



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



June 28, 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, June 30th 8:15AM @ SJ
Living & Deceased Members of the
John & Lillian Wierzba Family

Wednesday, July 1st 8:15AM @ SM
+Rodney & Esther Krueger

Thursday, July 2nd 8:15AM @ SM
+Kenneth Wierzba

Friday, July 3rd 8:15AM @ SJ
+Darlene Kropidlowski

Saturday, July 4th 4:00PM @ SJ ← Please note location change
+Frank & Verona Stuczynski

Sunday, July 5th
8:30AM @ SJ Parishioners of our Two Parishes
10:30AM @ SM +Jim Borski



PRAYER FOR AMERICA

Lord, we lift up our nation to You.
Protect our land and keep it safe.
Guide our leaders with wisdom and truth.
Heal divisions and bring unity and peace.
Turn hearts away from sin and toward Jesus.
Fill our communities with kindness and hope.
Strengthen families and guard the vulnerable.
Let Your light shine across this country.
May America honor You in word and deed.

In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.



Exposition and Benediction Schedule

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

Confession Schedule

After weekday Masses*

Saturday at 3:30 PM at St Mary

Sunday after 10:30 AM Mass* at St Mary

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



Faith Step

*"Whoever does not take up his cross
and follow after me is not worthy of me.
Whoever finds his life will lose it,
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."
(Matthew 10:38-39)*

In this Gospel, Matthew 10:37-42, Jesus challenges His disciples to place Him above every other relationship and attachment.

At first, His words may sound harsh, but He is inviting us to love Him first so that we can love others more deeply and faithfully.

When Christ is at the center of our lives, our relationships become stronger, our sacrifices become meaningful, and our crosses become paths to holiness.

Jesus also reminds us that discipleship involves carrying our cross. Following Him is not always easy. It may require forgiveness when we are hurt, patience in suffering, or courage to live our faith openly. Yet Jesus promises that no act of love done in His name is ever forgotten. Even something as simple as offering a cup of cold water becomes a sacred act when done with love.



This Gospel encourages us to ask:
What place does Jesus hold in my life?

Am I willing to trust Him enough to carry my cross and serve others generously?

*There is no
small service
to God;
it all matters.*

What is God calling you to do to help your parish? It's amazing to think about how God has uniquely gifted and called each of us to serve in different ways.

Discovering and using our gifts to serve others is such a key part of living out our faith. Consider being an usher, greeter, lector, altar server, extra-ordinary minister of Holy Communion, funeral luncheon or donut social helper, homebound visitor, or joining one of our committees. Getting involved is a great way to both serve our Lord and get to know some pretty great people in the process!

Are you making donations your parish, the Diocesan Annual Appeal or to the Inspired Campaign using a 3rd party investment or retirement firm? If so, please be sure to contact your investment/retirement firm and ensure that your name AND the parish name are being printed somewhere on the check, or the check stub, when they issue the check. This information is needed so that your parish account is properly credited for your donation. Once your donation is made, it can also be helpful to notify the parish office. This will also help ensure we are aware of your donation and that it has been posted to your account properly. ~Thank you.

St James

Week Ending June 21, 2026

Received \$3,074
Budget \$3,462
(\$388)

	Month of May 2026	Fiscal YTD May 2026	Fiscal YTD May 2025
Received	\$15,722	\$177,244	\$152,552
Budget	<u>\$15,000</u>	<u>\$165,000</u>	
	\$722	\$12,244	



2025-2026 Annual Appeal Status (6/25/2026)

Goal: \$27,490 Pledged to Date: \$30,570 (111%)

Families who have Contributed: 58

Thank you

St Mary of Mount Carmel

Week Ending June 21, 2026

Received \$3,062
Budget \$3,923
(\$861)

	Month of May 2026	Fiscal YTD May 2026	Fiscal YTD May 2025
Received	\$19,059	\$191,446	\$196,936
Budget	<u>\$17,000</u>	<u>\$187,000</u>	
	\$2,059	\$4,446	



2025-2026 Annual Appeal Status (6/25/2026)

Goal: \$34,930 Pledged to Date: \$30,360 (87%)

Families who have Contributed: 75

St Mary Annual Appeal. We still have \$4,570 needed to reach our parish goal.

The Appeal ends on Tuesday! Any shortfall will need to be paid using parish general funds...so please help if you are able. **You still have time** to mail your

donation directly to the Diocese, bring it to the parish office, or make your gift online. If you are mailing your donation directly to the Diocese, it must have a postmark of June 30th or earlier. Donations received with a postmark of July 1st or later will be posted to next year's appeal. www.sjsmmc.com/giving



SMMC Scrip Update

Our next sales will be on July 5th and on July 19th. You can also purchase cards at anytime by calling Pat Zielinski at (715) 824-3762.

St. James Scrip Update

Contact Hydrie Laidlaw at (715) 347-3544 or stop by the parish office to purchase cards during the week.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Arlene and the entire family of Myron "Mike" Trzebiatowski. Mike passed away on June 19th and his funeral Mass was held at St Mary of Mount Carmel this past Saturday. Let us remember to pray for the repose of his soul and to offer our prayers for his friends and family members who mourn his loss.

✝️ *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*



Saturday 4:00PM Mass.

A reminder that beginning next Saturday, July 4th the 4:00PM Mass will be held at St. James.

No Donut Social in July. We will not have a coffee and donuts social in July but will resume the first Sunday of August. We are looking for volunteers to host. There are easy to follow-up instructions. Sign-up in the back of St. James or contact Misty Prater (mistyprater@gmail.com or 785-633-5206 - call/text).

Miss a Bulletin? If you forget, or are unable to get a bulletin, you can always view or download it from our website. But did you know—you can also drive up to the St James carport and any leftover bulletins from the prior weekend can be found in the black drop box. Feel free to pick one up at anytime. If you know of anyone who is homebound and would like a bulletin mailed to their residence, please contact the parish office.

The Rosary. A young man was doing a study abroad program in Rome and managed to secure a quick, personal audience with the Pope. Eagerly, the man asked the Pope, "Holy Father, what is the best way to make sure I never lose my rosary?" The Pope smiled, patted him on the shoulder, and said, "My son, the trick is to pray it every day—otherwise you will be searching for decades!"



Was God Part of our Declaration of Independence?

It was June 1776. The American Revolution had raged for over a year, and the hope that the British Empire would grant the colonists the rights that they were fighting for had all but dissolved. The colonists had begun to talk of separation from Great Britain. In Philadelphia at the Second Continental Congress, a committee consisting of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston was formed to draft a declaration of independence to justify their decision to separate from Britain should they do so. The document they produced was our beautiful Declaration of Independence.

The document contains three main sections. The first section contains an explanation of the natural rights of man. The second section contains a list of twenty-seven grievances against the British King. The final section contains the actual declaration of independence from Britain. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted upon the declaration, and on July 4th it was adopted, officially cutting off ties with Britain. On July 4th, 2026, we celebrate the nation that was born when the declaration was adopted 250 years ago.

Much has changed since the signing of the declaration. Unfortunately, not all of those changes have been positive. One sentiment that has changed since 1776 is our nation's perception of God.

Although some Americans today deny or resist God, most of our founding fathers, at a minimum, acknowledged God, and many worshipped Him as devout believers. Although some may consider the Declaration of Independence to be a secular document, it actually contains four mentions of God, each of which demonstrates the founders understanding of God's nature and power.

- ⇒ **The first mention of God** occurs in the very first sentence which refers to the source of power being the "Laws of Nature and of Nature's God", thus acknowledging from Whom power comes. The founders recognized that they had not created the power to establish a nation, but rather, that power was given to them from God.
- ⇒ **Second**, God is referred to as the Creator who endows humans with unalienable rights. God is the granter of human rights and the Creator of natural law. A year before the Declaration of Independence Alexander Hamilton wrote, "The sacred rights of mankind are not to be rummaged for among old parchments, or musty records. They are written, as with a sun beam, in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of the divinity itself, and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power."
- ⇒ **Third**, God is called the "Supreme Judge of the world." Our founding fathers recognized that justice is God's idea, not man's. He judges the actions of all people and ensures that ultimately true justice will prevail.
- ⇒ **Fourth**, the final sentence of the declaration says, "with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor." The founders entrusted themselves to God, the "divine Providence", who they believed had protected them and would continue to do so.

From beginning to end, the Declaration of Independence displays the founders understanding of and trust in God. Although our nation has drifted much since the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, we still have much to celebrate this Independence Day. Thanks to the wisdom of our founding fathers and the faithfulness of God, at least some of our unalienable rights are still largely protected. This 4th of July, let us thank God for the blessing of America and commit ourselves to doing what we can to restore God to His rightful place in our nation.

Area Events

Pope Leo XIV's Encyclical addressing Artificial Intelligence To read Pope Leo's first encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas, in which he addresses the need to safeguard the human person in this age of artificial intelligence, visit [this link](#), or click on the QR code on the right. At the same website there are additional resources from the U.S. Bishops related to the encyclical and to both the benefits and the dangers associated with AI.



July 1st-9th. In celebration of America's 250th birthday, the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion will host a nine-day in-person observance featuring a novena for the United States, praying for unity, holiness, and renewal through Our Lady's intercession. The Shrine will also present a Carlo Acutis-inspired exhibit on American Saints, Blesseds, Venerables, and Servants of God - including Servant of God Father Joseph Walijewski of the Diocese of La Crosse - with talks on their lives and causes, along with opportunities for prayer and veneration of relics. July 1-9. 10:00am-4:00pm All are invited to join in prayer and reflection for our nation. For more info go to championshrine.org/americansaints/



Celebrate the 4th of July at the Knights of Columbus Clubhouse with a delicious Smoked Pulled Pork Sandwich for only \$7.00 or a plate including Sandwich, beans, coleslaw and potato chips for only \$12.00 (tax inc) Serving from 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm or until sold out. Profits from the food will help us support our local school programs for "those with Intellectual Disabilities" which combines with our annual Tootsie Roll Drive. Enjoy inside or outdoors (weather permitting). Lounge will be open and beer and soda available outside. A purchase of a Sandwich/plate or \$5.00 donation will allow free parking (space permitting) for the "Drone Show" a short walk to the river at dusk. Enjoy a great sandwich and help a great Charitable cause all on the 4th of July at the Knights of Columbus Clubhouse 401 W Clark St just across the Clark St bridge.

St. Ladislaus Parish. Concerts on the Ground. Great music on select Tuesdays this summer from 6-8PM. July 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, Aug 4th. Food & drinks, 50/25/25 drawing, Free will offering to pay for the entertainment. More details can be found at stladislaus.weebly.com

Point Catholic Faith will be hosting a free Vacation Bible Camp July 21-23! All children going into grades 5K-5th are welcome to learn about how they are uniquely loved by Jesus! Adult and teen volunteers are welcome too! Contact Christine Sommers (715) 341-1617 ext 104 or dre@pointcatholicfaith.org

Holy Spirit Parish. Spirit Fest. July 26th. 11:30am-5:30pm Mass @ 10:30 followed by Live Music. Hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, UWSP Food Truck, Polito's Pizza, King Cone, Bingo, Basket Raffle, Dessert Spin, Free Kids Games & more!

Divine Image Sisters (in Polonia). Convent Gazebo Gift Shop located in the convent grounds behind the convent building. Open daily and self serve. Check it out!
• Rummage Sale every Saturday until October 10th. Items are still being accepted! Please call the convent at 715-592-4213 or 715-340-2006 if you would like to donate anything to our rummage sale. ~Thank you

Come and see!

The Seraphic Adorers of the Child Jesus are hosting a

Retreat Day

for young women ages 18-29, on

Saturday, August 1st, 2026.

Come, meet the sisters and spend time with our

Eucharistic Lord

If you are interested or would like more information, please

text: 715-899-0768

or write us at: prayers@seraphicadorers.com

SERAPHIC ADORERS
OF THE CHILD JESUS

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



United Prayers to Heaven Prayer Chain

Laurie.....plhintz5@gmail.com
Darlene.....(715) 592-4443
Barb.....(715) 824-3649