

Pastoral Director: Nancy Woodcock

Sacramental Minister: Jan. 6 & 7: Fr. Larry King

Confession: SM: Saturday – 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

SJB: Sunday – 8:00 - 8:45 a.m.

Please keep those who are serving our country in your prayers! Tech. Sgt. Candace L. Thomas, Army Special Forces Blaine Woodman, Spencer Harwood, David Black, Sgt. Hunter Williams, & SSG Curtis Jason; SGT Spencer Malek

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday: by appointment

If you have any questions, need to plan a funeral, prepare for Baptism or Marriage, or an Annulment, etc., please contact Nancy at:

Parish office: 989-584-6044 (with answering machine)

Nancy's home: (989-762-5320); Cell: (989-287-0089)

Church e-mail: smsjchurch@cmsinter.net

Nancy's email: nwoodcock@cmsinter.net

Website: <http://stmarystjohn.net/>

Appointments are available evenings & weekends.

The parish office address is: 404 N. Division St., Carson City, MI 48811. **Feel free to contact us.**

Weekly Programs & Bulletin: 1-616-200-6070

FACEBOOK: St. Mary/St. John the Baptist Parishes

The deadline for bulletin information is noon on Monday.

T-Coil is available in both churches.

AED Units are located in both Parish Halls & Churches.

Pictorial Directories are available for \$10.00 each.

Keepsake Ornaments are available throughout the year at the Parish Office - \$10.00 each!

SATURDAY- Dec. 30, 2023 – Feast of the Holy Family

SM – 4:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. People of St. Mary/St. John the Baptist

SUNDAY- Dec. 31, 2023 – Feast of the Holy Family

SJB – 9:00 a.m. – Joan Christides by Lezlie Hauck; **Dan Ward** by Bill & Carla Dailey

SUNDAY – Dec. 31, 2023 – Sol. of Mary the Mother of God

SM – 4:00 p.m. – Mary Jane Esch by Fred Esch; **Fr. Mike McKenna** by Frank & Connie Ladiski; **Kathryn Tucker (1st Anniv.)** by Family; **Johnny Schafer** by Sharon Schafer, Helen Tait & family by Family

MONDAY – Jan. 1, 2024 – Sol. of Mary the Mother of God

SJB – 9:00 a.m. – Terry Burns By Barb Jackson; **Patricia & Herb Wood** by Neal & Colleen Hoffman; **Doug Campbell** by Mike & Mary Cashen; **John & Louise Riley & Deceased Members of the Family** by Helen Tait & Family

SATURDAY – Jan. 6, 2024 – The Epiphany of the Lord

SM – 4:00 p.m. – Ken Kapustka by Sharon Shafer

SUNDAY – Jan. 7, 2024 – The Epiphany of the Lord

SJB – 9:00 a.m. – Earl Heppard by Mr. & Mrs. Dave Weber; **Sondra Stoddard** by Agnes Cusack; **Darrell Dalton** by Doug & Nancy Cusack; **Doug Campbell** by Chris & Ann Garlitz; **Jim Ward** by Tim & Donna Schafer

SUNDAY-Jan. 7, 2024 – The Epiphany of the Lord

SM – 11:00 a.m. – Duane Torok by Penny Michalak; **Deb Ritchie** by Margie Hyde

TUESDAY – NO NOON PRAYER until Lent

FRIDAY–NO NOON PRAYER until Lent

SM – 4:00 P.M. Jan. 6, 2024 – Epiphany of the Lord

Lector: Gary Copp

Greeter: Volunteers

Ushers: Team 21

Min.of Euch.: Janet Kelly, Cheryl Miller, Volunteer

Altar Server: Volunteers

Musicians: Mike & Choir

SJB – 9:00 Jan. 7, 2024 – Epiphany of the Lord

Lector: Perry McCrackin

Ushers: 12

Altar Servers: Volunteers

Musician: Connie

Min. of the Euch.: Beth O'Grady, Ed Heckman, Volunteer

SM – 11:00 Jan. 7, 2024 – Epiphany of the Lord

Lector: Kim Brown

Greeter: Jerry & Linda Tasker

Ushers: Team 21

Min. of Euch.: Eddie Trevino, Angie Kwiatkowski, Volunteer

Altar Servers: Volunteers

Musicians: Brian & Group

Altar Servers: Volunteers

Musicians: Brian & Group

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS!!!

They can be mailed to:

404 N. Division St.

Carson City, MI 48811

For either parish or use the Online information to give electronically.

Money Counters for January: Donna Schafer & Cindy Howard

Sacramental Minister: Jan. 13 & 14: Fr. Len Sudlik

PRAY DAILY FOR PEACE!

LEASE PRAY FOR: Gordon Gladden, Deb O'Neil, John Myers, Fr. Tony Vainavicz, Joan Bozung, Marley Ward, Jack Fahey, Tony Shepard, Bonnie Cross, Sandy Meyers, Bill Gage, Jacob Vance, Phyllis Gage, Donna Schumacher, Linda Tasker (Bruce's wife), Jill Hodges, Daniel O'Connell, Sue Faver, Erin Cavanaugh, Tanner Schrauben, LaVern Jacobs, Donna Patton, Teri Chesebro, Anakin Moody, Kaci Wyer, Alice McCrackin, Kevin Knapp, Bob Pouget, Tom Gallagher, Genevieve McGuire, Kyran Breimayer, Neil Speckin, Janice McKenna-Reynolds, Dennis Trudell, Sr., Sierra Rose Cordova, Leigh Ann Harwood, Jack Kapral, Wiggins, Sam Burns, Flora Horwath, Mike Riley, Judy Miller, Harry Sanborn, Michelle Van Arman, Velma Tabor, Lottie Conner & Family Members; Mary Pouget, Gary Coon, Denny Vander, Debbie Osborne, Ann Darland, Dean Schafer, Mason Burns, Sr. Julie Mae Groulx, Carmen Richardson, John Shively, Rosemary (O'Connell) Davarn, Jim Schultz, Taylor Smith, Agnes McKenna, Jen Schafer, Melanie Starr, Peg Walters, Fred Peiffer, Juanita Dockham, Phil Fletcher, Sue Findlay, Leo McMillan; Geraldine Snow; Joanne Schafer Watson, Blaine Michael Melton, Chris Bozung, Cathy Hodges, Beverly Pouget, Kathy Fockler, Rick Davarn, Gary DeVito, Aiden Thurston, Dan Woodcock, Judy Sheaffer, Deb Rockey, Shane Clark, Carol Silakes, Alice Keilholtz, Sherry Hopkins, & Douglas Werner

If you are better & would like to have your name taken OFF the Prayer List – please call the Office – 989-584-6044

St. John the Baptist Chairpersons for January 2023:

Sharon Schafer (989-637-4294); Nan Miller (989-981-6801;

Bernadette Fletcher (989) 855-2371; Vicki Dailey (989) 981-

6881

Feast of the Holy Family

December 31, 2023

COMING EVENTS

SM	Dec. 30	Mass	4:00
SJB	Dec. 31	Mass	9:00
SM	Dec. 31	NO Mass	11:00
SM	Dec. 31	Mass	4:00
SJB	Jan. 1	Mass	9:00
SM	Jan. 1	NO Mass	11:00
SM	Jan. 3	Red Cross Bloodmobile	Noon
SM	Jan. 7	K-12 Religious Education	Noon -3:00
SM	Jan. 8	Knights of Columbus Meeting	7:15
SM	Jan. 14	K-12 Religious Education	Noon

Thank you to all who sent lovely Christmas Cards, Get-Well Cards, flowers, gifts, and warm messages. YOUR kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated! May the New Year be filled with many blessings and great JOY!
Nancy

Bishop Walkowiak invites all who are able, to return to Mass. He also knows that some of you cannot attend Mass in person because of health reasons or other excusing factors. "If you find yourself in this situation, the dispensation from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass has been extended until further notice." This dispensation is granted to ensure anyone who needs to stay home can do so in good conscience.

Needed: Volunteers to learn how to do the Live-Stream at 11:00 a.m. Mass at SM. **Interested?** Please see Brian, the guitarist, or call the office.

LIVE-STREAMING FROM ST. MARY can be found at: www.YouTube.com, click on the search icon and look for St Mary-St John the Baptist (do not use any punctuation); the video should be running just before 11:00 a.m. Mass will be available on the St. Mary/St. John the Baptist Facebook page within 30 minutes after the Mass.

Please call the Parish Office if you are interested in having your baby or child baptized. Baptisms can be held during Mass.

We have had some odd situations recently in the church, hall, and rectory. Items are set up for Mass and someone takes the items down – **an example would be the RESERVED signs were put on the pews for Christmas Eve Mass.** When people arrived for Mass, the signs had been taken down. Someone had to take time to put them on the pews again. Perhaps you are thinking that you are helping – if so, please come to the office or call me and we can gladly accept your time and talents. **There are lots of "things" that volunteers can do to help – please call and we will gladly accept your help!** Also, if you have keys that were issued when the hall was added onto please return them or call the office & let us know why you still need the key so it can be properly signed out!

St. John the Baptist Parish

Dec. 24 & 25, 2023

Adult Envelopes: (24)	\$1,395.90
Loose:	89.10
Christmas envelopes: (38)	1,178.10
Christmas Loose::	389.07
Relig Retirement:	
Christian Service Tithe:	30.83
TOTAL:	\$3,083.00

St. Mary Parish

Dec. 24 & 25, 2023

Adult Envelopes: (18)	\$1,540.00
Sunday Loose:	203.00
Christmas envelopes: (32)	\$3,220.00
Christmas loose	\$464.00
Religious Retirement:	25.00
TOTAL:	\$ 5,452.00

Please remember to write a separate check for Mass Intentions, Parish Envelope donations, donations to collections for Missions, etc. as they all go into different accounts. Thank you for your willingness and cooperation.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

In the first reading, Abram puts his faith in God's promise of a child despite the old age of Sarah and himself.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

In the second reading, the author emphasizes all that Abraham did was by faith.

The 4:00 p.m. New Year's Eve will be Live-Streamed at St. Mary Parish. Please follow the Live Streamed directions on the page above.

The Carson City Area Food Pantry is closed on December 26th and January 2nd. It will re-open on January 9th.

Interested in CPR Training? Please call the Office – 989-584-6044.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Interested in being a Knight or need a ramp for your home? Contact Grand Knight Perry McCrackin at 989-506-8044. Want clear concise news from a Catholic perspective? Watch EWTN – 370 Direct TV; -Dish or Family Life Radio 99.7FM **Thank you** to all who purchased KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS signs and to all who are displaying them to reflect their Christian heritage! **Merry Christmas to all!**

Feast of the Holy Family

NOTES FROM NANCY:

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. In the first reading we hear of something that is rarely found in the Scriptures - Sarah LAUGHED when she found out she and Abram would have a child by the time that the men would return.

Many couples who are seeking a child would understand the situation.

In the Gospel, Jesus is presented at the temple where Simeon and Anna prophesy about the child, Jesus. The concept of faith echoes throughout all the readings.

Where is our faith? Do we value what we believe? Are we willing to share our faith with others? Take time to reflect...



Thanks to:

- The “elves” who delivered the poinsettias and brought joy to one and all – your time and dedication is greatly appreciated!
- Erin Reynolds, the students, and parents who worked together to provide the Christmas Program – what a fantastic representation of the birth of Jesus!
- The “elf” who narrated the Christmas Program – you were amazing!
- All Liturgical Ministers who kept their scheduled times or found a substitute – your willingness to serve on such a busy Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is one of gratitude!
- All who picked up their 2024 Envelopes – thanks! If you are looking for your envelopes please check the vestibules of both parishes.
- All who use their envelopes either in the collection or online – your donations help to keep the utilities, insurance, payroll, and an assortment of other bills paid in a timely manner – without your donations there would not be parishes!

December 31, 2023

Liturgical Schedule for Monday, Jan. 1st

Solemnity of Mary

SJB 9:00 a.m. Mass – Jan 1st

Lector: Lisa Wandell

Ministers of the Eucharist: Beth O’Grady & Ed Heckman, Volunteer

Ushers: Team 15

Greeters: Martha Schmitz

Altar Servers: Volunteers

Musicians: Brian & Group

ONLINE DIRECTIONS ARE:

Go to: stmarystjohn.net

Click: on the Online Giving Tab

Select: the Parish you wish to donate to. Each parish has their own OnLine Giving Page.

Click on Sign in, **Enter** your e-mail (your e-mail will be your User ID). **Click below on** “Don’t have an account?

Create One” **Enter** your Login Information and remember your password.

Now you will be able to login & submit your giving information. You can set up recurring donations - weekly or monthly. You can also give one time gifts as well.

OUR DIOCESE & BEYOND...

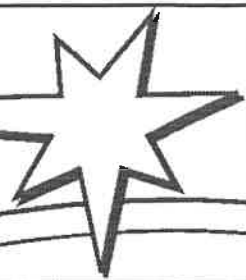
Prayer for Vocations: God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that you inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. **Send workers into Your great harvest** so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and your people are strengthened by the sacraments. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Seminarian of the Week: Greg L. Wasinski

Registration is now open for the CHERISH MARRIAGE EVENT

Join Catholic couples from across the diocese for an inspirational evening to strengthen YOUR marriage. The Annual CHERISH MARRIAGE Event always sells out so get your tickets today! It will be held on Friday, Feb. 2, 2024 from 6-11:00 p.m. at the Watermark Country Club. The Keynote Speakers are Mark and Katie Hartfiel. Mark is vice-president of Paradisus Dei and Katie is a national speaker and author of Women in Love. Register at: CherishMarriage.net

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

January 2024

St. John the Baptist Parish
St. Mary Parish



Thoughtful Moments

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

Born at Troyes, France in 1620, St. Marguerite desired early on to become a missionary. A friend introduced her to the mayor of Ville Marie (now Montreal, Canada) and, at his invitation, St. Marguerite traveled to Canada to teach the children of the colony. She was later joined by several women – all consecrated to God and devoted to teaching and Works of Mercy. In 1676, she gained approval for her order, the Congregation of Notre-Dame de Montreal.



Fishers of Men

Some of the first apostles were fishermen working in the Sea of Galilee. The fish there were known for their quality and commanded a high price. Next time you eat fresh fish, remember Peter and Simon, James and John, the hard-working fishermen who left their boats to follow Jesus.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come"
(2 Corinthians 5:17).



Shape children's hearts with virtues

A key element of Catholic parenting is to shape the hearts of our children, not just manage their behavior. One way to shape a child's heart is to offer opportunities to grow in virtue:

Modesty: "Modesty protects the intimate center of a person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden"

(Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), #2521).

Modesty awakens in youngsters a respect for the human person. Teach them to dress, speak, and take in entertainment that is wholesome, uplifting, and respectful of themselves and others.

Faithfulness: When children see that their parents are faithful to one another, for example, they intuit that

faithfulness or fidelity means to act in a way that honors a commitment. Children may not always hear what we say, but they are influenced by what they see us do.

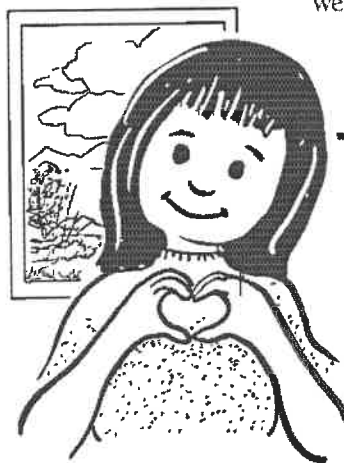
Meekness: Meekness is not timidity. It fuels self-control. St.

Thomas Aquinas cautioned against expressing physical anger because it makes anger outsized.

Guide and model how to use meekness to manage anger. Meekness will help prevent evil from ruling actions.

Charity: "If I...have not love, I gain nothing"

(1 Corinthians 13:3). Charity is giving love without an expectation of receiving in return. Teach children to put others' needs first. They will find that as they grow in charity, they will be happier and more joy-filled.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics have infants baptized?

As a Sacrament, Baptism conveys grace and the "washing away" of sin and the "rebirth" of the baptized as a child of God. It starts us on the surest path to salvation: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will



be condemned" (Mark 16:16).

Catholic parents, desiring the best for their children, baptize them as infants, believing it will give them the best chance of true joy in this life and eternal life in the next.