

St. Mary's Catholic Church

216 E. Lincoln St., PO Box 16
Reddick, IL

First Sunday of Advent December 3, 2017

Parish Staff:

Father Stanley Drewniak, *Pastor*
Linette Hopwood, *Secretary*
Email: stlawrenceswilm@yahoo.com
Web Page swkrcatholics.org
Bridget Hoffman, *CCD Director*
Hall Rentals—Call Norma O'Brien 365-2590

Office Hours: 9-1 Monday—Friday

St. Mary Rectory (815) 237-2230

Mass Schedule

Sat.— 5:30 pm
Thurs— 8:30 am

Reconciliation:

Before Mass or by Appointment

Sacrament of Baptism – Baptisms are celebrated during the Saturday 5:30p.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

Marriages – Diocesan Policy require at least a six month preparation process. Couples who are planning to marry should speak directly with the Pastor before setting a date. No Weddings are scheduled on Sundays.

Hospitalized Parishioners – Due to a change in the privacy law, Father cannot go to the hospital and ask for a list of parishioners for him to visit. As a patient, you must ask the hospital to notify the Rectory that you are requesting a visit. For our homebound parishioners, if you would like Father to visit, please call the Rectory and Father will be more than happy to come and visit you. Thank you!

Mass Intentions:

12/02/17 Sat. 5:30pm +Brian Buckley (Mary R. Hale)
12/07/17 Thurs. 8:30am +Donald Ruder (Family)
12/09/17 Sat. 5:30pm Parishioners

If you would like a Mass Intention said, please contact the Rectory.
Suggested Donation is \$10.

Remember in Prayer our deceased relatives and friends, the ill of our parish and community, nursing home residents, the homeless, hungry and unemployed, those living alone and our own special intentions we hold deep in our hearts. Keep in prayer all men and women serving our country, the injured and those being held prisoners. Let us not forget all men and women who gave up their lives so that we may live in freedom and peace!

Liturgical Schedule for Lectors

12/02/17 Sat. 5:30pm Lector—Mary K.
12/09/17 Sat. 5:30pm Lector-Bridget

Holy Father's Intention for the month of December:

General Intention: The Elderly. That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Weekly Income:

Sunday Collection \$ 200.00



We welcome all new individuals, couples and families to St. Mary's Parish. If you haven't already done so, please register with the rectory office. Registration forms can be found on the bulletin board or on our website swkrcatholics.org Thank you!

The rectory office will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 7th & Friday, Dec. 8th.

December 8th is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Vigil Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, Dec. 7th at 7:00pm and on Friday, December 8th at 7:30am at St. Lawrence in South Wilmington.

Christmas Flowers—St. Mary's CCW is accepting donations for Christmas Flowers. Please put your donations in a white envelope marked "Christmas Flowers in C/O Ruth Schott" This is a great way to remember your loved ones during the Christmas Season.

Help care for elders. "Thanks to support from the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are now in a much better position to care for our elders," writes a religious sister. Your donation helps her religious community and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plan for long-term needs. Please give to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

A Confirmation Retreat has been scheduled for January 27th, 2018 from 1-6:00 p.m. It will be hosted at St. Margaret Mary's Church in Herscher. If you are interested in attending this event, please call Bridget Hoffman at (815) 343-3257.

Our 2018 Offering envelopes are available. If you do not see a box with your name on it, please call the office and we will be happy to provide a box to you. In order to receive a tax statement, you will need to use a box of envelopes.

"You and I are human post offices. We are daily giving out messages of some sort to the world. They do not come from us, but through us; we do not create, we convey." Vance Havner

Stewardship Prayer for December

Gracious Lord, Let your goodness reveal itself to us, that we, made in your image, may conform ourselves to it. We cannot imagine your majesty, power and wonder on our own; nor is it fitting for us to try. But your kindness and mercy reach from the heavens, through the clouds, to the earth below to show us the fruits of your Incarnation. You have come to us as a small child, but you have brought us the greatest of all gifts, the gift of your eternal love. Caress us with your tiny hands, embrace us with your tiny arms, and soften our hearts with your tender voice so that we might respond as humble stewards of your active presence in the world. We pray this through Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen. Adapted from a prayer by Saint Bernard of Clairvaux

First Sunday of Advent December 2/3, 2017

The season of Advent is upon us, and in today's Gospel Jesus delivers a simple message through the pen of Saint Mark: "Be watchful! Be alert!" Christian stewards understand what Jesus meant when he said, "It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task." Good stewards realize that to each one a task is assigned by God. They have been set in a particular place and station in life, and have been gifted with unique relationships. How do we respond to the tasks or cultivate our relationships in a way that keeps us alert for the return of Christ?

