

*Forming  
Catholics*

*Transforming  
Culture*



**An Adult Formation Ministry of  
St. Mary's Visitation– Elm Grove, WI**

Presents

**V.I.B.E.**  
**VISITATION INSTITUTE BIBLE ENCOUNTER**

Join us for an exciting journey through the

**Three Letters of St. John & The Book of Revelation.**

Classes are Thursday mornings in January and February from 9-10:45am and will include presentations by Fr. Peter Berger or Josh Dieterich and study questions/ discussion in small groups with a chance to grow in community and pray with one another.

Cost is just \$15.00 and includes the Ignatius Press study guide by Dr. Scott Hahn. Babysitting is available with advanced notice if needed.

**CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 4, 2018 IN THE ATRIUM!**

**For more information, or to register, contact Josh Dieterich at  
the parish office at 262-782-4575 or [jdieterich@stmaryeg.org](mailto:jdieterich@stmaryeg.org)**

**Saint Mary's Visitation Parish  
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph ~ December 31, 2017**



## MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

9:00 am † John O. Grade

Tuesday, January 2, Saints Basil the Great and Gregory

Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

6:30 am † Floyd Miller

Wednesday, January 3, Christmas Weekday

6:30 am The Intention of Corrin Renner and Family

Thursday, January 4, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

6:30 am The Intention of the Rekowski Family

Friday, January 5, Saint John Neumann, Bishop

6:30 am † Art and Jackie Patch

8:00 am † Paul Burbach

Saturday, January 6, Christmas Weekday

8:00 am † Marvin Swentkofski

5:00 pm † Louis and Petrina Smetek

Sunday, January 7, The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 am Parishioners

9:00 am † Richard Buellesbach

11:00 am † Jerald Janowski



In your charity and prayers,  
please remember the souls of those who  
have recently died and their families.

Margaret Bielefeld

Grace Fehrer

Joseph Novotny, father of John Novotny

## Daily Mass Schedule

6:30 am Monday thru Friday

8:00 am Tuesday & Friday, School Days Only

### Exceptions:

There is no 8am Mass on Tuesday, January 2nd.

## Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday	8:30am - 4pm
Friday	8:30am - noon

*The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 1.*

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Sick is available every Monday after the 6:30am Mass. Members of the parish facing surgery or other medical procedures or tests are invited to receive this sacrament prior to their medical procedures. If you know of someone who is in the hospital, or who would like a visit from the parish staff, please call the parish office and let us know.

## PARISH REGISTRATION

St. Mary's is always happy to welcome new members. If you are interested in parish membership, it would be most helpful if you would call to make an appointment to register (262-782-4575). An appointment will guarantee the presence of a staff member to answer your questions and walk through a welcome packet with you.

## BAPTISM PREPARATION

Children ages 6 and under: Those seeking to have children baptized should be registered, active members of St. Mary's Visitation Parish. Parents who request baptism for a child are expected to complete a preparation class. It is offered bi-monthly. The scheduled classes for this year are:

Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:30-11:30am in church

Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:30-11:30am in church

It is generally easier if the preparation is done before the birth of the child. If you have attended a session within the last five years, it is not necessary to retake the class. To schedule a baptism, please view the baptism dates on the parish website, [www.stmaryeg.org/baptism](http://www.stmaryeg.org/baptism). Please contact Jenny Dascoli at 262-782-4485 or [jdascoli@stmaryeg.org](mailto:jdascoli@stmaryeg.org) for more information or to register for the baptism class.

Children ages 6-12: Please contact Josh Dieterich, Director of Catholic Formation, 262-782-4575 or [jsdieterich@stmaryeg.org](mailto:jsdieterich@stmaryeg.org).

Adults ages 12 and up: Adults who wish to join the Catholic Church and were not baptized can participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). Please contact Josh Dieterich, Director of Catholic Formation, 262-782-4575 or [jsdieterich@stmaryeg.org](mailto:jsdieterich@stmaryeg.org).

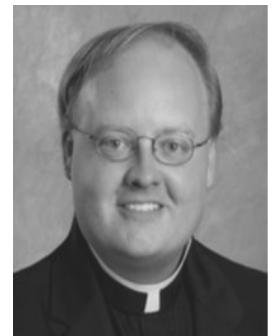
## THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

The Catholic Church takes preparation for the Sacrament of Matrimony very seriously. Generally at least 6 months should be allowed for this preparation. Engaged couples themselves should call the parish office to schedule an appointment to discuss their plans. Marriage can take place any day of the week, although Saturday is generally preferred by couples. Sunday weddings are possible, but a wedding Mass is not allowed for such occasions.

## Postings from Fr. Peter

### *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*

I am always so grateful at this time of year to have the chance to continue the celebration of Christmas – when our secular society is all done with Christmas, the Church is just getting started! We are blessed to have a number of weeks of the Christmas Season and I would urge everyone of us to continue to see these days as Christmas Days – the miracle and mystery of the Incarnation is so profound that it can't be fully meditated on over the course of a single day, so to help continue our prayer on so great a mystery, I wanted to share with you a reflection which comes from The Letter to Diognetus which comes from sometime in the late 2<sup>nd</sup> Century:



*No man has ever seen God or known him, but God has revealed himself to us through faith, by which alone it is possible to see him. God, the Lord and maker of all things, who created the world and set it in order, not only loved man but was also patient with him. So he has always been, and is, and will be: kind, good, free from anger, truthful; indeed, he and he alone is good.*

*He devised a plan, a great and wonderful plan, and shared it only with his Son. As long as he preserved this secrecy and kept his own wise counsel he seemed to be neglecting us, to have no concern for us. But when through his beloved Son he revealed and made public what he had prepared from the very beginning, he gave us all at once gifts such as we could never have dreamt of, even sight and knowledge of himself.*

*When God had made all his plans in consultation with his Son, he waited until a later time, allowing us to follow our own whim, to be swept along by unruly passions, to be led astray by pleasure and desire. Not that he was pleased by our sins: he only tolerated them. Not that he approved of that time of sin: he was planning this era of holiness. When we had been shown to be undeserving of life, his goodness was to make us worthy of it. When we had made it clear that we could not enter God's kingdom by our own power, we were to be enabled to do so by the power of God.*

*When our wickedness had reached its culmination, it became clear that retribution was at hand in the shape of suffering and death. The time came then for God to make known his kindness and power (how immeasurable is God's generosity and love!). He did not show hatred for us or reject us or take vengeance; instead, he was patient with us, bore with us, and in compassion took our sins upon himself; he gave his own Son as the price of our redemption, the holy one to redeem the wicked, the sinless one to redeem sinners, the just one to redeem the unjust, the incorruptible one to redeem the corruptible, the immortal one to redeem mortals. For what else could have covered our sins but his sinlessness? Where else could we, wicked and sinful as we were, have found the means of holiness except in the Son of God alone?*

*How wonderful a transformation, how mysterious a design, how inconceivable a blessing! The wickedness of the many is covered up in the holy One, and the holiness of One sanctifies many sinners.*

A continued Merry Christmas to all of you and a blessed and joyful new year!

Do you want to find inner stillness and quiet...especially after a busy holiday season?

### **Centering Prayer Introductory Program**

Contemplative prayer is God's personal and unique gift to us and has been a part of our Christian heritage for centuries. If you are open to the gift of contemplation it may profoundly affect your daily life. The Centering Prayer Introductory Program explains the gift of contemplative prayer and deepening of your relationship with God. The method of Centering Prayer will be presented and there will be time for practice of the prayer. You will discover the meaning of Psalm 46: "Be still and know that I am God."

All are welcome to attend!

The program will be presented on Saturday, January 13, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at Saint John Vianney Catholic Parish, 1755 North Calhoun Road, Brookfield, Room P209. A donation of \$15 per person is suggested. However, no one will be turned away. The program will be presented by experienced practitioners of Centering Prayer who are trained to present the program by Contemplative Outreach, Ltd. ([www.contemplativeoutreach.org](http://www.contemplativeoutreach.org)). It is sponsored by Contemplative Outreach Southeast Wisconsin (COSEW), the Wisconsin Chapter of Contemplative Outreach International. (<https://contemplativeoutreachwisconsin.org>)

For more information and to sign up, please call or e-mail Marianne Kazmier, 262-782-5586, [mkazmier@wi.rr.com](mailto:mkazmier@wi.rr.com)

**School Calendar**

Tuesday (1/2): School Resumes

- No Mass at 8am

Friday (1/5): All School Mass, 8am

- Chess Club, 2-4pm, SC

***Readings for the Week of December 31, 2017***

Sunday: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, [7a, 8a] or Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 [3cd]/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [3cd]/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2a]/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

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**Parish Calendar**

Monday (1/1): Parish Offices and Thrift Shop Closed.

Tuesday: Thrift Shop Open, 9am-4pm

- Dead Theologians Society, 6:30-9pm, Attic

Wednesday: Thrift Shop Closed.

Thursday: Visitation Institute Bible Encounter, 9am, Atrium

- Thrift Shop Open, 9am-7pm

Friday: Thrift Shop Open, 9am-4pm

- Kiwanis Golden K of EG. Coffee until 9:30am mtg, SC
- Holy Dusters; 9:30am,+
- Musica Oramus Extraordinary Form of the Mass, 6:30pm, Confessions 5:30pm, Rosary 5:50pm

Saturday: AA Meeting, 7-8am, SC

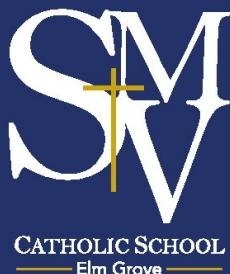
- Reconciliation 8:45-9:15am+
- Catholic Women's Book Club, 8:45am, Attic
- Thrift Shop Open, 9am-noon
- Baptism Class, 10:30am, Atrium
- Wedding Class, 11:30am, Atrium
- RCIA Rite of Welcome Mass, 5pm

Sunday (1/7): 9th and 10th Grade Catholic Formation, following 9am Mass, Attic

*Save the Date*

For parents, grandparents & children

**GRADES K3-8<sup>TH</sup>**



# OPEN HOUSE

**January 28 | 8:00 AM -12:30 PM**

TOUR OUR SCHOOL MEET OUR TEACHERS MEET OUR FAMILIES EXPERIENCE OUR COMMUNITY



## Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Monday, January 1, 2018

Mass at 9am

This is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

The Parish Offices are closed.

## Weekday Ministers ~ The Week of December 31

Server	Jim Maciejewski
Sacristan	Rick Rehlinger
Lector	Jerry Shimek
Eucharistic Ministers	Arlene Sarnowski, Bill Schoenecker

*Adoration Chapel*

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. In the opening prayer of the Mass we ask, “*O God who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards.*” What a wonderful world this would be if all people took this to heart. Visit the St. Mary’s Perpetual Adoration Chapel and pray for your family and all families of the world, that they may emulate the Holy Family. Give thanks to God for the gift of your family and for the gift of being members of His family.

There are so many big feasts in the coming week. On January 1st we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and the World Day of Peace. On the 3rd we celebrate the Most Holy Name of Jesus. On January 4th we remember St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and on the 5th, St. John Neumann, both advocates for education. Begin the year by commemorating these feasts in visits to the Chapel. Intercede with Jesus and Mary for world peace. Pray for the success of our school and religious education programs and for all teachers and administrators who dedicate their lives to the education of children. Begin the new year right by making a resolution to visit the Chapel often, or better yet, to join the Adoration program!

*We Need Coverage:*

Sundays	1-2 am, Call Colleen Schwarz, 414-795-3153
Mondays	12-1pm, Call Mary Rhomberg, 262-786-1974
Thursdays	2-3 am, 2nd & 4th weeks only, Call Jack Morien, 262-389-5625
Fridays	3-4am, 2nd, 4th and 5th weeks only, Call Rita Dragani, 262-796-1162
Saturdays	2-3pm, Call Kathy Stapleton, 262-782-2658 8-9pm, Call Nancy Frazer, 262-786-0617

You may also sign up online on our website,  
[stmaryeg.org/perpetual-adoration.html](http://stmaryeg.org/perpetual-adoration.html).

**You Are Invited!**

**St. Mary's Christian Women Speaker Breakfast**  
with guest speaker Lydia LoCoco

**“The Significance of Friendship  
in the Faith Lives of Women”**

**Sunday, January 14th  
10am in the Atrium**



Treat yourself to a deliciously famous Christian Women breakfast and hear Lydia speak on the significance of friendship in the faith lives of women with a talk that highlights living this real apostolate—the apostolate of friendship. All women will join in fun and fellowship as they see themselves in the various graced friendships in their lives.

The cost of the breakfast is \$10. RSVP by sending your check payable to St. Mary’s Christian Women to the Parish Office, 1260 Church Street, Elm Grove, WI 53122 or call 262-782-4575 for more information. We hope to see you there!

*Our parish congratulates you and prays for you  
as you celebrate your special Anniversary in January:*

25th Anniversary: Mike and Shelley Hansen  
Ed and Liz Stewart  
Edwin Richardson and Terese O’Neil

*May you know God’s love  
through your love for one another.*

**ST. MARY'S VISITATION**

Catholic School Elm Grove, WI

**Student Spotlight**

Name: Johnny Warren

Grade: 6th

Teacher: Mrs. Biernat

Favorite Subject: Science

Favorite Things About SMV: The great teachers and all of my friends.

How I Give of My Time and Talents to SMV: Altar Serving

**JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH**

pray for us!

## Adult and Teen Formation News

**VIBE (Visitation Institute Bible Encounter) Bible Study is Back!** The Visitation Institute Adult Formation's Bible Study returns January 4th, 2018, and meets each Thursday morning from 9-10:45am. We will be continuing the works of St. John this year reading through the Three Letters of St. John and the Book of Revelation. Fr. Peter Berger and Josh Dieterich will teach the sessions, and there will be extensive opportunities to discuss and pray with fellow parishioners. The cost of the study is \$15, which includes the study guide by Dr. Scott Hahn.

**RCIA Update:** We have five wonderful adult candidates studying to join the Catholic Church at Easter. Please pray for them and if possible come and formally welcome them at the *Rite of Welcoming* to be held during the 5pm Mass on Saturday, January 6th.

**What do a priest, a physician, a theologian, and an astrophysicist have in common? They all are speaking this Spring at the Visitation Institute!** Keep an eye out for more information on this exciting semester!

### **St. Mary's Teens — make plans now to attend these upcoming summer events!**



#### **June 18-24 · Knoxville, TN**

Join us and 300+ other teens for a high energy week of service as we repair homes and serve the homeless during the day, and worship, learn, and grow closer to Jesus Christ in the evenings. Est. Cost: \$760\*, \$100 deposit required. Limited fundraising available. Be one of the first 20 people to register to guarantee your spot and this discounted rate!



#### **July 20-22 · Steubenville on the Lake - Kenosha, WI**

At a Steubenville conference, you're invited to encounter Jesus Christ with 2,500+ teens through laughter, prayer, music, worship, and the sacraments. Est. Cost \$355\*, \$100 deposit required. Limited fundraising available. Register by January 1 to guarantee your spot and this discounted rate!

**Contact Elizabeth Harrison for more information, 262-782-4575 or eharrison@stmaryeg.org.**

### **St. Mary's Thrift Shop**

Find Your Hidden Treasure Here!!



In honor of the Solemnity of Mary, the entire store will be 50% off on Thursday, January 4! Stop in and see our awesome selection of men's, women's and children's clothing.

Looking for a good book?  
Come in and browse our wonderful collection!

#### **Thrift Shop Hours:**

Monday/Tuesday/Friday 9-4; Thursday 9-7; Saturday, 9-12.  
Visit our website, [stmaryeg.org/thrift-shop.html](http://stmaryeg.org/thrift-shop.html) for more info.

### **St. Mary's Thrift Shop Needs Volunteers!**

One unsung ministry at St. Mary's which is in DESPERATE need of parish volunteers is the THRIFT SHOP! We have a wonderful group of volunteers already in place but this Dream Team is overwhelmed by the sheer abundance of generous donations! Please consider volunteering at the Thrift Shop sooner rather than later. Give as much or as little of your time as your schedule allows and watch the fruits of your labors grow! Discounts are awarded to those volunteers who help out on a weekly basis. Our only requirement is that all new volunteers go through a single 45-minute training session either on a Tuesday or Thursday morning (to be mutually arranged with the manager or assistant manager). Experience, first hand, the joy and comradery of volunteering at the Thrift Shop. Please contact Terri Maciejewski, Manager, or Mia Giampietro, Assistant Manager at the Thrift Shop, 262-784-6644 or email Terri at [sistermaryterri@gmail.com](mailto:sistermaryterri@gmail.com) or Mia at [miagordon@att.net](mailto:miagordon@att.net).

### **Archdiocesan Respect Life Mass – January 22, 2018**

All are invited to the annual Archdiocesan Respect Life Mass and reception on Monday evening, January 22, at 6:30pm at Blessed Savior Parish as we observe the National Day of Penance and Prayer for Life. Catholics across the Archdiocese join in fellowship to pray in penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion and for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life, from conception to natural death. Planning to attend? Bring a donation of diapers for newborns, infants, or toddlers, which will be distributed by the Christ Child Society throughout the community. The Mass and reception will be held at Blessed Savior Parish, 8545 W. Villard Avenue in Milwaukee — Rosary at 6:30pm, Mass at 7pm with reception to follow.