

# St. Mary's Catholic Church

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday, December 23, 2018

## Parish Staff:

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

## Office Hours: 9-1 Monday—Friday

St. Mary Rectory (815) 237-2230

## Mass Schedule

Sat.— 5:30 pm

## 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!

## Christmas Mass Schedule & New Years Day Mass

Dec. 24th 2pm-Sacred Heart, Kinsman  
4pm-St. Lawrence, S. Wilmington  
5:30pm-St. Mary's, Reddick  
Midnight-St. Lawrence, S. Wilmington  
Dec. 25th 8am-Sacred Heart, Kinsman  
10am-St. Lawrence, S. Wilmington  
January 1 10am-St. Lawrence, S. Wilmington

"It is you, O Divine Child of Bethlehem, who save us, freeing us from sin. It is you who are the true and only Savior, whom humanity often searches for with uncertainty. God of peace, gift of peace for all humanity, come to live in the heart of every individual and of every family. Be our peace and our joy!" Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!  
Fr. Stanley

## Mass Intentions:

12/22/18 Sat. 5:30pm +Ryan Vincent Hogan (Dan & Melinda Hogan)  
**12/24/18 Mon. 5:30pm Christmas Eve for Parishioners**  
**12/27/18 Thurs. 8:30am No Mass**  
12/29/18 Sat. 5:30pm +Arnold Berens (Ann Ruder)

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

12/22/18 Sat. 5:30pm Lector-Melinda  
**12/24/18 Mon. 5:30pm Lector-Jane**  
12/29/18 Sat. 5:30pm Lector-Mary K.



## Holy Father's Intention for the month of December: General Intention:

In the Service of the Transmission of Faith. That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

## Weekly Income:

Sunday Collection \$ 630.00  
Thank you!

## Prayers for Sick

Heidi Ehrhardt  
Juanita Arias  
Mike Zermeno

St. Mary's CCD students will be collecting scarves, gloves, and hats for the winter season from **December through January 1<sup>st</sup>**. If you would like to donate something, please put them into the marked box placed in the back of the Church. We will be donating the collected items to Catholic Charities for distribution among needy families. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity and warm hearts!

The Rectory and Office will be closed December 24th—December 26th. Merry Christmas!

*"The magic of Christmas is not in the presents, but in His presence."* – Unknown

Save the date—Friday, February 1st for the **Appreciation Dinner**.

**No Daily Masses** December 26, 27, January 2 & 3rd. The Daily Mass will resume on Tuesday, January 8th In South Wilmington.

## The Candy Cane Story

A candy maker wanted to make a candy that would be a witness for his Savior, so he made the Christmas Candy Cane. He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy, which symbolizes the Virgin Birth and sinless nature of Jesus. The hardness symbolizes the Solid Rock and firmness of the promises of God. He then formed the candy into a "J" for Jesus our Savior (John 3:16-17) and the staff of our Good Shepherd. He stained it with three small, red stripes representing the scourging Jesus received prior to His crucifixion for our healing. He added one large red stripe to represent the shedding of His blood on the cross for our salvation.



## Fourth Sunday of Advent – 23 December 2018

**God came in human flesh.** Mass today tells the story: no one is too small, too insignificant to bear the presence of God. The pre-born John [the one to be the Baptist] acts first in the story of visitation by jumping for joy in the womb. At what? The assurance that God comes and will be God-with-us.

- ◆ How will I let God come to me today?
- ◆ At what can I jump for joy?
- ◆ How will I enjoy the freedom of God's good grace by doing this mercy work: \_\_\_\_\_?

## The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day) Tuesday, December 25, 2018

In today's Christmas Mass at dawn we hear from the Gospel reading that God has entered quietly into the world. Not into the great city of Jerusalem, but into a small village about five miles south. Not into a noble family, but to an outcast couple keeping the newborn in a manger. Not announced by royal edicts, but to common shepherds, the first human heralds of Christ's birth. As Christian stewards we simply allow Christ to live in us no matter what our circumstances happen to be. We allow Christ to share his love with us and reflect that love out to others. We now are the heralds of Christ's Incarnation. What an unimaginable gift from a generous Lord. Good stewards rejoice in this gift and give glory to God.

