



Saint Mary Catholic Church
32 1st St. NE
Winnebago, Minnesota



Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church
214 S. Holland
Blue Earth, Minnesota

Pastor: Rev. Peter Klein

Administrative Assistant: Pat Boettcher; Faith Formation & Youth Ministry: Angie Nagel & Pat Salic
Maintenance: Duane Rorman (SS Peter & Paul)

Office: 214 S. Holland, Blue Earth 56013; 507-526-5626 – **Website:** www.sspeterpaulmary.org

Office hours: Mon., 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tues., 8 a.m. – noon, Wed., 9 a.m. – 1p.m., Thurs., 8:00 – noon.

Sunday, Dec. 2nd, 2018 – 1st Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 5:15 p.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Sunday, 8:00 a.m., St. Mary

Sunday, 10:00 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, 8:30 a.m., St. Mary

Wednesday, 7:30 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Thursday, 10:00 a.m., St Luke's, Blue Earth

Friday, 8:30 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul (1st Friday

Mass is followed by Holy Hour)

Please check page 3 of bulletin for any changes to the schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Sunday, 7:15 – 7:45 a.m., St. Mary

Sacrament of Baptism

Arrangements are made by contacting the pastor in advance of the date.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements for preparation & the date are made by contacting the pastor at least 6 months before.

Pastoral Care of the Elderly/Sick

Please contact the pastor when someone is hospitalized or homebound.

Prayer Network

Anyone wishing to have the prayerful support of our parish community may relay your prayer request to Ruth Kastner (943-3478) or Jeanette Verdoorn (526-2333) to initiate the calling tree.

For prayers requests for St. Mary's, call Mary Franta (893-4326) or Chris Rockers (893-3729).

Faith Formation

We have resources & activities for growth & formation of faith in all members of all ages. For our young people, we have programs & youth ministries coordinated by Angie Nagel at SS. Peter & Paul (526-5626) & Pat Salic at St. Mary (236-2195).

Joining or Returning to the Catholic Church

The rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process for adults to become members of the Catholic Church. For additional information, please contact the pastor.

To rent the Social Hall of SS Peter & Paul

To schedule activities/events, please contact Pat Boettcher(526-5626)

Bulletin notices Contact Pat by Wednesday afternoon at the office (patssp@bevcomm.net) or by phone (526-5626).

PASTOR'S PARISHABLES

This Sunday begins the season of Advent for us in the Catholic tradition, marking the beginning of another Church year & the preparation for celebrating the Lord's coming—which is what the word “advent” means. The word “coming,” not surprisingly, stands out in all 3 Scriptures on this season's 1st Sunday:

● **At the beginning of the 1st reading**, Jeremiah declares: “*The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel & Judah.*”

● **In the 2nd reading**, St. Paul writes, “*May the Lord strengthen your hearts, making them blameless & holy before our God & Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus.*”

● **In the gospel**, after Jesus speaks of the end times in very apocalyptic terms, he says, “*People will see the Son of Man coming on a cloud with great power & glory.*”

That coming—that advent—our Church has always taught us, is 3-fold, past, present & future:

1. His coming in history (This, *supposedly*, is what's behind—far behind!—Christmas as the world knows it.)

2. His coming in mystery (This is the presence in which we live: “*Anyone who loves me...my Father will love...& we will come to him & make our dwelling place with him.*” --John 14:23)

3. His coming in majesty (Meditating on the Lord's glorious return is how the Church always begins Advent—the same way She ends the Church year too.)

We offer some take-home materials to help make the season a spiritual one. It's a season of reconciliation, so that sacrament will be offered more often, at various times to foster ... *reconciliation*.

“*Advent isn't Lent,*” our Bishop has written, “*though we use similarly colored vestments. During Lent, we repent for our sins & the failures in our lives. Advent, though, really is all about preparation.*” “Similarly” colored vestments—that's why I don't wear the same vestments in Advent that I wear in Lent. (The dark blue chasuble I wear was made by the sisters at Presentation Abbey in Aberdeen, South Dakota.)

The early Church developed the use of its liturgical colors as symbolic expressions of the meaning of the seasons. Advent is like the night, ready to give way to the dawn. At the Christmas Vigil Mass we hear Isaiah declare, “*For Zion's sake I will not be silent until her vindication shines forth like the dawn.*” The Mass at Midnight sings, “*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*” The psalm at the Mass at Dawn says “*Light dawns for the just*” & the Mass during the Day “*A holy day has dawned upon us*” & “*The light shines in darkness, a darkness that did not overcome it.*” Advent has long been about waiting for the light to come, both the light of Jesus' historical coming (celebrated at Christmas) & his return at

the end of time.

The color that symbolizes this night watch is dark blue (the color of the night sky before dawn). Blue is also common in the traditional artwork of Mary, a woman clothed with the night, adorned with the stars. Ancient icons typically portray Mary with a mantel of dark blue decorated with stars. She is the woman who waited while the world slept in darkness—both of ignorance & of sin. She waited for the Messiah to bring a new light.

There was a period in our history when Advent was called “St. Martin's Lent” (his feast being Nov. 11) & the purple color used in the liturgy began to resemble the purple of Lent, just as Advent itself began to resemble its spring cousin. (They became more like twins.) But originally the 2 seasons were distinguishable, including in color. Each was a shade of purple: Advent a dark blue (“indigo”—a color between blue & violet in the spectrum) & Lent a red purple, between blue & red. (So I save the purple chasuble for Lent.) The days of December are short & the nights too long; what a fitting time to anticipate & celebrate the coming of Christ our light.

One more colorful comment: What about the pink candle on the advent wreath? The 3rd of the 4 Advent candles was pink in the past when Advent was Christmas's Lent. And since Lent has a “respite Sunday” midway through, an oasis in a penitential trek, so the 3rd Sunday of Advent was given that character (& the lighter color of candle to reflect it). It was called “*Gaudete Sun-day*” (meaning “rejoice”), just as its Lenten counterpart is called “*Laetare Sunday*” (also meaning “rejoice”). With Advent's own identity restored, the rose vestments are no longer used in some places because it's not important to single out this one Sunday with a pink candle in the wreath. (The distinction in the color of the candles is the least important part of an Advent wreath.)

Finally, a word about the Advent wreath: We have decorated our house (church) for Advent, not for Christmas yet. The Advent wreath is one of the traditions that helps us keep Advent. Adding one light for each of the 4 Sundays in Advent, we recognize the darkness without God, after the Fall of Adam, the growing hope for salvation, enkindled in paradise, nourished through the ages by the prophets up to John, the Precursor, until the Morning Star rises, born of the Virgin.

- the wreath without beginning & end stands for eternity
- the greens represent life & growth
- the four candles are for the ages “*sitting in darkness & the shadow of death*” (Luke 1:79, from the “Benedictus” of Zechariah at the birth of his son, John the Baptist)

Adding light week-by-week, the Advent wreath will finally give way to the Christmas tree, gloriously filled with lights, like darkness giving way to dawn. I know I know; in this modern day most of us put up a Christmas tree long before Christmas eve.

Mass Schedule – BE=SS Peter & Paul, W=St. Mary's

Mon. No Mass
 Tue. /W 8:30 AM – Dolores Stevermer †
 Wed/BE 7:30 AM – Leo Killion †
 Thur. BE – St. Luke's 10:00AM – Gene Mikolai †
 Fri./BE 8:30AM – Wm. Mc Dermott †
Immaculate Conception
 Sat./BE 8:00AM – Angie Murphy †
 Sat./BE 5:15PM – Dolores Engesser †
 Sun./W 8:00AM – Fritz Bless †
 Sun./BE 10:00AM – Dan & Ruth Driscoll †

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE:**Sat., Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception****SSPP 8:00AM Server:** Jack Frundt**Ministers of Communion: 3 Volunteers****Gift Bearers: Ushers****Sat., Dec. 8: Servers:** Carissa Engesser**SSPP****Ministers of Communion:** Ann Kehr/Mary Uppena

Skip Schimek/Bill Hamlin/Andre Hamlin

Gift Bearers: Bob & Becky Spencer**Ushers:** Bob Spencer Group**Sun., Dec. 9: Servers:** Clara Ziegler**St. Mary's****Ministers of Communion:** Len Sonnek

Judy Johnson/Rick Mauris

Gift Bearers: 5th & 6th Graders**Ushers:** Mike Salic Sr. & Mike Salic Jr.**Sun., Dec. 9: Servers:** Hailey Becker
*Elizabeth Eucker***Ministers of Communion:** Kim Warner/Arlen O'Brien

Vitres Samek/Lee Mikolai/Shawn Hassing

Gift Bearers: Kathy Lowery**Ushers:** Shawn Hassing Group**KC Corner:**

Dec 7th-KC/DD Christmas Party @ SSPP 5:30pm

Dec. 11th-KC Officers meeting 6:30pm with Reg meeting to follow

Dec 30th-KC Family Rosary @ St Mary's before 8am Mass

Quarterly Council of Catholic Families meeting will be on Tuesday, December 4th at 5:30 pm in rm. 5.**The Guitar Group** will provide Christmas music at SSPP from 9:30-10PM on Christmas Eve.**WANTED: HELP** bringing up from the basement and bring down from the choir loft Christmas decorations after mass on Sunday, December 23. We also need help that same day at 1:30 p.m.(after our youth are done practicing for the Christmas Program) to actually decorate the church. Thanks in advance for helping at this very busy time of year. We appreciate it so much.**Support the Retirement Fund for Religious.** Today many of our retired religious are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Please give to next week's second collection.**Advent Options Pregnancy Baby Shower for Jesus:** SS Peter & Paul will be collecting items for the Fairmont Options Pregnancy Center during Advent.Some of the items needed at this time are: **Sleepers** – size 0-3 months and 3-6 months for boys and girls, **hooded bath towels, receiving blankets** for boys and girls, **Advent bottles, sleep sacks, and small packs of unscented wipes.** Please put your items in the cradle at the church entrance.**Put the Compassion of Christ back into Christmas!**Need a gift idea that mails in a 6x9 envelope to family and friends—use inside cover area designated to express in writing why the recipient defines compassion to you! It is a card and a gift that will be cherished for years to come and remind both the giver and receiver to live with a spirit of compassion. Over 75 pictures and interactive page to create and display. Need a Secret Santa gift? (\$10 plus tax online—all proceeds provide help and create hope for those served by Catholic Charities! Buy online www.ccsomn.org If you want to avoid mailing and pick books up at Rochester office location, call Mary (507-281-6606)**Faribault Co. Special Olympics Fundraiser**

Dec. 1 2:00-4:00 PM at Hope United Methodist Church. Come to meet and greet the athletes. Bake sale and Scentsy Products Fundraiser Coffee, cookies, and punch provided.

A heartfelt thank-you to everyone that has helped with St. Mary's Cemetery fundraising efforts-since June we have raised 1813.90, which includes the Knights of Columbus breakfast, contributions, and the Equal Exchange Fundraising in November. Adding this to previous contributions that were given for cemetery projects we have a total of 2313.90. We will continue working on this project over the course of the next several months. Watch the bulletin for more information on an evening event scheduled for Friday, February 9th.**St. Mary's Choir is beginning rehearsals for Christmas****Eye Mass** - new members are welcome! You do not need to make a long-term commitment to choir but can just sing for Christmas if you wish. For more information, contact Judy Ness 507-525-2009. Rehearsals are scheduled for:
November 27th 7 pm
December 2nd after Mass
December 11th 7 pm
December 16th after Mass
December 20th 7 pm

Sacrificial Giving, SS Peter & Paul: 11/24 & 25/18/2018:

Adult/Plate giving needed weekly: \$4,292.00
Adult/Plate giving last week: \$2,007.15
Adult/Plate giving needed yr-to-date: \$94,424.00
Adult/Plate giving fiscal yr-to-date: \$80,233.69

Sacrificial Giving, St. Mary: 11/25/2018:

Adult/Plate giving needed weekly: \$1,057.00
Adult/Plate giving last week: \$977.00
Adult/Plate giving needed yr-to-date: \$23,254.00
Adult/Plate giving fiscal yr-to-date: \$26,156.97

FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Angie Nagel - 526-5626 (office) - 526-3485 (home) - 507-276-5114 (cell), angieyouthministry@bevcomm.net

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 5 **Classes for Grades K-10**
My Space -- 5-6:15PM
- 9 **Joyful Noise Choir sings!**
Coffee & Donuts hosted by Gr. 5 & 6
- 12 **Classes for Grades K-10**
My Space -- 5-6:15PM
- 19 **Classes for Grades K-5**
Grades 6-10 -- 5:30-7:30PM
No My Space!
- 23 **Christmas Program Practice,**
Lunch and a Movie! -- 11AM-2PM
- 24 **Christmas Program -- 4:00PM**
Joyful Noise Choir sings!

Joyful Noise Choir Schedule!

Joyful Noise Choir will be providing music for the following Masses. All are invited to join us!

- Sunday, December 9th, 10AM Mass --
Practice at 9:00AM.
- Monday, December 24th, 4:00PM Mass --
Practice at 3:00PM.

Coffee and Donuts!

Grades 5 & 6 will be hosting Coffee & Donuts on Sunday, December 9th after 10AM Mass. Please come and join us!

Practice, Dinner and A Movie!

Get this on your December calendar!!

Who: All children & youth involved in the Christmas Program

When: Sunday, December 23rd

Time: 11AM (right after Mass) - 1:30PM

Schedule:

11AM -- Practice for the Christmas Program

Noon -- Lunch in the Social Hall

12:30 - 2PM -- Movie on the Big TV!

Parents -- Enjoy a few hours without the kids to get that last minute Christmas planning done!

Youth -- We could really use your help with this event! If you are interested in helping, please let me know!