



ST JAMES ST MARY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISHES

453 S. Main St. P.O. Box 280
Amherst, WI 54406
(715) 824-3455

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
8:30AM—1:00PM

Parish Website: sjsmmc.com

Fr. Jerzy Rebacz; Pastor | Deacon Art Schaller



May 3, 2026

Mission Statement

We, the stewards of St. James and St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parishes in the Diocese of La Crosse, strive to live as disciples of Christ.

Vision Statement

As Parishioners of St. James and St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parishes, we are called as stewards to celebrate the presence of Christ in our life as we worship together in prayer, in liturgy and in the Sacraments.

We endeavor to strengthen our Catholic faith and Christian service as individuals, as families, and as a parish community as we seek to spread the teachings of Christ through our words, through our witness, and through our actions.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, May 5th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Edwin Damask

Wednesday, May 6th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Ray & Verona Groholski

Thursday, May 7th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Ann Bruske

Friday, May 8th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Dorothy Belohlavek

Saturday, May 9th 4:00PM @ SJ
Living & Deceased Members of the Kirsling Family

Sunday, May 10th
8:30 AM @ SJ Parishioners of our Two Parishes
10:30AM @ SM
For the Living & Deceased Benefactors of St Mary's Parish and for the Living & Deceased Clergy and Sisters who have Served the Parish
+Theresa Kitowski



Prayer to Our Most Holy Mother

O Mary, Mother of God and Our Mother, we come to you in this month dedicated to your honor. Help us grow in faith, hope and love. Guide us to your Son, Jesus, and cover us with your mantle of peace and protection.

Amen.

Exposition and Benediction Schedule

The First Thursday and the First Friday of every month following the morning Mass at St. James.

Confession Schedule

After weekday Masses* and Saturday at 3:30 PM at St. James.

Sunday after 10:30 AM Mass* at St. James.

*Kindly leave a note in the sacristy if you need Father to hear your confession after Mass-no names needed.

In case you missed this last week.....



St. Mary of Mount Carmel Dedication and Big Reveal Day

St. Mary Church restoration is nearing an end. We will soon be able to attend Mass in our beautifully restored church!

The Mass for the Dedication of St. Mary's new altar and the walls of the church will be held this upcoming Sunday, May 10th at 10:30AM. (Please note: For those sensitive to incense, incense will be used throughout the church during the Mass.)

Our choir loft will not be available for seating at that time due to the many challenges throughout the restoration which will limit our open seating for that day to approximately 400. We are

expecting to have a good turnout for this special Mass, so we kindly ask that, if necessary, all children 6 and under sit on their parent's lap to help make more room for guests and parishioners. Ushers will be there to help seat people in pews. To avoid obstacles, there will be no chairs allowed in the back of church, nor will people be allowed to stand in back.

Bishop Battersby will be our main celebrant along with several other guest clergy. During this Mass, Bishop Battersby will anoint the altar and the walls of the church with Sacred Chrism, setting them apart for God forever! Because there will be movement during the Mass throughout the entire church to anoint, incense, and bless with holy water, we kindly ask that you (and/or your children) use the bathroom before the start of Mass so as to not interrupt the flow of the ceremony.

Our pews have been completely refurbished, and we have new flooring throughout the church. We ask all to please not bring any food or drinks into church apart from bottles for infants, soft toys and soft covered books.

Following the Mass all are invited to a meal with seating available for 300 in the basement in thanksgiving to God for all who made this restoration possible, from generations past to current parishioners and so many non-parishioners.

We truly are blessed to have such dedicated and faithful families who have given so much in the past and present time.



Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Pray for us.

Please note: Due to the several areas of hidden structural damage that needed attention and repairs, several areas have yet to be completed such as the choir loft and confessional. This has no impact on the Dedication Mass—but for the next several weeks crews will continue to work in the church.

For this reason the church will be inaccessible during the week.

It will be open for weekend Masses only.

Thank you for your continued patience and support.



St James

Week Ending April 26, 2026

Received \$1,932
Budget \$3,462
(\$1,530)

	Month of Mar 2025	Fiscal YTD Mar 2025	Fiscal YTD Mar 2024
Received	\$25,887	\$147,239	\$120,308
Budget	<u>\$15,000</u>	<u>\$135,000</u>	
	\$10,887	\$12,239	



2025-2026 Annual Appeal Status (4/29/2026)

Goal: \$27,490 Pledged to Date: \$27,840 (101%)
Families who have Contributed: 56

St Mary of Mount Carmel

Week Ending April 26, 2026

Received \$6,111
Budget \$3,923
\$2,188

	Month of Mar 2025	Fiscal YTD Mar 2025	Fiscal YTD Mar 2024
Received	\$17,732	\$150,923	\$158,509
Budget	<u>\$17,000</u>	<u>\$153,000</u>	
	\$732	(\$2,077)	



2025-2026 Annual Appeal Status (4/29/2026)

Goal: \$34,930 Pledged to Date: \$27,425 (79%)
Families who have Contributed: 69

Scrip Gift Cards

SMMC Scrip Update

Scrip is on sale this weekend! Our next sale will be the weekend of May 16th/17th at St. Mary. You can also purchase cards at anytime by calling Pat Zielinski at (715) 824-3762.

St. James Scrip Update

Our next sale will be next weekend after the 4:00pm Mass and the 8:30am Mass...and again on May 24th after the 8:30am Mass. Contact Hydie Laidlaw at (715) 347-3544 or stop by the parish office to purchase cards during the week.

Money earned from our scrip sales is used to reduce our monthly Pacelli Catholic Schools assessment for each parish.

Thank you for your support!



Next Sunday is Mother's Day! Our parishes will be participating in the annual Right to Life Rose Sale. Roses will be available after the 4:00PM Mass on May 9th and again after the 8:30AM Mass on May 10th. (Due to the Dedication Mass and luncheon at St. Mary's, roses will not be available on May 10th after the 10:30AM Mass.) This is a beautiful way to remember all mothers—living or deceased. The suggested donation is \$2.00/rose. 100% of the proceeds go to the Portage County Right to Life—which is a chapter of the Wisconsin Right to Life.

A huge THANK YOU to Gary Rzentkowski and Gary & Michelle Shulfer for sorting and taking the aluminum cans and scrap metal to Weller's Salvage. Gary brought back a check for \$1,118 for our parishes! **Thank you** also to the Tomorrow River BP Station in Amherst for their continued support of our aluminum can recycling program and to everyone in our parishes and community who make the extra effort to drop off cans at the recycling bin. 😊

As another year of Religious Education comes to a close for our parishes, we sincerely thank all of our wonderful volunteers for sharing your time and talents to help our children grow in faith. Your dedication brings God's love to life in the classroom, and we are so grateful for each and every one of you!

- Grade 1: Viktorie Kaderova; Aide: Addy Allen
- Grade 2: Ashley Held
- Grade 3: Matt & Amanda Uher
- Grade 4: Kelly Larsen
- Grade 5: Kristin & Chris Steffen
- Grade 6: Julie Humphrey
- Grade 7: Laura Gould
- Grade 8: Cameron Griggs
- Grade 9: Jodi Glodowski
- Grade 10: Spencer Cohen
- Grade 11: Cindi Borski
- Substitute Catechist: Michelle Glodowski

God used you to help me
AND FOR THAT I AM EVER SO
GRATEFUL.



We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to our DRE, Michelle Shulfer, for her hard work and loving presence. May God bless you all!



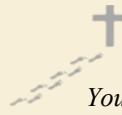
The Great Adventure Bible Study.

There will no Bible classes until September. We have completed the first 12 lessons from the Book of Matthew and will resume the final 12 lessons this fall. Consider joining us this fall for this amazing Bible Study with Jeff Cavins! Have a safe and grace-filled summer!



If you are experiencing the grief related to the passing of a loved one—whether recent or past, please contact Shawn (715) 570-5082 or Cindi (715) 570-0755.

5/4 Session: **Challenges of Grief**



Faith Step

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places."
(John 14:1-12)

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus refers to:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled."

Jesus is also reminding us these words are not just comforting, they are an invitation to trust. Jesus assures us that He is going to prepare a place for us, revealing that our lives are not aimless or temporary, but destined for communion with the Father.

"In my Father's house there are many dwelling places,"

He is offering deep reassurance and hope. No one is excluded who comes to Him in faith. You don't have to "earn a spot" like a limited seat, God desires all to be with Him.

"I am the way and the truth and the life."

He reminds us that when life feels unclear, we are not alone or without direction. By staying close to Jesus and trusting in Him, we are led to the Father and become part of His work in the world.

This week, when you feel uncertain or troubled, pause and pray:

**"Jesus you are the way
---lead me."**



Congratulations to our First Communicants who received Jesus in the Holy Eucharist on Sunday, April 19th. May the blessings of Christ be upon you always!

National Day of Prayer Event. Let's pray for Amherst!

All Christians of all denominations and churches are invited to come together as one voice to pray for Amherst, families, businesses, first responders, schools, government, and for the Church. Meet up next to the dam, under The American Flag on Thursday, May 7th @ 6:00pm.

Legacy of Love: Celebrating Decades of Married Life

The Diocesan Office for Marriage & Family Life is pleased to introduce a new way of celebrating wedding anniversaries in our diocese! Couples celebrating milestone anniversaries 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, or 80th will be invited to participate in *Legacy of Love: Celebrating Decades of Married Life*. This free event will begin with Mass and include pictures with Bishop Battersby followed by a simple reception. Each couple is invited to bring two guests with them.

Couples can register in any one of three ways:

Online: Use the QR code on the right.

Phone: Please call Laura Boden at 680.791.2680

Email: Please email Laura Boden at lboden@diolc.org.



Mass and Reception Dates:

June 21, 2026: 1:00pm at St. Bronislava Catholic Church, Plover

July 19, 2026: 1:00pm at St. Olaf Catholic Church, Eau Claire

August 9 2026: 1:00pm Holy Cross Diocesan Center, La Crosse

Couples celebrating their 50th, 60th or 70th anniversary will also receive a special packet by mail, including a certificate and a letter of congratulations. We look forward to honoring the beautiful witness of married life with you!

Rosary Novena to the Sacred Heart. Join Father Rocky and thousands nationwide for a 54-Day Rosary Novena which began on April 20th and will lead up to the U.S. Bishops consecration of our country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus this June. Go to: relevantradio.com and scroll down to Family Rosary, 7:00pm to pray with Father Rocky.

"When a Nation turns to the Heart of Christ, Everything Changes."

Frassatti Young Adults (Young adults ages 18-35. Families and single young adults are always welcome to join us.) For the month of May, join us to dive deeper in the Jewish roots of Mary. Small groups, discussion, and light snacks. May 11th after the 5:30pm Mass. St. Bronislava, Plover.

The Diocese of La Crosse Chapter of Catholic Rural Life, in partnership with a local family farm and a seed dealership, has been entrusted with a generous opportunity to give back to our farming community. We are pleased to offer 30 bags of current-year, high-quality 99-day seed corn -- free of charge -- to be shared among three deserving recipients. This gift is intended to support approximately 25–30 acres for each family farm. We recognize that agricultural finances can present challenges, and it is our privilege to walk alongside those in our community during difficult seasons. Please direct all inquiries to our Rural Life Committee Chair -- Anne Marie Ellwing: Annemarie.elwing@wallstonellc.com.

US Bishops' Action Alert - Urge Dialogue and Peace in Middle East To make your voice heard in favor of dialogue and peace in the Middle East, respond to the U.S. Bishops' action alert by scanning the QR code on the right.



Mary's Month of May



Since 1945, the Catholic Church dedicates the entire month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of God and spiritual mother of all. In the plan of salvation, the Blessed Virgin Mary holds a special place. By virtue of her role to be the mother of the Son of God by divine election, she was conceived immaculately — i.e., without the stain of original sin — and by fidelity to her son has been crowned queen of heaven and earth.

Everything Mary said and did leads to Christ. Who knows a child better than a mother? And what good and loving child does not know his or her mother and love her with all of his or her heart?

Mary knew and loved Jesus like no one else on earth — and she loves each of her children, human beings, with similar affection and tenderness.

The Church, in its wisdom, asks its children to **be especially devoted to Mother Mary during the month of May and to be particularly grateful for all of her care.**



Parish Staff

Office

Veronica Bruske(715) 824-3455

catholiccentral54406@gmail.com

Parish Life Administrator

Ann Hemmy.....sjsmparishlife@gmail.com

DRE

Michelle Shulfer.....sjsmdre@gmail.com

Bulletin.....bulletininfo06@gmail.com

Please send your bulletin requests via email by 4:30pm Tuesday.

Church Councils

Pastoral Council

Jill Benjamin (SJ)

Mike Juris (SJ)

Bob Schilling (SJ)

Michelle Shulfer (SJ)

Christine Thompson (SJ)

Finance Council

Pat Kwiatkowski (SJ)

Sandy Trzebiatowski (SJ)

Mark Doll (SM)

Gilbert Patoka (SM)

Sarah Eron (SM)

Julie Glodowski (SM)

Jenny Konkol (SM)

Justen Pacocha (SM)

Karen Piesik (SM)

Committees Chairperson and Co-chairs

Family Life....Laura Gould

Sacred Worship....Judi Marquard | Barb Groholski

Social Concerns... Pat Zielinski | Laura Trzebiatowski-Przekurat

Homebound Ministry

Sandy Trzebiatowski...(715) 630-6308

Julie Glodowski..... (715) 340-0004

Jodi Glodowski (715) 630-6827

Barb Groholski (715) 824-3649



GriefShare Ministry

Cindi(715) 570-0755

Shawn.. (715) 570-5082



Prayer Chain

Laurie.....plhintz5@gmail.com

Darlene.....(715) 592-4443

Barb.....(715) 824-3649