Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Sunday, March 24, 2024

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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.—No Mass January-March

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:

3/23/24 Sat. 5:30pm +Lucille Christensen (Friends) 3/28/24 Holy Thurs. 6pm Mass in South Wilmington 3/29/24 Good Friday Service 5pm in South Wilmington 3/30/24 Holy Saturday 5:30pm For Parishioners

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

3/23/24 Sat. 5:30pm-Lector-Jane 3/30/24 Sat. 5:30pm-Lector-Melinda

Holy Father's Intention for the month of March: General Intention: For the new martyrs. We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Weekly Income:

Sunday Collection \$ 854.00 Maintenance Collection \$ 200.00

Thank you. Your Offering is most appreciated.

Prayers for Sick

Debbie Turner, 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 Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday, March 29th.

Easter Basket Recycle Program—The Knights of Columbus Council #1574 are again collecting unwanted Easter baskets, eggs and grass. There is a collection container at St. Lawrence, Sacred Heart and St. Mary's. We are also collecting old palms, unwanted religious items for redistribution or proper disposal.

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Good Friday. Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal. Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Friday in Lent.

Pontifical Good Friday Collection-Friday March 29, 2024. During Holy Week, the Gospel readings come to life in a special way as we gather to celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The readings remind us of our special connection to the Holy Land. Christians in the Holy Land are experiencing unique hardships in these challenging times. Many Christians depend on the pilgrimage industry to live. They could not work during the pandemic and now the war has stopped pilgrims from coming. The Christians are now less than 2% of the Holy Land population, down from 23% a century ago. With the war, many more are thinking about leaving. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection offers all Catholics an opportunity to express their solidarity with Christians in the Holy Land. A donation to the Holy Father's annual appeal is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of Christians. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name only a few. PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

Holy Week Mass Schedule

March 28 Holy Thurs.-6pm-St. Lawrence All Parishes
March 29-Good Friday—The Passion of the Lord
3pm-Sacred Heart-Kinsman
5pm-St. Lawrence-S. Wilmington
March 30-Holy Saturday

5:30pm-Vigil Mass-St. Mary-Reddick 8pm-Vigil Mass-St. Lawrence

March 31-Easter Sunday-Resurrection of our Lord 8am-Easter Mass-Sacred Heart-Kinsman 10am-Easter Mass-St. Lawrence

St. Lawrence's Nite at the Race's "Gone Country" race night - April 6, 2024 - at the American Legion Hall in Gardner. Doors open at 5:00 pm with the first race at 6:30 pm. Everyone 21 years old and older are welcome to attend. Always a fun time!!!

Jeremiah Day-Saturday, April 27, 2024 at Mundelein Seminary for Boys Grades 7-10. Enjoy a day to grow closer to God and visit a seminary. The activities include a tour of Mundelein Seminary, talks about how God calls us, recreation time and open gym, and Mass. Questions, or to have forms emailed to you, please send an email to vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org.

Aspect of PALM – Symbol of JESUS -Palm branches have long been associated with the triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The palm is the symbol of victory, conquest, and kingship. As a symbol for Jesus, the Prince of Peace, and Servant-King, the palm has added significance; for the palm, of all trees, is the servant tree. The palm offers shade for the weary. It is the source of food for the hungry. From it man obtains sugar, resin, and oil. Its branches are used for the weaving of baskets and for the thatching of roofs. The lofty palm suggests mastery and service. – E.T. Clapp.

Word of Life-"There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life... Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those 'brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves'... We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life" (*The Gospel of Life* 86).