



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. 31st 2017 Feast of The Holy Family

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

Thank you so much for all your kind greetings & gifts in this Christmas season. And thanks especially to my closest collaborators, Pat Boettcher, Angie Nagel, & Duane Rorman, helping serve these parishes. They're not only competent & zealous in their service, they're also good to be with. And thanks also to so many of you involved in parish life in so many ways. Not only on special occasions but especially at festival times like Christmas your gift of music & song, your special efforts preparing our churches, your scheduling of liturgical ministers, your work with our children—and on & on—make our holydays all the more grace-full & fruitful.

Speaking of music: I hope you appreciated as much as I did the special efforts of musicians in both parishes preparing Christmas music. How important this is in lifting our spirits & engaging us in the spirit of the liturgy. I'm personally grateful for those who prepared the song "A Stable Lamp is Lighted." Hearing it sung was so much better than me simply reading it. We may have to reprise that song come holy week next spring, for the same reason we used it at Christmas: because what was true at the end is true at the beginning; because the nativity, the palms, & the passion are all part of one story. It would be especially fitting because "A Stable Lamp" repeats a line from Palm Sunday "And every stone shall cry,"

Still speaking of music: I understand that a couple of magicians at St. Mary's are preparing for Epiphany Sunday a Christmas-season song. So I had to find the text of course & of course want you to see it so we can all appreciate the song all the more when we hear it:

"Messiah" by Francesca Battistelli

Long awaited, precious promise,
Son of God & Son of Man
Heaven's glory, in a manger has come to us in Bethlehem.
Messiah, Messiah, a baby born to save us all
Messiah, Messiah, on our knees we fall
All we longed for, all we needed, shining in a child's eyes
Hope forever, death defeated because of this one holy night
Messiah, Messiah, a baby born to save us all
Messiah, Messiah, on our knees we fall
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord
Long awaited, precious promise, coming back again
Messiah, Messiah, a baby born to save us all
Messiah, Messiah, on our knees we fall
On our knees we fall

Five feasts: Christmas; Holy Family; the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God; & Epiphany. Each year we recall the whole Christmas story through 5 holydays that come one after another, on the 25th, on the Sunday within the

octave, on the octave day (January 1st) & on the Sunday after the octave day.

Holy Family: The ordinariness of it all. Imagine: God takes up residence in a human family. At the same time, we are reminded that there is holiness in the ordinary. A blessing for families is in order. The following prayer & blessing are taken from the *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*, a book intended primarily for use in the home: *In good times & in bad, in sickness & in health, we belong to each other as we belong to you, God ever faithful.*

*By morning & by night may your name be on our lips, a blessing to all our days:
so may kindness & patience be ever among us, a hunger for justice & songs of thankfulness in all we do.
May the Lord Jesus,
who lived with his holy family in Nazareth,
dwell also with our family, keep it from all evil,
& make all of us one in heart & mind. Amen.*

And how about a ponderable for today's feast of the Holy Family: "*The family, the greatest workshop of love, is the first school..., a lasting school where all are taught to love with the incisive power of daily experience. May every family truly rediscover its own vocation to love*" (Pope John Paul II, 1994).

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: We will not be offering a Mass for this Jan. 1st holyday. Scheduling has been difficult with Christmas & its octave feast both falling on Monday this year. It's doubly difficult because of competition with New Year's eve/day. On our Catholic calendar, there are 5 holydays of obligation in the U.S.:

1. Mary, Mother God, January 1
2. Assumption, August 15
3. All Saints, November 1
4. Immaculate Conception of Mary, December 8
5. Christmas, December 25

There has been some confusion because sometimes the 1st 3 on the above list are not obligatory: In 1991, the U.S. Council of Catholic Bishops decided that whenever Jan. 1, Aug. 15 or Nov. 1 falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, the obligation to attend mass is waived. That doesn't mean I never schedule Mass anyway for Jan. 1, Aug. 15 or Nov. 1, of course; **however**, when it's Jan. 1 & it falls on a Monday, after the rigors of last Sunday/Monday, I am not scheduling a Mass for the holy day of the Octave of Christmas, also known as Mary, Mother of God.

Did you notice & recognize 8 familiar faces on the front page of December's *Courier*?? All the caption said was "Youth from the Diocese of Winona represent their diocese with a banner at the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis." (We know where they're from & we know their names.)

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

Mon. No Mass
Tue. /W 8:30 AM - **NO MASS**
Wed/BE 7:30AM - Loretta Wirkus †
Thur. St. Luke's 10:00AM - Gene Mikolai †
Fri./BE 8:30AM - Harry Lamson †
Sat./BE 5:15PM - Kris Cassem †
Sun./W 8:00AM - Marcella Johnson †
Sun./BE 10:00AM - Fritz Wolff †

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE:

Sat., Jan. 6: Servers: Jack Frundt
5:15 PM SSPP Joey Frundt
Ministers of Communion: Mary Warner/Steve Geerdes
Barb Prescher/Gary Armon/Becky Spencer
Gift Bearers: Gary & Marsha Engler Family
Ushers: Loren Prescher Group

Sun., Jan. 7: Servers: Clara Ziegler
8:00 AM St. Mary's
Ministers of Communion: Gerald Scovill
Rich Findley & Joyce Eastvold
Gift Bearers: Mark & Chris Rockers
Ushers: Doug Klocek & Rick Mauris

Sun., Jan. 7: Servers: Logan Johnson
10:00AM SSPP Zach Kramer
Ministers of Communion: Shirl Maher/Pam Armon
Shawn Hassing/Arlen O'Brien/Rich Schneider
Gift Bearers: Kathy Lowery
Ushers: Shawn Hassing Group

Knight's Corner:

Jan. 9th-KC Officers meeting 6:30 pm with regular meeting 7pm.
Jan. 20th-KC Steak Fry at American Legion 5 to 7:30pm.
Jan. 28th-Pro-Life Breakfast @ St Peter & Paul Church
Jan. 28th-3pm Bishop Quinn Annual Prayer Service for Life @ St Peter & Paul.

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. If you are interested in this study, please call the rectory at 526-5626 to register.

Widowed, Divorced or Permanently Separated

Beginning Experience of Rochester is an International Ministry offering a program called "Coping with Life Alone" to help participants move through the experience of grief and loss into a future with hope renewed. "Coping with Life Alone" is a ten session class meets weekly beginning on Monday, January 29, 2018 from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm at Bethel Lutheran Church, 810 3rd Ave SE, Rochester, MN 55904. Contact Beginning Experience Rochester by calling [507-261-8248](tel:507-261-8248) or emailing beminnnesota@gmail.com or visit www.beminnnesota.org to start an amazing healing process for yourself or to encourage someone you love to step beyond grief and pain.

Winnebago Blood Mobile will be on Tuesday, January 2nd from 12-6 PM at the Municipal Center.

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. 23 & 24
Adult/Plate giving needed weekly: \$4,220.00
Adult/Plate giving last week: \$18,657.51
Adult/Plate giving needed yr-to-date: \$109,720.00
Adult/Plate giving fiscal yr-to-date: \$119,474.24
Christmas Collection \$4,400.00

Sacrificial Giving, St. Mary: Dec. 24
Adult/Plate giving needed weekly: \$1,135.00
Adult/Plate giving last week: \$1,778.00
Adult/Plate giving needed yr-to-date: \$29,510.00
Adult/Plate giving fiscal yr-to-date: \$30,400.40
Christmas Collection \$1,262.00

FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

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

January Calendar

- 3 Classes for Grades K-10
First Reconciliation Faith Sharing Centers, 4:30-7PM
6-7 Camp Omega Retreat!
10 Classes for Grades K-10
13 First Reconciliation -- 10AM, Church
14 Joyful Noise choir sings for 10AM Mass
Coffee & Donuts hosted by Gr. 7 & 8
Ski Trip #1 to Mount Kato!!
17 Classes for Grades K-10
24 Classes for Grades K-10
Confirmation Faith Sharing Centers, 4:30-7:30PM
25 FF/YM Board Meeting, 5:30PM
31 Classes for Grades K-10

Ski Trip #1 to Mount Kato

Who: Youth in Grades 6-12
When: Sunday, January 14th
Rates: Lift Ticket (\$21) and Rental (\$19)
Details: We will leave Blue Earth at 11:30AM, eat lunch at the River Hills Mall, then head to Mount Kato for skiing from 2-7PM.
Registration forms will be handed out in Faith Formation classes and are due back on Wednesday, Jan. 10th.
Parents are needed to drive and to chaperone this ski trip. You also get to ski FREE! Please let me know if you are available to help.

Retreat Team looking for new members!

All Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors and Graduates 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 being a part of the team, please call or text me right away.

First Reconciliation Faith Sharing Centers

Who: Parents and children in Grade 2
When: Wednesday, January 3rd
Details: The centers will be set up from 4:30-7:00PM in the Social Hall and take about an hour or so to complete.
Beverages and snacks will be served.