

Welcome to the

Catholic Community January 21st, 2024

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish - St. Mary's Ridge ~ St. Augustine of Hippo Parish - Norwalk Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish & School - Cashton

Parish Clergy

Administrator: Fr. Matthew L

Bowe

mbowe@diolclergv.org

Deacon: Dcn. Sam Schmirler

deacon@smash3p.org

Tri-Parish Office

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Telephone: (608) 654-5654

Hours: M, W & Th 8am-3pm

Tuesday & Friday Closed

Website: www.smash3p.org

Parish Staff

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Sacred Heart School

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School Office Hours

7:30am-3:30pm M-F

Lead Teacher: Jayme Klinge

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Secretary: Doreen Brueggeman

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From the Haministrator A Pebble Skipping Across a Pond

I bet some of you wonder what I do on a daily basis. I bet some of you did not know that deep down you wonder what I do. Some of you probably never wondered except to maybe question, "Where has Fr. Matthew been on the weekends?"

Rest assured that I am not on an extended vacation in some warm, tropical Caribbean climate. Other priests are, just not in the Caribbean. In our Diocese, there is a good number of priests from India who generously serve in parishes of our Diocese. During this time of the year, the priests wisely go back to India to visit family and friends and to warm up their toes again.

While they are gone, those of us priests who remain in the frozen tundra provide help-out coverage to their parishes. Thus, a number of senior priests (i.e., retired priests) and associate pastors are called to help. I had committed to four weekends at a number of sites before receiving the call to serve as your administrator. Instead of dropping the coverages that I already agreed upon, I decided to find a help-out priest so that I could keep my commitments. Therefore, thank you for welcoming Fr. Grubba this past weekend and these next few weekends.

Last weekend, I covered the parishes in Camp Douglas, Indian Creek, and New Lisbon. None of these drives are too far away (the first two sites are part of the Tomah School District). This weekend I am covering Lyndon Station, which is the first parish our Diocese founded. The neat and interesting thing about helping out in other parishes is seeing a wider picture of the Diocese. Not only is the scenery different, but the cultures are different in different parishes. Certainly, the Mass is the same, but people pray and do things differently.

When a priest leaves, another priest must come so that the Masses can be celebrated. Thus, we priests help each other out as we are able. Although it may not be ideal (a part of me wants to stay in one place), we need to accept that things will not always remain the same. We, at times, have to adjust to a new and unfamiliar situation, at least for a time. By the weekend of February 10 and 11, the next weekend that I am back, I pray that things will be more "typical" (normal, I think, is not the right word).

Until then, I remain like a pebble skipping across a pond.

Father Matthew

The Week at a Glance...

Tuesday, January 23rd
—Mass 8am SH

Wednesday, January 24th
—CCD 3:30-4:45pm SH
—CCD 7:00-8:15pm SH
Grades 6-9

Friday January, 26th
—Adoration 2:30pm SH

Sacramental Life

Baptism: Because we believe in the ordinary necessity of Baptism for salvation, it is customary that newborns be baptized as soon as is practical, usually within a month after birth. Parents need to attend baptism preparation with Deacon Sam prior to scheduling a baptism. Please contact the parish office for details or to register.

Marriage: Couples should contact the Pastor at the time of formal engagement or at least eight months prior to the desired date of the wedding. In the case of a mixed marriage, the non-Catholic party must arrange to receive instructions about the Catholic faith prior to the celebration of the sacrament.

Penance:

Saint Augustine Thursday after Mass Sacred Heart Friday 7:30am Sacred Heart Saint Mary's Sunday 7:00 a.m.

Anointing of the Sick: Those who are seriously sick, have been ill for a long period or are to undergo surgery should receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion. Please contact the Pastor or the parish office.

Visitation of the Sick: If you become hospitalized, institutionalized or homebound because of illness and would like communion brought to your home or just to be visited, please call the parish office.

Catholic Education: Sacred Heart School offers Christian formation to children in grades 4K through 8. Call the school, 654-7733, to visit or request an application for enrollment.

Bulletin Deadline: Please submit items for publication in the weekly bulletin before 8am Wednesday.

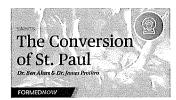


Week of January 21, 2024



Saint Francis de Sales and the Character of a Christian: Devotion (Part 1 of 4)

In this four-part series, Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Christopher O. Blum sit down to discuss St. Francis de Sales, his best known work "The Introduction to the Devout Life", and the character of a Christian.



The Conversion of Saint Paul

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Dr. James Prothro, Assistant Professor of Sacred Scripture at the Augustine Institute Graduate School, to discuss the conversion of one of the largest figures in Christianity, Saint Paul.



The Hour of Our Death | Eternal Rest | Episode 3

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven sacraments of the Church. This session, we discover the role of this sacramental anointing in the spiritual struggle during serious illness, the final stages of our temporal life, and the hour of our death.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the ALCOSTINE INSTITUTE and Bygracios press

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Cashton

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Thank a Teacher!

Catholic Schools Week is approaching and we began a new tradition last year of creating a "Thank-a-Teacher" Google form where families, parishioners, and fellow educators can submit an anonymous (or provide their name) "thank-you" to one of dedicated and compassionate Catholic Schools professionals from across our 19 counties. We package the comments for our Superintendent who then sends them to the referenced schools. We also

share some of these comments on our social media platforms and these tend to be among the most engaging posts we publish. Simply scan the QR code with your phone camera and you will be taken directly to the site

where you can leave your comment. Let's flood all teachers, admins, and staff with love!

Grandparents Needed!

Tuesday, January 23rd Sacred Heart School will be celebrating grandparents day for Catholic Schools Week. Several of our students have out of town grandparents or not enough grandparents for the whole family. If you would like to participate and help us make sure everyone has a friend for the morning please join us. We will start the day with Mass at 8am and then proceed to the basement for crafts and cookies. We also invite everyone to join us for a delicious lunch before we dismiss at 11:45am. Please contact the parish office if you would like more information.

Baby bottles for Birthright

The annual fundraiser for Birthright of La Crosse is here. Birthright is an international volunteer organization with a La Crosse chapter since 1976. Birthright is available to those with an unintended pregnancy to provide information, a listening space, and love, along with referrals and emotional and spiritual support when needed. The campaign will begin the weekend of January 20-21, 2024 and will conclude February 14, 2024.

Needed:

Sacred Heart is looking for someone to launder and mend the cassock and surplice vestments. If you are willing and able, contact the parish office.

Young Adult Retreat - January 27, 2024

The world needs Jesus. Our souls need Jesus. Out of God's abundant love for us. He became man: the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14). Jesus is the answer to the longings of our heart, and He is our way to eternal life. Knowing He would ascend into heaven, Jesus leaves us Himself - body, blood, soul, and divinity- under the guise of simple bread and simple wine. Why? So that our intimate love and union with Him (flesh to flesh) may continue in this life as we await the perfection of His love and union in the next. "Behold: God is With Us" or "Behold", for short, is an opportunity for you to retreat from the busyness and stresses of this world and find rest and consolation in Jesus and other young adults like you. All 18-35 year olds are welcome to join us for a day of enriching talks, silent prayer/reflection, small group discussion, adoration, confession, and Mass. Most importantly, learn how to remain connected post-retreat to a lively community of young adults striving for Sainthood. This day-long retreat will occur at Blessed Sacrament Parish in La Crosse, WI. All of this and more for the low cost of \$20. Go to the diocesan website to register.

Retrouvaille

Is your marriage in distress? No matter how hopeless it seems, forgiveness and trust are possible. Retrouvaille is a Catholic-based program that helps couples through difficult times in their marriages, some even after separation or divorce. It is not counseling or group therapy. The next program begins with a weekend on February 16-18, 2024, in the Wausau area. Call 1-877-922-HOPE (4673). Fully Confidential. More www.HelpOurMarriage.org No couple is turned away for lack of finances.

For Youth and Young Adults

How are things going in seeing things as Ok, you probably know people who smile a gift? Particularly in this time of the school year, things can seem kind of dull or boring. The hum of the holidays has gone and we still have several

months of winter (most likely). It can be especially difficult to see anything as a gift, particularly those things that we have to drudge through.

Our next saint is Julie Billiart. Julie was so poor she rarely went to school. Some of you may think, gosh, I'd like to be in her shoes and not

have to go to school. This would be a case of the "grass is always greener on the other side". Despite hardly going to school, she knew her faith very well and would teach others about the things she knew. When she was just 14, she promised God that she would give her life to Him. Julie started an order of sisters we know as the Sisters of Norte Dame - The Sisters of Our Lady. Their job was to teach young girls.

Why is Julie our saint for the virtue of gratitude? Well, Julie always smiled.

a lot. What makes her so special? Julie was bedridden for 30 years!

Can you imagine? She was stuck in bed

for 30 YEARS and still she smiled. She was known to have said she was ashamed that she had not already died of gratitude for everything God had done for her. That's an amazing gift of gratitude. While we are not bedridden (at least not most of us), do we acknowledge all that God has done for us? Even those things that are uncomfortable or unpleasant help us to grow (or can help us grow closer to Him if we let it).

Are we thankful for sunshine even if it hurts our eyes after having several cloudy days? Are we thankful for the ability to learn in school (or virtually) even if we'd rather be doing other things like sleeping in or reading books? Are we thankful for adults in our lives who remind us to do what we ought to do, even if we don't like it or agree? We are only about halfway through January. Let's renew our desire to practice this virtue.

Sacred Heart School News

4K & 5K with Mrs. Klinge

C is for cookie! We all had our share of cookies over the holidays! That makes us expert cookie makers, right?? Here is a recipe for peanut butter M&M cookies compliments of the preschool and kindergarten...

You will need:

- -5 cups of flour
- -1 big egg
- -2 scoops of milk
- -1 scoop sugar (better not use too much!)
- -2 scoops peanut butter
- -1 scoop yeast

Mix it in a bowl. Roll out the dough. Get the cookie cutters (snowman, tree, star, gingerbread man, snowflake, candy cane, mitten, and a tank), icing, and sprinkles ready. Put the cookies on a rectangle pan and put them in the oven. Turn the oven to 2 or 7 degrees. Bake them for 5 minutes. Take them out and put icing and sprinkles on. ("We are not sure if these will taste good...") Happy Baking!!

1st & 2nd with Mrs. Balk

We finally got lots of snow to play in and now it is too cold to go out and enjoy it!!

What is your favorite thing to do when you go outside after a big snowstorm? The first and second graders like to build snowmen, build snow forts, and go sledding.

When it is too cold to go outside to play, what do you like to do inside? The first and second graders like to play Star Wars with our brothers, play with the farm set, color, watch TV, play with my brothers, sisters and friends, play with Legos, read, and help take care of my baby brother.

Art with Mrs. Leis

This week for art we reviewed terms and discussed negative and positive space in our drawings followed by a simple negative space art project. The students then put some of their skills to use by creating their own simple one point perspective winter scene using a bit of color to create a focal point.

5th-8th Math & Science with Mrs. Flock

This week in Math, Grade 5 continues to calculate volume of complex cuboids, and Grade 6 is moving on to solving and graphing inequalities. Grade 7 is graphing linear equations and learning about slope of the line, while grade 8 is graphing negative quadratic equations, which are really upside down parabolas! Science finds the 5/6 grade students studying color and pigments and 7/8th grades are finishing their unit on carbon chemistry.

Religion with Mrs. Steger

7/8 started their learning of the Sacrament of Baptism. This is nothing new for this group of students but we learned about the ordinary minister, the matter and the form. We also discussed baptism of desire and baptism of blood. Ask one of the students about this if you haven't heard of these things.

5/6 started our learning about the Mass. The Mass was first celebrated by Jesus at the Last Supper. This was a furthering of the Jewish celebration of Passover, which remembered the Israelites freedom from the Egyptians as the Angel of Death passed over the homes which were marked with a lamb's blood.

Atrium students finished up the events after the birth of Jesus such as the Presentation in the Temple and the Flight to Egypt. They also continued working with other materials they were presented with earlier in the year.

Phy Ed with Mr. Steger

We're all "memento mori" in 5-8 P.E., doing rotations of "Death by" workouts of burpees, air squats, and jumping air squats. I can neither confirm nor deny that we were all walking around with sore legs 2 days after Death by Jumping Air Squats.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading Reflections

Today's readings call us to be decisive in our faith. Simon, Andrew, James, and John demonstrate this decision in their response to Christ's calling, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." In both instances, the men immediately abandoned what was before them and followed Christ. Imagine if Simon and Andrew looked at their Savior and said, "Thanks for the offer, but we will finish fishing and meet you later." That is no way a disciple should respond to Christ's call. Yet, that is how we often react to Jesus' offer to us. "Come after me." We can easily fall into the misconception that we have plenty of time to live active discipleship. But as faithful stewards of our time, we must change our ways and immediately follow Christ more intentionally because Christ is calling us to act now. These men became members of Jesus' 12 apostles. They surrendered their entire lives to follow Christ. We, too, are called to offer our lives to the Lord so He may work through us. We might think, "God isn't calling me." But indeed, He is. Just as He called four ordinary fishermen, He calls each of us. Renewing and reevaluating what God might ask us throughout our lives is critical to our stewardship journey. As we settle into this New Year, let us ponder how we can renew our commitment to God. Let us ask ourselves: what are we casting our nets for? And are we willing to leave it behind for something much grander? And if not now, when?

Diocesan Annual Appeal

All parishes continue to make great progress in the goals. Saint Mary's & Saint Augustine are under \$1000 each! Sacred Heart is at the point now where all the money sent in will come back to our parish tax free! This in an important income needed to sustain the budget. If you have not sent in your pledge yet, or can give a bit more, yes, there is still time. Simply make your check out to DAA and place it into the collection. We will make sure it is forwarded to the Diocese. Thank you to everyone's attention to this matter.

	Sacred Heart	St. Mary's	St. Augustine
Goal	\$37,070	\$17,465	\$10,050
Pledged	\$30,540	\$16,770	\$9,195
Donors	73	44	18
Over/Under	-\$6,530	-\$695	-\$855

St. Augustine's PCCW

will meet on Monday, January 29, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the church basement. We will be discussing the upcoming Lion's Dinner and planning the St. Patrick's Day smorgasbord. All ladies of our parish are members and we would love to have you join us!

Knights of Columbus Meeting

Has been rescheduled to this coming Tuesday January 23rd at 7pm. We will meet at Sacred Heart.

ATTENTION:

Our daily Mass schedule is subject to change at a moment's notice due to several factors. Therefore the bulletin may not be accurate. Any scheduled intentions that were scheduled will be rescheduled. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this uncertainty without a regular pastor.

Girls Group

Calling all middle and high school girls! Girls group will be held every Tuesday at Sacred Heart from 4:30pm-7:30pm, starting in February. Call Beth Brown with questions or to join. (608) 633-6231.

Celebrating 50 years of marriage this year?

The diocese would like a list of all parishioners who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 2024. Please email Kari at secretary@smash3p.org or call the parish office at 654-5654. The forms need to be sent in by the end of January.

"the ANSWER" Eucharistic Rally | June 7

"the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will be held on June 7, 2024 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse. Wl. This event kicks off the first day that the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be in the Diocese of La Crosse. "the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will begin with a Eucharistic Procession across the Cameron Street Bridge in La Crosse. It will end at the La Crosse Center where the rest of the rally will take place. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, powerful speakers such as Chris Stefanick, Immaculee Ilibagize, and Josh Rosa, music from Luke Spehar, and plenty of vendors. The cost for this event is only \$15 per person. This rally is for middle and high school youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. Tickets will go on sale December 15, 2023. You can find more information about the event by visiting https:// diolc.org/the-answer.

Mass Intention Schedule

4pm at Sacred Heart	† Mike Demissie
6pm at St. Augustine	† Donna Passe
8am at St. Mary's	Paul Klinkner Family
10am at Sacred Heart	For the People
8:00am at Sacred Heart	Jim & Enid Neubauer Family
4pm at Sacred Heart	† Dorothy Von Ruden
6pm at St. Augustine	† Dick Schreier
8:00am at Sacred Heart	† Alred Schmitz
10am at Sacred Heart	For the People
	6pm at St. Augustine 8am at St. Mary's 10am at Sacred Heart 8:00am at Sacred Heart 4pm at Sacred Heart 6pm at St. Augustine 8:00am at Sacred Heart

Weekly Readings

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20 (68)

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Mk 3:22-30 (317)

Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Mk 3:31-35 (318)

Wed. 2 Sm 7:4-17/Mk 4:1-20 (319)

Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18 (519)

Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 (520)/Mk 4:26-34 (321)

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Mk 4:35-41 (322)

Next Dt 18:15-20/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28 (71)

Sunday:

Please pray for these Intentions

- -Pope Francis
- -Bishop Callahan
- -+Lynn Peterson
- -Cory Janzen
- -Sheila Vukovich
- Ardella Leis
- -Louis Zanon
- -Jeanne Allen
- Ed Schreier
- -Jerome & Margaret Leuck
- -Glen Miller
- -Wesley Clements
- Louise Melby
- -Special Intention
- -Gene Degenhardt
- -Jeff Mullenberg
- -Grace Fowler
- -Margaret Jothen
- -Nancy Karis
- -David Schwarz
- -Sandy Von Ruden
- Alice Schmitz
- -Mary Leuck
- Bobbi Baker
- -Dennis Hemmersbach
- -Mike Metzler
- Joshua Mack
- —For Vocations to Holy Orders and the Consecrated Life and all the seminarians of the Diocese of La Crosse including our own seminarian Thomas Cummings.

For the gift of diversity in the Church

During the month of January, Pope Francis has asked the faithful to pray for the gift of diversity in the Church. He emphasized recognizing "the gift of different charisms within the Christian community."

Lector/Serving/Usher Schedule January 27th & 28th

St Augustine	Lector	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
6pm Saturday	Pam Leis		Volunteers Appreciated
Sacred Heart			
4pm Saturday	Jack Herricks		Volunteers Appreciated
10am Sunday	Rod Smith	Tim Steger, Charlie Leis & George Canter	Volunteers Appreciated
St. Mary's			
8am Sunday's	Glen Miller	Thaddeus Slattery & Jeffery Menn	Volunteers Appreciated

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