

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Second Sunday of Advent, Sunday, December 10, 2023

Parish Staff:

Father Stanley Drewniak, *Pastor*
Lipette 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:

12/09/23 Sat. 5:30pm Parishioners
12/14/23 Thurs. 8:30am +Jackie Tobey (Monica Ruder)
12/16/23 Sat. 5:30pm +Kazimierz Drewniak (Hania Drewniak)

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

12/09/23 Sat. 5:30 pm-Lector-Bill
12/16/23 Sat. 5:30 pm-Lector-Bridget



Holy Father's Intention for the month of December: *General Intention:* **For persons with disabilities.** We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Weekly Income:

Sunday Collection \$ 884.00
Thank you, your Offering is most appreciated.

Prayers for Sick

Debbie Turner, Emma "Mickey" King, Ann Koehler, Heidi Ehrhardt, Donna Masching, and Michael Mullen

St. Mary's Lectors-If anyone would like to be added to the 2024 St. Mary's lector schedule, please contact Jane Arends at 815-685-4470. Current lectors will be kept on the schedule for the next year unless they indicate otherwise. It would be wonderful to see some of our younger church members take advantage of this opportunity; training will be provided. Being a lector is a great way to serve both our church community and God.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 11th.

St. Mary's CCD students are doing a **Christmas Program** today, **December 9th**, following the 5:30 Mass. The Confirmation students will host a soup and sandwich dinner afterwards, which includes a Nativity Scene raffle. 1 ticket for \$1, 6 tickets for \$5, or an arm length for \$10.

Support a lifetime of service. Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.

Advent Confession Schedule

Sat., Dec. 16 after 5:30pm Mass-St. Mary's, Reddick
Tues., Dec. 19 7:00pm-St. Lawrence, S. Wilmington
(We will have a visiting Priest helping on Tuesday)
Wed., Dec. 20 6:00pm-Sacred Heart, Kinsman

Christmas Mass Schedule

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

On Monday, December 11, 2023, the diocese will celebrate the **Opening Liturgy for the 75th Anniversary** at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus. Ten bishops are expected to be in attendance for this special liturgy, which will begin with 5:15 p.m. performances by three choirs (Vietnamese, Polish and African American) ahead of the 6 p.m. Mass. The universal prayers will be read in seven languages, and a custom 75th Anniversary Psalm and Prayer will be incorporated into the liturgy. The Mass will be livestreamed starting at 5:15 p.m. from the Diocese of Joliet's YouTube channel. YouTube channel [youtube.com/c/DiocesefofJolietIL](https://www.youtube.com/c/DiocesefofJolietIL)

Monday, December 11 at **4pm** the next **Mobile Food Pantry** is coming to St. Lawrence Church in South Wilmington (snow, rain or shine). If you would like to pack boxes, help us distribute food, please arrive by 3pm.

Next weekend someone will be here for the KC's Annual Tootsie Roll Drive and the Sacred Heart Church in Kinsman Cash Raffle. Tickets are \$10 each. \$200.00 early bird for tickets turned in before Dec. 17th. Three \$20 winners drawn each week. One \$50.00 winner each Sunday. A \$100 winner first Sunday of each month. A final drawing up to \$500. Drawings held January through April. Winning tickets each week are returned to the drawing allowing each ticket to have multiple chances of being drawn!

The Meaning of Advent Candles-Lighting these Advent candles each week symbolizes the proximity of Jesus' coming, hence each candle has its own special symbol and meaning. The first candle lit on the first week of Advent is a purple candle, this candle represents hope. In the first week of Advent, we recall the Prophet Isaiah, who anticipated the birth of Jesus. This first candle also represents the anticipation of the arrival of the Messiah. The second candle to be lit is also a purple candle. This candle symbolizes faith and the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem. It calls you out to prepare the way of the Lord. The next and third candle to be lit is the pink candle, which represents Joy. This candle reminds us that Jesus coming is near as we reach the middle point of Advent. The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday, which symbolizes the nearness of Christ's coming. On the fourth and final Sunday of Advent, the last candle is lit, which is purple. This candle represents peace and reminds us of the importance of Peace as the true savior of the world is coming.

