

St. Nicholas, Belle River

Immaculate Conception, Osakis

The Church of St. Mary, Alexandria

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time | JANUARY 28, 2024

Luke's Latest Liturgics

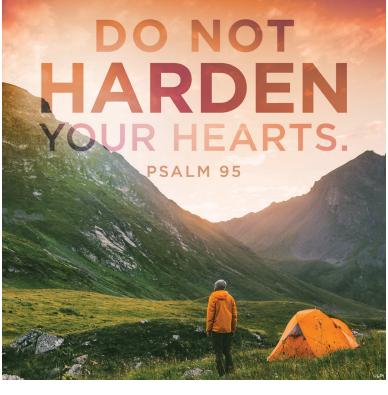
Lent and Easter are not far off! Ash Wednesday falls

on Valentine's Day this year, and then Easter Sunday falls on Sunday, March 31. Staff in the office are already getting busy preparing for the various happenings during Lent. We are very excited to announce that ValLimar Jansen is returning for our Lenten mission, taking place March 15-18! The bulletin has more information on her coming. This Lent, we are also hosting and praying the Stations of the Cross each Friday

in the Great Hall at 5:15 pm There are sign-up sheets being put out this weekend if you are interested in helping to lead them either as a reader or cross bearer. A few activities to look forward to this year as we continue in this season of "cabin fever."

A few of our ministries could still use some more volunteers, especially our AV booth, hospitality teams, and Eucharistic minister teams. Please reach out to me to see how you can become more involved. Did you know we have about 360 people between all our

current liturgical and music ministries? Let's keep it growing!



Did you also know that St. Mary's has a Liturgy Committee that meets monthly? We typically meet the second Thursday of each month from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Parish Office. The Liturgy Committee advises and helps steer the course of our liturgies. What do we do well? What don't we do well? We make room at each gathering to address parishioner concerns regarding our liturgies, so if you are ever interested in speaking directly with

the Liturgy Committee, please reach out to me.

Peace be yours in this season of Ordinary Time.

~Luke VanOverbeke Director of Liturgy & Music

Mass Schedules and Intentions



9473 County Road 3 NE, Carlos, MN 56319

1/31	Wednesday	8:30 am
2/3	Saturday	9 am
2/4	Sunday	8:30 am



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

1/30	Tuesday	10 am	at Galeon
2/1	Thursday	9 am	tt Tom & Donna Hegstad
2/2	Friday	8 am	tt Ronald & Sandra Boys
2/3	Saturday	4 pm	†† Mervin & Velma Eischens
2/4	Sunday	10:30 am	For the People of our Parishes



420 Irving Street, Alexandria, MN 56308

1/29	Monday	5:30 pm	† John Tokarz
1/30	Tuesday	8:30 am	† Dennis Flick
1/31	Wednesday	8:30 am	† Pat Pederson
2/1	Thursday	1:30 pm 5:30 pm	at Knute Nelson † Julie Hovel
2/2	Friday	8:30 am	Deceased Members of KC Council #4718
2/3	Saturday	5 pm	For the People of our Parishes
2/4	Sunday	8 am 10 am	† Pat Roers † 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 stmaryalexandria.org.

FAITH STUDY

Please join us in Osakis for a faith study on the Eucharist. Tuesday nights at 7 pm at St. Agnes School. This study will continue through Lent. Come any time you can!

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.

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Come to the organizational meeting and sign up to join on Sunday, January 28, at St. Mary's after the 10 am Mass.

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.

FIRST FRIDAY & FIRST SATURDAY MASSES

First Friday Mass is scheduled for February 2 at 8 am at Immaculate Conception. First Saturday Mass is scheduled for February 3 at 9 am at St. Nicholas. Adoration and confession will follow Masses

MISSION QUILTING

The Mission Quilting Group will meet Monday, January 29, 12:30-3:30 pm in St. Mary's Great Hall. No sewing skills needed; if you can tie a knot, we need you. Questions, call Joyce 320-219-0055 or Gwen 218-791-3768.

ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council is hosting a new member ceremony on Sunday, February 4, 11:15 am (after the 10 am Mass) in the St. Mary's School gym. All practicing Catholic men 18 years or older are invited to join. Spouses and families are welcome to attend and witness the ceremonial event. We will conclude with lunch around noon. Any questions, contact Jim Kokett 320-460-0943, Randy Kinney 320-760-5727, or any current member.

ST. ANN SODALITY

Calling ALL St. Nicholas women to attend our St. Ann Sodality meeting Thursday, February 8. Coffee/hot chocolate social at 6:30 pm with meeting starting at 7 pm.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION USHER TRAINING

Usher training is scheduled after the 4 pm Saturday Mass and after the 10:30 am Sunday Mass, February 10/11 at Immaculate Conception. Please try to attend as there will be review of use of the new AED (defibrillator) device.

FESTIVAL OF FAMILIES

This is your last chance to register for this family event! Register at stcdio.org/event/festival-of-families/ for only \$20 per family. The day includes a free carnival, family games, lunch, parent-childrenteen sessions, Mass with Bishop Neary and more!

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday is February 14 St. Mary's - 8:30 am & 5:30 pm Immaculate Conception - 5 pm St. Nicholas - 7 pm

MISSION TRIP TO GUATEMALA

A St. Mary's-Guatemala Community Partnership Mission Trip is being planned for June 2024. This is a great opportunity and highly recommended by past Mission travelers! For more info, contact Joe Roers, 320-808-7183 or sanlucasmission.org.

SYMPATHY

t We offer our sympathy and promise of prayers to the family and friends of Charlene Berglin and Eldora Finnegan.



Announcements

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

HEALING QUILTS

The Ladies of the Quilt of St. Nicholas parish have made quilts since 2008 for those being baptized and confirmed. In 2018, the quilters added a new project - making Healing Quilts for seriously ill people, 20 to date. Even though the recipients' names are anonymous, many prayers and good wishes are embedded in each quilt. Contact Connie Thesing at 320-815-3168 for further information.

VALLIMAR JANSEN IS COMING BACK!

Join us for a Lenten Mission at St. Mary's March 16 - 18, 6:30 -8:00 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!

PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE

- regarding marketing for the National Eucharistic Congress, a Council member suggested pulpit talks/ministry momentsthese will happen in the next two weeks at all parishes. It is open to other churches in our diocese.
- Lenten Fish Fry is in planning stages, stay tuned for dates to volunteer and also come enjoy a delicious meal with our ACC church community.
- New council member elections scheduled for April for all three parishes.
 Watch for specific dates.
 Please prayerfully consider serving for your church.
- Our ACC will have the opportunity to present to the Bishop in February.
 A committee has been selected with staff and parishioners from all three

- parishes. The council discussed things that could be highlighted in this meeting with the Bishop.
- Discussion was held regarding Mass times during the winter months.

CARING & SHARING ROOM 2023 REPORT

The Caring & Sharing Room provides used furniture and household items in good condition to needy families in Douglas County, through referrals from approved community service and crisis agencies. In 2023: 149 households were served; 392 people made donations: 1.291 furniture and household items were donated; 78,535 pounds of furniture were kept from the landfill; \$73, 265 worth of household furnishings were shared. Thank you to St. Mary's parishioners, Brian & MaryAnn Langager, for leading this ministry!

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 29, 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

Saint John Paul II once said, "The whole of the Christian life is a pilgrimage to the heart of the Father". This pilgrimage is shaped in many ways by our parents, and in a particular way by our fathers in this life. It is crucial to recognize that God Himself, who is Father, desires to fill the gaps in our hearts. "My father's Father" with Fr. Dave Pivonka will be our next study beginning in March. This devoted focus on the Fatherhood of God will aim to bring about a deeper appreciation of the Sonship of Jesus, His obedience to the Father, and the Father's Love of the Son. Plan to join us on either Wednesday or Saturday mornings. Contact Lori for more info at 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 rjcraigmile@gmail.com.



Faith Formation

YOUTH

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Faith Formation for grades 7-11 will meet Wednesday, January 31, 7-8:30 pm.

ST. NICHOLAS

Teaching Mass on Wednesday, January 31, at 6:45 pm with a meal at 6 pm.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TUBING

All ACC students in grades 6-8 are invited for tubing at Andes Tower Hills on Sunday, February 25, 4-6 pm. This is a free event, but please bring snacks or money



to purchase snacks. Parents need to provide transportation. Scan the QR code to register so we know how many students will be there.

CASTAWAY 2024 RETREAT FOR GRADES 9-12

Friday-Sunday, March 22-24 at Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes. To register, scan the QR code. For more info, call the Faith Formation Office at 320-763-9202.

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2024

St. Mary's School – "Faith. Excellence. Service"

Monday, January 29

- Western/Flannel Dress Day
- Donut Frosting Bar
- 6th Grade vs Staff Dodgeball Match
- Squishmallow Collaborative Drawing Project - directed by 6th Grade
- Medallion Hunt

Tuesday, January 30

- Hat and Crazy Socks Day
- Mass 8:30 am
- CSW Craft facilitated by 6th Grade
- No Homework Assigned
- Medallion Hunt

Wednesday, January 31

- Dress Wacky Day
- Carnival hosted by 6th Grade
- Medallion Hunt

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

February 7 — No Morning bus transportation.

St. Mary's will start at our regular time of 8:15 am.

Thursday, February 1

- Pajama and Slippers Day
- Movie at Cinema 9
- All-School Bingo
- Medallion Hunt

Friday, February 2

- Andes Ski Trip for Grades 3-6
- Shenanigans Trip for Grades K-2
- Medallion Hunt

ST. MARY'S CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

1/21	Alycia Athey, Donnelly	\$35
1/22	Kim Walsh, Alexandria	\$20
1/23	David Sellnow, Alexandria	\$20
1/24	Paul Warzecha, Elk River	\$20
1/25	Bonita Gorghuber, Garfield	\$20
1/26	Steve Thompson, Alexandria	\$20
1/27	Charity Mix, Hoffman	\$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	320-460-5332, emergencies 320-815-1230
Todd Wentworth, Business Administrator	320-460-5333
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 FOR JAN. 21		
Envelope	\$1,435	
Electronic	171	
Other	331	
TOTAL	\$1,937	

WEEKLY BUDGET PROGRESS		
Actual	\$1,937	
Budget	2,510	
Variance	(\$573)	

YTD BUDGET PROGRESS		
Actual	\$83,383	
Budget	70,280	
Variance	\$13,103	

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR JAN. 21		
Envelope	\$1,665	
Electronic	266	
Other	855	
TOTAL	\$2,786	

WEEKLY BUDGET PROGRESS		
Actual	\$2,786	
Budget	4,050	
Variance	(\$1,264)	

YTD BUDGET PROGRESS		
Actual	\$128,261	
Budget	121,500	
Variance	\$6,761	

WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR JAN. 21		
Envelope	\$18,065	
Electronic	6,351	
Other	2,167	
TOTAL	\$26,583	

WEEKLY BUDGE	T PROGRESS
Actual	\$26,583
Budget	38,496
Variance	(\$11,913)

YTD BUDGET	PROGRESS
Actual	\$1,141,546
Budget	1,154,880
Variance	(\$13,334)

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