

St. James Parish Newsletter For January & February, 2016



**St. James is here to help all people
experience meaning and purpose in life.**

Year of Mercy and Lent 2016



By now you may be aware that Pope Francis has declared 2016 to be a special "Year of Mercy." We are called to open our hearts to where we need to experience the faithfulness of God in our lives. And from there we are empowered to be a source of mercy to others.

For a number of years our parish has embraced the Matthew 25 project during Lent. The Tree of Life near the Baptismal Font has various suggestions as to how we can practice the "corporal works" of mercy. Did you know there are also "spiritual works of mercy?"

Without neglecting the corporal works of mercy, we are putting special emphasis this Lent on the spiritual works of mercy. Here's a listing of the spiritual works of mercy.

- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Admonish sinners
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive offenses willingly
- Comfort the afflicted
- Pray for the living and the dead

Adding to the Tree of Life suggestions, we will have additional suggested practices for this Lent that we are calling a **Leap of Faith**. Envelopes containing various suggestions for works of mercy will be available in the sanctuary throughout Lent. You won't know what is inside the envelope until you take it home and open it! Thus the "leap of faith."

During the Masses of Lent you are invited to "step out" in faith to come forward and take an envelope from the sanctuary. During the collection, simply walk up to the altar and take an envelope from the "leap of faith" display. This may remind you of what is traditionally called an "altar call."

And just to refresh our memories, here is a listing of the corporal works of mercy.

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

Throughout this Lent, may we participate wholeheartedly in the Lord's Works of Mercy.

Fr. Mike



Faith Journeys presents: A 10 day Pilgrimage to Portugal, Spain & France specifically designed for St. James Catholic Church, Fr. Mike Moran, Spiritual Director. This exclusive pilgrimage tour will include the Marian Shrines, (Fatima and Lourdes) and the "Santiago de Compostela" – Way of St. James. Tentative departure date is October 31, 2016. If you are interested in learning more about being a part of this spiritual formation through travel, please contact Terri in the parish office, 262-253-2259. An informational meeting will be held in January.

A Little Taste of Italy Parish Dinner February 13, 2015

4:00-7:00 pm

2 pastas (spaghetti & mostaccioli)

Meat sauce (some meatless)

Salad with homemade Italian dressing

Homemade garlic bread, beverage and dessert.

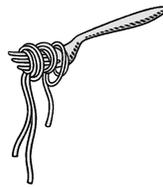
(No charge for second helpings)

Adults \$8 and Children (6-14) \$5

Children (2 & under) \$2

Families of 5 (1-2 adults & children) \$25

Carry-outs Available



Watch the bulletin for ticket & reservation information!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION BOX

Just a reminder that we have a St. Vincent de Paul collection box here at St. James. If you have clothing or shoes to donate to St. Vincent de Paul please drop these items in the SVdP Collection Box located in front of the parish office garage directly across the driveway from the parish office. The SVdP white box is emptied weekly and items are taken to the SVdP Store in Waukesha. The donated items are sold in the store, located on Sunset Drive and proceeds are used to support the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. When our Vincentians encounter an individual or family who needs clothing or other items, they are given a voucher to shop at the SVdP store free of charge. So either way know that your donations benefit those in need.

PLEASE, put only clothing, shoes, or "soft" items such as bedding or drapes/curtains in the St. Vincent de Paul Box. And do not leave items outside the box. Please call 262-569-0763 to arrange a pick-up of larger items.

Thank you for your continued generosity to the St. Vincent de Paul Society and to all those who benefit from your donations.

TOO MANY CALENDARS?



Consider bringing your extras to Church so they can be donated to area clinics for others to keep track of their appointments. There is a box near the water fountain for your extra calendars. Thank you.

PREPARING FOR THINGS TO COME!

November 4, 2015



Dear Fathers and Parish Directors,

Attached you will find the Archdiocese of Milwaukee priest statistics for 2015. In the overall number of priests, we saw an overall decline of fourteen priests. This compares to a drop of four in 2014 and a drop of six in 2013.

Our number of active priests declined this past year by eight and the number of senior priests declined by six, in large part the result of fourteen deaths this past year. The ratio of fully active priests to senior priests remained relatively unchanged from last year, 54.5% to 45.5%.

Our streak of ordaining five or more priests for each of the last six years came to an end in 2015 as we had only two new priests ordained for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. We continue to see growing interest in the priesthood from young men who feel called by God to serve His Church. Thanks go out to the Vocations Office, Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, and all of you who have urged young men in our parishes to listen to God's voice in their hearts.

We know however that many of our currently active priests will soon be reaching ages in which retirement is an option for them. A graph of our priests by age groups is attached to this letter and shows clearly that the majority of our active, full-time priests are in their 50's, 60's and 70's. Praise God that we have in those men a work ethic and commitment to the Church that they are willing to assist and serve even after retirement.

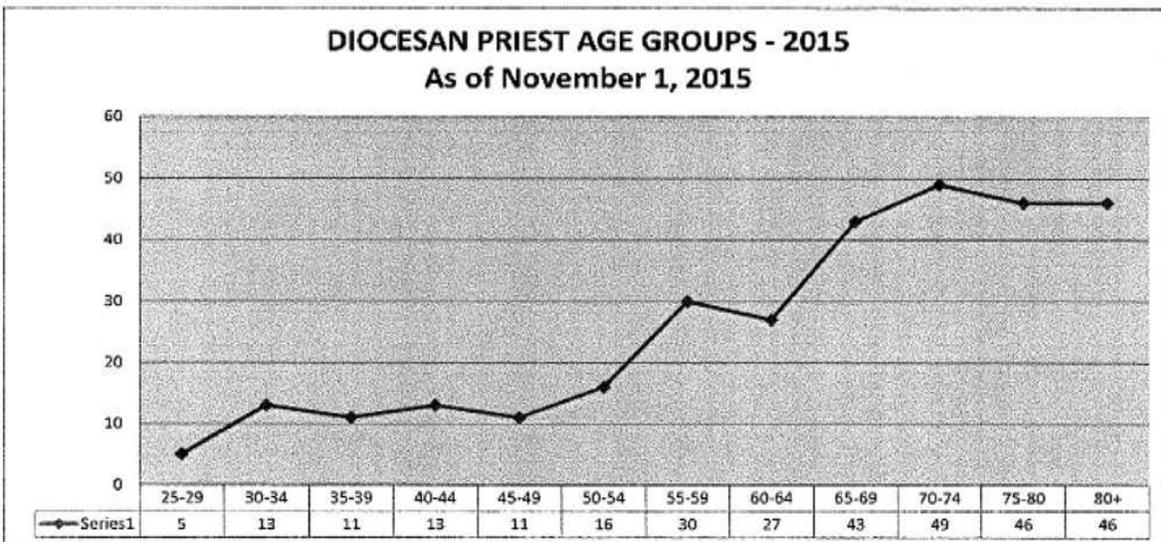
We continue to be blessed with priests from other countries willing to come and serve as missionary priests within the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Our assigned priests (both archdiocesan and religious orders) were born in 15 different countries and represent a wonderful mosaic of our world. All told there are 52 priests with international origins serving in assignments within the archdiocese. There are now 29 archdiocesan priests in active ministry that were born outside of the United States. The largest group is from India, followed by Columbia and Spain. Seventeen percent of our active archdiocesan priests were born outside of the United States.

Our senior priests remain a special blessing to this archdiocese and quite frankly we would not be the same Church without them. A recent study of the impact of our senior priests by Fr. James Lobacz, showed clearly the great service these men continue to give after they leave full-time active ministry. Fully 32% of all weekend Masses are currently celebrated by senior priests.

We also want to acknowledge the ten men and women currently serving as parish directors, along with the fourteen assisting priests and ten supervising priests that team with them in their ministry. These people lead their parish communities both pastorally and administratively and help to bring Christ to the people of God.

Thanks to each of you for your leadership to this Church.

Rick Tank
Director of Priest and Lay Ecclesial Personnel and Placement



Lenten Opportunities

Renew your faith this Lent by participating in one of the following sessions. Embrace mercy a little more in the Jubilee year of mercy. For more information about any of these programs email or call Sue at devinesimons@archmil.org or 262-253-2904.

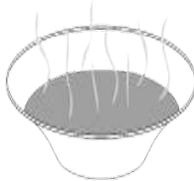
Day	Time	Topic	Dates
Sundays	9:25 – 10:25 am	Living Mercy Bible Study in Rm. #1	(2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13)
Sundays	4:30–5:25 <i>or</i> 6:35–7:30 pm	Book Study, “Mercy in the City”	(2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13)
Tuesdays	9 –10:00 am/ 6:30–7:30 pm	Bible Study in the Great Room	(2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15)
Wednesdays	9:00 – 10:00 am	Book Study, “Mercy in the City”	(2/17, 2/24, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16)
Thursdays	9:00 – 10:00 am	Bible Study	(2/18, 2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17)
Saturday	8:00 am – noon	Forming the Catechetical Spirit —Prayer and Spirituality Rm. #3 (3/12)	

FirstFruits – A retreat time for women. Monday Evening, **March 7th** and Tuesday, during the day, **March 8th**. For more information on this program, check out the website at <http://firstfruits.info>. Registration will be available soon.

Fasting with Friends --- Ash Wednesday Soup Supper

This has become an annual event at St. James. Come for mass at 6:00 p.m. and have a bowl of soup with your parish family before or after mass. All are welcome to attend this free will offering event. If your family would like to donate an item from the list below, help make soup or serve, email or call Sue at devinesimons@archmil.org or 253-2904.

Items needed for Soup: Potatoes, Vegetable Broth, Onions, Carrots, Celery, Velveeta, Milk, Bag of Noodles, Frozen Vegetables, Crackers



MEN...Are you looking to grow in your faith?

Are you looking for some Christian fellowship and brotherhood? Come and check out our men’s group that meets on **Tuesday mornings, 6:30-7:30 am**, in the Great Room (Fireplace Room) of church, to break open the upcoming Sunday readings, share prayer intentions, and engage in thoughtful conversation. On behalf of the others in the group—**Matt Mertens, Paul Schneider, Ray Gross, Bob Cowan, Tom Oskey, Pat Buehler, and Tom Zagorski**—I can say we would love to have you join us! Contact Pastoral Associate Gerry Wolf at 262-253-2213, or at wolfg@archmil.org for more details...or just drop in at our next meeting, Tuesday, December 29th, or any Tuesday morning!

Adult Confirmation Opportunity

Adults who chose not to be confirmed during their teen years, or who have never had the opportunity to complete their sacraments of initiation, an opportunity is available to you. St. James parish, in collaboration with Good Shepherd, St. Anthony, and St. Mary parishes of Menomonee Falls, and St. Agnes parish of Butler, is hosting an Adult Confirmation preparation process. The process is a nine-week series of sessions beginning in January and culminating in the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation at the Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 PM on Saturday, March 26th. For more details, contact Pastoral Associate Gerry Wolf at 262-253-2213, or wolfg@archmil.org.

Bible Study

Each week groups of adults get together to reflect on and study the readings for the upcoming Sunday Masses. No experience is necessary to participate! All are Welcome. For more information call Sue at 262-253-2904. All groups meet in the Great Room at the following dates and times:



Tuesday - 9:00 a.m.
Tuesday – 6:30 p.m.
Thursday – 9:00 a.m.

More Bible reflection groups will meet during Lent. Check the Website in mid January for more information.

Senior Club Notice: 55 & Older

Are you retired? Are you bored?

Come and enjoy a nice lunch and make some new friends. Play cards or Bingo on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at noon. For info, call Julie at 414-331-8968.

STEWARDSHIP



**St. James “March Madness”
Stewardship Fair, March 6-7, 2016**



shutterstock - 171048595

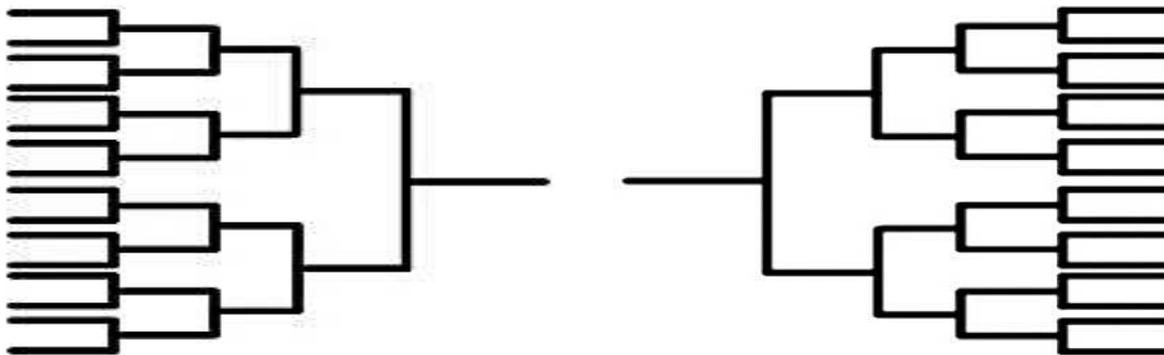
“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” 1 Peter 4:10

On the weekend of the Stewardship Fair, plan on filling out your bracket, choosing from the following “teams”:

St. Vincent De Paul
Knights of Columbus
Health Ministry
Human Concerns

Christian Formation/SOAL
Christian Formation/Youth
Building & Grounds
Prayer & Worship

Activities
Bereavement
Stewardship
FOCCUS



Pick your “FINAL FOUR” ministry preferences based upon your talents, abilities, interests, availability, and. . . the Holy Spirit’s calling; then, complete your bracket* by narrowing down your Time & Talent commitment to your two “FINALS” contestants or your “NCAA Champion”!**

*Every parishioner who completes a bracket (signs up to help with a committee/ministry) will be entered in a prize raffle.

**Need Catholic Active Apostles

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Mark your new 2016 calendar now!!!



W.W.J.D. 4th & 5th Grade Retreat –
Feb 19th – 5:30-9pm – Registration Info
coming soon!

First Eucharist Parent Meetings – Jan 31st at
9:30 am and Feb 2nd at 6:30 pm

First Eucharist Retreats – Apr 8th (5:30-8:30)
and 9th (9am-noon)

Calling all children!

*Join us for Break Open the Word
during Lent*

*Children age 3 through 5th grade will
have an age-appropriate
reflection on the readings along with
an activity.*

*Offered at the 8:15 and 10:30 Sunday masses
Feb 14th, 21st and 28th; Mar 6th, 13th and 20th*



Growing In God's Love

A faith-based program for children
0-5 and an adult, that will include
Bible stories, music, crafts & play
time.

April 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th -
10-11 a.m.

Registration info coming in spring –
check the website for details.



A Friendly Reminder About SNL



Our 5:30 Sunday night liturgy (SNL) is
here for you whether there's Christian
formation classes or not. This new
Mass offering is what families have
been telling us for years is really
needed for the busy lives we all live.

And it's not just for our young people. Young, old, married,
single, empty-nester or back late from up north; all are
welcome. Spread the word, come and enjoy as we build
this new community and celebrate Mass together.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. James is a vibrant, welcoming Catholic Community
Journeying towards the fullness of the Kingdom of God
through worship, formation and service.

YOUTH CORNER

It's Retreat Season for Our Young Church

***MIDDLE SCHOOL:** The first offering is a NET Retreat at
St. Boniface in Germantown on January 13th. Many
have already signed up, so if you have not done so,
please contact the CF office immediately. Our second
retreat is the Wisconsin Catholic Youth Rally on
March 6th on the campus of Carroll University. Both
will be great times of having some fun with our Catholic faith,
meeting lots of other middle schoolers from this area and from
around the state. Check the website for details on both and sign
your 6th-8th grader up for either of these cool events.



***CONFIRMATION:** The second of our Confirmation retreats
will take place at Camp Minikani on January 30-31. The specifics
will be sent to the remaining candidates who have yet to make a
retreat. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are signs of a Christian, so we
will explore how to develop those awesome traits given to us by
God. It will be a time of reflection and focus for our candidates to
take the faith they have been given and turn it into who they are
and something they give to others.

***9TH GRADE:** Our society and the world says you are to be
FLAWLESS - you can never make a mistake, appear perfect and
always do and say the exact, right things. On February 6th or 7th
at St. James, our ninth graders will talk about this world and
God's world and definition of FLAWLESS - one that frees you to
be yourself and be loved by a God who perfectly made you.
Watch for more details and permission forms.

Youth Group Activities:

HIGH SCHOOL: Our first "Snacks-n-Service" of the season is
Sunday, January 17th. Join us for SNL at 5:30pm, then stick
around from 6:30-9:00 for some service projects to benefit our
youth group and for the neediest among us. Don't forget to bring
a friend, and for sure, your favorite snack to share.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Mark your calendar for a little Laser Tag,
Friday evening, January 22nd. More details and permission forms
coming just after the New Year. Friends are always welcome.

Mission Trip News:

PIZZA SALE: Time to make the pizzas! We will
take your orders the weekends of January 16-17 &
23-24 after all Masses OR find your favorite mis-
sion tripper to purchase. Then pick them up Super
Bowl weekend. The Blue Ridge Mountains in
North Carolina have called our mission trippers, so thank you for
your support to get them there.



STILL LOOKING TO GO ON A MISSION TRIP? There are
still a few spots available for the mission trip to Pittsburgh, PA on
July 9-16. Check the website for more details and a registration
form. It will be the best time you have all summer, so get in now.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR January & February

January 2016

- 1** CF Offices Closed
- 3** SNL 5:30 (Mass)
- 5** CF Classes
Gr. 1-5 6:30-7:30 p.m.
No CF classes for MS/HS
Scripture Study 6:30 p.m.
- 7** All Committee 7:00
- 9** FtCS
- 10** CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15; Gr. 1-5 9:30 am
GIFT 11:30 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
SNL 5:30 (Mass)
NO CF classes for MS/HS
- 12** CF Classes
Gr. 1-5 6:30-7:30 p.m.
NO CF classes for MS/HS
Scripture Study 6:30-7:30
- 13** Middle School Retreat 5:30-8:30 @ St. Boniface
- 14** Community Banquet 5:30
- 16** MT Pizza Sales after Mass
- 17** CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15; Gr. 1-5 9:30 am
MT Pizza Sales after Masses
SNL 5:30 (Mass)
Snacks and Service for MS/HS 6:30-9:00
NO CF classes for MS/HS
- 19** **CF Classes Gr 1-5 6:30 pm**
NO CF classes for MS/HS
Scripture Study 6:30-7:30
- 20** St. Ben's
Senior Club noon-4:00
- 23** Mission Trip Pizza Sales after masses
- 24** CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15; Gr. 1-5 9:30 am
GIFT 11:30 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
Mission Trip Pizza Sales after masses
SNL 5:30 (Mass)
CF classes Gr. 6-11 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30
- 26** **CF Classes Gr 1-11 6:30-7:30 p.m.**
Scripture Study 6:30-7:30
- 28** Community Banquet
- 30** Confirmation Retreat @ Camp Minikani
- 31** Confirmation Retreat (continues)
CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15; Gr. 1-5 9:30 am
First Eucharist Parent Meeting 9:30-10:30
SNL 5:30 (Mass)
CF classes Gr. 6-10 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30
No CF classes for Confirmation

February 2016

- 2** **CF Classes Gr 1-10 6:30-7:30 p.m.**
No CF classes for Confirmation
First Eucharist Parent Meeting 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Scripture Study 6:30-7:30
- 3** All Committee Night
- 5** Mission Trip Pizza Making 6-9 p.m.
- 6** Mission Trip Pizza Making 9 a.m.-noon
Retreat Grade 9 noon-5:30
Mission Trip Pizza Pick up after mass
- 7** CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15; Gr. 1-5 9:30 am
Retreat Grade 9 8:15 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Mission Trip Pizza Pick up after 8:15 & 10:30 mass
NO 5:30 SNL (No 5:30 Mass)
No CF classes for MS/HS
- 9** CF Classes
Gr. 1-5 6:30-7:30 p.m.
NO CF classes for MS/HS
Soup Making 5:00-7:30 p.m.
Scripture Study 6:30-7:30
- 10** Ash Wednesday—Soup supper
- 11** Community Banquet 5:30 p.m.
- 12** Centering Prayer 9:00 a.m.
- 13** FtCS
Spaghetti Dinner 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- 14** B.O.W. at 8:15 & 10:30 masses
CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15; Gr. 1-5 9:30 am
GIFT 11:30-1:45
SNL 5:30 (Mass)
CF classes Gr. 6-11 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30
- 16** CF Classes Gr 1-11 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Scripture Study 6:30-7:30
- 17** St. Ben's
Senior Club noon-4:00 p.m.
- 19** Retreat Grades 4 & 5 5:30-9:00
- 21** B.O.W at 8:15 & 10:30 Masses
CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15; Gr. 1-5 9:30 am
SNL 5:30 (Mass)
CF classes Gr. 6-11 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30
- 23** CF Classes Gr 1-11 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Scripture Study 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- 25** Community Banquet 5:30 p.m.
- 28** B.O.W at 8:15 & 10:30 Masses
CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15; Gr. 1-5 9:30 am
Mission Trip Meeting 11:30
GIFT 11:30-1:45
SNL 5:30 (Mass)
CF classes Gr. 6-11 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30

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HEALTH MINISTRY

***“MAY THE GOD OF PEACE MAKE YOU COMPLETELY HOLY
AND MAY YOUR SPIRIT AND SOUL AND BODY BE KEPT
SOUND”***

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23

Elizabeth Ministry

The Elizabeth Ministry has multiple facets, including the Rosebud Program and supporting families during times of need. Our Rosebud program is up and running, and can be found in the alcove in the main church where the statue of Mary is located. In this New Year I would like to really focus on the supportive role that Elizabeth Ministers have. The Elizabeth Ministry reaches out to women and their families. It encourages the support and assistance to these women by sharing similar stories and experiences. No matter what stage you are in of the reproductive journey, from miscarriage, infertility, adoption and childbirth, even father or grandparent concerns, the Elizabeth Ministry is here to support you.

Why is the Elizabeth Ministry important? These days we live a more isolated life, we no longer have the community and support in our neighborhoods, even our churches have increased in size and it has become more difficult to create a hospitable and loving environment. The support and guidance of extended family may not be available. The Elizabeth Ministry was inspired by the visit between Mary and Elizabeth, found in the Gospel of Luke. This is a beautiful example of sharing faith.

Volunteers are needed to support the different aspects of this ministry. No training is necessary; your life experience is enough. Offering words of support and encouragement through phone calls, taking the time to visit moms with new babies. There are no meetings, there is no set time commitment, whatever time you can give is enough. Please look for the poster in the Gathering Space after Mass in February for more information regarding the Elizabeth Ministry. Please contact me, Brigitte Glinski, Parish Nurse, if you are interested in volunteering your talents, or if you are in need of a visit. My phone number is 262-250-2663, or email me at glinskib@archmil.org.

Elizabeth Ministry Prayer

Creator God, I pledge to truly celebrate the gift of each child conceived and born and fully mourn each miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth and infant or child death. I will be a witness to my belief in the dignity and worth of all life, by honoring sexuality, treasuring the gift of fertility, promoting chaste living, uplifting the sanctity of marriage, helping those struggling with unhealthy lifestyles and sexual sins, supporting those suffering infertility problems, encouraging those in the adoptive process and assisting families with prenatal, infant or child crisis, illness or special need. I will be a strong and consistent voice for life in my home, my church, my community and my world.

Amen.

Luke 1:39-56 New International Version (NIV) Mary Visits Elizabeth

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!" ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

. . . have some medical equipment that can be signed out on a short term basis here at the rectory. This would include wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, and canes.

Call the parish office at 251-3944 if you would like to take advantage of this free service provided by the KC's.

Mary's Song

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful

⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors."

⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

HUMAN CONCERNS



Creation as Gift Received in Gratitude Laudato Si' On Care for Our Common Home

Imagine that you spent considerable time shopping for or personally creating a gift for a loved one this past Christmas. You spent great care selecting it, wrapping it up and presenting it with much love and intention. But your loved one showed little care, tossed it about and threw it out. How would that make you feel?

That is essentially the idea behind Pope Francis's encyclical "On Care for Our Common Home. Pope Francis is drawing our attention to the gift that God has given to all human beings and all creatures on this planet. Creation is a gift from God for which we should have immense gratitude and care. "It is up to us to care for it, reverence it and respect it for the gift that it is."

"The Lord God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, **to cultivate and care for it ...** God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good." [Gen 2:15, 1:31]. "We've done a great job tilling the earth, but not such a great job of caring for it."

"When we care for our Lord, we care for the bounty of the Lord. That bounty is given to all of us, not just some of us, to enjoy and to sustain our needs. Our earth is the support system that sustains human life. It is the system that produces food, air to breath and the water we need to survive. Our life is bound with creation in a way that we too are bound to respect it."¹

When creation suffers, it hurts most the poorest of people. Poorer people depend more directly on water, earth and climate in the space that they live because that is how they make their living. The climate, the quality and existence of potable water and tillable land is critical for people who earn their living as subsistence farmers and fisher people.

So care for creation translates directly into care for our sisters and brothers. If we truly care for the dignity of our sisters and brothers in the way that God asks us to love one another, then we will consider how our actions affect the lives and livelihood of others, especially the less resilient working poor. We too know the emotional, spiritual and economic toll it takes to not have the ability to support yourself or your family.

The hardest part of Caring for Our Common Home is knowing what to do and where to start so as to create a measurable impact of responsible consumption.

One Simple Act: In the gathering space at the Care for Our Common Home table with Pope Francis are One Simple Act cards each with a simple challenge for one habit we can change. Take a card, take the challenge to change the habit, and then pass that challenge on to someone else.

(cont'd)

St. James Care for Creation Team: Do you have ideas on what St. James can do as a parish to care for our creation and be more responsible consumers? Contact Debra Schneider at djschneider@wi.rr.com or 414-550-2167 to join the team or share your thoughts.

We received the world as garden it would be very unfair if we passed it on as, in the words of Pope Francis, "a pile of filth" to our children.

¹The above article is quoted from and adopted from *CST 101 On Care for Creation*, Catholic Relief Services, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wSnXuCxiHXE>



Human Trafficking - Be Informed

St. James launched the parish-wide book read: *In Our Backyard* by Nita Belles in November. Over 90 parishioners purchased the book. It invites the reader into the lives of human trafficking victims, survivors and the traffickers themselves through stories. These stories not only inform the reader, but also take them quickly through a well-documented crash course about human trafficking--better described as modern day slavery--in the United States.

There are a few copies of the book in the parish library, located in the Great Room. The book also can be purchased on line and in Kindle.

There will be additional opportunities at St. James to discuss the ramifications of Human Trafficking in our communities in SE Wisconsin and Waukesha County in January and February. See the bulletin in January for dates and times.

Call to action opportunities will be part of our Matthew 25 Year of Mercy program as well as Franciscan Peacemakers Clare Community soap sales to support Human Trafficking education and redemption efforts. We will also be making Restoration Bags for victims incarcerated with literally only the clothes on their back. Many victims are juvenal girls with nowhere to turn for help. Finally, we will be going out to inform specific community groups in the Sussex area on issues of human trafficking in an effort to create a higher level of awareness.

Watch the weekly bulletin and St. James web site under About Us/Committees/Human Concerns/Human Trafficking http://stjames-parish.net/wp_14/committees/human-concerns/human-trafficking-2/ for more information and upcoming activities. To join our leadership team and other opportunities to get involved contact Deb Schneider at djschneider@wi.rr.com or Bob Schuelke at bschuelke23@gmail.com

HUMAN CONCERNS (CONTINUED)

Thank You to St. James for Tithing

Dear Members,

Thank you for your donations given to the Menomonee Falls Food Pantry. This money will be used to purchase food for families in our community who need help.

We greatly appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Riehle,
Asst. Director*

We're writing a sincere "Thank You" for partnering with us in the Cathedral's outreach ministries for our homeless and poor neighbors. Your generous donation of \$450 plays a big part in allowing us to provide help, companionship and respect for all those who come to the Open Door Café.

As you know, our needs are great and our number of people we serve continues to grow. We are on track to serve over 38,000+ meals in a hospitable & warm environment, along with meeting emergency needs like 75+ hygiene kits, bottled water in the hot summers, and bus fare.

Our guests thank us continuously. . . We are only able to do this because of the wonderful support we receive from others. . . .

Your donation falls graciously like manna from Heaven. Thank you for this miraculous gift! Gratefully,

*Rev. Jeffrey R. Haines, Pastor
& Shelly Roder, Director of Outreach Ministries*

Dear St. James Congregation:

Thank you very much for your \$450 tithing check for the St. Martin Pantry. The pantry here has remained busy, so we appreciate your assistance. Recent changes in eligibility requirements for Food Share has brought new people to the pantry. Hunger Task force has upped our allotment, but we need to match the amount that they donate.

We are appreciative of your gift as well as all that we have been able to do together as sister parishes.

Peace and Blessings:

Minnie Linyear & Fr. David Preuss

Dear Friends at St. James,

Wow! There aren't enough words to express our gratitude for this generous offering! You have wrapped SOS in a St. James security blanket and helped provide relief to several families. We are so blessed to have such a loving giving and powerful partner such as St. James!

Thank you for your kindness,

*Jennifer Waltz,
Executive Director
Sussex Outreach
Services*

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your generous gift of \$450 to Community Memorial Hospital. Your gift has been designated to the Community Outreach Health Clinic.

The Community Outreach Health Clinic serves as a lifeline for area residents who find themselves without insurance or other resources to pay for essential health care. Your contribution is greatly appreciated by the thousands of individuals and families who will benefit from your generosity.

With the number of unemployed and "working poor" without health insurance continuing, we expect the demand for Clinic services will remain high. Now more than ever, we count on the support of friends like you to enable us to continue to meet the needs of our most vulnerable residents.

Community Memorial continues to build hope for a better future in health care. Thank you for your continued support of Community Memorial Hospital and Foundation.

Thank you so much!

*Kerry J. Freilbert,
Executive Director*

Dear St. James Congregation,

I am writing to thank you for supporting Walker's Point Youth & Family Center with a \$450 contribution. Please be assured that this donation will be put to valuable use supporting our free services to the homeless, runaway, and other youth in crisis and their families who come to us for help.

On behalf of our board members, staff, and especially those we serve, I thank you for your partnership in our efforts to promote safe and stable homes, healthy youth, and strong families. Your support helps make our mission achievable.

Gratefully,

*Andre' L. Olton, Ph.D.,
Executive Director*

It is with Great Joy that we thank you for your generous gift of \$450. During this Year of Consecrated Life, the School Sisters of St. Francis celebrate 141 years as a community. We extend our abundant thanks to you for helping us continue our rich heritage of responding to the needs of the times. Your gift shows your appreciation and gratitude for the influence our sisters have had on your life and the lives of so many around the world.

. . . . Your thoughtful gift enables our sisters to remain present in Santa Apolonia, Guatemala. Through their compassionate and skilled ministry, they bring hope and joy to the young ones living at Hogares Santa Maria de Guadalupe. . . . May God bless you and your loved ones with joy and peace in the days and months ahead. Gratefully, *Catherine Alexander, Special Appeals Administrator*

**MEET AND LEARN ABOUT ISLAM SUNDAY
JAN 31 AT NOON AT CHURCH**

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Sussex is hosting Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Shah, the Imam of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee. Dr. Shah will give a basic overview of Islam, respond to questions and help us learn more about what Islam is. Dr. Shah is the Secretary General of the Fiqh Council of North America, the Muslim Jurist Council and the author of Concept of God in the Judaeo, Christian and Islamic Traditions. The event will be held at noon on Sunday, Jan 31st. This event is open to all interested people. You can learn more about The Islamic Society of Milwaukee (ISM) on their website at ismonline.org.

In these challenging times many of us in the West know little if anything about Islam. Sometimes we are misinformed by the loudest voices, some of whom know even less about Islam. Our churches along with other Christians in the area have worked with ISM members numerous times over the years at food packs and other events directed at relief and compassion.

Pastor Tom Kent
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Office: 262/246-6537
Cell: 414/531-8006

**40th ANNIVERSARY OF
CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER
RETREAT WEEKENDS**

In 1975, Catholic Engaged Encounter week-ends were begun and were modeled after Marriage Encounter. The week-end is for engaged couples to spend time exploring many aspects of their future marriage in a spiritual atmosphere. The talks are given by a team of married couples and priests/deacons but the engaged couple really gives the week-end to each other through intense dialogue with each other. This program has expanded over the years and is now worldwide.

Catholic Engaged Encounter works in cooperation with and is supported by the Milwaukee Archdiocese and has been giving **CEE weekends at Schoenstatt retreat center** in Waukesha since 2012. Giving talks to engaged couples is a wonderful ministry to stay connected as a married couple. If you are looking for a lasting gift for someone in your family getting married, give them a week-end retreat for the engaged.



The dates for 2016 are April 29 – May 1 and September 23 – 25. If you are looking for a wonderful ministry as a married couple, check into being part of a team on Catholic Engaged Encounter, **contact John and Louise Vos, 262-439-8559 or email johnlouisevos@yahoo.com for more information.**

**Retreat for People who have Lost a Spouse
Wednesday, January 27th, 9 AM to 3 PM
St. James Parish, 7219 S. 27th Street, Franklin, WI**

Join us for this special one-day retreat for men and women of all ages who have lost a spouse through death. It doesn't matter how much time has passed since the spouse died; all widows and widowers are welcome regardless of the length of their grieving or how long they were married.

This day was created to help you deal with the grief, pain and isolation that accompanies the loss of a spouse. Participants will listen to presentations, and have personal time for other activities. The cost of the daylong retreat is \$25, and includes materials, lunch, beverages and snacks. Financial aid is available. You must register in advance; a flyer for this retreat can be found at tinyurl.com/2016LossofaSpouseRetreat.

Are you Called to be a Deacon?

As part of the discernment process for men interested in knowing more about becoming a Permanent Deacon, the Office for Diaconate Formation offers an "Inquiry for Discernment" Program. This is a series of six required sessions conducted for men between 32 and 60 years and, if married in the Church for more than 4 years, together with their spouses, who wish to explore a vocational calling to the ministry of the Permanent Diaconate.

Please visit www.archmil.org/offices/Diaconate/Discernment.htm for the full schedule of classes, or call (414) 758-2202 for more information.

Mary, Mom's & Muffins Rosary Group



Calling Moms of all ages! Join us on **January 16th & February 20th at 7am in the Reconciliation Room** at church, as we pray together the Holy Rosary. At the same time, you will meet other moms, who like you, are juggling the stresses of everyday life.

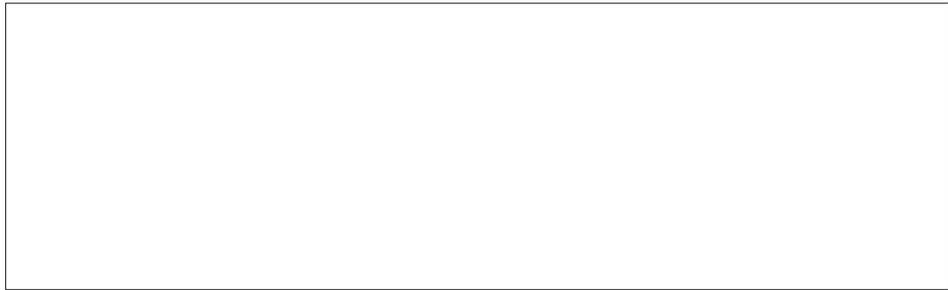
As we all come together in prayer, we are strengthened by the gift of friendship. Even if you've never prayed the rosary before, **DON'T WORRY . . .** A cheat sheet is provided and we all use it, so you'll be in good company! Give yourself this one hour and then let God take care of the rest! Feel free to invite a friend...the more the Mary-er (pun intended)! Hope to see you there.



St. James Parish

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262-251-3944

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Dates to Remember

JANUARY 2016

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>EVENT:</u>
1:	New Year's Day Mass, 9 am
2/3:	Fellowship Weekend
6:	All Committee Meeting Night, 7 pm
9:	Baptism Prep Class, 9:30 am Signed Liturgy, 5:30 Mass
10:	RCIA Rite of Welcome, 10:30 Mass A&E removes Christmas décor, 11:30
13:	Parish Council Mtg, 7:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul, 7:00 pm
14:	Community Banquet, 5:30 pm
16:	Mom's Rosary Group, 7:00 am Beyond Date Your Mate, 6:30 pm
17:	KC's Pancake Breakfast, 8 am Adult Confirmation, 10:30 am
20:	St. James Senior Club, 12:00 pm St. Ben's (leaves promptly at 4:00)
24:	Panera Breads for donation after Mass
27:	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 7:00 pm
28:	Community Banquet, 5:30 pm
30/31:	Soap Sales after Masses this weekend

FEBRUARY 2016

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>EVENT:</u>
3:	All Committee Meeting Night 7:00 PM
6:	Baptism Prep Class, 9:30 am Fellowship Weekend/Souper Bowl of Caring
9:	KC's Officer's Meeting, 7:30 pm
10:	Ash Wednesday Services, 8 am & 6 pm Soup Supper, 5:00-8:00 pm Parish Council Mtg, 7:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul, 7:00 pm
11:	Community Banquet, 5:30 pm
13:	Taste of Italy Dinner, 4:00-7:00 pm
17:	Senior Club, 12:00 pm St. Ben's (leaves promptly at 4:00)
18:	KC's General Membership Mtg, 7:30 pm
20:	Mom's Rosary Group, 7:00 am
21:	RCIA Rite of Sending during 10:30 Mass
24:	Common Threads Quilting Guild, 9:00 am St. Vincent de Paul, 7:00 pm
25:	Community Banquet, 5:30 pm
27:	Lector Prep, 8:00 am
28:	Panera Breads for donation to Food Pantry

Please see page 7 for Calendar of Events for the Christian Formation Department