



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



April 26, 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, April 28th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Chase Gutenberger

Wednesday, April 29th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Mac Groholski

Thursday, April 30th 8:15AM @ SJ
Living & Deceased Members of the Loecher Family

Friday, May 1st 8:15AM @ SJ
→ No Mass this Morning
Dcn Art will lead The Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion followed by First Friday Prayers

Saturday, May 2nd 4:00PM @ SJ
Parish Family of St James in Appreciation for your Hospitality During the SMMC Renovation

Sunday, May 3rd
8:30 AM @ SJ +Harry & Jean Firkus
10:30AM @ SJ Parishioners of our Two Parishes



Risen Lord Jesus,

In this holy Easter season, lift my heart above fear, distraction, and spiritual weariness. Help me seek the things that lead me closer to you and keep me faithful in prayer, worship, and grace.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and The witness of the saints, teach me to live with reverence, peace, and resurrection joy. 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.



**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 on 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.



A reminder that help is needed to get things ready for the luncheon, ie cleaning and setting up the tables/chairs as well as for the actual luncheon prep and clean-up afterwards. If you haven't already, please return the sign-up form located in last weekend's bulletin or contact the parish office.



St James
Week Ending April 19, 2026

Received \$3,062
Budget \$3,462
(\$400)

	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 (4/22/2026)

Goal: \$27,490 Pledged to Date: \$27,710 (101%)
Families who have Contributed: 55

St Mary of Mount Carmel
Week Ending April 19, 2026

Received \$3,223
Budget \$3,923
(\$700)

	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 (4/22/2026)

Goal: \$34,930 Pledged to Date: \$26,770 (77%)
Families who have Contributed: 68

Scrip Gift Cards

SMMC Scrip Update

Our next sale will be May 3rd at St James and then again 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

Scrip cards on sale this weekend! Contact Hydye 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!



The Great Adventure Bible Study.

On Monday, April 27th, Jeff Cavins will be guiding us through Session 12 of the Book of Matthew, Chapters 11-12, giving us insight into “Jesus Confronts an Evil Generation”. Jeff Cavins will tell us how Jesus answered the question of John the Baptist’s followers who wanted to know, “Is Jesus the Messiah?” We will also learn how Jesus is exposing the superficial leadership of the day, the Pharisees and how Jesus, himself, is the true leader and shepherd. Join us for this informative lesson. We will meet on April 27th at St. James at 5:30pm. All are welcome.

This will be our final class as we have completed the first 12 lessons from the Book of Matthew and will resume the final 12 lessons this fall.

Have a safe and grace-filled summer!



Join us for our monthly Donut Social after the 8:30am Mass next Sunday!



On Mother’s Day weekend (May 9th & May 10th) 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.

GriefShare® Grief Support Group

The GriefShare Program continues into its 10th year of service. Are you experiencing the grief related to the passing of a loved one—whether a recent or past death?

Our next GriefShare support group begins soon. We hope you will consider joining us or pass along this information to someone you know who is grieving a loss. This is a faith-based program that incorporates viewing DVD clips with discussion. A loss may be recent or not so recent. No matter how long it’s been, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling.

Our next series of sessions will run from **April 27th until June 15th** at the Jensen Center in Amherst. You can join at any time. We’ll begin at 6:30PM with an approximate end time of 8:15PM. There is a \$10 workbook fee.

Please contact one of our co-facilitators prior to the first session. Please also feel free to contact Shawn or Cindi if you have questions and would like more information.

Shawn: (715) 570-5082

Cindi: (715) 570-0755

4/27 Session: **Is This Normal?**

Background of program, group guidelines, introductions, workbook format, self inventory.

Faith Step

“I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”
(John 10:10)

Jesus describes Himself as both the Good Shepherd and the gate for the sheep.

He speaks of a relationship built on trust, “the sheep hear his voice and follow him.” Jesus is reminding us that faith is not simply about rules, but about recognizing and responding to His voice in our lives.

In a world filled with competing voices, fear, distraction, self-doubt, and cultural pressures, it can be difficult to discern which voice to follow. Jesus contrasts Himself with “thieves and robbers,” those influences that lead us away from truth, peace, and life. His voice, by contrast, leads to freedom, safety, and abundance.

When Jesus says, “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly,” He is not promising an easy life, but a full one, rich in meaning, rooted in love, and guided by His presence.

Set aside 5 minutes each day this week to listen for the Shepherd’s voice. Read a line of Scripture and ask:

“Lord, what are You saying to me today?”

Then, act on one small prompting, whether it’s showing kindness, offering forgiveness, or spending time in prayer.

Trust that the Shepherd is leading you toward a more abundant life.



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!

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday, and the Church invites us to reflect and pray about vocations. Are you looking deeper? Check out the vocations office for the diocese and reach out to Fr. Steven Weller or visit thepriesthood.org.

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.

Rosary Novena to the Sacred Heart. "When a Nation turns to the Heart of Christ, Everything Changes." Join Father Rocky and thousands Nationwide in a 54-Day Rosary Novena starting April 20th leading up to the U.S. Bishops consecration of our country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus this June. Go to: relevantradio.com and sign up to join the Novena.

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Annual Rummage Sale.
 Friday, May 1 8am-6pm
 Saturday May 2nd 8am-5pm
 Sunday May 3rd 9am-1pm

St. Maximilian Kolbe Church; 8611 State Highway 54, Almond WI (approx. 8 Miles East of Plover on Hwy 54)
 All items are free will offering unless otherwise marked.
 Refreshments available for purchase.

Bus Trips. St. Joseph & St. Stephen parishes invite you to join them on a upcoming bus trips. **Trip 1** is June 2 to Holy Hill and 10 Chimneys, the cost is \$95/person, and includes the bus, lunch, and tour tickets -- register by May 15. **Trip 2** is July 22 to watch the Milwaukee Brewers take on the New York Mets, the cost for this trip is \$110/person, and includes bus, game ticket and dinner. **Two more trips** are planned for later in the year to the Clauson Family Farm in October and a Christmas Stars performance in December. Find more Information online at www.pointcatholicfaith.org/trips or call the office at 715-341-1617.

Calling all current middle school boys! Bring yourself and a friend Monday, June 15 – Wednesday, June 17 to St Lawrence Seminary High School in Mt Calvary, WI for three days of field olympics, games, team building, and prayer. You're sure to have a blast living in our dorms, eating lots of food, making new friends, and growing in your Catholic faith! Cost is \$50 and includes housing and food. Free transportation is available from select cities throughout the state. Register at www.stlawrence.edu/retreats

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.



Pilgrimage to Poland. Join others September 14-26th, 2026 on a faith-filled pilgrimage to Poland under the spiritual direction of Fr. Arturo Viguera (St. Bronislava Parish) This journey highlights Poland's rich history, culture, and spiritual heritage. Price: \$3,800 per person. For more information, contact Marta Robak (847) 312-6144.

Sacred Heart School is accepting new registrations for grades 4K through Grade 6 for the 2026-2027 school year. Sacred Heart School, located in the heart of Polonia, Wisconsin, provides a safe and nurturing environment with small class sizes that educates each unique child of God spiritually, academically, physically, and emotionally. Please call the school office at (715) 600-6942 for more information or to schedule a visit. You may also call Kim Andrich, one of our school parents, at 715-570-5923 or visit our website at www.sacredheartpolonia.com/school.



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)
 Carol Rudiger (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