



Bishop Callahan

and

Advent



O God, Who have shown forth your salvation to all the ends of the earth, grant, we pray, that we may look forward in joy to the glorious Nativity of Christ.

Advent inspires us to “look anew” at our lives and prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ Child at Christmas.

As you start your Advent preparations, make time to pray with the scriptures. Whether you are able to attend Mass at your parish, are watching Mass at home or simply praying with the daily readings, listen to how the many prophecies of the Old Testament are fulfilled. We hear how the prophets foretold, how the shepherds responded and how Mary and Joseph welcomed the Christ child in Bethlehem.

This Advent, consider stepping into the season through the context of the Mass. On the first Sunday you will hear, “You, Lord, are our father, our redeemer You are named forever.” This prophecy, written several hundred years before the Resurrection of Jesus, identifies our Lord as father and redeemer. Facts we know today; but, for the people living before the birth of Christ, were kept as hope filled promises.

The second Sunday is about baptism. John the Baptist is heard saying “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of His sandals. I have baptized you with water; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” Consider your own baptism, the entry point into your Catholic Faith. Your baptism is a divine call to live out your life in the way God intended it. Through your baptism, you are called to give witness to the Resurrection.

For the third week, consider the role of the Holy Spirit in your life. The readings focus on the Spirit and the joy that follows when we conform our will to the will of God. At Mass, you will notice the priest’s vestments will be rose, to express our joy in the coming of Jesus our Savior. The responsorial psalm is taken from Mary’s Magnificat, in which she exclaims: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord: my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.” As you ponder how your life is guided by the Holy Spirit, let the joy of your own witness radiate to those around you.

Mary’s, “May it be done to me according to your word,” allows the world to receive the Savior and brings to completion our Advent journey. Use the fourth Sunday of Advent to recommit yourself to doing the will of God. Whether in large or small matters, listening to God’s word and being docile to His promptings will bring lasting joy to you and those around you.

Join me as we start this new Church year, recommitting ourselves to listening to the Word of God and going out to tell the Good News. Pray for the vision and courage to use your gifts to build up the kingdom of God.

We wait with expectant hope for the coming of Christ. We are created to know, love, and serve God and to be happy with Him in heaven. May this Advent season fill you with hope and awaken your desire for Heavenly Joy.

Advent - Preparing for the Coming of Christ

By Ann Lankford, Director for Catechesis & Evangelization



A familiar hymn that is usually sung during the beautiful season of Advent is O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. The lyrics help us to understand the essence of Jesus coming to us as our Savior.

Each verse of this hymn begins with a prayer that starts with the phrase, “O Come,” and includes an Old Testament reference to Jesus - the Messiah. The first Old Testament mention of the Messiah is Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. (Refrain): Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

Israel needed rescue from having been exiled in a foreign land. We also need to be rescued - from sin and selfishness. When we sing this song, we can remember the depth of God’s love for us by sending His Son, Jesus - God taking on human flesh - to rescue us from our sins, which harm us and others.

This next reference is to the Messiah’s infinite wisdom and knowledge. In His wisdom, God revealed to us His plan of loving goodness. We would receive access to the Father through Jesus, who came to reunite us with the Father after the Original Sin of our first parents. We are reunited with the Father through sanctifying grace - God’s own divine life - that we receive through the channel of His Sacraments.

O come, thou wisdom, from on high, and order all things far and nigh; To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. (Refrain)

In this song, another reference is to the Messiah’s power and might. This verse captures the scene in Exodus 19:16; the Lord appeared on Mount Sinai through the signs of a cloud and a trumpet blast to the Israelites whom He had saved from the captivity of Egypt. God gave Moses His Laws of Love so that we would know how to live to stay close to Him.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai’s height. In ancient times didst give the law, in cloud and majesty and awe. (Refrain)

In this stanza, we pray that the Messiah will rescue us from the devil, the “father of lies,” who hates God and seeks to lead us away from Him. Jesus won this victory of freedom from sin for us but we have to cooperate with His grace to resist temptation and sin and receive His salvation.

O come, thou rod of Jesse’s stem, from Satan’s power deliver them; From depths of hell Thy people save, and give them victory o’er the grave. (Refrain)

The Messiah is from the line of David. We pray that He will open the gates of Heaven which were closed through the disobedience of Adam and Eve. The “key” to open the gates of our home in Heaven was Jesus’ Death and Resurrection.

O come, Thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav’nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

In this last verse, we understand that Jesus is the desire and delight of every human heart. It is He who brings the peace and joy that we all long for and He alone is the source of these greatest gifts.

O come, Desire of nations, bind, in one the hearts of all mankind, bid every strife and quarrel cease, and fill the world with Heaven’s peace.

During these challenging times, we must never forget that Jesus is always present. He is God, King of the Universe, and everything is still ultimately under His Providence. As He promised, He will bring together all things for good as we place our trust in Him. May we come to know, in a deeper way, the peace and joy of Jesus this Christmas.

La Crosse Diocese Televised Mass

Wausau TV channels (Ch):

Cable & Satellite: Ch 12 at 6:30 am Sunday
Public Access: Ch 980 at 6 pm Sat, 9 am Sun

La Crosse Diocese Weekday Mass:

Mass is available any time of day at:

- www.dioc.org/live
- www.dioc.org/tvmas;
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/dioceoseoflacrosse
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/pg/diocl/videos

EWTN: www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live; EWTN App; YouTube Channel, & TV Sunday and daily Masses are at 7 am, 11 am, 6 pm & 11 pm

Relevant Radio: www.relevantradio.com & on Relevant Radio App
Live-streamed Sunday and daily Masses: 12 noon Sunday - Saturday.
Previous Masses available 30 minutes after live broadcast.



Lost and Found Items



Please look through the "Lost & Found" items on the table in the Angelorum! Items not claimed will be donated or thrown away.

Thank You!

Free, Rapid Response (15 minute) COVID Testing Available at the University of Wisconsin: 518 S. 7th Ave, Wausau

Testing is available on Mondays and Thursdays, from 8 am - 4 pm
To Register go to : www.doineedacovid19test.com Scroll down to "Test Locations" **and click on "Wisconsin" scroll down and click on "UW-Stevens Point Wausau Campus (Community Member)"** then click on **"Register or Logon"**

You do not need to be experiencing symptoms, but you must register - testing is available by appointment. This nose swab test is self-administered, with kit and directions provided on site.

For Questions Call Dorothy: 715-432-5519

Visiting and Anointing of the Sick

With the current covid 19 situation, hospital and nursing home visits by a priest are not always allowed. If you or a loved one would like to receive the **Sacrament of the "Anointing of the Sick"**,

please call as soon as possible:

Dorothy at (715-432-5519) or the Parish Center (715-842-3148)

When you know in advance that you are going to the hospital for a procedure, it will be easier for a priest to come to your home to anoint you. The hospital and nursing homes may not always allow visitors.

Often we have not received information from the hospital when a parishioner has been admitted, so please call us to let us know. Even if Fr Bob or Fr Juan Pedro are not able to visit the hospital or nursing home, you and your loved ones can be prayed for. Critically ill patients may receive exceptions for a priest to come to provide them with the Sacraments, so please notify us. Thank you!



Advent Candles and Wreaths

Available for purchase in the Angelorum.

\$4.00 - Advent Candles
(1 box/4 candle set)

\$7.00 - Metal Wreath

Please place payment in the box on the table or in an envelope (with note for what money is for) and put in the Collection Basket.



Heroic Men Website: www.heroicmen.com

Offering more than 100 feature-length films, TV shows, documentaries and short films, Heroic Men seeks to source the best Catholic media available and bring it all to you, all in one place.

It is a 100% FREE Catholic streaming platform designed especially for men who want to discover (or re-discover) the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic faith. Tell others about this great website!

Celebration of Sacraments

Confession - Saturday: 10:30 am - 12 noon
or by Appointment

Baptism - A Baptism Preparation Class must be attended by the parents. The Godparents are encouraged to attend. You must register one week before the class by calling the Parish Center at 715-842-3148.



Next Baptism Class: Monday, January 11: 6:30 pm

Bautismo - Para Bautismos los padres y padrinos deben tomar una clase de preparación. Generalmente las clases son el primer martes de cada mes a las 6:30 pm en el centro parroquial. Para mayor informes y registrarse para la clase llame a Joy al 715-842-3148.

Marriage - Contact Fr Bob 6 months in advance for arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick - Call Dorothy at 715-432-5519 to make arrangements for:

- ▣ Anointing of the Sick - available when you are seriously ill or before a scheduled surgery.
- ▣ Visits to the Homebound - visits to your home, assisted living facility, or nursing home.

Hospital Visits - Let the hospital know when you are admitted that you would like to have Fr Bob or Fr Juan Pedro visit you.

In Need of Prayer? - Our prayer group is always ready to pray for you when you need extra prayer. Call Bonnie at 715-675-9876.

* You may also call the Parish Center at 715-842-3148



Support the Beautiful Work of Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities provides warm shelter and clothing to homeless people, gives material assistance to those in need, helps families struggling to provide Christmas gifts for their children, assists birth moms in crisis and parents wishing to adopt, and does so much more. Please consider supporting this great work, whether you can help financially, through volunteering, through your prayers or all three. To learn more, visit www.cclse.org **and click on "Get Involved."**

COVID Vaccines are very close – Which ones are ethical?

Some COVID vaccines are being developed using cell lines from aborted children. Others are not. Visit:

www.usccb.org/resources/memo-bishops-vaccines-covid-19



Dear St Matthew Parishioners,

A belated "Happy Thanksgiving"! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your donations to Helping Hands using the November church envelope. Your caring and giving will

be used to help those who are most vulnerable in Kenya, Africa to make their daily lives a little easier, by either giving a family a bed w/mattress, a water tank, an outdoor latrine, school supplies and so many other ways your donation will be used to help your brothers & sisters in Kenya. God Bless you for giving HOPE to so many. **We're wishing each of you a Christmas of PEACE & JOY!**

Helping Hands





This Week at Saint Matthew
(Please bring a mask.)

Monday, December 14

Advent Virtual Parish Mission - Angelorum: 6:30 pm

Tuesday, December 15

Bible Study - Church, Angelorum: 10:30 am - 12 noon
Bible Study - Church, Angelorum: 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Wednesday, December 16

Catechist Meeting - Church, Angelorum: 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Los Posadas - School Cafeteria: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Thursday, December 17

Advent Virtual Parish Mission - Angelorum: 9 am
Healing Fire of the Spirit Prayer Group - Angelorum: 6:00 pm
Los Posadas - School Cafeteria: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Friday, December 18

Los Posadas - School Cafeteria: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Saturday, December 19

Confessions During Advent - Church: 10:30 - 12 Noon
Los Posadas - School Cafeteria: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 20

Los Posadas - School Cafeteria: 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Parish Staff (715-842-3148)

Pastor: Rev Robert C Thorn - frbob@stmatthewwausau.org
Assoc Pastor: Rev Juan Pedro Roblez Baltazar-frjuan@stmatthewwausau.org
Deacon: Rev Mr Tom Tierney
Pastoral Care: Dorothy Giallombardo - dorothy@stmatthewwausau.org
Secretary:
Finance Secretary: Barb Splinter - barbfinance@stmatthewwausau.org
Plant Manager: Jason Seliger
DRE & Hispanic RE: Joy Orozco - joydre@stmatthewwausau.org
Bulletin Editor: Rosemary Beever - rosemarybulletin@stmatthewwausau.org

Bulletin Submission Deadlines Through January 3, 2021

If you have a bulletin announcement, please submit it by 2:00 pm according to the following holiday submission dates. Send announcements to: rosemarybulletin@stmatthewwausau.org

Deadline to Submit Announcements: For Bulletin on This Weekend:

Sunday, December 13 by 2:00 pm	December 20
Thursday, December 17 by 2:00 pm	December 27
Sunday, December 27 by 2:00 pm	January 3



Sharing God's Blessings

Thank You for Your Continued Support!

Minimum Budgeted Amount Needed Weekly.....\$9,612.00

Sunday Collection\$10,448.30

Calendar Raffle Winner: December 7 - Emory Budzinski (#788)

Parish Contributions: Our weekly offertory collection provides the necessary funds to meet our financial obligations - staff payroll, insurance payments, utility bills, building maintenance, etc. While public Masses are limited at this time, our daily work of parish and pastoral ministry will continue on. Please consider sending your weekly donations by:

- Mail (St Matthew Parish, 221 S 28th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401)
- Monthly Electronic Funds Transfer from your bank (to set up, contact Barb at: 715-842-3148 or email: barbfinance@stmatthewwausau.org).
- Bill Pay through your Bank (contact your bank to set up).
- Online Giving: (via credit card or direct debit)
 - www.stmatthewwausau.org/donations (one-time donations)
 - www.stmatthewwausau.org/payments (recurring donations available)



Mass Intentions



December 14 - 20, 2020

Monday 8:00 am - Uzziel Perez - Happy Birthday
Tuesday 8:00 am - †Jenny Hack
Wednesday 8:00 am - †Rick Henrichs
Thursday 8:00 am - †Arthur Hummer
Friday 8:00 am - Living & †Deceased Koy, Hummer, Pederson Families
Saturday 8:00 am - †Joseph Berndt
4:30 pm - †Glorianne Palm
Sunday 8:00 am - †John Bauer
10:00 am - †Ray Kirschhoffer
12 noon - St Matthew Parishioners



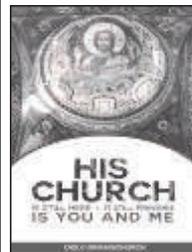
Scripture Readings

Mon, December 14 - St John of the Cross, Priest/Doctor of Church
Nm 24:2-7, 15-17/Ps 25/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday, December 15
Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday, December 16
Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25/Ps 85/Lk 7:18-23
Thursday, December 17
Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17
Friday, December 18
Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72/Mt 1:18-25
Saturday, December 19
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25/Ps 71/Lk 1:5-25
Sunday, December 20 - 4th Sunday of Advent
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16/Ps 89/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



Diocesan Annual Appeal - 2020-2021 Target of \$72,700

His Church is Still Here, Still Provides, is You and Me.



Thank you for your support in helping St Matthew Parish reach their diocesan target by contributing what you can, small or large to the annual appeal.

Please return your completed pledge cards in the envelope from the Diocese and put in the "Collection Basket" at weekend Mass or in the "Contribution Safe" in room by the entrance across from the school, or "Mail to the Diocese".

Weekend - Liturgical Ministers

Saturday December 19 4:30 pm	Sunday December 20 8:00 am	Sunday December 20 10:00 am
Lectors		
Mary Holm	Bernie Dohr	Tom Roovers
Musicians		
Lynn Meyer Sara Schmitt	Bill Dohr Annette Southworth	Joel Stubbe Nancy Losinski

He will wipe every tear from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain...Rev 21:4



**Our Prayers & Sympathy
go to the Family & Friends of:**

Elizabeth "Betty" Corolewski

She died Saturday - November 28, 2020

James "Jim" Hoard

He died Sunday - November 29, 2020

He is the Husband of Evelyn Hoard
and the Father of Vicki (James) Tierney

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen*



Heaters for Sale

Heaters used to heat the school
when boiler was out are available for
sale. Original cost: \$80.00

Make an Offer!

If you are interested, call Jason at:

715-581-2005

ADVENT VIRTUAL PARISH MISSION

Preparing for the Birth of the Christ Child through the Eyes of St Joseph

There will be four presentations, one for each week of Advent. The length of the talks will be roughly 30-40 minutes and discussion questions will be provided. The purpose of the Parish Mission is to bring parishioners together to prepare for Christmas and to strengthen the community.

St Matthew Parish Angelorum
Monday Evenings at 6:30 pm
December 14 & 21

Thursday Mornings at 9 am

December 17 and
December 22 (Tuesday)

Week 1 - Nov 30 & Dec 3
*St Joseph: The Man
selected by God
to be closest to
Mary and to Jesus*

Presenter:
Msgr Joseph Diermeier

Week 2 - Dec 7 & 10
*Joseph and Mary:
A Holy Love Story*

Presenter:
Msgr Joseph Hirsch

Week 3 - Dec 14 & 17
*The Holy Night through
Joseph's Eyes*

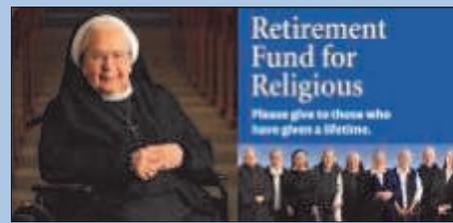
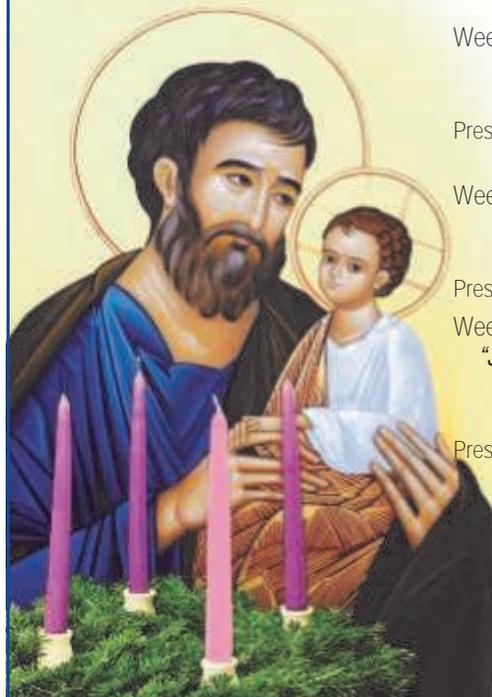
Presenter: Fr Woodrow Pace

Week 4 - Dec 21 & 22
*"Joseph, Son of David...
You are to give Him
the Name Jesus"*

Presenter:
Bishop William Callahan

For information call:
Kitty @ 715-297-7988 or
Kathy @ 715-571-4495

To view online please
visit: diolc.org/advent



**Support Aging
Religious**

Our second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years for small stipends. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps pay for medications, nursing care, and other needs for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders.

Please be generous. Thank You!

We're Hiring at St Matthew Parish

Deadline for Applications: December 16th

Bookkeeper-Finance Secretary (30-35 hours/week)
Parish Secretary (~15 hours/week)

For more information, contact Fr Bob at: 715-842-3148 or
Email: rcthorn@imap.cc Please send your resume with a cover letter and references to: Rev. Robert Thorn

St. Matthew Parish
229 South 28th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401

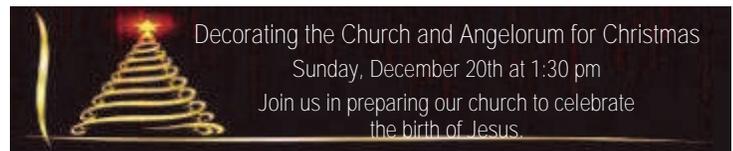


**Donations for Advent and Christmas
Candles and Flowers**

To beautify the church and sanctuary and to honor the birth of Jesus you may donate a candle or flowers in memory of loved ones.

Place your donations in an envelope, include your name and the name of the person you are remembering and put in the collection basket at Mass or mail to:
(St Matthew Parish Center, 221 S. 28th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401)

Thank You and May You have a Blessed Christmas Season!!!



Decorating the Church and Angelorum for Christmas
Sunday, December 20th at 1:30 pm
Join us in preparing our church to celebrate
the birth of Jesus.

Buy SCRIP Gift Cards for Everyone this Christmas!!!



They make great gifts & help the parish!

SCRIP can be bought at the Parish Center:
715-842-3148.

Thank you for buying SCRIP! Merry Christmas!



**This Christmas Shop at
"AmazonSmile"**



St. Matthew Parish will get a "donation gift" from AmazonSmile at no extra cost to you. To sign up go to:
www.smile.amazon.com

In the search bar for choosing your "charitable organization" type:
St. Matthew Parish Wausau

Then choose "St. Matthew Parish" as your charitable organization.

AmazonSmile has the same products as Amazon.

Merry Christmas Shopping!