



# St. Mary's Catholic Church

Third Sunday of Advent  
December 13, 2020



Father David Greskowiak—Parish Administrator

Contact Us: Emergency #920-228-1814 — Office #920-984-3319 — [stmarybc.office@gmail.com](mailto:stmarybc.office@gmail.com)

### MASS INTENTION FOR THIS WEEK

Sun	Dec 13	8:00am	Living and Deceased members of our Parish
Tues	Dec 15	7:30am	Mark Skinkis
Wed	Dec 16	7:30am	For the unborn and aborted
Thur	Dec 17	7:30am	Parishioners in nursing homes
Fri	Dec 18	7:30am	Bill Albrecht
Sat	Dec 19	4:00pm	Lucy Carpenter
Sun	Dec 20	8:00am	Living and Deceased members of our Parish

### Parish Receipts for December 6, 2020

Parish Support	\$2112.00
Offertory	\$90.00
Mass Stipends	\$80.00
Stole Fee (Baptism)	\$10.00
Stock Dividend	\$126.50
Christmas Flowers	\$160.00
Votive Candles	\$58.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSIT = \$2636.50</b>	

*Thank you for your generosity!*

### CHRISTMAS GIFTS TAGS

Please wrap your gift and securely attach the Christmas tag on the outside of the gift. Gifts must be returned by **December 20th at 8:00am**. Place them in the side entrance between the church and rectory. Thank you!



### DISPENSATION FROM THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND HOLY MASS

Because of the ongoing COVID situation, Bishop Ricken reinstated the Dispensation from the Obligation to attend Holy Mass several weeks ago. This means that, for the time being, faithful Catholics are not required to attend Holy Mass on Sundays under pain of mortal sin.

This Dispensation will also apply to Holy Days of Obligation. This means that Catholics are not obliged to attend Holy Mass on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (8 December) as well as Christmas (25 December) and the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (1 January). Let us hope and pray that this situation improves quickly.

reconciliation

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday starting at 3:00 pm.**

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION—WE'RE STILL GOING !

We are doing in-person classes for Grades 2, 8, 9, and 10. Grade 2 meets at 2:30 P.M. and grades 8, 9 and 10 meet at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesdays in the parish hall. Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are home-study so far. Likewise if students and/or parents are uncomfortable with in-person classes they can be done via home-study. Also you can view or download materials for home-study at

[www.gbresources.org](http://www.gbresources.org). Please feel free to contact the parish office if you have any questions or need materials for home-study.



## PURCHASING MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to offer the Holy Mass for someone you love, living or deceased, please stop by the parish office and purchase a Mass Intention. The stipend for a Mass Intention is \$10. If you would prefer the intention to be anonymous or private you could simply have it written up as "For a Special Intention." The Holy Mass is the greatest prayer that can be offered and offering a Mass for someone a great act of love toward them. Thank you.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession for Religious Education Students

Fr. David will be offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession for our Religious Education students **on Wednesday, 16 December**. This is for both in-person and home-study students. The scheduled times will be:

- 2:30 P.M. Confession for grades 3-5
- 6:30 P.M. First Confession for Grade 2 followed by Confession for grades 6-11

We ask that those students who will be coming to Confession to please be in the church at those times so that Fr. David can have a brief talk with them beforehand. Thank you.

Fr. David will likewise be offering the Sacrament of Confession during the month of December to give everyone a chance to nurture themselves spiritually during the Advent and Christmas Seasons. The times will be before and after Mass on Saturday and after Mass during the weekday. There will also be some evening opportunities during the week of 20 December with the dates and times to be announced next weekend. As Pope Francis has said: ***"Don't be afraid of confession. When someone is in line for confession he feels all these things - even shame - but then, when he finishes confessing, he leaves (feeling) free, great, beautiful, forgiven, clean, happy. The sacrament of reconciliation is a sacrament of healing,"***

## PARISH & FINANCE MEETING

Meeting for the Parish and Finance council is this Tuesday Dec. 15 in the parish hall at 6:30 PM.

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Reports are at the exits of church for your taking.



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## SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER/DRE POSITION

In case you were not aware, Kay Arndt, who was hired this past summer as our new secretary/bookkeeper/Director of Religious Education (DRE) was recently offered full-time work at St. Clare Parish in Wrightstown and is longer with us. So once again we are seeking an employee for the position of secretary, bookkeeper and Director of Religious Education. Some of the duties include: managing the parish office, being the receptionist, providing administrative duties for the parish; maintaining accounts payable and receivable, doing bank reconciliations, processing financial reports; planning and developing a diocesan approved Catholic curriculum for grades 1-11 for both in-person and home-study classes, ordering necessary books and materials, helping recruit catechists and maintaining LoSEC records, and update information on students in Gabriel software.

Desired applicants should be proficient in computer skills including Microsoft Office Suite, QuickBooks and Gabriel. Since this position also involves being a Director of Religious Education, the applicant must also be a practicing Catholic in good standing of a Catholic parish in the Diocese of Green Bay. This is a three quarter to full-time benefit eligible position working 4-5 days a week depending on the needs of the parish.

Interested persons should please contact Fr. David Greskowiak at:  
P.O. Box 217  
Black Creek, WI 54106  
stmarybc.pastor@gmail.com; 920-228-1814

## CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

### Christmas Season Mass Schedule

#### The Christmas Mass Schedule for St. Mary's Parish is:

24 December (Thursday) 4:00 P.M.  
25 December (Friday) 12:00 A.M. (midnight)  
and 8:00 A.M.

#### The Christmas Mass Schedule for St. Lawrence in Navarino is:

24 December (Thursday) 6:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M.  
25 December (Friday) 10:00 A.M.

#### The Mass Schedule for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day) is:

31 December (Thursday)  
4:00 P.M. (St. Mary's—Black Creek)  
1 January (Friday)  
8:00 A.M. (St. Mary's—Black Creek)  
10:00 A.M. (St. Lawrence—Navarino)



## THANK YOU!

St. Mary Parish is sponsoring a \$100.00 a ticket raffle. **All the tickets are sold!** Fifteen prizes will be awarded ranging from **\$2500.00—\$200.00**. Drawing will be Sun. Jan. 10 at 9:00am in the Parish Hall. Good Luck!

## Retirement Collection for Priests and Religious

**This Weekend—12/13 December**, is the special collection for retired priests and religious, and so we will have a second collection to support this very worthy cause. Special envelopes are available in the church. Let us please be generous in helping those retired priests and religious who have given so much to us. Thank you and God bless you.



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## MORE THOUGHTS ON ADVENT

### Marian Celebrations in Advent

This past week—the Second Week of Advent, we had three celebrations in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The first was the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on 8 December. This solemnity celebrates the dogma (official teaching of the Church that is without error) that Mary was preserved free of Original Sin from the moment of her conception by the grace of God, which then meant she was preserved free of sin all her life. Since Jesus her son was sinless it was necessary then that Mary had to likewise be sinless. This dogma was officially proclaimed by Pope Pius IX on 8 December 1854. It is also the Patronal Feast of the United States.

The second celebration was Our Lady of Loretto on 10 December. This memorial was inserted into the Church calendar by Pope Francis in 2019. This memorial commemorates the little house in which the Virgin Mary was born and in which the Annunciation occurred. Tradition states that a band of angels scooped up the little house from the Holy Land and first transported it to Tersato, Dalmatia in 1291, then to Recanati, Italy in 1294 and then to Loreto, Italy where it has been for centuries. This “flight” of the house has led to Our Lady of Loreto being declared the patroness of pilots, airmen flight attendants and others involved in aviation

The third celebration was the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on 12 December. This Feast commemorates the appearance of Mary to St. Juan Diego on the Hill of Tepeyac in present day Mexico City from 9-12 December 1531. The Virgin Mary requested that a chapel be built on the spot. The bishop of Mexico City requested some sign as proof of Mary's appearance. On her final appearance on 12 December, Mary told Juan Diego to gather some roses that were surprisingly blooming on the barren hill. She arranged them in his tilma—a cactus cloth cloak, and told him to give them to the bishop. When Juan Diego opened his cloak for the bishop the roses spilled out and the image of the Virgin Mary was present on the tilma. The tilma with the image on it are displayed in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of the Americas and of the Unborn.

