



ST. BARTHOLOMEW, TREMPPEALEAU



ST. MARY'S, GALESVILLE

## The Ascension of the Lord

# Sunday Bulletin May 17, 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, Ed Smith, Larry Sonsalla, Tom Greylak, Patty Behan, Kris Krett, Laurelle Lettner, Joe Plunger.

**Pastoral:** Cherie Schwertel, Darlene Schlessler, 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, Don Teska, Kris Gengler, Sarah Sagler, Steve Knepper

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

## WHY DON'T WE TAKE GOD SERIOUSLY?

Today Jesus tells His followers (including you & me) what to do & how to go about it.

Before He ascended, Jesus gave them (& us) His last command, "Go & make disciples." We're to be disciples who make disciples—not just 'volunteers' for church activities, but engaged in Jesus' mission of saving the lost & redeeming the world.

He told them (& us) that before we attempt to do this, we're to wait for "the promise of the Father...to be baptized with the Holy Spirit." This baptism is a baptism of Presence (the Father & Jesus—their love) & Power (the Holy Spirit's).

It's a true statement: "you can't give away what you don't have". Jesus never intended us to do the work of God without the power of God.

The single biggest need we have as individuals & as a parish is the Presence & Power of the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit, faith dies, worship is weak, ministries are few & our activities focus on ourselves rather than on the lost.

So, why don't we take God seriously?

Ego! We want to maintain control—control of our lives & control of the life of our parish—rather than restoring the initiative for change back to God—to ask Him to show us His plan before acting. After all, it's His Church, not ours. We too often resist change, even when change—conversion of mind, heart & life—is the heart of Jesus' Gospel.

We're not where we need to be. We've made ourselves & what we like, rather than Jesus & what He desires, our personal focus & that of our parish life. We've lost sight of Jesus' commands—to wait before acting, to receive the power of the Holy Spirit, to witness to Him, & to make disciples.

The REBUILD MY CHURCH Initiative aims to strengthen these in light of changes in priest availability. The website details what's necessary to rebuild our parish on God's foundation into a parish that bears fruit worthy of eternal life.

The Holy Spirit brings life! Our mission begins when Mass ends. Mass isn't the mission; what we do after is. Mass is for worship; mission is for saving the world one person at a time. Let's do it!

God bless!

Dcn. Kent

### LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING

	<u>SBT</u>	<u>SMG</u>
<b>Envelopes</b>	\$1,962.00	\$1,133.00
<b>Plate</b>	242.00	213.36
<b>Elec Deposit</b>	484.45	0.00
<b>Youth Envelopes</b>	<u>7.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Offering</b>	\$2,695.45	\$ 1,346.36

Counters: Judy Kowalewski, Jamie Stetzer

## Intention May 18 — May 24

**Monday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**

+ Bill Schwertel, Jr.

**Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. St. Mary**

*Exposition and Confession at 5:00 p.m.*

+ Mike Slaggie

**Wednesday: 6:30 a.m. St. Bartholomew**

+ Don Kowalewski

**Thursday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**

*Exposition and Confession at 9:00 a.m.*

+ Marti Schmall.

**Friday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew**

+ Ray Mertes

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

+ For the Poor Souls in Purgatory

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

+ Theresa Stanislawski

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

+ Bob & Phyllis Lettner

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

All the People of Our Parishes

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, May 23

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

**Ushers: Carmen Rolbiecki, Dave Mueller**

**Lector: Theresa Haines**

**Comm. Min: Theresa Haines**

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

**Ushers: Phil Palzkill, Volunteer**

**Lector: Greg Goltz**

**Servers: John Severson**

**Comm. Min: Suzanne, Greg, Volunteer**

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, May 24

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

**Ushers: Tony Suchla, Chaes Suchla**

**Lector: Missy Ganz**

**Servers: Brian & Nolan**

**Comm. Min: Jessi, Al, Kay**

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

**Ushers: Bruce Reedy, Sheryl Reedy**

**Lector: Deb Babros**

**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 there are more vocations in our dioceses.**

**Personal Prayer Request: For a sibling (Living or Deceased)**

## ATTENTION ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISHIONERS

- ◆ We need a Sacristan for our church, this is a paid position. Please call the office if interested.
- ◆ Thank you to the Finance Committee for getting new chairs for the choir room. Choir members like them.
- ◆ Coordinator for Religious Education (CRE) is needed. Call the office if interested. Please pray for this.
- ◆ 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!

- ◆ The Finance Council of St. Mary will meet Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:45. We welcome Steve Knepper who will be joining the council.
- ◆ The Finance Council needs your help in reaching our annual appeal for the diocese this year. We are short \$1525. and any amount we have not raised will come out of regular church operating budget! We will be having a second collection the weekends of May 16-17 and 23-24. PLEASE help us reach our goal, we need our operating budget for all the expenses our church/rectory require!
- ◆ DISCIPLESHIP QUAD meeting, Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 12:30 pm, St. Mary's Rectory.
- ◆ The summer lunch program in Galesville will start on June 2nd. We need help to make this possible. In 202, 1,835 meals were served, numbers are anticipated to be higher this year. Lunch is served in the park right across from our church and prepared in the Zion Lutheran basement. Lunch in Galesville is served every Tuesday & Friday. Helpers (students who need community service hours are welcome) are needed 10:30-1:00. Lunch is served from 11:30-12:30 and all are welcome. Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/2026-Summer-Lunch>
- ◆ 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** (check out the diocesan website):

- + Don't waste time saying, "I'm just not sure exactly what God wants me to do." Just step out and serve, meeting the need that's right in front of you.
- + Even if some of the ways that you served didn't go so well, God sees the intention of your heart and the love that motivated you.

- ◆ **Following Sunday Mass:** Prayer for healing & other needs. A prayer team is available to pray with you.

## COMMUNICATION TO ALL

- ◆ We will be saying the Rosary in front of the Grotto during the month of May at 3:00 p.m. Come join us.
- ◆ **LIVING WATER!** prayer meeting, Sunday evening, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:30 PM, St. Mary's Rectory. Following: "STUNNED BY SCRIPTURE: The Role of the Holy Spirit in Scripture, Part 7" with Dr. John Bergsma & Dr. Mary Healy.
- ◆ Thank you for supporting Right to Life by your support and donations for the Mother's Day rose sale. St. Bartholomew & St. Mary sent a total of \$765. to the local chapter of Trempealeau County.
- ◆ **Memorial Day Mass:** Monday, May 25 we will have a Mass at Holy Cross Cemetery at 6:00 p.m. At 5:30 p.m. we will say the Rosary at the cemetery. If there is rain in the forecast we will go to St. Bartholomew's for the Mass and Rosary.
- ◆ "Legacy of Love: Celebrating Decades of Married Life." We are pleased to introduce a new way of celebrating wedding anniversaries in our diocese! Couples celebrating milestone anniversaries 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, or 80th will be invited to participate in "Legacy of Love: Celebrating Decades of Married Life." This free event will begin with Mass and include pictures with Bishop Battersby followed by a simple reception. Each couple is invited to bring two guests with them. Couples can register by calling Laura Boden at 608.791.2680 or emailing her at [lboden@diolc.org](mailto:lboden@diolc.org). (Reminder) Mass and Reception Dates: June 21, 2026: 2:00pm (Updated Time) at St. Bronislava Catholic Church, Plover; July 19, 2026: 1:00pm at St. Olaf Catholic Church, Eau Claire; August 9 2026: 1:00pm Holy Cross Diocesan Center, La Crosse. Couples celebrating their 50th, 60th, 70th, 80th anniversary will also receive a special packet by mail, including a certificate and a letter of congratulations. We look forward to honoring the beautiful witness of married life with you!
- ◆ **Rebuild My Church:** There are two basic modes by which the Church engages the wider society in its mission to build the Kingdom of God: an apostolic mode and a Christendom mode. Different circumstances in society demand different strategies. Watch this video from Prime Matters for a deep dive on both of these strategies: [Christendom and Apostolic Modes of Engagement](#).

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