

St. Nicholas, Belle River

Immaculate Conception, Osakis

The Church of St. Mary, Alexandria

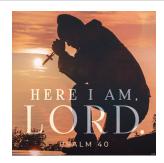
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | JANUARY 14, 2024

Business Admin Update

Come to the Water ACC – We have posted the opening for the new Director of Faith Formation (DFF). This will be a full-time position and will strategically oversee the faith formation programs at all 3 parishes. This is a goal from our

2018 ACC strategic plan. Please spread the word to help us hire the right person for our ACC. As of early winter, Leah Johnsrud has taken over as our new Wedding Coordinator. Jordyn Cantalope moved on to focus on her primary job. She did amazing work establishing systems and building communication channels for wedding coordination in our ACC. We greatly appreciate Jordyn for sharing her talents in this ministry! Other Human Resource Stuff: I am finalizing a revised Employee Handbook. With help from the diocese and an arrangement with their employment legal expert, we should have a well-written handbook for our employees when it is completed. The 2023 MN legislative session impacted our parishes with their significant law changes, specifically certain school employees eligible for unemployment benefits over the summer and the Earned Sick and Safe Time. As of January 1, we have made the necessary changes. Looking ahead to budget time, per 5 different national surveys, overall pay increases for 2024 are projected to be around 4.0%. As a service organization, with over 70% of our budget going to compensation and benefits, the next budget cycle may be challenging.

ST. MARY'S (STM) We have hired our new Pastoral Care Coordinator (PCC). Welcome Patty Marriott to the team. Patty's primary role is to be the connection between parish volunteers and the homebound and



those in assisted living facilities. She will coordinate the main outreach from our parish to those who are unable to be physically with us. She is part-time working only 10-15 hours per week. We no longer have a parish nurse. Factors in the change include the difficulty in finding a qualified person to take on

the big responsibility, finances, and the fact that the parish nurse position is generally fading away across the country. A new partnership between the Diocese of St. Cloud and SJU/CSB will allow for some educational resources to help support Patty and her volunteers. Our overall employee headcount is now at 38 full-time employees, 9 regular part-time employees, & several temporary part-time (i.e. substitutes, accompanists). For 2023, we filed 67 W-2s. We do provide work for a fair number of people.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (ICC)

Near the end of 2023, ICC received a very generous anonymous donation in excess of \$300,000. This is a great blessing which will allow us to renew various physical and spiritual components of our church. Stewardship is alive and well in our parish community.

Looking to get involved in your parish, but not sure where to start? Please reach out to any staff member, or give your parish office a quick call and we would be happy to answer your questions.

"It is not happiness that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us happy." – David Steindl-Rast

With gratitude, Todd Wentworth

Mass Schedules and Intentions



9473 County Road 3 NE, Carlos, MN 56319

1/17	Wednesday	8:30 am	
1/20	Saturday	9 am	No Mass
1/21	Sunday	8:30 am	



306 W. Oak St., P.O. Box F, Osakis, MN 56360

1/16	Tuesday	10 am	at Galeon
1/18	Thursday	9 am	† Dennis Anderson
1/19	Friday	8 am	No Mass
1/20	Saturday	4 pm	For the People of our Parishes
1/21	Sunday	10:30 am	



420 Irving Street, Alexandria, MN 56308

1/15	Monday	5:30 pm	tt Jack & Bernadine Determan
1/16	Tuesday	8:30 am	tt Diane & Dennis Ossenfort
1/17	Wednesday	8:30 am 1:30 pm	Intention of Kim, Marty, & Gary & family at Nelson Gables
1/18	Thursday	1:30 pm 5:30 pm	at Windmill Ponds †† Hazel Anderson & Vince
1/19	Friday	8:30 am	† Pat Roers
1/20	Saturday	5 pm	† Harvey Froland
1/21	Sunday	8 am 10 am	For the People of our Parishes † Marian Pappenfus

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION

By appointment at St. Nicholas.

Saturdays at 3 pm before Mass or by appointment at Immaculate Conception. Saturdays from 3–4:30 pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at The Church of St. Mary.

BAPTISM

All parents must take the Baptism Preparation Course. Call Laurie Bienias at 320-460-5325 to sign up and to schedule a baptism date.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Members of the parish (or children of members) must arrange for marriage at least six months in advance. Contact your parish office for more information.

ALL OTHER SACRAMENTS

Please contact your parish office.

Announcements

Bulletin submissions due by Tuesday at noon. Please send submissions to stmary@stmaryalexandria.org.

PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST

Sunday, January 14, 8:30 am-12 pm at St. Mary's School gym. Breakfast includes Lake Country Meats maple sausage, pancakes, french toast, orange juice, milk and coffee. Free will donations will be donated to Life Connections. This event is sponsored by the Ave Maria of the Runestone Council 4718 KCs.

ACC COUNCIL MEETING

The next ACC Council meeting is Tuesday, January 16, 6:30-8 pm in St. Mary's Great Hall.

FAITH STUDY

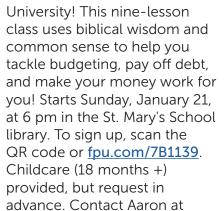
Please join us in Osakis for a faith study on the Eucharist. Tuesday nights at 7 pm at St. Agnes School. Starts January 16 and continues through Lent.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

Daughters of Isabella will meet Thursday, January 18, at 1 pm for Rosary and meeting in the St. Mary's Commons Area. Lunch will follow in the Great Hall. For questions, contact Maxine at 320-815-4296.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

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akorynta@stmaryalexandria.org.

MARCH FOR LIFE

Monday, January 22, join the March for Life at the state capitol! A bus will be departing the Aagard parking lot (old Kmart building) at 7:30 am in Alexandria, arriving at the Cathedral for a prayer service followed by walking to the capitol to march for life 12-1 pm. The bus will return to Alexandria at 4:30 pm. Free will offering and families welcome! For more info and to sign up, call Jim or Judy at 320-219-7470.

GRILL THE PRIEST - JUST DESSERTS

All are welcome to Grill the Priest night on Wednesday, January 24, 6:30 pm at Immaculate Conception. Join us for a fun night of grilling the priest and enjoy some desserts too!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST

KC Breakfast on Sunday, January 28, after the 10:30 am Mass at Immaculate Conception in Osakis. Serving pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, caramel rolls, coffee, juice, and milk. Free will offering. All are welcome.

YOUNG COUPLES/YOUNG FAMILIES

This newly formed group is intended to provide warm Catholic support during the busy years of dating, marriage and parenthood. The next gathering is Sunday, January 28, 2-4:30 pm in the St. Mary's School staff lounge. Look for signs to direct you. Info and to RSVP for child care,

contact Samantha at 320-808-5850.

MISSION QUILTING

The Mission Quilting Group will meet Monday, January 29, 12:30-3:30 pm in St. Mary's Great Hall. All are welcome to come help! Questions, call Joyce 320-219-0055 or Gwen 228-791-3768. *Note the date has changed due to a funeral.

FESTIVAL OF FAMILIES

Join us at Sacred Heart in Sauk Rapids on February 11, 10:30 am- 3 pm for a day of family fun and learning. Parent session topics will include mental health, self-care for parents, social media and faithful parenting. Register your family for only \$20 at stcdio. org/event/festival-of-families/

BAPTISMS

Eleanor Rose & Paisley Jayne Children of Eric & Sarah Elbe

SYMPATHY

t We offer our sympathy and promise of prayers to the family and friends of Vonnie Rader and Kay Bruzik.



Announcements

Bulletin submissions due by Tuesday at noon. Please send submissions to stmary@stmaryalexandria.org.

ANGEL TREE THANK YOU

285 gifts were delivered for the St. Mary's Angel Tree. Thanks to all who took an angel, Parish Life for organizational and delivery help, and St. Mary's School 6th graders who brought the gifts to United Way!

SUNDAY SCHOOL THANK YOU

Thank you to all who supported the Little Saints Sunday School collection of items for Life Connections!

ACC DIRECTORY

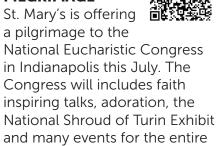
We are looking for someone to help coordinate the Spring church directory for our ACC. Hospitality/check-in volunteers are also needed. If you can help, or would like more info, call Laurie at 320-460-5325.

PASTORAL LETTER OF BISHOP NEARY

St. Cloud Bishop
Patrick
Neary, C.S.C., was
moved by the Holy Spirit to
write his very first pastoral
letter, "As the Father has
sent me, so I send you." To
download the letter, scan the
QR code or

stcdio.org/bishop-nearys-2023-pastoral-letter. A limited quantity of hard cover books of the pastoral letter are available. Contact the St. Mary's Parish Office if you would like one.

EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS PILGRIMAGE



family. Speakers include Fr. Mike Schmitz, Fr. Rocky, Chris Stefanick, and just added....a prayer experience with nationally known musician Matt Maher! Join us for this historic event, the first of its kind in 83 years! Register before January 31 for the best price. We have less than 50 tickets left. For more info/registration, scan the QR code or go to stmaryalexandria.org.

VALLIMAR JANSEN IS COMING BACK!

Join us for a Lenten Mission at St. Mary's March 16 - 18, 6:30 pm-8 pm and a mini concert on March 15, 7:00-7:45 pm with ValLimar Jansen. ValLimar will help to renew love of our faith through Scripture, song, story and movement. She will also speak at St. Mary's Masses on March 16/17. All are welcome!

Prayer Corner

If you or someone you know in our parish community is sick or ill, or has a family member who could use our prayers, please call The Church of St. Mary at 320-763-5781. In order to print the bulletin in a timely manner, names must be submitted by noon on Tuesday to be added to the upcoming Sunday bulletin. Names received after will be added the following week. **Names will be published for six weeks and renewed for an additional six weeks upon request.**

Please remember these people in your prayers:

Betty Schlosser Jim Ripka Jack Lewis Tyler Pomorin Ben Smith Julie Tully Mark Petersen John McHugh Jodi McShane Jane Doherty
Ruth Molloy
Paxton Lee
Tim Cullen
Jill Borrell
Vivian Annen
Mara Duscher
Betty Stroh Ostlund
Nancy Suneson

Judy Snowberg
MaryAnn Kack
Paulette Baumgartner
Rita Wille
Nick Matteson
Michael Russell
Margaret Kirkey
Wesley Ray
Doug Karsky

Alan Tyler
Mary Lou Michel
Tammy Tolifson
Lance Schoeberl
Joe Tegels
Carl Shaskey-Setright
Thomas Gerlach
Judy Hedstrom

Faith Formation

ADULT

APOLOGETICS BIBLE STUDY

Join this Bible Study led by Dr. George Jay of Morris. Dr. Jay is a Catholic evangelizer and instructor and has taught for many years to both college students and adults in the Morris area. All men and women are welcome, as well as young adults. Next meeting is Monday, January 15, 4:05 - 5:20 pm in St. Mary's Great Hall. This group meets on select Mondays and there is no homework and no fee! For more information or to sign up, contact Connee Thorstad at 320-808-0465.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S STUDY

St. Mary's has Wednesday and Saturday morning groups that meet throughout the year. Our next study will be announced soon. All women are welcome to join us! If you'd like to stay in the loop with studies and events around the region of interest to Catholic women, please send a request to Catholicwomenstudy@gmail.com.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION - SPENDING TIME WITH JESUS IN OUR BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL...ALL ARE WELCOME!

Open Scheduled Holy Hours:

Monday: 8-9 am; 2-3 pm; 11-midnight

Wednesday: 8-9 pm Thursday: 3-4 pm

To sign up, contact Sue at 320-491-7006

or suemcculloch66@gmail.com.

ROSARY LEADERS NEEDED

Volunteers to lead the rosary 25 minutes before weekday Mass begins are needed. Sign up at the tables by the Sacristy.

PRAYER LINK

If you have a prayer request, contact Kelly Wosepka at wosepkak@aol.com or 320-815-4655. All prayer requests are confidential.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Join the Young Adult Group on Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 pm at the St. Mary's Lighthouse. All are welcome! For more info, contact Emily at 320-287-1169 or Anna at 320-733-0081.

POWER HOUR FOR LIFE

Every Monday, 4:30-5:30 pm in the St. Mary's Chapel. This is a Holy Hour of silent prayer specifically for life intentions. Join for a few

minutes or the entire hour any Monday!

TUESDAY EVENING ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

All are welcome every Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 pm, to study the upcoming Sunday readings. For more information, contact Mike Sponsler at sponslermc@gmail.com.

DIVINE MERCY HOUR

Every Monday, 3-4 pm in the St. Mary's Chapel. Questions, contact Barb Nei at 320-846-0022.

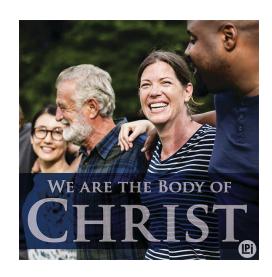
PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US EACH MORNING!

Our prayers are united via conference call and it's easy to do! Please unite your prayers with ours and join us daily. Dial 667-770-1484 at 7:55 am each morning and enter access code 653790#. Introduce yourself if you'd like. Mute your phone when the rosary begins at 8 am. Over 23,340 Rosaries have been prayed over the last three years! Questions: Judy Clayton at 320-333-9892 or Diane Gay at 320-766-7036.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Thursday mornings at 6:30 am in St. Mary's Great Hall. Come any time! For information, contact Mike at sponslermc@gmail.com.

Wednesdays at 2:30 pm in St. Mary's Commons Area. Join our discussions on the upcoming weekend Mass readings. Contact Russ Craigmile at ricraigmile@gmail.com.



Faith Formation

YOUTH

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Faith Formation for grades 7-11 will meet Wednesday, January 17, 7:00-8:30 pm.

DIOCESAN MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK-IN

Saturday/Sunday, January 27-28 in Sauk Rapids and St. Cloud. Cost is \$40. To register, scan the QR code. For more info, call the Faith Formation Office at 320-763-9202.

St. Mary's Catholic School



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KINDERGARTEN, HERE I COME!

All parishioners in our ACC with children who will be five (5) on or before September 1, 2024, are invited to attend our Kindergarten Parent Informational and Registration Meeting on February 12 at 6:30 pm in the school gymnasium.

Prior to our meeting, families are invited to tour St. Mary's School to see and feel what we have to offer. "See Us In Action" tours will take place January 16 – February 9. Contact Mr. Sladek to schedule your tour.

If you are not registered in the parish or have family members or friends who may be interested in St. Mary's School, contact the school office for more information.

Come and check us out to learn more!

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL CALENDAR RAFFLE TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!

All proceeds go directly towards the school's operating expenses. Being one of our major fundraising campaigns, it is important to our school that the raffle is a success. Tickets are available at the Hospitality Desk or from a school family. Best of luck and thanks for supporting St. Mary's School Deadline is January 19!

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

No School – January 15 - Prof. Development Day

ST. MARY'S CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS			
1/7	Dawn Anfinson, Alexandria	\$35	
1/8	Sue Heinecke, Alexandria	\$20	
1/9	Dennis Tichy, Alexandria	\$20	
1/10	Karen Tvrdik, Alexandria	\$20	
1/11	Randy Heaton, Alexandria	\$20	
1/12	David Hetland, Osakis	\$20	
1/13	Darrel Kalina, Alexandria	\$20	







9473 Co. Rd. 3 NE, Carlos, MN 56319 320-859-2390 <u>stnickbelleriver@gmail.com</u> <u>stnicholasbelleriver.org</u>

306 W. Oak St., PO Box F Osakis, MN 56360 320-859-2390 info@icosakis.org | icosakis.org 420 Irving St., Alexandria, MN 56308 320-763-5781 stmary@stmaryalexandria.org stmaryalexandria.org

PARISH STAFF

Father Matthew Kuhn, Pastor	
Father Rick Aubol, Parochial Vicar	
Todd Wentworth, Business Administrator	
Tony Pasko, Deacon (retired)	thadeac@aol.com

Youth Ministries, Grades 1–12 Ginger Schroeder 612-616-7619 gingerannschroeder@gmail.com

Parish Office Sharon Marthaler, 320-859-2390 strickbelleriver@gmail.com

Parish Trustees
Dennis Hillmer320-766-8505
Dwayne Waldorf320-219-0409

Family Formation, Grades K–6 Terri Anderson, 320-760-9119 Carrie Drevlow, 320-491-7676 familyformation@icosakis.org

Faith Formation, Grades 7-11 Sharon Marthaler, 320-859-2390 faithformation7-11@icosakis.org

Parish Office Sharon Marthaler, 320-859-2390 office@icosakis.org

Parish Trustees
Bruce Pederson320-491-7835
Dana Hetland320-760-8361

Parish Office

Janell Eddy320-763-5781

Music Coordinator

Erin Takle......320-460-5337

Director of Liturgy & Music

Luke VanOverbeke.....320-460-5339

Communications Coordinator

Kathy Ballou.....320-460-5336

St. Mary's School Principal

Troy Sladek......320-460-5327

Faith Formation Office.....320-763-9202

Youth Ministries, Grades 1–8

Laurie Bienias320-460-5325

Youth Ministries, Grades 9−12

Tammy Huss......320-460-5324

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Patty Marriott.....320-762-2320

Parish Trustees

Mark Maloney......320-491-9165 Francie Peterson......320-360-0325

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FO	R JAN. 7
Envelope	\$2,590
Electronic	696
Other	250
TOTAL	\$3,536

WEEKLY BUDGET PROGRESS		
Actual	\$3,536	
Budget	2,510	
Variance	\$1,026	

YTD BUDGET PROGRESS	
Actual	\$79,600
Budget	65,260
Variance	\$14,340

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR JAN. 7		
Envelope	\$3,415	
Electronic	1,030	
Other	403	
TOTAL	\$4,848	

WEEKLY BUDGET PROGRESS		
Actual	\$4,848	
Budget	4,050	
Variance	\$798	

YTD BUDGET PROGRESS		
Actual	\$122,595	
Budget	113,400	
Variance	\$9,195	

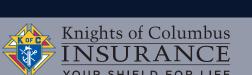
WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR JAN. 7		
Envelope	\$48,518	
Electronic	14,325	
Other	1,968	
TOTAL	\$64,811	

WEEKLY BUDGET PROGRESS	
Actual	\$64,811
Budget	38,496
Variance	\$26,315

YTD BUDGET PROGRESS	
Actual	\$1,083,939
Budget	1,077,888
Variance	\$6,051

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