



St. Joseph Parish

1709 Wyatt Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481-3615
715-341-1617 www.togetherinfaith.org

December 10, 2017, Volume LIII, No. 50

Mission: Together in faith, we celebrate Christ through prayer and service.



ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 10-17

- Sunday, December 10, Second Sunday of Advent
Peruvian Sale after Mass
8:30 a.m.—Holy Name Breakfast
- Monday, December 11
7:00 p.m.—Holy Hour for Families
- Tuesday, December 12
6:30 p.m.—RCIA
6:30 p.m.—Advent Reconciliation Service
- Wednesday, December 13
4:15 p.m.—CCD/3-6
6:30 p.m.—CCD/3-6
6:30 p.m.—TYME
- Thursday, December 14, **12/24/17 Bulletin Deadline**
12:00 p.m.—PCS Finance
6:30 p.m.—Parish Education Committee
- Saturday, December 16, Third Sunday of Advent
9:00 a.m.—Bible Study
- Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent

PARISH

Reminder, Holy Name Society breakfast is this Sunday, December 10, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Stop in the Family Center to enjoy delicious sticky buns and great conversation with your parish family. Thank you for your support of this fundraiser.

Advent Reconciliation Service will be on Tuesday, December 12, 6:30 p.m., at St. Joseph Parish.

Congratulations to the Cookie Walk Facebook contest winner, Lorie Liss, who won one free pound of delicious cookies. Thank you to everyone for “Liking” and “Sharing” our event on your Facebook page.

December 9 and 10 Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious—“Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry,” writes a religious sister. Your gift to this weekend’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders! Please make checks payable to St. Joseph Parish. Thank you.

Dynamic Catholic’s Best Advent Ever—’Tis the Season! Remember getting ready for Christmas when you were a child? From decorating the tree to baking cookies, each moment brought you excitement and joy. Preparing for Christmas can be as joyful as it was then. Don’t let this be just another Advent where you get distracted and busy. Rediscover the joy with Best Advent Ever, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic which will help you prepare for Christmas. Each day, you’ll receive an email with short inspirational videos, practical tips to live each day fully, prayers and real-life stories of hope. Go to: BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope to sign up for this wonderful Advent program.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE IN THE PARISH

MARRIAGE BANNES

I—Jake Congdon & Kerri Ainsworth

Special Collections 12/4/17		
Milk Can Fund		\$15.00
Building Fund		\$340.00
Keeping Our Father’s House		\$0.00
Envelopes/Basket Summary—12/4/17		
Weekly Giving		\$7,716
Weekly Giving Budgeted		\$7,096
Giving to Date		\$144,486
Budgeted to Date		\$156,112
DAA 2018 GOAL	\$50,565	<p>65%</p>
Weekly Pledges Received	\$5,615	
Total Pledges Received	\$32,432	
Total Payments Received	\$26,462	
Food for Poor Housing Goal	\$3,600	
Total Received	\$	

Mass Schedule and Intentions

MONDAY, December 11
8:00 a.m. †Eileen Busa

TUESDAY, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe
8:15 a.m. *School Mass at St. Stephen Parish*

WEDNESDAY, December 13, St. Lucy
8:00 a.m. †Leo & Lorraine Ligman

THURSDAY, December 14, St. John of the Cross
8:00 a.m. *Mass at St. Stephen Parish*

FRIDAY, December 15
8:00 a.m. †Mae Spangle

Third Sunday of Advent

SATURDAY, December 16
4:00 p.m. †Ken Slicker
†Michael Slowinski

SUNDAY, December 17
10:30 a.m. †George Lilyquist
†Edward Levandowski

Liturgical Ministers for December 16-17

4:00 p.m. — Saturday

Mass Preparation: Kris Hansen
Altar Servers: Jeannette Friess & Don Showalter
Hospitality Ministers:
Mike Bablitch Val Omernick Virginia Zakoski (w)
Steve Brazzale Maurice Stoltz

Reader: Mary Davidson

Eucharistic Ministers:
Kim Boden Jan Boursier Dolly McKay
Rich Boden Charisse Fogarty Rich Mrozinski

Gift Card Sellers: Mary Stroik

10:30 a.m. — Sunday

Mass Preparation: Kris Hansen
Altar Servers: Jacob Cornell, Cheyenne Cornell, and Luke Sekerka
Hospitality Ministers:
Don Dehlinger Jeanette Koziczowski(w)
Kathy Hansel Chris Sekerka Luke Wachowiak

Readers: Mike Daniels & Terry Miller

Eucharistic Ministers:
Paul Banz Sally Dehlinger
Mike or Michelle Cornell Kevin Shibilski
Mary Pat Dean Brian Zimmerman

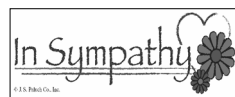
Gift Card Sellers: Terri Kroening

PARISH

January 1, 2018, The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is *not* a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be *no* added Mass times on January 1. St. Joseph Parish will have the normal 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Pastoral Council is seeking parishioners willing to serve on the nine-member Pastoral Council. The Pastoral Council assists and advises the Pastor on matters of policy in the parish. A Council term is a three year commitment. The Pastoral Council meets each month, except for June and July. Special meetings are held on occasion. Contact Rich Boden at 715-344-6722 before December 12 if you are interested.

Custodial Position—St. Joseph Parish is actively seeking a part-time custodian (30 hours per week). Job responsibilities include all cleaning of parish buildings, care of grounds, and general light maintenance of parish facilities. Responsible applicants will be expected to be self-directed and this highly motivated individual will take pride in the position and be attentive to the needs of St. Joseph Parish. Interested individuals can call Renée Schneeberg at the St. Joseph Parish office for more information, 715-341-1617 x101.



To the family of Margaret Myhra, who passed away on November 24; may the Lord hold you in his loving arms in this time of sorrow. Be assured the family of St. Joseph Parish will continue to pray for you.

Christmas Mass Schedule

St. Joseph Parish
12/24 Kids' Noel Mass 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Vigil Mass 10:00 p.m.

12/25, Christmas Day 10:30 a.m.

St. Stephen Parish
12/24, Christmas Eve 5:30 p.m.
12/25, Christmas Day 8:30 a.m.

Adult Educational Opportunity—RCIA will have the last segment of Church History on December 12. Please join us for this wonderful series! For any questions, call Kris Hansen at 715-341-1617 x112.

January Crafter Fundraiser—

Friday, December 15, is the deadline to register and pay for the craft event at a cost of \$35.00. Thereafter, from December 16-19, cost goes up to \$40.00. Join us at St. Joseph Parish Family Center on Saturday, January 13, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for this great crafting opportunity. Participants must be 18 years of age or older. For digital scrappers, we will have internet access. All registration forms and payments are due in the parish office by **December 29**. Please see the pink insert in this week's bulletin for more information.



PARISH

Congratulations to our parishioners who are celebrating their Wedding Anniversary the week of December 11-17:



Richard & Elissa Van Wyhe, 4 years

Richard & Diana Mrozinski, 49 years

May God bless and grant you many years of happiness.

A Celebration of Ministry—St. Joseph Parish members, staff and councils recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit in calling forth Renée Schneeberg, Administrative Assistant, and Jacob Stienmann, Finance Secretary. The parish is very grateful for your dedicated service and recognizes all your hard work and service, which helps our parish to be so successful. All God's blessings in the coming year.

How is the Holy Spirit calling you to use your gifts for our community?

Holiday Light Fundraiser—Are your holiday lights missing bulbs, broken or are you tired of using the same lights? Do you have extension cords you no longer need or use? Bring them into the parish because the lights and cords can be recycled for the copper inside. The collection runs until January 15, 2018. Please place the lights and cords in the red box in the Gathering Space.

Weekly Reflections—Today's readings urge us to "prepare the way of the Lord." That preparation begins with repentance. The dictionary defines "repent" as "to feel such regret for previous behavior as to change one's mind about it." Consider your past behavior in light of Jesus' example. What behavior(s) do you regret? Recognizing our failures and our shortcomings is a first step. What is behind this behavior? Do we assume we are "right" and our way is the "best" one? Perhaps we are being called to a change of mind that would allow us to consider that others could be right or that there are other ways just as valid as ours. Ask the Spirit to help you see what mind-set you have that needs to be changed and pray for the grace to make that change.

*Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.
—Isaiah 40:1*

School Demolition—Altmann Construction will begin demolition of the school building within the next few weeks. Please use caution in the area while they are removing the building.

Ehr Hall Update—A decision is pending on what new flooring to place in the hall. The hall *and* the restrooms still remain closed.

Advent Tree & Wreath Project—

The Gospel tells us Jesus expects his disciples to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, comfort the sick and welcome the stranger. This Advent season, support the local groups that minister to these needs year round.



Dressed to Work is a guidance organization that helps low-income people prepare for new or first-time employment interviews. Your donations provide supplies towards a best, first-time appearance.

Fuel Assistance, Operation Bootstrap, is an all-volunteer organization providing for those in need of food and other assistance. It accepts monetary gifts for a fuel aid program. Wisconsin's hard weather causes large heating bills and with increases yearly, your donations can help low-income families pay their bills.

Family Crisis Center helps those with emergency needs of counseling, shelter, food and other set-up supplies if a fresh new start must happen. It also provides a weekly meal of fellowship which your donations may help.

Baby Bootstrap of Operation Bootstrap, will provide a layette of clothing and diapers, along with formula and food for new mothers in need. Your generosity at this holiday season will assist in assembling the layettes.

First Choice councils, mentors and provides medical assistance to those coping with unplanned pregnancy. They provide a baby boutique where clients can use baby bucks earned to purchase needed items. Donated supplies fill this special shop.

More information about these charities is provided on the bulletin board, behind the Christmas tree in the Gathering Space. Please take one or more ornaments from the tree or wreath during Advent. Purchase the gift requested and return the gift *unwrapped* with the ornament attached, and place it in the box marked for the charity noted on the ornament. Donations will be collected during Advent and the Christmas season through January 1. **Great idea!** Why not use gift cards for your purchases? They are available in the Gathering Space following each weekend Mass.

December 24 Kid's Noel Mass—We need children, grades 1-6, from both St. Joseph and St. Stephen Parishes, to perform in the pageant that takes place during the 4:00 p.m. liturgy at St. Joseph Parish on Christmas Eve. Grade 7 to adult are needed as helpers/coaches. Sign-up forms can be found at the church entrances. For questions or to sign up, please call Michelle Cornell at 715-341-5178.

Operation Bootstrap—In December, the parish will continue to support Operation Bootstrap. Whatever you are able to donate is greatly appreciated.

PARISH

St. Joseph Call to Justice Committee is combining with Holy Spirit Parish to provide a Community Christmas Meal on December 25 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit Parish. If you are interested in attending, or would like a meal delivered, call Renée Schneeberg at 715-341-1617 x 101. Deadline to call Renée is December 18. Note, there will be *no* Meal of Hope at St. Joseph Parish on December 25.

AREA CHURCHES, SCHOOLS & DEANERY

Advent Reconciliation Schedules for parishes in the Deanery are as follows:

December 12	St. Michael	6:00 p.m.
December 12	St. Joseph	6:30 p.m.
December 14	St. Bronislava	7:00 p.m.
December 18	St. Wenceslaus	6:00 p.m.
December 19	St. James	6:30 p.m.
December 21	St. Peter	6:00 p.m.
December 23	St. Bartholomew	6:30 p.m.
December 24	St. Bartholomew	9:00 a.m.

Holy Hour for Families—The Holy Hour for Families, is Monday, December 11, St. Joseph Parish, 7:00 p.m. The hour includes Exposition, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction, prayer and Confession.

St. Adalbert Parish & School is holding two events on Saturday, December 16. The first event is the Christmas Cookie Sale from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Sunday, December 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. There will be homemade cookies, candies, noodles and more. The second event on December 16 is the St. Adalbert School Christmas Concert at 3:00 p.m. in the church hall. All are welcome! Following the concert will be a free dinner.

Kolache & Bake Sale will be held at St. Wenceslaus Church, Milladore, on Sunday December 16, 4:00 p.m. The sale is sponsored by their PCCW and CCD program. Cost is \$7.00 per dozen.

Pacelli Catholic High School will have Eucharistic Adoration the first Thursday of every month, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., while school is in session. The upcoming dates are January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5 and May 3. You may sign up for Adoration by following this link: <http://bit.ly/Dec72017>. Thank you for spending time with Our Lord!

Franciscans Downtown next movie is *Star Trek IV, The Voyage Home*, on December 13, 1:00 p.m.

Franciscans Downtown is hosting “*Lessons & Carols*” on Saturday, December 16, 12:00 p.m., to celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, named Gaudete Sunday, which means “Rejoice in the Lord always!” “Lessons & Carols” will be with master organist, William Weinmann. There will be refreshments after the carols and concert. All are welcome to celebrate!

DIOCESE/WIDER CHURCH

Send a Prayer Intention to Bishop Callahan—If you missed Bishop Callahan’s automated phone message on December 7 to share a prayer intention, you can call 608-352-9565 to still submit your intention. You may also go on line at www.dioc.org/pray to submit an intention.

Mission Trip to Rebuild After Hurricane Harvey—A group of volunteers from St. Henry Watermark Mission, an ecumenical initiative from St. Henry Parish in Eau Galle, will be traveling to Houston, TX, this spring to help rebuilding efforts of residents most in need in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. They will assist with carpentry, sheetrock, mud, tape, insulation, some electrical/plumbing, paint, flooring, finish work and landscaping. For more information call Gary Asher at 715-283-4451 or by email at rasher@wwt.net.

December, Human Trafficking—This year you can give a gift to support the work of U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking. Mail donations to P.O. Box 25241, Philadelphia, PA 19119, or go to: sistersagainstrafficking.org.

COMMUNITY

Holiday Basket Project—Support of the Holiday Basket project by people in Portage County has been outstanding. This project matches basket sponsors with people who have many needs at the holiday time. Sponsors are needed to make the holidays a happier time for those less fortunate. If you are interested or have any questions, call the Holiday Basket office at 715-344-9950. If circumstances for you and your family are such that you would like information regarding the qualifications necessary to receive a basket, please call the office at 715-344-9950.

Workshop #2, “Dementia Conversations”—This workshop is December 12, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Room, St. Bronislava Parish. Mass is at 5:30 p.m. The workshop offers tips on how to have a caring conversation with family members about going to the doctor, deciding when to stop driving and making legal financial plans. All are welcome.



St. Joseph Parish

Parish Office-715-341-1617
Website—www.togetherinfaith.org
Office Hours: Wed., 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Friday, 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Closed Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

Parish Office Fr. Jerzy Rebacz, Pastor Fr. Todd Mlsna, Associate Pastor Art Schaller, Deacon Mike Horgan, Deacon	715-341-1617, x103 pastor@togetherinfaith.org
Renée Schneeberg Admin. Assistant	715-341-1617 x101 rschnee@togetherinfaith.org
Jacob Stiemann Finance Secretary	715-341-1617 x102 finance@togetherinfaith.org
Custodian	715-341-1617
Kris Hansen Pastoral Minister	715-341-1617 x112 khansen@togetherinfaith.org
Religious Education Office Lynn Meyer Director of Children's Ministry	715-341-1617 x114 lmeyer@togetherinfaith.org
Jodi Moss Director of Youth Ministry Youth Website	715-341-1617 x113 youthminister@togetherinfaith.org saintsyouthministry.weebly.com
Pastoral Council Rich Boden, President	parishcouncil@togetherinfaith.org 715-344-6722
Sacred Worship Ellen Miskowski Kris Hansen	sacredworship@togetherinfaith.org 715-344-2952 715-340-7751
Parish Family Life Mary Stroik Terry Miller	familylife@togetherinfaith.org 715-345-1810 715-340-2471
Call to Justice Committee Mary Droske	calltojustice@togetherinfaith.org 715-824-5485
Parish Education Committee Pat Wenzl, Facilitator	pec@togetherinfaith.org 715-344-3906
Finance Council Bill Wallner, Co-Chairman Dave Hansen, Co-Chairman	715-341-7750 715-457-6804
Building and Grounds Ron Kobishop	715-344-2276
Picnic Co-Chairs Josh Miskowski Bill and Tari Wallner	715-295-4161 715-341-7750
St. Anne's Society/Parish Council of Women Kathy Tetzloff, President	715-344-7150 stannes@togetherinfaith.org
Holy Name Society Rob Jaworski, President	715-344-3717
Senior Citizens Ron & Aggie Kobishop	715-344-2276
PCS Central Administrative Office	715-341-2445

Mission: Together in Faith,
we Celebrate Christ
through Prayer
and Service.



Welcome to St. Joseph Parish—to those who are new to our church or just visiting. We are grateful to have you share in this celebration of the Eucharist. If you are not currently a member of a local church, we invite you to become part of our parish family. Visit our Parish Office to sign up, ask questions or receive more information about our parish. We're glad you're here and hope you become involved in our parish family. Our website is www.togetherinfaith.org.

Remember St. Joseph Parish in your Legacy. St. Joseph Parish has seen a decline in giving over the past year, while at the same time expenses have gone up. The Parish would like to continue with expansion of many worthwhile programs and projects successfully. Please, ask Fr. Jerzy how you can help by giving to St. Joseph Parish General Fund.

Sacraments

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office for detailed information on infant Baptism, as parents are asked to attend a baptismal preparation program. The Baptism will be scheduled after completion of the class.

Marriage: Marriage is celebrated for couples who are active and registered members in the Parish. Please contact the Parish Office at least eight (8) months prior to the requested wedding date.

Reconciliation: Confessions are heard on Saturday at 3:30 p.m., before the evening Mass, or you may call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

Funeral: Please contact the funeral home director who will assist in making arrangements. The funeral director will then contact the Parish Office.

Services

Visitation of the Sick: If you become homebound because of illness and would like a visit, please call the Parish Office.

Bulletin Deadline: Articles are due Thursday by 12:00 p.m. Drop off the articles at the Parish Office, or send by email to bulletin@togetherinfaith.org, with a copy to rschnee@togetherinfaith.org.

