

St. Mary's Catholic Church

The Ascension of The Lord/Seventh Sunday of Easter, Sunday, May 21, 2023

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 Mass
Thurs.—8:30 am Mass

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:

5/20/23 Sat. 5:30pm +Alice Buckley (Sandra Ryan)
5/25/23 Thurs. 8:30am +Frank & Minnie Gianotti & Descendants
5/27/23 Sat. 5:30pm +Verneal Fritz (Joni, Jack, Jen, JJ & Justin Eisenmann)

If you would like a Mass Intention said, please contact the Parish Office.

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

5/20/23 Sat. 5:30 pm-Lector-Jane
5/27/23 Sat. 5:30 pm-Lector-Melinda



Holy Father's Intention for the month of May: *General Intention:* For church movements and groups. We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

Weekly Income:

Sunday Collection \$ 645.00

Thank you, your Offering is most appreciated.

Prayers for Sick

Ann Koehler, Norma O'Brien,
Tim Richie, Heidi Ehrhardt, Donna Masching, and Michael Mullen

Welcome! We welcome all new individuals, couples and families to St. Mary's Parish. If you would like to register, registration forms can be found on the bulletin board or on our website swkrcatholics.org.

The Ascension is the event, where Jesus arose into heaven, at the end of his time on earth. We celebrate this on Ascension Sunday, which is celebrated forty days after Easter. Traditionally it is celebrated on a Thursday as a Holy Day of Obligation. The Church presently observes it on a Sunday to allow more of the faithful to attend Mass. It remains a Holy Day of Obligation, and the faithful are reminded that all Sundays are obligatory by default.

The Ascension should not be confused with Pentecost, which is celebrated 50 days after Easter. Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Christ, after His Ascension.

Congratulations to all our graduates, Grade School, High School, College, etc. Congratulations and well done! As you begin the next step, on your journey of life, may we suggest a little formula to help you to be the best person you can be? **First and foremost, keep the faith.** There will be many pressures on you in the future to abandon your faith. Try to remain focused on the key idea: Jesus Christ is the Lord of your life, and He is due respect and obedience. His teachings in the Sermon on the Mount will transform your life. Follow Him for He is **the Way, the Truth and the Light.** In order to remain spiritually alive, always turn to the Lord who said, **Learn of Me for I am meek and humble of heart.** When you accept Jesus as Lord, you are challenged to give witness to Christ in four ways: 1) Through Worship and Holy Communion. 2) Through the Recognition of Legitimate Authority. 3) Through Stewardship. 4) Through a Loving Relationship. Pray for the grace to live joyfully because of the knowledge of God's love. This isn't easy, but with God's help it is possible. May the Lord be your strength and your joy. **REMEMBER, God doesn't take a vacation from us, HE IS WITH US ALWAYS!!!**

The Department of Catechesis and Evangelization is organizing the first annual retreat for parents of persons with disabilities. This will be held at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Darien located at 8040 Cass Avenue on Saturday, September 23, 2023. There will be two sessions from which to choose: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. beginning with 9:00 a.m. Mass or 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. ending with Mass at 4:30 p.m. To receive updates on the planning and other events, please complete the survey at the QR code or email rcichowicz@dioceseofjoliet.org



"Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset." –St. Francis de Sales

Word of Life --"The Lord says to us, 'Do not fear: I am with you' (Isaiah 41:10). He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to his suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests his victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Be Not Afraid"

The Ascension of the Lord – [Thursday, 18 May 2023 or] Sunday 21 May 2023

Sunday Prayer Shaping Life and Belief – Acts 1:1-11. Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9. Ephesians 1:17-23. Matthew 28:16-20. Doubt No Longer. On the last mountain encounter with his disciples before his ascending, Jesus uses the "I AM" language reserved to God. This Son of God will be with them always. After Christ is lifted up, the angel has to remind them: Stop standing around. Stop looking up. The implication: get to work! Make more disciples! How do I know Christ is with me always? What does my experience tell me? Because of the strength of his presence, what mercy works will I do? What will I do to bring even one more person to Christ?

