

Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception & St. Joseph Catholic Church

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 22, 2023**

St. Mary Parish

837 Parkview Dr.
Milton, WI 53563



Phone: 608-868-3337
After Hours Emergencies:
608-868-2338
Fax: 608-868-3345
Website: www.saintmarymilton.org
Parish Email: stmarymilton@gmail.com
Pastor:
Fr. David Wanish * 608-868-3338
David.wanish@madisondiocese.org
**Business Administrator/
Cemetery Sales & Inquiries:**
Vicki Kersten *608-868-3337
victoria.kersten1@gmail.com
Faith Formation Administrator:
Sabrina Elsen * 608-868-3334
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Faith Formation Admin Assistant:
Jackie Riesterer *608-868-3336
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Music Coordinator:
Doreen Houge *608-868-3335
doreen.houge1@gmail.com
Liturgy Coordinator:
Lisa Meyers * 608-868-3335
lisa.meyers.sm@gmail.com
Becky Kreier * 608-868-3335
becky.kreier1@gmail.com

St. Joseph Parish

590 S. Saint Joseph Circle
Edgerton, WI 53534



Phone: 608-884-3038
Fax: 608-884-3298
Website: www.stjoeedgerton.org
Pastor:
Fr. David Wanish
608-884-3038, Option 4
David.wanish@madisondiocese.org
Business Administrator:
Laura Kisting
608-884-3038, Option 1
admin@stjoeedgerton.org
Coordinator of Faith Formation:
Kim Jensen
608-884-3038, Option 2
cre@stjoeedgerton.org
Director of Facilities & Maintenance:
Jon Peterson
608-884-3038, Option 3
Evangelization Coordinator:
608-884-3038, Option 4
ec@stjoeedgerton.org

Masses This Week

Sat. Jan. 21	4:00 p.m.	(St. Joseph) <i>Ted Syverson</i>
	5:45 p.m.	(St. Mary) <i>Florence Williams 90th Birthday</i>
Sun. Jan. 22	8:30 a.m.	(St. Mary) <i>St. Mary & St. Joseph Parishioners</i>
	10:30 a.m.	(St. Joseph) <i>Living & Deceased Members of the Claude Radermacher and Irma Vils Families</i>
Mon. Jan. 23		<i>No Mass</i>
Tues. Jan. 24	8:30 a.m.	(St. Mary) <i>Ina Hageman</i>
Wed. Jan. 25	8:30 a.m.	(St. Mary) <i>Taylor Brandt</i>
Thurs. Jan. 26	8:00 a.m.	(St. Joseph) <i>Living & Deceased Members of the John & Alice Collins Family</i>
Fri. Jan. 27	8:00 a.m.	(St. Joseph) <i>Saramae Drew</i>
Sat. Jan. 28	4:00 p.m.	(St. Joseph) <i>St. Joseph & St. Mary Parishioners</i>
	5:45 p.m.	(St. Mary) <i>Mary & Cecil Cooley</i>
Sun. Jan. 29	8:30 a.m.	(St. Mary) <i>Ron Pike</i>
	10:30 a.m.	(St. Joseph) <i>Josefina de Nicolas</i>

All Masses are in-person

Live-streaming available:

- St. Joseph on Saturday at 4:00 p.m.
- St. Mary on Sunday at 8:30 a.m.



Join us on Facebook to view Mass streaming live (access available from each parish website):

- St. Mary: www.saintmarymilton.org
- St. Joseph: www.stjoeedgerton.org

Pray for the Sick

Please keep these parishioners and family members in your prayers:

Rich Addie
Delores Alm

Dorothy & Ken
Bomkamp

William Burdick
William Butzke

Frank Daniels

Joyce DeMott

Bart DiMattina

Aaron Ellis

Carole Evans

Pat Finucan

Esther Folk

Jane Folk

Elizabeth Frye

Anna Furlano

Jim Furlano

Helen Goerke

Lynette Hammil

Jared Hanson

Duane

Hendricks

Bud Hoff

Nick Hoff

Bill Hupp

Don Hying

Trish Jarzynski

Marion Kaiser



Barb Keefe

Matt Keller

Kathleen Knight

Keith Korell

Jeff Kraus

Loren Krueger

Mary Ann

Langer

Lisa Meyers

Lillian Moreno

Mary Kay

Mullen

Bob Murphy

MVA

Scot Nelson

Jeffrey Pipitone

Bill Rice

Diana Riesterer

Joe Riesterer

Phil Riesterer

Rob Rosa

Mike Ryder

Rosemary

Schafer

Kathy

Trimberger

Paul Warren

Ron Yoss

Stewardship: A Way of Life

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

“He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him.

Matthew 4:22

Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him; our time to daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.

Respect
Life 

WORD OF LIFE: “There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: *We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled or desperate that life may seem.* In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is *always and radically incompatible* with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image.” USCCB

St. Joseph Parish

This Week at St. Joseph

Sun. Jan. 22:

- 10:30 a.m. Junior Disciples

Wed. Jan. 24:

- 3:30 p.m. Faith Formation Gr 1-5
- 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation Gr 6-9

Sat. Jan. 28:

- 8:00 a.m. Rosary - Cenacles of Life

Sun. Jan. 29:

- 9:00 a.m. Teen Formation
- 10:30 a.m. Junior Disciples

Sanctuary Candle

is burning this week
In Memory of
Roger & Betty Saunders



Welcome New Parishioners:

- Timothy Koel and Tammy Herbst-Koel & their daughter Jenna



Please keep these parishioners and family members in your prayers.

Gracie
Fran Barrett
Lois Bongle
Betty Bosben
John Bovard
Larry Burns
Joan Chesmore

Pat Chiumenti
Donna Dahl
Sue Dahms
Grace Farrington
Judy Fugate
Lynsey Gruna
Mya Harwood
Rosie Hatlen
Linda Hatton
Julie Hoff
Christian Kelsey

Robert Koch
John Kociolek
Annanell Krausse
Annette Nagle
Jeanne N.
Maureen Plautz
John & Mary Pratt
Jane Raatz
Elliot Rademacher
Bob (Seamons)
Siemienkovicz

Jacinta Tinoco
Serrano
S. Severson
Sonja P.
Pat Spray
Frank Vogl
Darnell Ziegler

Financial Stewardship

Collection from January 15, 2023

Envelopes	3,058.00
Offertory	334.94
On-Line Giving	<u>785.00</u>
Total	4,177.94
<i>Weekly Income Needs</i>	5,150.00

Thank you for your continued financial support of our parish!
If you would like to contribute electronically, please sign up at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjoeedgerton>



Baptism: Scheduled after weekend Masses. Baptismal Preparation Class is required. They are offered the first Sunday of March, July, and November after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Marriage: Please contact the priest at least 6 months prior to the wedding date.
Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 3:15 p.m. before 4:00 p.m. Mass and the second and third Sunday after 10:30 a.m. Mass.

St. Mary Parish

Financially Speaking

Collection From Last Week (January 15, 2023)

Weekly Income Needs	7,788.00
<i>based on income from budget</i>	
Envelopes	2,851.00
Offertory	84.00
ACH & On-Line Giving	920.00

Fiscal Year-To-Date Contributions

YTD Envelopes & ACH	237,980.00
YTD Offertory	4,670.55

Collection from last year (January 16, 2022)

Envelopes	4,490.00
Offertory	68.25
ACH & Online Giving	580.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH!

This Week at St. Mary Parish

Sat./Sun. Jan 21/22:

- Wisconsin Right To Life donations after Mass

Sun. Jan. 22:

- 8:30 a.m. Seeds

Tues. Jan. 24:

- 4:00 p.m. K-6 class
- 5:00 p.m. Confessions

Wed. Jan. 25:

- 4:00 p.m. K-6 Class

Sat./Sun. Jan. 28/29:

- KC Raffle ticket sales after Mass

Sun. Jan. 29:

- 8:30 a.m. Seeds

Sanctuary Candle

is burning this week
In Memory of
Ina Hageman



Congratulations:

Please join us in wishing Florence Williams a very happy birthday as she celebrates 90 years young this weekend. The flowers on the altar are in honor of her special day!



Special THANK YOU to parishioners Gail & John Nordlof for the donation of altar wine at St. Mary Parish.

Northleaf Winery, LLC
232 S Janesville Street
Milton Wisconsin 53563
608-580-0575
fax 608-580-0576

www.northleafwinery.com
info@northleafwinery.com

NorthLeaf
Winery

NO LIVESTREAM MASS AT ST. MARY SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

ROSARY AT ST. MARY ON MONDAY MORNINGS: Our rosary group is still going strong. The rosary will be said outside by Our Lady (corner of Parkview and St. Mary St.) at 11:00 a.m., weather permitting. Time commitment is only 15 minutes. Please bring your own chair. If raining or other bad weather, we will meet inside church. The rosary is also recited immediately following Mass every Tuesday and Wednesday. On Wednesday we follow the rosary with Divine Mercy Chaplet. Won't you join us?



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ST. MARY: Looking for a way to serve your parish without a huge time commitment? Do you have 2 hours a month available? The Safety-Security Committee needs your help. Please contact Vicki at 608-449-6530 for additional information.

LOCKING EXTERIOR DOORS AT ST. MARY: Please be advised that for the safety of our congregation, the exterior doors to our building will be



locked 5 minutes after the start of Mass on Saturday and Sunday, beginning February 4/5. If you are running late, the door to the Gathering Space will remain unlocked. All doors can be exited from the inside whether locked or not. ***Please note this is just precautionary—there has been no immediate threat.*** Would you like more information on our Safety-Security Committee? Contact Vicki at 608-449-6530 for the next meeting date!

THANK YOU ST. MARY PARISHIONERS: *(Below is an excerpt from the January Rock Haven Happenings newsletter...)*

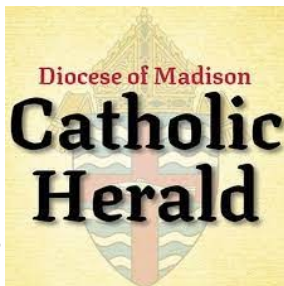
"It is important for me to note the many who made our holidays possible. Special thanks go to the Parish of St. Mary of Milton. Their Parish has been so generous to us over the years. Whether working with Vicki or Randi, they have gone above and beyond the past years working in getting every single resident a special gift. Their [Parish's] generosity has no limit."

HEALING FROM ABORTION—One Weekend at a Time: Rachel's Vineyard Retreats offer Hope and Healing for women and men who have struggled with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. Upcoming retreats in 2023: March 24-26 and November 10-12. Whether recent or long ago, call or email Mary at 608-821-3177

Rachel@madisondiocese.org. Visit: www.madisondiocese.org/rachel.

Referrals to a priest and/or therapist also available. Confidentiality is assured.

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH WITH THE CATHOLIC HERALD—Issue of January 26: People and events from Catholic Schools across the diocese are featured in this issue as Catholic Schools Week approaches. Also this week, in anticipation of this fall's Eucharistic Congress, a series of monthly articles continues. Learn more about your Catholic faith by reading the Catholic Herald. If you do not subscribe but wish to receive the Catholic Herald print or e-Edition in your home, contact your parish office.



SANCTUARY CANDLE AT ST. JOSEPH & ST. MARY: If you would like to honor a loved one, consider having the Sanctuary candle burned in their name. A new seven-day candle is lit every Sunday. A donation of \$10 will cover the cost of the candle.

- **At St. Joseph:** Please call the office. Or for on-line requests click on this link: [Online Sanctuary Lamp Request](#) or click on the "Sanctuary Candle Request" box on the front page of our website.
- **At St. Mary:** Contact Becky at 608-868-3335 or becky.kreier1@gmail.com



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

Free Throw Contest

Friday, January 27th
Milton High School – Gym 2
Boys & Girls ages 9-14

Registration: 4:00pm
Competition: 4:30 pm



Open to all Boys & Girls Ages 9-14

ST. JOSEPH EUCHARISTIC ADORATION GUARDIANS: Thank you to everyone who serves as a Guardian during Adoration the First Tuesday of every month. We are preparing the 2023 schedule and there are a few openings left to fill. Please consider being a guardian for the **6:30-7:30 p.m.** time slot in **February, March, and April.** The Sign-Up sheet is on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

ALTAR CARE FOR ST JOSEPH CHURCH: We are looking for help to clean the altar and sanctuary area. It doesn't take much time to Swiffer and dust and the supplies are provided. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the vestibule with the scheduled dates. Thank you!

ST. JOSEPH \$1 CHALLENGE: This weekend we will hold our very first Dollar Challenge! Proceeds will be used to purchase more of the St. Joseph Press children's books to put in the pews.



If you or your family wish to sponsor matching funds, please contact Doug Crandall at 608-469-3195. You will be placed on a list and notified when

your turn comes up. Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

5TH SUNDAY ROSARY AT ST. JOSEPH: St. Joseph Knights of Columbus will pray the Rosary on January 28 and 29, beginning 30 minutes before each weekend Mass. Please join us in praying for our country, for the sanctity of families and to an end to abortions.



MOVIE NIGHT

MOTHER TERESA
NO GREATER LOVE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 | 6:30 PM
ST. JOHN VIANNEY | MARIAN HALL
1236 E. RACINE ST.

All are invited to a free screening of this inspiring film about St. Teresa of Calcutta. Popcorn and snacks will be available. Seating is limited. No cost to attend (free-will offerings welcome). Doors open at 6:00 PM.



WISCONSIN RIGHT TO LIFE— JANUARY BILLBOARD: The birth of one child, Jesus, changed the world. As we continue to celebrate our Savior's birth, thank you for all you do to save the unborn, the handicapped, and the elderly. And, we thank you for all your prayers to end abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide and other threats to life. The billboard (photo above) is on Milton Avenue facing Culver's until February 19. Please pray that mothers will go to the 123GiveLife.com website on the billboard, which will provide information to pregnant mothers on how to connect to pregnancy help centers where they live. If you would like to contribute to the billboard project, please send your donation to Wisconsin Right to Life, PO Box 1386, Janesville, WI 53547-1386. On January 21/22, St. Mary will have volunteers available at each church entrance after each Mass to accept donations to support the funding of this important project bringing awareness to the sacredness of life & help for pregnant mothers. Thank you and God Bless you!

SAFE HAVEN SUNDAY: Inspired by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) formal statement, Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography, Safe Haven Sunday is weekend set aside within the liturgical calendar by dioceses and parishes to directly address the societal harms of pornography. Safe Haven Sunday was last weekend, January 14/15 and we had planned on providing a copy of the book, **Connected: How Strong Family Relationships Lead To Internet-Safe Kids**, to the families of our parishes. Connected is a proactive resource that explores how a strong family connection can protect children and teens from the dangers of hidden pornography use. Unfortunately, due to printing problems the books were not available. As soon as we receive them, they will be located next to the bulletins at each church. However, in the meantime, please visit <https://learn.covenanteyes.com/connected-shs/> for more information.

Connect with like-minded single Catholics

At the

the Dating Retreat

Find what you're looking for

January 27 & 28

Join us for

Relationship Ready:

The Single Catholic's Roadmap

to Marriage

Starting the week of February 6th

NationalCatholicSingles.com

A DATING RETREAT AND STUDY SERIES FOR SINGLE CATHOLICS!

NCSC is hosting a *FREE online Dating Retreat with guest speaker Fr. Robert Spitzer (January 27 & 28)*. Currently there are almost 400 single Catholics from around the world signed up and we're expecting 500+. Don't miss the opportunity to meet other like-minded singles and go deeper in your faith! Starting the week of February 6th, NCSC will also be hosting a *6-week study series - "Relationship Ready: A Single Catholic's Roadmap to Marriage"* that will cover topics such as the *meaning of love, communication, conflict resolution, male/female complementarity* and much more. To sign up for these programs, visit NationalCatholicSingles.com.

DANCE LESSONS OFFERED AT ST JOSEPH: Warm up February with Cha-Cha Ballroom Dance Introduction Hint: Just in time for Valentine's Day! Classes will be Sundays after Mass until about 12:30

p.m. in the Hall, on January 29, February 5, and 12. Learn the basic foundational move, a ladies' underarm turn, a man's underarm turn, the Shoulder Check, and side Break-Outs. You will look like a pro for the Church's Ballroom Dance in April! Many songs can be

danced to with the Cha-Cha.

It is preferred you come with a dance partner, but a limited number of single's can be accommodated. The goal is to have fun! Teaching will go as slow as needed, so everyone has a positive experience. If you want to speed it up, it becomes a fast and fun workout. All ages welcome! Good for married couples, friends, date nights, father/daughter, or mother/son! For questions, or to register your interest, call Michael at 309-229-0929 or Tracy at 608-469-5866 (even if you not 100% sure about coming). Need 3 couples minimum.

"You are perfectly cast in your life. I can't imagine anyone but you in the role. Go play."

*Lin-Manuel Miranda,
Hamilton" creator*

Musical Notes...

PIANIST NEEDED IMMEDIATELY AT ST.

MARY: St. Mary is searching for a proficient pianist to accompany our cantors and congregational singing for one weekend per month (Saturday and Sunday). If you are interested in supporting your parish by sharing your talents, please contact Doreen Houge, Music Coordinator, at doreen.houge1@gmail.com or leave a message at 608-868-3335. (*Note: St. Mary does compensate pianists for each Mass.*)



TEXAS ROADHOUSE FUNDRAISER:

10% Donation EVERY Sunday! Dine at Texas Roadhouse on Sunday's between 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. to support our church!



Present a copy of our church bulletin to your server and

Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchases back to our church!

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES AT ST.

MARY: For those who receive contribution envelope packets in the mail monthly, we want to make you aware of a glitch with our envelope company. Supply chain and inability to

add employees created a huge slow down on production and shipping. Recently, both of these issues have been resolved, but the "catchup" would jeopardize long-term delivery. In order to get back to "normal" they have been forced to suspend the production of our January and February envelopes. Envelope distribution to your mailbox will resume on the first Sunday in March.

In the meantime, we have created envelopes for your use. They are located in baskets at each of the entrances. **Please take as many as needed.** Or feel free to use a regular envelope and add your name to the front so we can give you proper credit. Maybe this is a good time to consider ACH contributions?

We are so sorry for this inconvenience. If you would like envelopes mailed to your home, please contact Vicki at victoria.kersten1@gmail.com or text 608-449-6530.

Thanks for your patience and understanding!

St. Mary Faith Formation



Tyler (dad and tall guy in the hat) and the 3rd graders practice finding verses in the Bible referring to "holiness." We baptized people are **all** called to holiness! Some people called saints were really, really good at being holy by loving and caring for/about others.



These big kids are learning to become holier as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.



This is Della and her brother at a church in Ireland...getting holier!

**PARISH MISSION at ST. JOSEPH
FORT ATKINSON - January 22-25:**

“On Fire, Living Our Faith Together”
St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1660 Endl
Blvd., Fort Atkinson, 920-563-3029
Sunday: 11:00 a.m.–1:45 p.m.
(includes lunch) Monday-
Wednesday: 6:00–7:30 p.m.

This will be one of the most
EXCITING presentations of the
Catholic faith that you will ever hear!
Deacon Ralph Poyo is an experienced
and dynamic speaker who has spent
the last 20+ years visiting parishes
throughout the country to reawaken
hearts and minds towards the Gospel.
This is a 4-Night Parish Mission
meant to reignite you in pursuing a
relationship with Christ. You won't
want to miss these deeply moving
nights. You may attend any or all
nights. All faith levels are welcome.
Childcare is provided. Please pick up a
flyer with all the details on the
bulletin tables.

HelpOurMarriage.org
RETRouvaille
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Is your marriage tearing you apart?
Does separation and divorce seem
inevitable? There is hope. Madison
Area Retrouvaille is a ministry for
struggling marriages. The retreat
provides tools to help couples with
communication, forgiveness, and
trust. Couples have rediscovered each
other and their marriages through this
program. A Retrouvaille program is
scheduled January 27-29 in Green
Lake, WI. Visit
www.helpourmarriage.org for more
information and/or for registration.

BULLETINS MAILED HOME: Would you or someone you know benefit from
having our weekly bulletin mailed to your home? If so, please contact:

- **St. Mary:** Vicki at 608-449-6530 or email victoria.kersten1@gmail.com
- **St. Joseph:** Laura at 608-884-3038 or email admin@stjoeedgerton.org



Small Groups at St. Mary & St. Joseph

Date / Time	Study	Location	Group Leader
Feb. 7 6:00-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays	Gospel readings with booklet "Amazed and Afraid"	St. Joseph Board Room	Sue Tronnes 608-295-2779 Melissa Phillips 608-289-0495
Feb.13 (7 weeks) 6:00-8:00 p.m. Mondays	"Conversion" Study to grow in personal relationship w/Jesus \$13/person materials	St. Joseph Board Room	Becky Eastman 608-290-2827
Feb. 19 (Sunday morn aft Mass at St. Mary)	Little Black Book and Sunday Readings "With Jesus" group	St. Mary—behind the glass (parents room)	Donna Curley 608-295-8442 curleydonna5@gmail.com
Feb. 18-Apr. 1 9:00-10:30 a.m. Saturday morn	Walking with God: A Journey Through the Bible (Tim Gray & Jeff Cavins) Book to be provided	Janesville Public Library 316 S Main St, Janesville	Jay Kjendle 608-931-1960 jkjendle16@yahoo.com
Feb. 19-Mar. 26 9:30-10:30 a.m. (Sunday morn aft Mass)	A Biblical Walk through the Mass (Edward Sri) \$15- \$27/person for workbook	St. Mary	John Bohn 608-628-7552
Feb 20-Apr. 24 (no mtg Feb 27) 10:00 am & 6:30 pm Mondays	"The Chosen" Season 3	St. Joseph Parish Hall	Roland Breunig 608-247-8979 rbreunig@yahoo.com
Feb. 23-Apr. 13 6:30-8:00 p.m. Thursdays	Book "Lent & Easter Wisdom from Pope John Paul II"	St. Joseph	Amy Volciak 484-326-8621 amyvolciak@gmail.com
Feb. 27-Apr. 3 9:30 –10:45 a.m. Mondays	Little Black Books & Bibles	St. Mary—parish center	Val Pakes 608-868-3424 nvpakes@outlook.com
Feb. 28-Apr. 4 9:00-10:00 a.m. Tuesdays	"Coffee, Tea and Thee" Mass Readings of Lent	Café on Main Edgerton	Melanie Wentler 608-884-6080
Apr. 11 (6 weeks) 9:30-10:45 a.m. Tuesdays	The Psalms	The Gathering Place in Milton	Joyce Albright 608-751-6861 albrightfam@charter.net

A Note from Our Pastor ...



- ✠ Thank you everyone who stayed after Mass last weekend to share 3-minute faith stories. Let us continue to encourage one another in bearing witness to God's work in our lives.
- ✠ The Catholic Church mourns the death of retired Pope Benedict on December 31 with his funeral Mass a few days later. I will remember his humility as Church leader and great thinker while also being personable and a servant. I thank God for the gift of the papacy which goes back to St. Peter. Let us pray for God's continuing blessing on Pope Francis.
- ✠ The Eucharistic Congress for the Madison Diocese is coming! We are all invited to St. John the Baptist in Waunakee September 29-October 1. The congress centers on the Eucharist, the "sacrament of sacraments," the source and summit of our Christian faith. There will be national-level speakers and many opportunities to grow in relationship with the Lord. I hope that many of us can attend at least part of it.
- ✠ Please review the spring small group opportunities. We will conduct registration during Mass next weekend.

Fr. David

Small group testimonials :

When I joined St Joseph's church in 1983, I had recently gotten married. I was new to the community and had no friends in town. I relied on God to show me how to find my niche in this community. Having children helped. But what really helped was when I started taking the Bible studies. I have been taking Bible studies at St Joseph's for the last 10 years and have grown spiritually and faithfully in my relationship with Our Lord. Sharing my time and devotions with others in these groups has strengthened and clarified further a better understanding of a true Catholic faith. In addition, listening and experiencing my fellow group members thoughts and insights has profoundly impacted and enlightened my faith life too. I truly feel blessed to be an advocate to our faith and witness to others of God's love for each of us. I wish to invite members of our church to join a small Bible discussion group. It can only improve your relationship with God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit. And I encourage you all to extend this invitation to your friends or family who would be interested in growing in their faith with the Word of Our Lord. [Melanie Wentler, St. Joseph member]

Is it sometimes difficult getting into reading the scriptures? Where does one begin? How do you go about it? After facilitating a few of the small groups, I've found that small groups are a welcoming and comfortable way to approach reading the Holy Scriptures and with understanding. Sessions are short—we begin and end in prayer to the Holy Spirit to be with us and inspire us during our time together. Then we read a passage, think and reflect about what we've read, and finally respond by sharing and discussing what Jesus is telling us and showing us about the passage we've just read. [Val Pakes, St. Mary member]

Readings for Week of Jan. 22-29

Sunday, January 22

Isaiah 8:23-9:3
Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14
1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17
Matthew 4:12-23

Monday, January 23

Hebrews 9:15, 24-28
Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6
Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday, January 24

Hebrews 10:1-10
Psalm 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11
Mark 3:31-35

Wednesday, January 25

Acts 22:3-16
Psalm 117:1bc, 2
Mark 16:15-18

Thursday, January 26

2 Timothy 1:1-8
Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10
Mark 4:21-25

Friday, January 27

Hebrews 10:32-39
Psalm 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40
Mark 4:26-34

Saturday, January 28

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13
Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Matthew 5:1-12a



FOUR HOLY HABITS

Each of us is called to be holy. Here are four habits that Bishop Hying has identified that will guide you on your path to holiness.

SUNDAY EUCHARIST



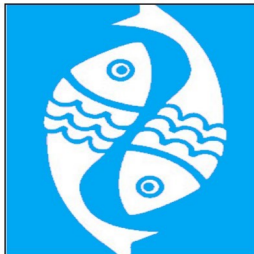
Reclaim the Sunday Eucharist as the center of parish life

PERSONAL PRAYER



Pray and read the scriptures at least 15 minutes per day

FAST ON FRIDAY



Fast from meat or spend the day with some type of penance/mortification

CONFESSION



Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation monthly