



# 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](http://sjsmmc.com)



Fr. Jerzy Rebacz; Pastor | Deacon Art Schaller

## February 8, 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, February 10th** 8:15AM @ SJ  
+Steve & Barb Sternik

**Wednesday, February 11th** 8:15AM @ SJ  
+Paul & Agnes Groshek

**Thursday, February 12th** 8:15AM @ SJ  
+Harry & Irene Hintz

**Friday, February 13th** 8:15AM @ SJ  
+Pius Selensky

**Saturday, February 14th** 4:00PM @ SJ  
+Rich & Pauline Miller

**Sunday, February 15th**  
8:30 AM @ SJ Parishioners of our Two Parishes  
10:30AM @ SJ For Those in Need of Spiritual,  
Physical, or Emotional Healing

### Prayer for Healing

Dear Jesus, Healer of the Sick,  
I turn to You in this time of  
illness.

Alleviate my worry and sorrow  
with Your gentle love  
and grant me the grace and  
strength to accept this burden.  
I place my worries in Your  
hands.

I place myself in Your care and  
humbly ask that You restore  
me to health again.

Above all, grant me the grace  
to acknowledge Your holy will  
and know that You love me  
and are with me in this,  
my most difficult time.

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.

## SMMC Restoration Update

The painters have been working hard repairing and painting the upper portion of the church.

The painting of the ceiling tiles in nave is complete. The murals have been cleaned and the trim around them painted. Gold paint has been applied to the ribs and application of the rib stenciling has begun.



Repair work to damaged arch.



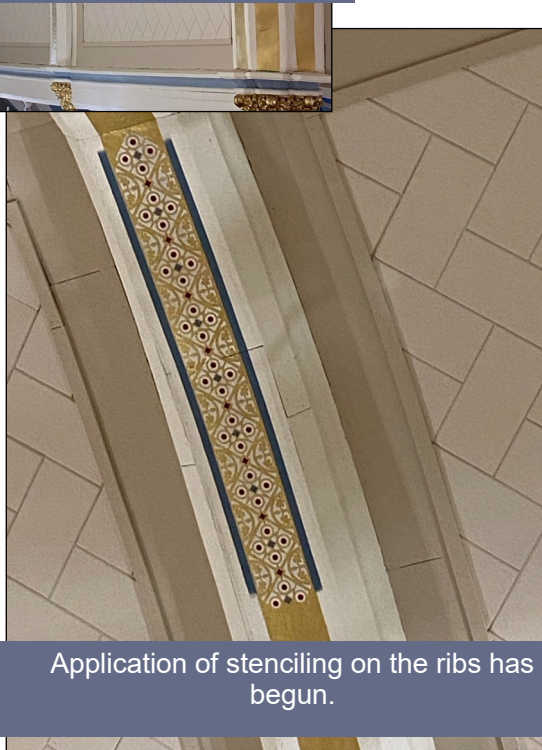
Ceiling in nave completed.  
Trim around murals completed.  
Gold paint applied to ribs of nave.

**THANK YOU** to all for your continued support of the St. Mary of Mount Carmel restoration project!!!

### Did you miss it?

If you missed the short video shown after the Masses of the damaged sanctuary arch, you can see the pictures on our website.

Go to [www.sjsmmc.com](http://www.sjsmmc.com)  
Click on 'About' then 'St Mary Restoration'



Application of stenciling on the ribs has begun.



### St James

Week Ending February 1, 2026

Received \$2,301  
Budget \$3,462  
(\$1,161)

	Month of Jan 2025	Fiscal YTD Jan 2025	Fiscal YTD Jan 2024
Received	\$13,802	\$108,968	\$94,406
Budget	<u>\$15,000</u>	<u>\$105,000</u>	
	(\$1,198)	\$3,968	



2025-2026 Annual Appeal Status (2/4/2026)

Goal: \$27,490 Pledged to Date: \$20,555 (75%)  
# Families who have Contributed: 44

### St Mary of Mount Carmel

Week Ending February 1, 2026

Received \$3,832  
Budget \$3,923  
(\$91)

	Month of Jan 2025	Fiscal YTD Jan 2025	Fiscal YTD Jan 2024
Received	\$19,557	\$118,891	\$123,525
Budget	<u>\$17,000</u>	<u>\$119,000</u>	
	\$2,557	(\$109)	



2025-2026 Annual Appeal Status (2/4/2026)

Goal: \$34,930 Pledged to Date: \$17,965 (51%)  
# Families who have Contributed: 52

## Scrip Gift Cards

### SMMC Scrip Update

Our next gift card sales will be on February 14th at the 4:00pm Mass and again on February 15th at the 10:30am Mass. You can order gift cards at any time by calling Pat Zielinski at (715) 824-3762.

Thanks for your support!

### St. James Scrip Update

Our next gift card sales will be on February 14th and 15th. Contact Hydrie 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.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

**NEXT SUNDAY !!!**  
**February 15th**



# BBQ & Bingo!

Immediately following the 10:30am  
Mass in the St. James gathering space.

**There will be a FREE light lunch followed by FREE bingo!** We will have a 50/50 raffle as well as basket raffles! Everything concludes by 1:00pm  
Hope to see you there!

**All are welcome!**

**Anointing of the Sick.** World Day of the Sick is on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, February 11th. **We will have Anointing of the Sick at all Masses next weekend February 14th – 15th.** After the homily, Father will invite all who wish to receive the anointing to come to the front as you do for Communion. The Sacrament of



the Anointing of the Sick is for all who face a serious illness, surgery, or who are impaired by old age. One may celebrate the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick many times if needed for strength and healing in mind, body and spirit. In this sacrament of anointing, Christ strengthens our faith and bestows God's grace in a time of anxiety and pain.



**Altar Server Training.** We find joy in serving the Lord, especially at His Altar. We are called to participate in "Liturgy", which literally means the "work of the people".

We invite you to follow the calling of the Lord in your heart to serve Jesus, by serving the Priest as he presides at Mass in the 'Person of Christ' at the Altar.

Parishioners who have received 1st Holy Communion, and of any age, are welcome to serve at the Altar.

We welcome couples, families, siblings, individuals, or any combination thereof, to be a part of this important ministry by assisting Fr. Jerzy and visiting priests, as well as your parish family.

**Plan to attend either Altar Server Training at St. James church; after the 4:00pm Mass next Saturday, February 14th, or after the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, February 22nd.** We look forward to seeing you there!

**Did you know?** All bulletins on our website are in color. If you have access to the internet, pictures are much clearer than the printed black/white version. Go to [www.sjsmmc.com](http://www.sjsmmc.com) then click on 'Bulletins'.



**The Great Adventure Bible Study.** This Monday, February 9th, Jeff Cavins will be guiding us through Session 4 of the Book of Matthew, Chapter 3, giving us insight into "**John: The Forerunner to the King**". Jeff Cavins does an incredible job helping us to understand who John the Baptist is and what was his mission and why. Join us for this informative lesson. We will meet on February 9th at St. James at 5:30pm.

All are welcome.

**Our 2026 Lenten Season begins soon!**



**Ash Wednesday.** February 18th. Masses will be celebrated at 8:15am and 6:00pm at St James.

There will be a new schedule for having the Stations of the Cross. They will be held on Tuesday mornings following morning Mass and at 2:00 pm on Fridays during Lent. All services will be held at St. James.

Lenten material, including the little Black Book will be available to help parishioners grow closer to Our Lord and to prepare one's heart and soul for Holy Week.

Due to the continued restoration work at St. Mary, Holy Week liturgies will be held at St. James.

# Win!

Win an  
**ABSOLUTELY SCRUMPTIOUS**  
Polish Dinner!!

Have you made your donation to the Diocesan Annual Appeal? If so, you are in luck! You have been entered into the drawing for an authentic homemade Polish dinner prepared by Fr. Jerzy and his sister!!!

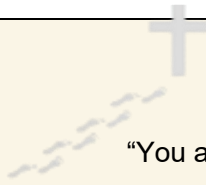
If you have not yet made your donation to the DAA it's not too late! Every parishioner from each parish who already made, or will make, a donation to the DAA through March 19th will be entered into the drawing!

Beginning this weekend through Sunday, March 15th, at the 8:30am Mass (1) St. James donor will be drawn and at the 10:30am Mass (1) St. Mary donor will be drawn. On Sunday, March 22nd there will be (4) donors from each parish drawn at the respective Masses.

A total of (10) donors from each parish, along with their spouse or guest, will enjoy a delicious Polish dinner!

The dinner will take place at 6:00pm on Thursday, April 23rd in the St. James Gathering Space.





## Faith Step

“You are the Salt of the Earth”  
Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus is saying that His followers are meant to make a real difference in the world.

Salt works quietly but effectively.

In the same way, Christians are called to preserve what is good, bring the flavor of God's love into everyday life, and help prevent moral decay by living according to the Gospel.

When Jesus warns about salt losing its taste, He is cautioning us that faith that is not lived becomes ineffective. The passage reminds us that our faith is not meant to be hidden or passive, but active, visible, and transformative.

Jesus invites us to examine our lives:

- Do others encounter Christ through me?
- Do my words and actions bring hope, healing, and truth?

Live your faith openly through a kind word, a forgiving heart, or a simple act of service. Ask yourself:

**How can I help others experience Christ through me today?**



### Area Events

**Blessed Brother James Miller Day** | February 13th.  
Sacred Heart Church in Polonia. All Are Invited! Bl. Br. James Miller Day will be celebrated on Fri. Feb. 13, at Sacred Heart Church in Polonia. 11:00 AM: Mass celebrated by Bishop Gerard Battersby 12:30 PM: Luncheon 1:30 PM: Expert panel: “Remembering Blessed Br. James, Model of Missionary Love” 2:30 PM: Visit to Blessed Br. James’ graveside (optional, weather permitting).

**Join us on our spring bus trip** to the Polish district in Chicago, Thursday March 26. This is a one day trip filled with Polish culture, food and fun. Father Jerzy Rebacz will be escorting the group. Transportation, 2 meals, (one meal is an authentic Polish buffet) prizes and guaranteed fun are included in the cost. The cost is \$140.00 per person with a pick-up in Schofield and Plover. Good for all ages. Minimal walking. Get your Polish sausage and ham in time for Easter. To book or for more details please call Helen Damask @ [715-574-2654](tel:715-574-2654). Booking deadline is Monday March 16th. Book early – seats go quickly!

**St. Joseph Parish** will hold their Winterfest Fish Fry and Raffle event on Friday, February 13th. 4:30-6:30pm Dine-in or carry out. Phone pre-orders accepted day of: (715) 341-1617.

**Feb. 14 - St. Wenceslaus PCCW Drive Thru Soup Sale** from 2 to 4pm. Soups are \$8 a quart with dinner rolls. Soups include Chicken with Homemade Noodles, Ham & Vegetable, Italian Sausage with Vegetables and Taco Soup. It will warm you on a cold day!

### Parish Staff

#### Office

Veronica Bruske .....(715) 824-3455  
catholiccentral54406@gmail.com

Please send your ambo announcements into the office via email by 4:30pm Tuesday.

#### 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

Cindi Borski SM  
Justen Pacocha SM  
Judy Zinda SM  
Michael Juris SJ  
Michelle Shulfer SJ  
Christine Thompson SJ

#### Finance Council

Mark Doll SM  
Gilbert Patoka SM  
Sandy Trzebiatowski SJ  
Pat Kwiatkowski SJ

#### Committees Chairperson and Co-chairs

**Family Life**....Laura Gould

**Sacred Worship**....Judi Marquard | Barb Groholski

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