

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
 4:00 PM Katie Goihl +
 8:00 PM Tony Tentis +

Tuesday, December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
 9:00 AM Families of St. Mary's & St. Patrick's

Wednesday, December 26
 9:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Thursday, December 27
 9:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Friday, December 28 NURSING HOME
 10:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Saturday, December 29
 5:00 PM Virginia Feehan +

Sunday, December 30
 10:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary's & St. Patrick's

Monday, December 31 SOLEMNITY OF MARY
 5:00 PM Tony Tentis +
 9:00 AM @ ST. PATRICK'S

CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL ROLES.....Monday, December 24 - 4PM CHRISTMAS EVE

Lector: Cadie Wolf

E.M.: Nancy Denzer, Andrew Denzer, Eileen Glander,
Michelle Sitta, Beth Wolf, Linda Harvey, Dorothy Arendt

Servers: Lucy & Ella Weist

Gift Bearers: Children

Ushers: Brian Schreiber, Steve, Warren, Calvin, &
Truman Stolz, Tom & Jo Boe

Greeters: Jerry & Marilyn Pfeilsticker

Monday, December 24 - 8PM

Lector: Ed Bauman

E.M.: Cindy Gosse, Barb Kobs, Ed Bauman, Carol & Lowell
Holmgren, Shawn Sweeney

Servers: Monica Pavelka, Shelby Berkold

Gift Bearers: Tom & Wendy Hailey

Ushers/Greeters: Pat & Melissa Haeska, John, Kelly &
Garten HaeskaTuesday, December 25 - 9AM

Lector: Missy Kluesner

E.M.: Jim Fitzpatrick, Dorothy Arendt, Robbie Benedict,
Anne Beckman

Servers: 2 Volunteers

Gift Bearers: Elmer & Mary Evers

Ushers/Greeters: Lynn & Valerie Cunningham, Bob &
Marty WengerGIFT BEARERS' SCHEDULEJanuary 6 & 7

5:00 PM TBD

10:00 AM TBD

PARISH SUPPORT DECEMBER 16, 2018

ADULT CHURCH SUPPORT \$3,534.00
 OFFERTORY 269.00
 MEMORIAL 16,468.68
 VIGIL CANDLES 41.51
 CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 280.00
 RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT 1,105.00
 BULLETIN AD 225.00
 HALL RENTAL 50.00

BUILDING FUND
 DONUT SUNDAY 164.00
 CATHOLIC MUTUAL-INSURANCE
 \$45,740.00

DECEMBER DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR
CHURCH SUPPORT (41 Families) \$3,764.00DECEMBER DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR
BLDG. FUND (11 Families) \$614.00ST. MARY'S CHOIR CONCERT...

"Behold A Savior - Songs and Stories of
 His Birth!" Sunday, December 23rd at
 4PM...everyone is invited! Recital will also
 include the Christmas in Heaven Remem-

brance, a Silent Night anniversary tribute, beautiful reflections,
 solos and lots of JOY!

Invite a stranger & make a friend...His love is for ALL.

LITURGICAL ROLESSaturday, December 29

Lector: Julie Heise

E.M.: Jerry Dunbar, Eileen Glander, Cindy Gosse, Robbie
Benedict

Servers: Logan Norlund & Corbin Wagner

Gift Bearers: Lavern & Judy Szyszka

Ushers/Greeters: Lynn & Valerie Cunningham, Paul &
Julee SchmidtSunday, December 30

Lector: Jodi Hogan

E.M.: Michelle Sitta, Beth Wolf, Becca Weist, Rick Panther,
Larry Foster, Bob Wenger, Nancy Denzer

Servers: Monica Pavelka, Kylie Mann

Gift Bearers: Bob & Marty Wenger

Ushers/Greeters: Jon Harvey, Renae Harvy & Eric Harvey,
Robert Schuster

Could God be calling you to be a priest, brother or sister in order
 to help our world of today to truly "prepare the way of the
 Lord"? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or
 deacon, contact Father Jason Kern after Mass or by email at:
 jkern@dowr.org



As you are busy wrapping or on the receiving
 end of the gift giving season we hope you will
 help recycle your Christmas boxes for a com-
 munity event in 2019. Please plan to save your
 shirt boxes (small, medium, large or extra
 large) in good condition. There will be a collection box in the
 gathering space starting December 20th. Thank you in advance!
 Recycle, Reuse, Revisit!

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

What a gift these holy days of Advent have been. I am so grate-
 ful to have been able to spend them with the communities of St.
 Mary of the Lake and St. Patrick. I am excited for Christmas and
 New Years. May the Lord pour out the blessing of His Peace
 into our hearts and homes in these days. Come, Lord Jesus!

The plan for our transition is as follows: I will be here for the
 Christmas Masses, the weekend of December 29/30, and the
 New Years eve/day Masses as we celebrate Mary, Mother of
 God. The Mass on New Year's day morning will be my final
 Mass with the parishes as the Parochial Administrator. Fr. Don
 Schmitz and Fr. Jim Russell will cover the weekend of January
 5/6 and then Fr. Wilmot will arrive as your Pastor on January
 7th. Blessed be God! Thank you for your patience and kindness
 to me as I have juggled things in these past couple months. May
 God continue to lead and direct the mission and vision of these
 parishes. One final note, I invited Monsignor Tom Hargesheimer
 to be the Celebrant for our Christmas Day Mass so that he would
 have a parish family to celebrate with. He was my pastor in my
 formative junior high and high school years at St. Joseph Church
 in Owatonna and so I thought this might be a good opportunity
 for him to enjoy Christmas with our wonderful parish at the
 Christmas Day Mass at 9AM.

SAVE THE DATE...ST. VALENTINES DINNER.....

**KC's St. Valentines Dinner will be on
 Saturday, February 16th.**

JANUARY 1—Why is it so important? It's the beginning of a
 new year, a time to start fresh, to have a new beginning. Most
 important about January 1 is that it is the Solemnity of Mary, the
 Holy Mother of God, a holy day of obligation. She is the new
 Eve, through her we receive Jesus, who is our life. As we think
 of what new resolutions we will make, consider beginning every
 morning with the "Morning Offering." By offering all to God
 through the intercession of Mary, and uniting all our prayers,
 works, joys and sufferings throughout the day we can grow in
 virtue and conquer our sins. Every prayer is in some way a con-
 forming of our will to God's will. Let's begin the new year by
 honoring our Blessed Mother and going to Mass. Start off your
 morning in prayer. "O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of
 Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this
 day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart in union with the
 Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation
 for my sins, for the intentions of the bishops, all the apostolates
 of prayer and in particular for those recommended by our Holy
 Father. Amen"

Holy Day Mass Times:

Monday, December 31 - St. Mary's, Lake City at 5:00 PM

Tuesday, January 1 - St. Patrick's, West Albany at 9:00 AM

FEAST OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD, DECEMBER 31STLiturgical Roles for St. Mary's

Lector: Kathy Durand

E.M.: Gene Durand, Jerry Dunbar, LaVada
Reckmann, Eileen Glander

Servers: Sydney Leonard, Calah Lewis

Gift Bearers: Steve & Judy Podulke

Ushers/Greeters: Tom & Margaret Haase,
Linda Marx, Ann BraunFAITH FORMATION.....

NO Faith Formation Classed on Wednes-
 day, December 26 & January 2nd.

The third grade students will participate in
 the Mass on Sunday, January 13th.

CHURCH SAFETY COMMITTEE.....

St. Mary of the Lake has formed a church Safety Committee. We
 have already met a few times and have made some progress to-
 ward making St. Mary's a safer place for all parishioners. If you
 would like to join us, our next meeting is January 9th at 6:30 PM
 in the parish conference room. For more information send an
 email to Bill Weist at bgweist@gmail.com.



Our sympathy to the family of Mary Anne Dankers.
 Her funeral Mass will be on Monday, December
 24th, 11:00. Visitation is one hour before the
 service at St. Mary's.

Every Christmas morning, before we were allowed to peel even a
 strip of wrapping paper or pluck a single bow from our presents,
 my parents would commission me or my sister, Emily, to read
 the account of Christ's birth from the Gospel of Luke—*In the
 sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God (1:26).*

We were probably supposed to alternate years. Truth be told, I
 recall volunteering more often than not, happy to bask in the
 modest limelight of the small audience sitting in our living room.

My parents never let us grow out of it, even when I, for one, be-
 gan to display a teen's tendency to be annoyed at what I was
 asked to do. The thing is, reading the sacred page was more than
 a last-minute check against childish materialism or a quaint prac-
 tice to make up for a year of religious neglect; we believed the
 Evangelist's words to be true. I am so grateful now for that little
 cozy tradition.

These four weeks (subject though the last is to the unfeeling dic-
 tates of the calendar) steadily prepare us for the exquisite inti-
 macy of God-with-us that the Incarnation is. And we relive this
 mystery year after year in the liturgy not only to-guard against
 greed or jog our memories of what once was: Advent provides
 special graces to make each of our ordinary human lives—here
 and now, with our limitations and brokenness—the place where
 Jesus dwells. Praise God that is something we never grow out of.

Father Sebastian White, O.P. Reprinted with permission
 The Advent Magnificat Companion.

THE READINGS

Reading I - Micah 5: 1-4a The prophet Micah lived during the
 time when Bethlehem was promised to be the birthplace of the
 Messiah. The people of Bethlehem must have waited anxiously
 for this promise to be fulfilled. They would have to wait another
 seven hundred years for the Messiah to appear.

Reading II - Hebrews 10: 5-10 The celebration of Christ's
 death on the cross is the Eucharist. The old system of sacrifice
 had been announced as displeasing to God. Now, Bethlehem and
 Calvary cannot be separated.

Reading III - John 1:1-18 When joy is shared it is multiplied.
 Mary and Elizabeth both shared the joy of knowing that they
 were to birth children of promise. Their shared joy was appropri-
 ate, especially given the unprecedented significance of their sons.