

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

	Saturday 5:00 PM Dec. 26	Sunday 8:30 AM Dec. 27	Sunday 10:30 AM Dec. 27
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Curt Smith Sandi Smith	Susan Lynn Lauren Cunningham	Toni Nicks Kim Kirschbaum
Lectors	Phyllis McKeown	Danette Tolan	John Walz
Altar Servers			
Hospitality Ministers		Ron Crowley	Josh Kirschbaum Brian Koppen
Music Ministers	Donna Davis	Donna Williams	Donna Davis
Videographer	Jeff Thee		

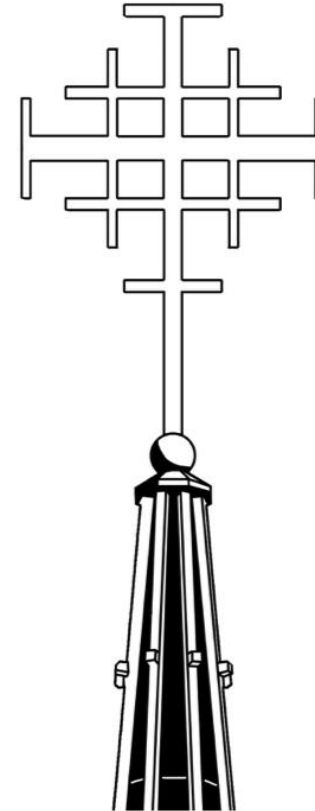
Liturgies and Events This Week

Monday, Dec. 21 No Mass	Wednesday, Dec. 23 12:00 Noon Mass	Thursday, Dec. 24 4:30 PM Mass +L. & D. of St. Mary's	Saturday, Dec. 26 5:00 PM Mass +Jean Rusch
Tuesday, Dec. 22 5:30 PM Mass +Henry & Mildred Bibow	12:30-4:00 Adoration + Fr. Al Grendler	7:30 PM Mass +Noel & Lavina Schoo	Sunday, Dec. 27 8:30 AM Mass +Mary Williams
		Friday, Dec. 25 8:30 AM Mass +Deceased Members of Nick S Hansen Family	10:30 AM Mass + L. & D. of St. Mary's

The sanctuary lamp burns this week for the unemployed or homeless.

Stewardship for December 13, 2020 Adults: \$5,083.63 Online: \$ 321.00 Guatemala: \$ Special: \$	<i>Is God' will in your will?</i>
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St. Mary's Parish



1005 Hill Avenue
P.O. Box 354
Spirit Lake, Iowa
712.336.1742 office
712.336.1013 fax

www.stmarysspiritlake.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

Parish Staff

Pastor

Rev. Paul Kelly

pastor@stmarysspiritlake.org

Parish Secretary
Donna Williams
secretary@stmarysspiritlake.org

Director of Religious Education
& Youth Ministry
Mary Brandt
youth@stmarysspiritlake.org

Assistants
Danette Tolan
Lisa Odendahl

Director of Music
Cain Junkman

info@stmarysspiritlake.org

music@stmarysspiritlake.org

Baptism – Contact the office to inquire about pre-baptismal class.

Marriage – Contact the office at least six months before date of wedding.

Confessions – Wednesday 3:30PM, Saturday 4:00PM, Sunday 10:00AM.

Eucharistic Adoration – Wednesday 12:30PM – 4:00PM.

Advent Lessons and Carols

Join St. Mary's Parish online for an evening of Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 20th at 6:00PM. This virtual-only event will focus on the birth of Christ, sharing scripture readings and songs as we prepare for Christmas. You can find the online event on our parish website, You Tube channel, Facebook page or mobile app.

Christmas and New Year's Masses

It is hard to believe how quickly Christmas is approaching. We would like to let you know the mass times so you can plan accordingly. **Christmas Eve** we will have mass at **4:30PM** and **7:30PM**. **Christmas Day** is at **8:30AM**. **New Year's Eve** is **5:30PM** and **New Year's Day** is at **9:00AM**.

Christmas Blessings to All

Christmas Blessings to all parishioners of St. Mary's! On behalf of Fr. Kelly and the entire staff, we pray that the blessings of Christmas be with you and your families!

Parish Office

The Parish Office will be closed Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th in observance of Christmas. All of us from St. Mary's staff wishes you a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with love, happiness and health. Merry Christmas!

Christmas Collection for Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities has been the helping arm of the church in our diocese for over 75 years and relies on donations of all sizes to do God's work. You, the parishioners, have always been generous with your prayers and financial support so that we can serve those most in need. Help those most vulnerable in our diocese find JOY this Christmas and all year through. Thank you!

Together As One

We have the gifts to purchase on a list, or they are wrapped already and ready to put under the tree. The plans are set for Christmas dinner, and we may be stressing about how it will all come together perfectly. During this season, we need to come *Together As One* and make sure all offer a gift to our parish. Please prayerfully consider making an end of the year gift to Our Diocesan Annual Appeal. Learn more at scdiocese.org. We are at \$17,032.00 towards St. Mary's goal of \$28,397.00.

Knights of Columbus Raffle

The St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council 5043 is holding a raffle. Tickets are \$50.00 each. It is a 50/50 raffle; 5 winners are guaranteed. 1 winner of 20% of the gross receipts, 2 winners of 10% of the gross receipts and 2 winners of 5% of the gross receipts. Drawing at 6:00PM on Monday, December 21, 2020. Contact Ron Smith at 712-320-0076 or any Knight.

Listen Up! The Gospel of Luke, Narrated

Join Fr. Kelly and the St. Mary's staff in listening to Luke's Gospel this Advent. The staff has recorded the entire gospel for you to enjoy daily. There are 24 days from December 1st until Christmas and 24 chapters in Luke. Individual links to each chapter are available on our parish website. www.stmarysspiritlake.org.

Year End Contributions

It's hard to believe another year is coming to an end. Just a reminder if you plan to make a contribution to St. Mary's, donations must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2020 to be included on your 2020 statement. If received on January 1, 2021 or after, the donation will be included on your 2021 statement. Thank you for your continued support to St. Mary's!

Be a Winning Family-Don't Forget

Families are encouraged to share their awesome at-home religious education success! When your family completes an activity, prays together, works on its faith journey poster or any activities related to doing religious education work from home, send a picture of it to info@stmarysspiritlake.org for a chance to win one of several monthly prizes. Prizes will vary from month to month but may include gift cards for dining or groceries, at-home movie night fun bags, or family games. Feel free to send your pictures (one per week, maximum four per month) any time. Winners will be announced at our community nights, which are held the first Wednesday of each month. Have fun and keep growing in faith together!

Little Bear's Advent Story

Elementary students are invited to watch and listen as Little Bear listens to the story of a Christmas journey through advent. The narration will be recorded each day beginning December 1st and running through Christmas Eve. It will include beautiful illustrations and messages of God's love and care for us! Parents were sent a link by e-mail.

Please Keep in Your Prayers

All Confidential Prayer Chain requests may be directed to Jean Mohr, our Prayer Chain Coordinator at 712-336-2559 or 712-320-5433. Prayer intentions may be entered in the Prayer Request book, which can be found in the narthex of the church.

Want to Lower your Iowa Tax Liability?

A great way to save on your Iowa taxes is to support the Monsignor Lafferty Tuition Foundation. Monies contributed to MLTF assist families who send their children to a Catholic school with tuition scholarships. The donor receives a 65% state tax credit. Families benefit and the donor benefits! Contact your tax consultant or call Susan at the diocese at 712-233-7513 for more information. Deadline is December 31, 2020.

The Giving Tree Is Up

All families and individuals are asked to check out this year's "Giving Tree" in the narthex of the church. St. Mary's collects items for charity throughout Dickinson County. Beneficiaries are Upper Des Moines Opportunity, The Discovery House, The Cherish House, Hope Haven and other individuals in need. Simply choose an ornament from the tree and carefully follow the instructions on it. Some items should be wrapped while others should not. Some have a strict deadline for return while others have a more flexible return date. Thank you in advance for your generosity. If you or anyone you know of is in need of assistance this holiday season, talk to Donna in the parish office.

