



Saint Mary Catholic Church
32 1st St. NE
Winnebago, Minnesota



Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church
214 S. Holland
Blue Earth, Minnesota

Pastor: Rev. Peter Klein

Administrative Assistant: Pat Boettcher; Faith Formation & Youth Ministry: Angie Nagel & Pat Salic
Maintenance: Duane Rorman (SS Peter & Paul)

Office: 214 S. Holland, Blue Earth 56013; 507-526-5626 – **Website:** www.sspeterpaulmary.org

Office hours: Mon., 8 a.m. – variable; Tues., 8 am - noon Wed., 9 am – noon, Thurs., 8:00 – Variable.

Sunday, Dec. 10th 2017 Second Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 5:15 p.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Sunday, 8:00 a.m., St. Mary

Sunday, 10:00 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, 8:30 a.m., St. Mary

Wednesday, 7:30 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Thursday, 10:00 a.m., St Luke’s, Blue Earth

Friday, 8:30 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul (1st Friday

Mass is followed by Holy Hour)

Please check page 3 of bulletin for any changes to the schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Sunday, 7:15 – 7:45 a.m., St. Mary

Sacrament of Baptism

Arrangements are made by contacting the pastor in advance of the date.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements for preparation & the date are made by contacting the pastor at least 6 months before.

Pastoral Care of the Elderly/Sick

Please contact the pastor when someone is hospitalized or homebound.

Prayer Network

Anyone wishing to have the prayerful support of our parish community may relay your prayer request to Ruth Kastner (943-3478) or Jeanette Verdoorn (526-2333) to initiate the calling tree.

For prayers requests for St. Mary's, call Mary Franta (893-4326) or Chris Rockers (893-3729).

Faith Formation

We have resources & activities for growth & formation of faith in all members of all ages. For our young people, we have programs & youth ministries coordinated by Angie Nagel at SS. Peter & Paul (526-5626) & Pat Salic at St. Mary (236-2195).

Joining or Returning to the Catholic Church

The rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process for adults to become members of the Catholic Church. For additional information, please contact the pastor.

To rent the Social Hall of SS Peter & Paul

To schedule activities/events, please contact Pat Boettcher(526-5626)

Bulletin notices Contact Pat by Wednesday afternoon at the office (patssp@bevcomm.net) or by phone (526-5626 or 526-3511).

PASTOR'S PARISHABLES

With the new liturgical year, we close St. Matthew's account of the gospel & open Mark's. Having used "cycle A" Scriptures this past year, we now move to "cycle B."

Each cycle has its own Scriptures. (It isn't only the gospel reading that changes from year to year.) As the lectionary's introduction says, "*The Second Vatican Council ... directed that at Mass 'the treasures of the Bible should be opened up more lavishly so that richer fare might be provided for the faithful at the table of God's word. In this way a more representative portion of sacred Scripture will be read to the people over a set cycle of years.'*" And so that's what's happened. Thanks be to God. So look forward to a new menu this year, & dishes different from what we had last year. (There are certain Sundays & feast days, however, that are the same every year by their very nature—Christmas, Easter & Pentecost, for example.)

On this 2nd Sunday in the "Year of Mark," how about a little background, a little introduction? (I found the following ideas in some book I read once—but I can't give credit because I can't remember just which book.)

There's a strange detail about the night of Jesus' agony in the garden & arrest that only one of the evangelists mentioned. It was St. Mark. On that troubling Thursday night, when Jesus was arrested—that day before he was crucified—Jesus' apostles all fled. The crowd that had gathered to take Jesus saw a boy hanging around. They were going to grab him up, but he wiggled away from them & ran off into the night. In fact, they'd grabbed onto his clothing, but he ran right out of his clothes & ran off stark naked as the day he was born. Some people say that boy was *Mark*—& years later when he wrote up the gospel of Christ, he included that little detail as a kind of signature. Maybe it was (not that it matters).

What we do know is that Mark was not an apostle, like Matthew & John were. The gospel of Mark does sound like it was written by somebody in a hurry. It's the shortest. It doesn't have the wonderful sermons that Matthew does—no Sermon on the Mount; it doesn't have the memorable parables that Luke does—there are just 4; it doesn't have a family tree, like Matthew & Luke do. It doesn't have anything about Jesus' birth, like Matthew & Luke do. What it *has* is miracles—lots of 'em. So it's not surprising that he ends his gospel by mentioning miracles ... not *Jesus* performing them, but *us*. Before the ascension, *Matthew* says that Jesus said we should teach all nations. *Mark* says that Jesus said, "*Proclaim the Good News to all creation... signs like these will accompany those who have professed their faith: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents with their hands, & if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, & they will recover.*" (16: 17-18).

These "miracles" that Mark said that Christ said would

accompany the Church's evangelism are meant to encourage Christian missionaries: You have nothing to fear. The message will be confirmed with special signs of God's protection & power. Miracles. At our hands.

When Janan Skaar's family said she wanted the song "Lead, Kindly Light" used at her funeral I was surprised. It's not well known. It's from a poem by Cardinal Newman. We cited it at the Easter Vigil last spring. He wrote it in 1833 as a young man, returning to his native England from Italy after he nearly died of an illness on the way. Let me repeat what I included in an April bulletin:

*Lead, Kindly Light, amidst th'encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on!
The night is dark, and I am far from home,
Lead Thou me on!
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene; one step enough for me.
I was not ever thus, nor prayed that Thou
Shouldst lead me on;
I loved to choose and see my path; but now
Lead Thou me on!
I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,
Pride ruled my will. Remember not past years!
So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still
Will lead me on.
O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
The night is gone,
And with the morn those angel faces smile,
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile!
Meantime, along the narrow rugged path,
Thyself hast trod,
Lead, Saviour, lead me home in childlike faith,
Home to my God.
To rest forever after earthly strife
In the calm light of everlasting life.*

"**Lead, Kindly Light,**" the poem & its sung versions, have long been popular (not only in England):

- It was sung by the sister of Corrie ten Boom & other women as they were led by Nazi guards to Ravensbruck concentration camp during the Holocaust.
 - It was sung by a soloist on the doomed ship *Titanic* during a hymn-singing gathering shortly before it hit an iceberg on April 14, 1912. (The following morning, it was again sung from lifeboats when a rescue ship was spied.)
 - It was sung by British troops to the background sound of nearby artillery fire on the Western Front during the 1st World War at services held before going into the trenches the following day.
 - It was read for solace to Queen Victoria as she lay dying, so that the last words she may have heard on earth were "*So long thy power hath blest me, sure it still/Will lead me on.*"
- Maybe we should learn a version of it.

Mass Schedule – BE=SS Peter & Paul, W=St. Mary's

Mon. NO MASS
Tue. /W 8:30 AM – Living & Deceased Members
of the Rosary Society
/BE 10:00 AM – Catholic Daughters
Wed/BE 7:30AM – Ruth & Dan Driscoll †
Thur. St. Luke's 10:00AM – Larry Trenary †
Fri./BE 8:30AM – Brandon Goodrich †
Sat./BE 5:15PM – Marian Warmka †
Sun./W 8:00AM – Alex Klocek †
Sun./BE 10:00AM – Parents of Tom & Sue Juba †

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE:

Sat., Dec. 16: Servers: Jack Frundt
Seth Stevermer
5:15 PM SSPP
Ministers of Communion: Angie Frundt/Barb Prescher
Bill Hamlin/Andrea Hamlin/Skip Schimek
Gift Bearers: Deanna Cassem
Ushers: Bob Spencer Group

Sun., Dec. 17: Servers: Jack Hardy
8:00 AM St. Mary's
Ministers of Communion: Rich Findley
Joyce Eastvold & Karen Hernandez
Gift Bearers: Pat & Mike Salic Sr.
Ushers: Dick Kortuem & Dick Maday

Sun., Dec. 17: Servers: Anthony Carr
Marie Carr
10:00AM SSPP
Ministers of Communion: Mary Eckhardt/Shirl Maher
Margaret Haag/Rich Schneider/Jenny Armon
Gift Bearers: Roger & Sue Schoenfelder family
Ushers: Shawn Hassing Group

Knight's Corner:

KC Meeting December 12th-Officer meeting 6:30 with meeting to follow
December 31st-5th Sunday Rosary @ St Mary's Church 7:30AM.

The Knights of Columbus would like to say Thank You to the many generous people in our area that may have donated money or volunteered time towards our annual Christmas party for the Developmentally Delayed Adults. With your continuous support we have been able to keep the program going providing a very Merry Christmas to some special people. This year we provided gifts for 41 Guest's and served a meal for 75 Guest's/Family members & Staff.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas--Tues, 12th: 10:00 Mass, Meeting & gifts for Pregnancy Option in the classroom, Lunch at Double Play.

Thank You to all the parishioners for their acts of kindness and words of sympathy regarding the recent passing of Fritz Wolff. We want to extend a special appreciation to Fr. Klein for his words of comfort and to the ladies to the parish for serving the funeral dinner. Family of Fritz Wolff

CCF members please check your phone number in your CCF booklet and if it is not correct, give your circle chair person a call with the correct number. Thank you.

Baby Shower for Jesus: During Advent we will have our annual collection for Options Pregnancy Center in Fairmont. There is a list at the church entrance of special needs (there are extra copies in the folder attached to the cradle if you would like to take one home). **More is needed for baby boys.**

Christmas Eve 10pm Mass: The Guitar group will provide music from 9:30 – 10.

Bible Study at SS Peter & Paul: Featuring Jeff Cavins' video and discussion on wisdom. In this study, we will be examining Biblical wisdom as it relates to daily life drawing on the books of Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach, & Ecclesiastes. We will begin Thursday, Jan 4th at 1pm for 8 sessions. Each will last about 1 hour. There is a personal journal that costs \$19.99. If you are interested in this study, please call the rectory at 526-5626 to register. The purchase of the journal is optional, so please indicate by Dec. 20th if you would like one ordered.

We would appreciate help decorating Saints Peter and Paul Church for Christmas on Monday, December 18 at 9:00 a.m. The first hour requires a lot of bringing decorations up from the basement and down from the choir loft. Come for an hour or stay until the last star is hung. Thanks in advance.

Community Covenant Church of Huntley invites you to a special Christmas Gathering on Sun., Dec. 10. It will begin at 5pm with refreshments. At 5:30 soups, warm bread, and desserts will be served. At 6:30, a musical, "Were You There on That Christmas Night?" will be presented. There is no charge for this evening. It is a gift to the Huntley area and surrounding communities. Any questions, call 525-4949.

FourEver Young annual Christmas Benefit Concert will be on Sun., Dec. 10th at 2pm at the First Baptist Church in Winnebago. This year they will be joined by violinist Mary Flanagan & cellist Mairin Bierer, as well as Sarah Stensland (flute), Bennett Peterson (bass), and Cory Germain (drums). The concert is a benefit for Parker Oaks Auxiliary. Admission is free, but there will be a free will offering. Refreshments will be served.

There are many assorted dishes on the back table in the basement of St. Mary's Church for free to whoever would like them. If you would rather make a donation, that would be accepted as well. Just put a little extra something in the offertory basket on Sunday.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Sacrificial Giving, SS Peter & Paul: Dec. 2 & 3

Adult/Plate giving needed weekly: \$4,220.00
Adult/Plate giving last week: \$3,909.00
Adult/Plate giving needed yr-to-date: \$97,060.00
Adult/Plate giving fiscal yr-to-date: \$85,480.56

Sacrificial Giving, St. Mary: Dec. 3

Adult/Plate giving needed weekly: \$1,135.00
Adult/Plate giving last week: \$883.00
Adult/Plate giving needed yr-to-date: \$26,105.00
Adult/Plate giving fiscal yr-to-date: \$23,609.77

FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Angie Nagel - 526-5626 (office) - 526-3485 (home) - 507-276-5114 (cell), angieyouthministry@bevcomm.net

December Calendar

- 13 Classes for Grades K-10
My Space - 5-5:45PM
- 17 Retreat Team Meeting - 6-8PM
- 20 Classes for Grades K-10
No My Space!
Service Night -- Gr. 6-10
- 22 Practice for Christmas Program - 1:00 - 2:00PM
- 24 Christmas Program - 4PM
Christmas Eve Mass - 4:15PM
Joyful Noise Choir sings for Mass!

Retreat Team looking for new members!

All Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors are invited to be a part of our parish Retreat Team. We travel to other parishes within our Diocese and lead retreats for youth in Grades 7-10. If you are interested in learning more about this important ministry, please come to a gathering on Dec. 17th from 6-8PM in the Social Hall. Call Angie if you have any questions!

Do you have a project that needs to be done?

Could you or someone you know use the help of our parish youth with a home or business project? We are looking for opportunities for youth to be of service on **Wednesday, December 20th from 6:00-8:00PM**. Instead of classes, our youth in Grades 6-10 will go out into the community and give the gift of their helping hands this Advent season. If you could use some help with something or have an idea of a project our young people could do, please give me a call (526-5626).

Grades 6-10 Schedule for December!

December 13th:

5-5:45PM My Space
6-7:30 "Catholic and Lutherans: Celebrating Our Gifts" presentation at Trinity Lutheran Church by Fr. Klein and Pastor Jeanette Bidney
* Parents are welcome to join us!

December 20th:

NO MY SPACE!

5:30-6:15PM Appetizers in the Social Hall
6:15-8:00 Service Projects

Parents are needed to bring appetizers and sweets!

Please let me know if you can help. Thank you!

Christmas Eve Children's Program Sunday, December 24th -- 4PM in Church

There are parts for all children and youth, Preschool through Grade 12

Preschool -- Bell Ringers

Grades K-3 -- Singers

Grades 4-6 -- Speaking Parts & Singers

Grades 6-12 -- Choir for Mass, Greeters, Help with Children's Program

Christmas Program Practice

All children & youth who will be involved in the program need to attend the practice on Friday, Feb. 22nd from 1:00 - 2:00PM.

Christmas Program

All children and youth need