



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



August 2, 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, August 4th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Don & Hazel Shulfer

Wednesday, August 5th 8:15AM @ SM
Living & Deceased Members of the Loecher Family

Thursday, August 6th 8:15AM @ SM
+Mac Groholski

Friday, August 7th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Bob Helbach

Saturday, August 8th 4:00PM @ SJ
+Mary Pionkowski

Sunday, August 9th
8:30AM @ SJ +Mike Trzebiatowski
10:30AM @ SM Parishioners of our Two Parishes



Prayer for *August*

Heavenly Father,

As we enter this month of August, we thank You for the blessings of summer and the promise of a fruitful harvest. Bless the farmers and all who work the land. Grant favorable weather, abundant crops, and grateful hearts that recognize every good gift comes from You. Strengthen us to grow in faith, share generously with those in need, and trust always in Your loving care. Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, may we bear good fruit in our lives and faithfully follow Your Son, Jesus Christ. **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 James

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

"They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over – twelve wicker baskets full."

-Matthew 14:20

Reflection – Gospel reading, Matthew 14:13–21, the Feeding of the Five Thousand, is a beautiful reminder that when we place our small gifts into Jesus' hands, no gift offered in love is ever too small, and no need is too great for God's abundant mercy.

Jesus takes what we offer, blesses it, and transforms it into something greater.

The disciples saw only five loaves and two fish—a meal that seemed far too small for such a great crowd. Jesus, however, saw an opportunity for God's abundance to be revealed. He took what was offered, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the people. Not only was everyone fed, but there were twelve baskets left over.

In our own lives, we often feel that we don't have enough time, patience, talent, or strength to make a difference.

Jesus asks us to offer Him what we have, no matter how little it seems. When we trust Him with our gifts, He blesses them and uses them to nourish others in ways we may never see. God's grace is always greater than our limitations.

This week, offer one small act of kindness to someone—a helping hand, a prayer, a visit, or an encouraging word. Give it to Jesus with love and trust that He can multiply your simple act into a blessing for someone in need.

Never forget the
two fish and five loaves.

God can take your
little and make it much.

Trust. Go.

St James

Week Ending July 26, 2026

Received \$2,120
Budget \$3,462
(\$1,342)

	Month of June 2026	Fiscal YTD June 2026	Fiscal YTD June 2025
Received	\$11,932	\$189,734	\$165,144
Budget	<u>\$15,000</u>	<u>\$180,000</u>	
	(<u>\$3,068</u>)	\$9,734	

St Mary of Mount Carmel

Week Ending July 26, 2026

Received \$2,845
Budget \$3,923
(\$1,078)

	Month of June 2026	Fiscal YTD June 2026	Fiscal YTD June 2025
Received	\$16,455	\$207,901	\$213,001
Budget	<u>\$17,000</u>	<u>\$204,000</u>	
	(<u>\$545</u>)	\$3,901	

SMMC Scrip Update

Scrip gift cards are on sale this weekend! Our next sale date is August 16th. But—you can also purchase cards at anytime by calling Pat Zielinski at (715) 824-3762.

St. James Scrip Update

Gift cards are on sale this weekend! Contact Hydrie Laidlaw at (715) 347-3544 or stop by the parish office to purchase cards during the week.

It takes just a few minutes to stop by the scrip table before or after Mass to purchase gift cards. If you plan on doing any shopping or gifting—why not buy your cards from Pat or Hydrie? It's convenient and costs you nothing extra.

Thank you FOR YOUR SUPPORT



The Power of Your Invitation. Though there are many reasons why Catholics stop attending Mass and other aspects of parish life, it is safe to

assume the majority will only come back if they are personally invited. A simple invitation to someone who has been away from the parish can remind them that they are remembered, loved, and always welcome. A personal invitation can become the first step toward someone coming home. No matter how long someone has been away or what circumstances have shaped their journey, the Catholic Church remains a place where God's mercy, healing, and love are always offered. If even one person is absent from our parish family, their absence has an impact on the community.



Need prayers? Let our United Prayers to Heaven prayer chain pray for you in time of need! We will keep your name & prayer request confidential. Names are included only if you so desire.

Contact any of the following:

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

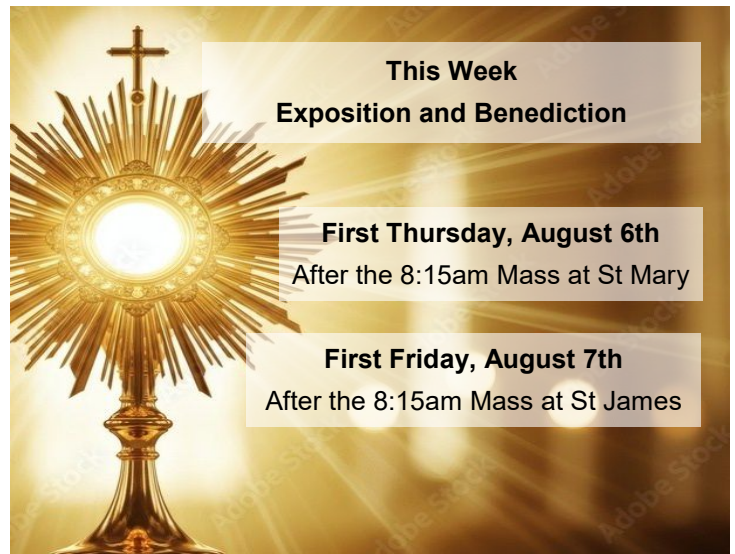
We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of Maria Nicole Yenter and Don Spierings.

Maria was the 6-month old daughter of Leo & Beka Yenter (and the great-granddaughter of Kathy Stoltz). The funeral Mass for Maria was held this past Wednesday at St. Mary. Though Maria's time here was short, this little life touched many hearts deeply. May God gently cradle Maria in His heavenly embrace.

Don passed away on July 23rd. His funeral Mass was held at St. James this past Friday and he was laid to rest in the St. James Cemetery. May God's grace bring strength and peace to Muriel and their entire family.

Please join in offering prayers for both families that they may find comfort and feel the support of our parish families around them during this difficult time.

✠ *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen*



August 15th is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Please note that it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year due to it falling on a Saturday. The United States liturgical rules lift the obligation when certain feasts land on a Saturday or a Monday



Faith....Pass it On! Do you have a desire to learn more about your faith? Why not give teaching or co-teaching a try!

Grades 1-8 meet biweekly and grades 9-11 meet every week.

We are in need of teachers for grades 5, 7, 9 & 10. If you are not sure you want to commit to teaching, perhaps you could assist in a classroom instead—both are needed.

Please contact Michelle at sjsmdre@gmail.com if you have questions or would like to learn more.

-Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire-
St. Catherine of Sienna

Thank you to the Prater family for hosting this weekend's coffee and donut social! We are looking for volunteers to host for September 6th, October 4th, November 1st, and December 6th. There are easy to follow instructions!

Sign-up in the back of St. James or contact Misty Prater mistyprater@gmail.com or (785) 633-5206 (call/text).

Recycle your aluminum cans from your summer get togethers and cookouts! Our parishes receive all proceeds from any aluminum cans dropped off at the Tomorrow River BP here in Amherst for recycling. Please drop your bagged cans into the wire cage at the gas station.



Thank you Gary Rzentkowski for the new sign on the wire cage and for all that you do in managing the recycle program for our parishes!



The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The physical heart of Mary is venerated (not adored as only God is adored).

The Immaculate Heart of Mary signifies the purity and love of the heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, from her Immaculate Conception to her "yes" to the Incarnation of Jesus, to her faithfulness to God until death.

On October 31, 1942, Pope Pius XII made a solemn Act of Consecration of the Church and the whole world to the Immaculate Heart. Let us remember this devotion year-round, but particularly through the month of August.



A kind word.
A smile.
A simple act of kindness.



You never know when a small gesture can change someone's entire day, or even their life.

Dare to Follow: An Adventure in Faith:

Young men entering grades 6-8 are invited to Dare to Follow, an overnight experience filled with activities, prayer, friendship and honest conversation about where God may be calling them. Participants will spend time with Bishop Gerard W. Battersby; Father Stephen Weller, our diocesan vocations director; and priests from across the diocese while discovering what it means to become holy men of God. The next session is Aug. 10-11, 2026, at the Holy Cross Diocesan Center in La Crosse. The cost is \$30 and includes meals and lodging. Questions? Contact the Vocations Office at vocations@diolc.org or 608.791.2667. God has an adventure in store for every young man. Dare to discover yours!

St. Therese August Fest. August 8th 4:00-11:30pm & August 9th 10:45am-4:30pm. 1112. W. Kort Street, Rothschild/Schofield, WI. Music, raffles, cherry tree, beer tent, food stand, flea market, bakery spin, ice cream, pierogies, children's games, bingo on Sunday from 12-4:00pm.

Sacred Heart Church Picnic. Friday, August 14th from 7:00pm-11:00pm (music by Night Shift) and Sunday, August 16th. Bingo, Cherry Tree, kids games, raffles, bands and more!

Holy Spirit Parish. Beginning Saturday, August 15th there will be an 8 am Mass every Saturday at Holy Spirit Parish, 2151 Stanley Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481. Confessions will still take place at 9 am like usual. August 15th is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is not a holy day of obligation this year. Saturday is traditionally a day devoted to the Blessed Mother and we look forward to having Saturday morning Masses at Holy Spirit Parish. All are invited to come and worship.

Job Posting. School Custodian. St. Stephen Parish in Stevens Point is in need of a motivated individual to aid in the upkeep of the school building. This part-time position would be Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. when school is in session, with flexible hours when school is not. For information, please call the parish office at 715-341-1617 ext. 101 or visit www.PointCatholicFaith.org/jobs

Mass of Hope and Healing | Sep 8 | Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman:

Bishop Gerard Battersby will celebrate a Mass of Hope and Healing on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:30 pm, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, 530 Main St, La Crosse. This Mass will be offered for anyone grieving the loss of children through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, abortion, stillbirth, accident or infant death. A candle ceremony will take place at 6:30, prior to the beginning of Mass. Please arrive early to receive your votive candle(s) in remembrance of any child(ren) lost. Candles will be lit and grieving families will carry them forward to surrender to a priest. After Mass, refreshments will be served and volunteers will be present to offer assistance, support, and comfort. We welcome all who mourn, and encourage anyone to come and be supportive.

Anointing of the Sick

If you or a loved one is in need of the Anointing Sacrament, especially before a hospital stay or procedure, please contact the parish office. Keep in mind that hospitals do not automatically notify the parish or priest.

Marriage

Couples requesting the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage should contact the office at the time of engagement, at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage. If a couple wishes to be married as a registered parish member, they must actively participate in the faith (Sunday worship) and be a registered member of our parish at least 3 months prior to requesting the Sacrament of Marriage. Weddings are not celebrated during Lent.

Baptism

Parents may request the baptism of their infant at least two months prior to the anticipated date of baptism. Family should be members of our parish, they must actively participate in the faith (Sunday worship) and be a registered member of our parish. To request baptism, please call the parish office at (715) 824-3455.

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)
Sarah Eron (SM)
Julie Glodowski (SM)
Jenny Konkol (SM)
Justen Pacocha (SM)
Karen Piesik (SM)
Carol Rudiger (SM)

Finance Council

Pat Kwiatkowski (SJ)
Sandy Trzebiatowski (SJ)

Mark Doll (SM)
Gilbert Patoka (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