was for us. It inaugurated His mission to us & for us.

Christ was baptized—immersed—into our human life so that we would be baptized—immersed—into His divine life. When we were baptized, we were baptized into Christ & received the gift of the Holy Spirit. We are joined to Christ & His mission in order to make real God's kingdom where we live.

There are temptations on our part to think that God's gift of salvation is automatic, that all we have to do is believe, & we will be saved; that we can do His work without asking for the power of His Spirit. The simple truth is that a gift is not a gift unless we receive it. Love isn't effective unless we accept it—& then act on it. Salvation is ours only if we receive it by acting on it, by living the spiritual & corporal acts of mercy as 'little Christs' in our world today, even in those places we seldom go.

We don't act & then come to believe; we believe & then come to act. Our actions come from our love; our love doesn't result from our actions. Our words & actions either reveal God's love or hide it.

The baptism of Christ was out in public—it wasn't private. Christian living isn't private—it's public. The question to be answered now is "How will we respond?" How will we pivot from maintenance to mission, to rebuild God's Church? The answer is found in our lived-out baptismal faith. We're here to know God & to make Him known—to receive His love & then, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to share His love with others.

God bless!

Dcn. Kent

## LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING

	<u>SBT</u>	<u>SMG</u>
Envelopes	\$2,300.00	\$1,728.00
Plate	136.01	146.00
Electronic Dep.	96.71	229.06
Solemnity	564.00	224.00
Youth Envelopes	10.00	0.00
Total Offering	\$3,106.72	\$ 2,327.06

Counters: Judy Kowalewski, Lori Mahoney

## Intention January 12 — January 18

### No Week Day Masses

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

+ Mike Slaggie

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

+ Evelyn Jessessky

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

+ Prosper & Mathilda Schank

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

+ Barb V.R.

The Priest for next weekend Masses will be Father Richard Dickman.

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, Jan. 17

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

Ushers: LaVonne Peterson, Kathy Kujak

Lector: Becky Harris

Comm. Min: Sandy Salsman

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

Ushers: Kirk Shimek, Volunteer

Lector: Greg Goltz

Servers: John Severson

Comm. Min: Greg Goltz

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, Jan. 18

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

Ushers: John Giemza, Carter Giemza

Lector: Joe Mack

Servers: Madalyn Giemza, Vince Mack

Comm. Min: Joe Plunger

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

Ushers: Deb Babros, Tim Babros

Lector: Ellen Karow

Servers: Sarah Sagler

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 for Father's safe trip in India and a good and relaxing visit with family and friends.

Personal Prayer Request: For a Grandparent (living or deceased).

## ATTENTION ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISHIONERS

- ♦ The PCCW would like to send out a huge Thank You to everyone who helped provide gifts for the 2 families in our community supported by the Caring Hands tree project. The families were extremely grateful for the gifts, dinner groceries and sweet treats.
- ♦ **PCCW meeting** on Monday, January 12 at 6:00 p.m in the church hall.
- ♦ Kris has decided to retire as our sacristan. We will need a **new sacristan**. Contact the office, 608-534-6652.
- ♦ **SAVE THE DATE:** the PCCW will be holding our Lenten Fish Fry on Friday March 6th. Keep an eye out for flyer information.
- ♦ **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!

- ♦ **Congratulations to Auden Jacob Goldenstein**, son of Jacob & Taylor Goldenstein, who was baptized last Saturday. He is Butch Vaugh's great-grandson.
- ♦ **DISCIPLESHIP QUAD** meeting, Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm, St. Mary's Rectory.
- ♦ **RESCUE Project** Planning Meeting, Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 pm, St. Mary's Rectory
- ♦ **PCCW Valentine Project:** parishioners are invited to help make Valentine's for shut-ins, nursing home residents and anyone who might be lonely! All materials will be provided but bringing your own glue, scissors, or craft items to use would be helpful. Dessert and coffee will be served. **Tuesday, January 20 1:00 @church basement.** (Snow date Jan. 27) If you know people who would enjoy receiving a valentine please let Becky Harris know by text message or by emailing their name and address. 608.484.0630 [rebeccajoharris73@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccajoharris73@gmail.com)
- ♦ 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.

### REBUILD MY CHURCH INITIATIVE & YOU (from the Diocesan website):

- + After months of listening, Bishop Battersby is inviting **all of us** to pivot from maintenance to mission.
- + The diocese is engaged in an extended process of soul-searching, listening to the voice of the Good Shepherd, and discovering together how best to structure our parishes in the years ahead.
- + Visit <https://diolc.org/rebuildmychurch/> for ongoing updates.

- ♦ **FOLLOWING SUNDAY MASS:** Prayer for healing & other needs. A prayer team is available to pray with you.

## COMMUNICATION TO ALL

- ♦ Please join us on January 17th in the church hall for a study of the book of Revelation. We will be studying Chapters fourteen and fifteen. Please bring your bible and a notebook. Join us for one or many classes. You will learn so much about your faith.
- ♦ **LIVING WATER!** prayer meeting, Sunday evening, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:30 PM, St. Mary's Rectory. Following: **"Holiness – the Real Deal."** Ralph Martin speaks at a recent Cursillo conference on how true holiness differs from its caricature.
- ♦ A heart-felt thank you from the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and our Diocesan Mission Office to St. Bartholomew Parish in Trempealeau and St. Mary Parish in Galesville for answering our Holy Father's call to be "Missionaries of Hope Among the People" with your generous response of prayer and sacrifices for World Mission Sunday. We will forward your respective financial contributions of \$1,070.00 and \$799.00.
- ♦ Embracing the Call to Holiness – The Eau Claire Deanery and the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women jointly sponsor the "Call to Holiness" A Woman's Retreat day being hosted by St. James the Greater Catholic Church in Eau Claire on March 14, 2026. Registration forms should be available through your parish office, early bird registration ends February 15th. Women from all over the diocese are welcome to attend.

## Diocesan Annual Appeal

<u>Target:</u>	<u>Pledged:</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Under:</u>	<u>% Reached</u>
SBT: \$24,255.00	\$24,440.00	\$185.00		101%
SMG: \$14,760.00	\$11,005.00		\$3,755.00	75%

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