

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH celebrates CHRISTMAS

Feast of the
Holy Family
30 December 2018

THIS WEEK

MONDAY 31 DEC

- 8 AM - Mass, St. Stephen / 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96: 1-2, 11-13/Jn 1:1-18
Parish offices close at noon

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

- 6 PM MONDAY 31 DEC - Mass
- 8:15 AM TUESDAY 1 JAN - Mass

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- 8:15 AM - Mass (see above)
- Parish offices closed
- 4:30 PM - Salvation Army Meal Ministry

WEDNESDAY 2 JAN / 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 1:19-28

- 8:15 AM - Mass, (+ David Kruzitski)
- 3 PM - Building Committee Mtg., Ellis Construction

THURSDAY 3 JAN / 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3-6/Jn 1:29-34

- 8:15 AM - Mass (+ Frances & Ed Jurgella)
- 9 AM-3:30 PM - Eucharistic Adoration - 3 PM - Divine Mercy Chaplet

FRIDAY 4 JAN / 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-9/Jn 1:35-42

- 8:15 AM - Mass (+ Darlene Okray)

SATURDAY 5 JAN / 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-5/Jn 1:43-51

- 9 AM - Reconciliation
- 11 AM - Funeral Mass for Irene Kenowski

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

5/6 JAN

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

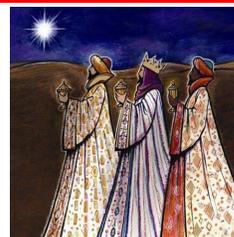
- 5 PM Saturday (+ Conrad Shuda)
- 8 AM Sunday (+ PCCW) - 7:30 - Rosary
- 10 AM Sunday (+ Lee Yenter)
- 6 PM Sunday (for the parish)

CHRISTMAS QUARTER BEGINS!

Join us at Holy Spirit Parish for some quick and fun parish formation that's simply connected to events already happening like Mass, Breakfast Café, and the feast of the day!

This Sunday: Feast of the Holy Family

Following 6pm Mass there's a Family Game Night in Kostka Hall. Bring your favorite board game, cards, dominoes or whatever to share AND we'll take/eat any snacky leftovers you have from Christmas that you don't want in your house anymore! Open to everyone — all ages and wisdoms! There are lots of different kinds of family! Creative fun, Holy Family Trivia, fantastic and amazing prizes!



NEXT WEEK A Breakfast and Party that's Worthy of Kings

The Spirit Breakfast Café will be open from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 6th, in Kostka Hall. Serving egg bake, French toast, scrambled eggs, Fair Trade coffee, donuts & more. Only \$6. Also on sale - **Fair Trade** coffee, tea, chocolate and other products and the **Diocesan History Book**. Join in the **Epiphany Party** as well. Learn some quick facts about the feast we celebrate and have some great fun!

Gathering REVERSE-Giving Gifts

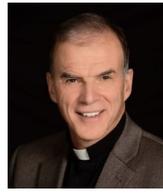
Items collected from the Advent-Christmas **REVERSE-Giving** Calendar will be collected as we celebrate the Epiphany - a day on which we celebrate giving gifts.

If you are able, please take your boxes and bags of items to Kostka Hall, where there will be tables specified for gathering donations. Remember, there is an elevator at the northwest entrance if that is helpful. If you are not able to take your donations downstairs, leave them in an entranceway, and we will have someone to carry them down for you.



Dear People of Holy Spirit Parish:

“Jesus went down with Mary and Joseph and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them... and Jesus grew in wisdom and age...”



“Jesus grew... in wisdom and age.” Growth is part of the mystery of Christmas and of life! To say Jesus “grew in wisdom” draws us quickly into the question of how Christ could be fully God and fully human. Evidently whatever being perfect is, includes growth. Wouldn't life be so much less if there was no growth, but instead everyone was somehow fixed in who and what they were? Does not the wonder of a seed becoming a flower, a caterpillar a butterfly, an infant a grown man or woman... give rise to even greater praise to the God who makes things grow?

So, if your Christmas celebration was in some way incomplete, or imperfect... praise the God who prefers to make things that grow! And, in having a God who loves to see us grow, maybe we can relax and enjoy the struggle and uncertainty of our own lives and those of our family members. This Feast of the Holy Family is an encouragement to us all to be families where people are allowed to grow.

My first six months at Holy Spirit parish have had all the effort and excitement of... of... of child birth! The conceiving of a new ministry center alongside our Church, the restoration of our ministry committees, the development of a budgeting process that allows parish members to exercise their rightful leadership, the launching of our work on Intentional Discipleship, the meeting of so many new people eager to become involved... all feels like something is being born here! I am filled with joyful anticipation over what we'll grow into in the coming years. I share a few signs of that growth that will appear in January.

Zach, our Campus Minister, and I will be going to Indianapolis January 3rd through the 7th with nine college students to attend a FOCUS retreat with students, campus ministers and priests from around the country. We go not only to learn what is happening in other campus ministry programs, but to also have the wonderful gifts and talents of our own students affirmed and set loose. It has been a wonderful first semester of campus ministry for both Zach and I, but I sense there are dreams and hopes stirring in the hearts of our students that will make coming semesters even more exciting.

I am very happy to announce that we will celebrate Christian Unity Week with a pulpit exchange in 2019. On January 20th I will preach at Trinity Lutheran Church, and on February 10th Pastor Clay Schmidt will preach at Holy Spirit. The details are still being worked out. But initial conversations with Pastor Clay and other area pastors make me believe the working for Christian Unity is a growing concern in Stevens Point!

At the center of all of our growth and change lies our strategic planning process. On January 17th both of our Councils and all of our new committees will gather to share proposed Vision Statements for their ministry areas. I am praying that hearing the dreams in one another's hearts for what Holy Spirit Parish can become will affirm and set loose the courage and strength in all present to bring those dreams to birth. The Pastoral Council will gather those Vision Statements and prepare them for presentation to our whole parish during Lent. Begin praying that what are now dreams in our hearts will take flesh and grow steadily in the coming years.

And praise with me the God who would go down to Nazareth, be obedient to Mary and Joseph... and grow in wisdom and age!

Fr. Steven J. Brice

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

Disciples called to worship, sent to serve.

www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org

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BUILDING UPON A FIRM FOUNDATION

Chairs: **Jack Bennett, Jack Bierman**

Joining Our Parish: Fr. Steve would be glad to talk with you about parish membership. Send him an email at frsteve@holyspiritstevenspoint.org or call him at 344-9117 to make an appointment.

Celebrating Baptism: Baptism is celebrated at Lord's Day Mass at various times of the liturgical year. If you want to raise your child in the Catholic faith and celebrate your child's baptism, please call Fr. Steve for more information. Parents celebrating the baptism of their first child are asked to complete a baptism orientation seminar.

Caring for the Sick: If you or a loved one are seriously ill, homebound or anticipating surgery, please call Fr. Steve to schedule a visit and/or the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

Campus Ministry: Point Catholic is the name of Holy Spirit's outreach to college students attending UW-Stevens Point and Mid-State Technical College. You can learn more about campus ministry at our web site.

Facebook: Like us at *Holy Spirit Parish and Point Catholic*. Joining Facebook is easy. Go to www.facebook.com.

Transitions of Grace

Eternal Life: We acknowledge the passing of *Irene Kenowski*. Her funeral will be celebrated on Saturday, Jan. 5th at 11 a.m. May she rest in peace.

Wedding Anniversaries: These couples of the parish are celebrating significant milestones of marriage during January:

- Greg and Ruth Kulas, 59 years, Jan. 2nd
- Stephen and Marilyn Murphy, 69 years, Jan. 11th
- Eugene and Delores Weir, 67 years, Jan 14th
- Jim and Madeleine Haine, 53 years, Jan. 22nd
- David and Karen Zoromski, 55 years, Jan. 25th
- Jim and Noni Clark, 59 years, Jan. 25th
- Robert and Bernadine Domaszek, 62 years, Jan. 26th
- John and Elsie Glodowski, 59 years, Jan. 30th

Monday Mass Changing Location

The Monday Morning Mass moves to St. Joseph Parish at 8 a.m. on January 7th. The city parishes participate in a rotation of the Monday Mass, with each of the four parishes hosting it on a quarterly basis, and with Fr. Todd Mlsna, our shared associate pastor, presiding.



GIVEN, is a one-day retreat, offered through the Diocese of La Crosse. This retreat fosters a deeper understanding of Marriage. It includes inspiring talks, energizing music and meaningful conversation. There are 3 opportunities to participate in this enriching experience. The first is January 12th at St. John the Baptist in Marshfield. Other retreats will be held on January 26th in Chippewa Falls and February 23rd in La Crosse. Find out more at diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment or call Alice Heinzen, in the Diocesan Office of Family Life, at 608-791-2673.

Elsewhere

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS BROKEN?: Feeling frustrated by your strings or balls of Christmas tree lights? Are they broken or tangled? Don't throw them away! The copper inside can be recycled for cash! St. Joseph Parish is collecting unwanted lights as a fundraiser until January 15th. They can be dropped in the red box in the parish gathering space. For more info. contact Renee at 715-341-1716 x101.



TWEETING @PONTIFEX

Our life spreads light when it is given in service. The secret joy of living is to serve.

- Follow Pope Francis (@pontifex) at www.twitter.com

BEING GOOD STEWARDS

Of time, talent and treasure

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

Remember that contributions intended for 2018 must be received by noon Dec. 31st, the last business day of the year. According to IRS regulations, contributions received after Jan. 1st must be applied to 2019.

PARTICIPATION AT MASS

Dec. 15/16

5 p.m. — 236	8 a.m. — 240
10 a.m. — 392	6 p.m. — 210

Dec. 22/23

5 p.m. — 296	8 a.m. — 241
10 a.m. — 289	6 p.m. — 98

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH GIVING

Dec. 15/16.....\$23,099.39

Dec. 22/23.....\$27,197.37

BELETED THANKS

Catholic Relief Services

Hurricane Relief.....\$6,124

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target.....\$114,000

Pledged/Contributed.....\$51,337

Under Target.....\$62,663

Number of Contributors — 237 (24%)

The Youth Ministry Christmas Season Selfie Series is BACK! We will be drawing 1 person per week to receive a fantastic and amazing prize from entries received for the following #SeasonSelfies — this is directed to all our 9th-12th Graders — but anyone is welcome to participate — let's see if someone can unseat our high school students!

All submitted selfies have permission to be posted and must be received as requested (read the directions YO) by or before 10pm on the deadline. All selfies need to be texted or emailed to Colleen:

(colleen@holyspiritstevenspoint.org OR 831-917-5731)

12/30-Holy Family Selfie (or Ussie/Groupie) — get a selfie with our Holy Family figures in church. Extra entries for every extra family member/person you get in the picture!

1/6-Wise Guys Selfie — w/ the 3 Kings in church/on campus. Extra entries for every extra Wise Guy/Gal in picture!