



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



March 22, 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, March 24th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Al & Tina Rossi; Living & Deceased Family Members

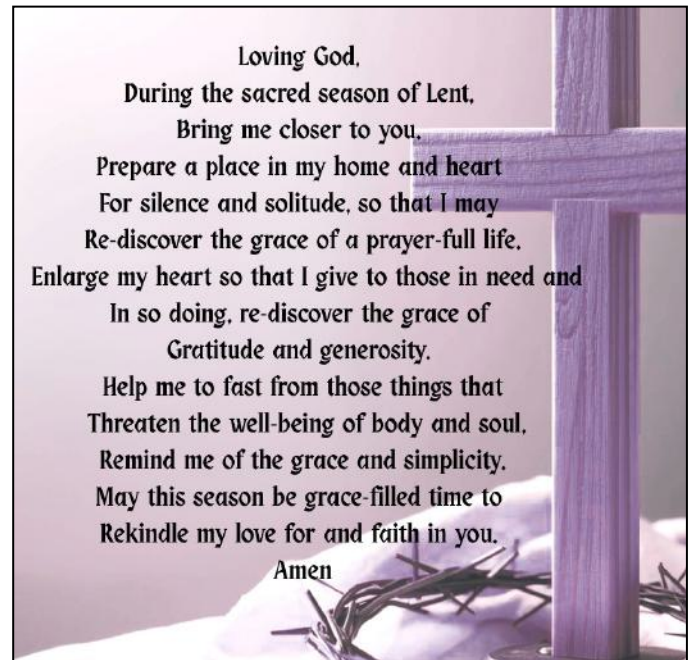
Wednesday, March 25th 8:15AM @ SJ
Special Intention of John & Kathy Slipek

Thursday, March 26th 8:15AM @ SJ
→ No Mass this Morning.
Dcn Art will lead The Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Friday, March 27th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Christine Wolf

Saturday, March 28th 4:00PM @ SJ
+Joe Modrzewski

Sunday, March 29th
8:30 AM @ SJ Parishioners of our Two Parishes
10:30AM @ SJ +Michael & Emily Wierzba



Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent,
Bring me closer to you.
Prepare a place in my home and heart
For silence and solitude, so that I may
Re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and
In so doing, re-discover the grace of
Gratitude and generosity.
Help me to fast from those things that
Threaten the well-being of body and soul.
Remind me of the grace and simplicity.
May this season be grace-filled time to
Rekindle my love for and faith in you.
Amen

Lenten Stations of the Cross Schedule

Tuesday mornings following the 8:15AM Mass (SJ)
Friday afternoons at 2:00PM (SJ)

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 it—due to last weekend’s snow storm here’s a repeat of the renovation update.

After 4 long months, the huge scaffolding has been removed from the church. With the scaffolding gone, the view of the sanctuary arch from the choir loft is breathtaking!



The company refinishing the pews shared a peek at the work being done on the pews.



As mentioned in the bulletin a couple of weeks ago, due to the deterioration of the plaster behind the surface layer from age/moisture, this surface layer is being removed 4 feet up from the base round the entire church. This will be replaced with new drywall and then the finishing work will be done. The painters shared that the back side of the surface layer is covered in mold.

The unexpected repair of the side walls throughout the church is costing an additional \$27,000. This repair, along with the repairs of the sanctuary arch, has put the project about 6 weeks behind schedule. Fortunately, the Dedication Mass with Bishop Battersby was scheduled a few weeks out from the initial completion date of the project. The painters and all other crews involved are working hard to ensure all will be ready for May 10th.



THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the Inspired by the Spirit campaign for the restoration. Many have given an additional donation to help cover the cost of the unexpected issues. If you have not yet given to the restoration project to preserve this beautiful historic church, please consider donating. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.



St James
Week Ending March 15, 2026

Received \$6,978
Budget \$3,462
\$3,516

	Month of Feb 2025	Fiscal YTD Feb 2025	Fiscal YTD Feb 2024
Received	\$13,099	\$122,067	\$104,530
Budget	<u>\$15,000</u> (\$1,901)	<u>\$120,000</u> \$2,067	



2025-2026 Annual Appeal Status (3/18/2026)

Goal: \$27,490 Pledged to Date: \$26,165 (95%)
Families who have Contributed: 50

St Mary of Mount Carmel
Week Ending March 15, 2026

Received \$2,246
Budget \$3,923
(\$1,677)

	Month of Feb 2025	Fiscal YTD Feb 2025	Fiscal YTD Feb 2024
Received	\$14,500	\$133,391	\$138,630
Budget	<u>\$17,000</u> (\$2,500)	<u>\$136,000</u> (\$2,609)	



2025-2026 Annual Appeal Status (3/18/2026)

Goal: \$34,930 Pledged to Date: \$25,565 (73%)
Families who have Contributed: 64

Scrip Gift Cards

SMMC Scrip Update

Our next sales will be on March 29th at the 10:30am Mass, April 12th (10:30am Mass), and April 25th & 26th (10:30am Mass). You can also purchase cards at anytime by calling Pat Zielinski at (715) 824-3762.

St. James Scrip Update

Our next scrip sales will be on March 28th and again on March 29th at the 8:30am Mass, April 11th and 12th (8:30am Mass) and on April 26th (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!



Our 2026 Lenten Journey

Lenten Material is still available at the entryways. It's never too late to begin your Lenten faith journey!

Stations of the Cross. Please join us this week on Tuesday morning following the 8:15am Mass or on Friday at 2:00pm for Stations of the Cross.



Attention Lectors, Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion! A special sign-up genius for Holy Week was sent out. Please check it out and sign up to help fill all the needed slots for the holiest week of the year!

 **We need your help! PLEASE sign up!**

Volunteers are needed on Palm Sunday! Volunteers are needed for all three Masses to carry up palms for the entrance procession on Palm Sunday. Sign-up sheets are available in the entryways.

12 Volunteers are needed on Holy Thursday! Volunteers are needed to represent the 12 Apostles having their feet washed by Jesus during the Last Supper. The foot washing ceremony is an important call for all people that we should be willing to serve others. After all, Jesus Himself, the Son of God, washed the feet of His disciples. Sign-up sheets are available in the entryways.



Lenten Lessons on the Mass. Father Rocky from Relevant Radio is giving short Lenten lessons on the Mass every day during Lent. These are short and easy to understand for the whole family. Go to Relevantradio.com and sign up.

Homebound Ministry. If you would like a visit from the Homebound Ministry Team, know of anyone who would benefit, or maybe you would just like to learn more about the Homebound Ministry, please give us a call. A visit could be to an individual's home or to an assisted living facility. The visit would offer companionship, prayers, and Holy Communion outside the celebration of Mass.

If you would like to become a Homebound Minister, we welcome your support!

God Bless!

Sandy Trzebiatowski (715) 630-6308
Julie Glodowski (715) 340-0004
Jodi Glodowski (715) 630-6827



Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of +Genevieve Hebblewhite. Genevieve passed away on March 11th and her funeral Mass was held this past Saturday, March 21st. Let us remember to pray for the repose of her soul and to offer our prayers for her friends and family members who mourn her loss.

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



WINNERS!

Last weekend's winners from the Annual Appeal Polish Dinner Drawing are:


Gary & Karen Jastromski (SJ)
Fred & Pat Zielinski (SM)

Congratulations!
This weekend is our final drawing.



The Great Adventure Bible Study. On Monday, March 23rd, Jeff Cavins will be guiding us through Session 9 of the Book of Matthew, Chapter 8, giving us insight into *"The King's Power Demonstrated"*. Jeff Cavins will help us to understand the deep meaning of the many miracles that Jesus performed. St. Augustine said, "Cleansing of the leper is a sign of reconciliation. When Jesus touched the leper, he not only cleansed the leper, but he is also reconciling the leper to the community." Join us for this informative lesson. We will meet on March 23rd at St. James at 5:30pm. All are welcome.

Faith Step


*"Return, O Israel, to the Lord, your God, for you have collapsed through your guilt.
Take with you words, and return to the Lord"*
~Hosea 14:1-3

Return to me! God implores.

Since Lent is all about God's call to come home, He is ready to forgive.

We all know how oppressive the burden of guilt can be. Even if we try to gloss over our offenses, unrepentant sin can weigh us down like a heavy chain tangled around us. Sometimes we even carry guilt over sins we have already confessed.

Still our faithful God calls to us, Return to me! Let me lift this weight that exhausts you and drags you down.

Our words of repentance, have the power to unlock the chains that have dragged us down. Not only will God forgive us, but he promises to gradually heal us of the urges and drives that cause us to sin.

There are still 2 weeks before Easter.
Can you hear him crying out?
Return to me! Come and be healed!



Looking Ahead to our Sacred Triduum Schedule

April 2nd—Holy Thursday

- 7:00pm—Mass of the Lord's Supper
- Adoration following Mass until 9:00pm

April 3rd—Good Friday

- Noon—The Passion of our Lord

April 4th—Easter Vigil

- 8:00pm—Easter Vigil Mass

April 5th—Easter Sunday

- 8:30am—Mass
- 10:30am—Mass



All services will take place at St. James.

Attention to those who are sensitive to incense

During the Triduum, we will be using incense on Holy Thursday and during the Easter Vigil Mass.

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 then click on 'Bulletins'.



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.

United Prayers to Heaven Prayer Chain

If you, or anyone you know, is in need of prayers, please let us know. We will keep your name & prayer request confidential. Names are included only if you so desire.

Contacts for Prayer Chain

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

Area Events

Sacred Heart Catholic School; Polonia—Open House. Tuesday, March 24th. 9am-6pm. Tour the school, meet teachers, review curriculum, ask questions! 7379 Church Street, Custer (Polonia). For more information contact the school (715) 600-6942 or Kim Andrich (715) 570-5923 .
www.sacredheartpolonia.com/school

St Peter's Annual Pancake Breakfast & Basket Raffle. Sunday, March 29th. Service 8:00am—Noon. 10 and up—\$10. 9 and under— Free.

March 29 – Grilled Pork Chop Dinner, St. Michael (Junction City) **Drive Thru Only.** Serving from 10:30am to 12:30pm Double Chop Meal \$14 includes 2 Grilled & Seasoned Pork Chops, Baked Potato, Green Bean Casserole, Garden Salad, Bread, and dessert.

Jubilee Year of St Francis Pilgrimage. Tuesday, March 31st. 7:15am Bus departs St. Joseph, Stevens Point. Comfort stop in Tomah. Attend Christ Mass in La Crosse. Tour Maria Angelorum Chapel (Home of the Franciscan Sisters), Lunch on your own. Arrive back at St Joseph approx. 6:30pm. Cost: \$10. Register online at www.PointCatholicFaith.org/chrism or call 715-341-1617. Sponsored by the Stevens Point Deanery.

Sacred Heart, Cassel 222761 Cty Rd S Marathon, WI We will once again host our Pro-Life Chili Dinner and Raffle. April 19th from 9:30 to 2:00 Adults \$8.00 6-12 \$4.00 5 and under are free. It is an all you can eat event. Chili, crackers, bread, cheese, pickles, milk, coffee and dessert. Please join us.

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)
Judy Zinda (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