



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 9, 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 11th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Zach Uher

Wednesday, August 12th 8:15AM @ SM
+Rita Kubisiak and +Regina Piesik

Thursday, August 13th 8:15AM @ SM
+Myron & Vera Rzentkowski

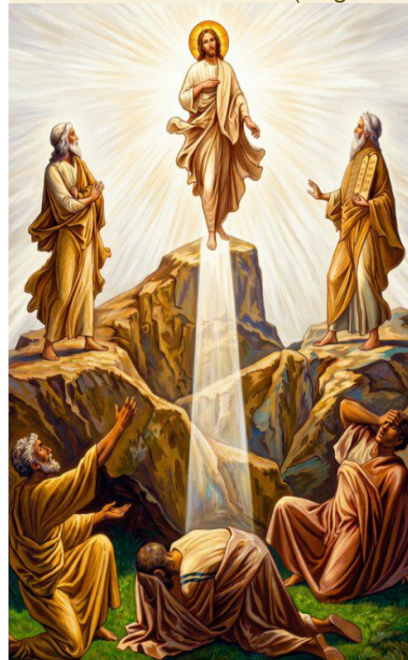
Friday, August 14th 8:15AM @ SJ
+Michael & Emily Wierzba

Saturday, August 15th 4:00PM @ SJ
+Jason Trzebiatowski

Sunday, August 16th
8:30AM @ SJ Parishioners of our Two Parishes
10:30AM @ SM +Leonard & Elizabeth Chojnacki

The Transfiguration of The Lord

(August 6th)



At the Transfiguration, Father, You showed Jesus in glory, a glimpse of what His disciples would see in His risen life.

Bless us in our humanity, with an awareness of Your presence, leading us to share in Your divine life even in our daily struggle.

Help us to deepen our knowledge of the Law and the Prophets, channels of Your grace throughout history, and signposts for our journey.
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

"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."
Matthew 14:27

The disciples were exhausted, battling strong winds and rough waters, when Jesus came to them walking on the sea. At first, they were overcome with fear, but Jesus immediately reassured them, saying,
"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter's response was one of remarkable faith. He stepped out of the boat and began walking toward Jesus. Yet the moment he focused on the wind instead of the Lord, fear took over, and he began to sink. Even then, Jesus reached out His hand and lifted him up.

This Gospel reminds us that we all encounter storms in our lives—times of uncertainty, grief, illness, family struggles, or difficult decisions. Like Peter, we may begin with confidence, but our faith can weaken when we allow fear to overshadow our trust in God.

The good news is that Jesus never leaves us to struggle alone. He is always near, extending His hand with mercy, strength, and hope. Every challenge becomes an invitation to trust Him more deeply. When we keep our eyes fixed on Christ rather than the waves around us, we discover a peace that the world cannot give.

The storms may not disappear immediately, but we can face them with confidence, knowing that the Lord is with us in every moment.

As the disciples proclaimed, *"Truly, you are the Son of God,"* may our own hearts grow in faith and trust each day. May your heart hear His gentle invitation:

"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

This week, take one step out of your "boat" by trusting God with a worry or challenge you have been carrying. Begin each day with a simple prayer:

"Jesus, I trust in You."

Help me keep my eyes on You and not on my fears."

When anxiety or doubt arises, remember that Christ is always near, ready to reach out His hand and lead you safely through every storm.



St James

Week Ending August 2, 2026

Received \$2,959
Budget \$3,462
(\$503)

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

St Mary of Mount Carmel

Week Ending August 2, 2026

Received \$5,447
Budget \$3,923
\$1,524

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

SMMC Scrip Update

Our next sale date is next Sunday, August 16th. But—you can also purchase cards at anytime by calling Pat Zielinski at (715) 824-3762.

St. James Scrip Update

Our next sale date is next Saturday and Sunday...and then again on Saturday, August 29th and Sunday, August 30th. Contact Hydie Laidlaw at (715) 347-3544 or stop by the parish office to purchase cards during the week.

thank you FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Every member of our parish family is precious, and each one enriches our community with unique gifts and talents. When someone is absent, our parish is not quite complete. Each of us has a place at the Lord's table, and together we form the Mystical Body of Christ. As we seek to renew our parish, we long to welcome others into a deeper relationship with our parish family and, above all, into a deeper encounter with Jesus Christ, truly present—though veiled—in the Holy Eucharist.

We pray for all those who have been absent from our parish community and from Sunday Mass. Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, please prepare the way for conversations and invitations that will welcome them home to the Catholic Church and our parish family. Amen.



Faith Formation

- There is still a need for teaching the Chosen program to Grades 9 & 10.
- Consider co-teaching with a friend or spouse.

If interested in learning more about the program, please contact Michelle at sjsmdre@gmail.com.

Other volunteers, substitute teachers, and room aids are also needed.

Thank you to those who will be teaching faith formation this fall.

- Gr. 1 - Kristin Steffen & Addy Allen (aid)
- Gr. 2 - Lauren Griggs
- Gr. 3 - Matt and Amanda Uher
- Gr. 4 - Kayla Pacocha
- Gr. 5 - Claudine Fredy
- Gr. 6 - Julie Humphrey
- Gr. 7/8 - Cam Griggs
- Gr. 9 & 10 - **Catechists still needed**
- Gr. 11 - Cindi Borski



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

DID YOU KNOW?

From our Sacred Worship Committee



This past week or so, the daily readings of the Mass are chosen from the Book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Prophets speak for God by providing us with the teachings of God, by calling us to repent, warning us of judgement, and communicating a brief look of God's ultimate plan for his people.

Jeremiah was called to prophesy around 627 BC in the Kingdom of Judah (the tribes of Judah and Benjamin). The northern ten tribes of Israel had already been exiled to the Kingdom of Assyria, which was subsequently conquered by the Babylonians.

Jeremiah unsuccessfully counseled the people of Judah to amend their ways according to the Lord's will. He told them that if they stopped oppressing the orphan, the widow and shedding innocent blood that they would dwell securely

But they did not listen. He pleaded with them to avoid deceptive words and avoid the sins of theft, murder, adultery, swearing falsely and worshiping the false God Baal, (Sound familiar? Ten commandments?).

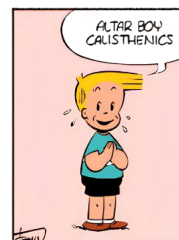
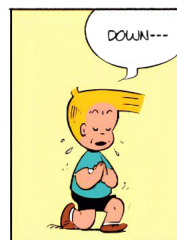
He accused them of turning the Temple into a "den of robbers" - assuming that they could do so because of a false confidence in God's protection. He asked them whether they should be able to proclaim, 'We are delivered! - only to go on doing all these abominations?'
(see Jeremiah Chapter 7).

Jeremiah goes on to prophesy the destruction of the Temple. Judah's conquest by Babylon began in 605 B.C and Jerusalem was destroyed in 586 B.C, along with the beautiful Temple that Solomon built.

Amidst all this destruction and misery, Jeremiah foretells the coming of a New Covenant, which will restore the Davidic kingdom, uniting the houses of Israel and Judah. This Covenant will be greater than the Mosaic covenant. The Law will be written on the people's hearts and will bring about the forgiveness of sins.

Let us praise God today for bringing the incarnate Son of God to us, fulfilling Jeremiah's prophecy.

JESUS
The way. The Truth. The Life



Save the Date: Saturday, October 10th

It's Back! Taste of Our Heritage

Do you enjoy cooking or baking or both?

Do you prepare favorite ethnic foods such as pierogi, tamales, schnitzel, gyros, eggrolls, lefse, rosettes, etc.?

We need your help to add flavor to our 2nd Annual "Taste of our Heritage" event sponsored by our parishes. You would make and serve one ethnic dish/item at our event.

You are invited to a very brief meeting on August 23rd after the 8:30am Mass at St. James or after the 10:30am Mass at SMMC.



The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



St. Maximilan Kolbe once said,
"Never be afraid of loving Mary too much.
You can never love her more than Jesus did."

Area Events

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.

Rural Life Day Sept. 23, 2026 - Creamery Creek Farms in Bangor

Join us for the 45th Annual Rural Life Day Celebration at Creamery Creek Farms, hosted by the John and Donna Hansen family and the Justin and Louisa Peterson family. Rural Life Day is a beautiful event that brings together several hundred members of the faithful to honor rural life in our communities. Our celebration begins with Mass at 10:00 AM, celebrated by Bishop-Emeritus William Callahan, together with many priests and deacons of the diocese. This is followed by special awards and the blessing of crops, animals, and machinery of the farm. We conclude our celebration with a delicious lunch and a freewill offering to benefit Project Milk. Creamery Creek Farms is located at W1250 County Road U, Bangor, WI 54614

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

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