



St. Mary's Visitation

2022-2023 Guide Book & Directory

1260 Church St. | Elm Grove, WI 53122 | 262-782-4575

St. Mary's Visitation Parish

1260 Church Street, Elm Grove, WI 53122
262-782-4575 • www.stmaryeg.org

Welcome to St. Mary's Visitation

2022 - 2023

Dear Parishioners,

During the Baptismal ritual, a candle is lit from the Paschal Candle and the minister of Baptism says, "Receive the light of Christ." While this light is entrusted to the parents and godparents of the child, it is ultimately a light which is entrusted to us as baptized members of the Church. It is a light which is to be "kept burning brightly." That light, which we have all had handed on to us at our baptisms, is not a light only for ourselves - the light of Christ entrusted to us for our own illumination - but also a call to be a light for others, to allow the light of Christ to shine through our lives and to touch the lives and hearts of others. One of the ways we allow that baptismal light to shine forth is by giving ourselves to others - of using our time and talent to the benefit of others, to the building up of the Church and the glory of God Himself.

In this annual parish guidebook, you will find ways and opportunities to bring that light of Christ, entrusted to you at your baptism, to others. This booklet is filled with the various efforts of St. Mary's Visitation Parish to be a light in the world today. Can you help that flame to burn more brightly by adding your light to it? Perhaps, in looking through this booklet, you will find your heart being drawn to something, the Holy Spirit gently prompting a response on your part to let that baptismal light shine on behalf of others and for the service of the Lord.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Peter J. Berger

Parish Office Information

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Main Phone Number | 262-782-4575 |
| Parish Website Address | www.stmaryeg.org |
| Parish Fax Number | 262-782-0677 |
| Thrift Shop..... | 262-784-6644 |

Office Hours

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Monday - Thursday | 9:00 am-3:30 pm |
| Friday | 9:00 am-12:00 pm |
| The Parish Office is closed on Holy Days. | |

Parish Staff

Parish Office

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Fr. Peter Berger | Pastor | 262-782-4575 |
| Fr. Patrick Behling | Associate Pastor | 262-782-4575 |
| Fr. David Filut | Assisting Priest | 262-782-4575 |
| Dick Niggemann..... | Deacon | 262-782-4575 |
| Richard Piontek..... | Deacon | 262-782-4575 |
| Monica Hiller | Director of Finance . | 262-782-4575 x151 |
| Cheryl Peters..... | Financial Assistant . | 262-782-4575 x157 |
| Nora Mihm..... | Communications . | 262-782-4575 x114 |
| Mary Sue Protz | Human Concerns . | 262-782-4575 x130 |
| Chris Kinzy..... | Administrative Assistant . | 262-782-4575 x146 |
| Heidi Steigerwald | Cemetery Sexton . | 262-782-4575 x122 |
| Liz Steybe..... | Office Manager . | 262-782-4575 x129 |
| Bernadette Stephens | Receptionist | 262-782-4575 |
| Terri Maciejewski | Thrift Shop | 262-784-6644 |
| James Carrig | Trustee | 262-782-4575 |
| Gordon Giampietro | Trustee | 262-782-4575 |

Liturgy & Music

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Julie Cucunato | Music Department Support . | 262-782-4485 x131 |
| Julie Huebner..... | Cantor Program Director . | 262-782-4485 x131 |
| Michel Shestak..... | Organist . | 262-782-4485 x131 |

Catholic Formation

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Josh Dieterich | Director of Catholic Formation . | 262-782-4575 x109 |
| Erica Nelson..... | Co-Director of Catholic Formation . | 262-782-4575 x108 |

Parish School Office

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Mary Tretow | Principal | 262-782-7057 |
| Jill Nordstrom | School Secretary | 262-782-7057 |

Maintenance

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Dennis Zainer..... | Maintenance | 262-782-4575 |
| Dan Kaurich | Maintenance Assistant | 262-782-4575 |

Mass Schedule & Liturgical Services

Mass Schedule

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Sunday | 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am |
| Sunday Latin Mass | 2:00 pm |
| Saturday Vigil | 4:00 pm |
| Monday through Friday | 6:30 am |
| Tuesday and Friday (school days only) | 8:00 am |
| Saturday | 8:00 am |

Liturgical Services

Please check the bulletin or call the Parish Office for any possible schedule changes.

Reconciliation Schedule

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Wednesday | 7:00 am |
| Friday | 2:00 pm-5:00 pm |
| Saturday | 8:30 am |

Seasonal Tri-Parish Reconciliation Services are listed in the bulletin.

Devotional Services

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Family Rosary | Second Sunday at 4:00 pm |
|---------------------|--------------------------|

Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick will be done in circumstances of immediate danger of death.

Please contact the Parish Office for more information, 262-782-4575.

Holy Days

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Mary, Mother of God | January 1 |
| Assumption of Mary | August 15 |
| All Saints | November 1 |
| Immaculate Conception of Mary..... | December 8 |
| Christmas | December 25 |

Mass Schedules for Holy Days are announced in the bulletin.

Baptism Preparation

Children ages six and under: Those seeking to have children baptized should be registered, active members of St. Mary's. Parents who request baptism for a child are expected to complete a preparation class. Baptism preparation classes are offered bi-monthly. 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. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Children ages 6-12: Contact Josh Dieterich, 262-782-4575 or jdieterich@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). Contact: Josh Dieterich, 262-782-4575 or jdieterich@stmaryeg.org

Funeral Masses

The death of a loved one represents a deep loss, and at times, a tragic event. The Church recognizes the need both to remember the soul of the deceased and to assist in healing the human anguish of those who remain behind. At the time of death, the family, directly or through the funeral director, will contact the Parish Office to schedule the day and time of the funeral or Memorial Mass. Once the time has been set, the family will meet with the priest, at which time they will be given a planner and all the necessary materials to help them plan the funeral liturgy. Contact: Parish Office, 262-782-4575

Marriage Preparation

The Catholic Church takes preparation for the Sacrament of Matrimony very seriously. Generally, at least six months should be allowed for this preparation. Engaged couples themselves should visit our website, www.stmaryeg.org/contact-us.html and go to the weddings section to fill out a Marriage Request Form. Contact: Liz Steybe, lsteybe@stmaryeg.org or 262-782-4575

Parish Registration

St. Mary's Visitation is always happy to welcome new members. If you are interested in joining the parish, please visit our website, www.stmaryeg.org/grow-with-us.html and complete our registration form. Contact: Nora Mihm, 262-782-4575 or nmihm@stmaryeg.org




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Stewardship Overview

Parish stewardship is a powerful means of contributing to your sense of belonging to St. Mary's and your understanding of what it means to be a parish member. It is the sincere intention of parish leadership and parish staff to do their best to provide leadership and to respond to the needs of the parish members. However, being a member of a parish community brings with it a number of responsibilities, to be fulfilled to the best of the ability of the member.

Our parish mission statement defines our mission in terms of faith, worship and service. It is our common responsibility to bring these elements of the mission statement to life by who we are and how we live. We strive to live out the Catholic faith in harmony with the teachings of Christ and His Church. We keep the Mass and the Blessed Sacrament central in the life of our parish. And finally, we promote goodness in this world, following the example of our Blessed Mother, by serving the needs of others.

We are each called to service. We have the opportunities to be of help to others in need, whether locally or elsewhere. When you are active in this way, you are making the meaning of the Gospel concrete and immediate. It is under the rubric of service that we consider and fulfill our responsibility of financial support for our parish. If we all take on our just share of this responsibility, we will have adequate financial resources available to fulfill our parish mission statement and the financial stability required for future planning.

Please prayerfully consider how your faith community can be of service to you as well as how you may choose to serve your community. When we speak of being members of the Body of Christ, we are encouraging you to be open to receiving service from your faith community as well as giving it.

It is in this way that the Holy Spirit touches us through the words, actions and deeds of our fellow parishioners. As you choose to reach out and become involved in service to your community, you become the face of Christ to others and our parish mission statement comes to life.

Opportunities for Giving Time

*"Do not neglect good deeds and generosity.
God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind."*

Hebrews 13:16

Time is such a valued commodity in today's society. Have you ever wished for more hours in the day in order to complete all the tasks that require your attention? How many times do you worry about how you will manage all that needs to be done?

We often hire others to care for our children and to maintain and clean our homes, two of our most precious earthly gifts. Why? Because our time is so consumed by professional commitments and personal responsibilities, we often need help to meet these time commitments.

Recognizing these realities of today's world, your faith community still requests your time. Why are we asking you to give something so valuable, so rationed, and so unavailable in our everyday, busy, hectic lives? TIME? Because, it will change you!

Making an investment of TIME to the life of your parish community will change you. Time in prayer for the parish community, time in service to others of the parish community, will affect your heart, your attitude, your sense of truly becoming a part of a bigger plan; God's plan for His church, His community of faithful followers of the life of Christ.

Opportunities for Giving Talent

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit, there are different forms of service but the same Lord: there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit."

1 Corinthians 12: 4-7

We all have skills. Some are highly specialized and allow us to heal, educate, communicate and assist others with complicated tasks. Some may not seem specialized and yet they are so basic that without them, our families would suffer greatly: cooking, cleaning and managing a home and family. We all have special talents, which benefit our families and our communities each day. Are you utilizing your God-given talents? Will you consider identifying those talents and allow them to serve your faith community?

Parish Committees

Pastoral Council: The Pastoral Council serves as an advisory body to the pastor and parish staff. Representing the broad diversity of parishioners, their wisdom helps guide the spiritual leadership, governance and planning of the parish. Standing committees include: Building & Grounds, Catholic Formation, Finance Council, Prayer & Worship, School Advisory and Home & School. Ad hoc committees are appointed as needed for special projects and activities. There are seven members, each serving a two year term. The selection of new members of the Council is by discernment. The Council meets six times a year. Contact: Monica Hiller, 262-782-4575 or mhiller@stmaryeg.org

Building & Grounds: The Building & Grounds Committee members provide oversight and guidance for maintaining, utilizing and advancing parish and school buildings and real estate. The committee consists of individuals with varied experience in contractor trades, building services and landscape service fields. Meetings are held monthly. Contact: Heidi Steigerwald, 262-782-4575 or hsteigerwald@stmaryeg.org

Catholic Formation: The purpose of the Catholic Formation Committee is to give leadership to the parish, Parish Pastoral Council and Catholic Formation staff in the areas of Catholic Formation/Religious Education for children, youth, young adults, adults, families and many specialized groups. Their concerns include religious instruction, sacramental preparation, evangelization, family life, vocation, spirituality and ecumenical and interfaith activities. The Catholic Formation Committee will determine how often to meet with the expectation of an initial one year term. Contact: Josh Dieterich or Erica Nelson, Catholic Formation, 262-782-4575

Finance Council: The Finance Council provides advice and guidance to the Pastor in the administration of parish assets. The Council is advisory to the pastor. Standing sub committees assist in development of the annual budget, regular and annual financial reports to the parish community and stewardship. The sub committees report to the Council. There are six members on the Council. The pastor confirms new members. Time Commitment: The Council meets seven times per year. Contact: Monica Hiller, 262-782-4575 or mhiller@stmaryeg.org

Prayer & Worship Committee: The Prayer & Worship Committee works closely with the Liturgy & Music Office to evaluate all aspects of liturgy at St. Mary's and develops ways to improve the worship, prayer and spiritual life of our parish community. The study of liturgical documents and texts throughout the year forms committee members for this task. Meetings are held six times a year, September-May. Terms run two years with no more than two consecutive terms. Contact: Liturgy & Music Office, 262-782-4485



Joe & Kathy Becker, Parish Members

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St. Mary Visitation Parishioner

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School Committee: The School Committee serves as an advisory body to the Principal. It coordinates the work of subcommittees, approves the budget and monitors the school plan. Subcommittees: *Advancement* handles school recruiting, publicity and marketing. *Planning* monitors student programs, seeks input and develops responses to needs. *Policy* reviews handbook, seeks input, develops proposals for policy additions or changes. *Technology* maintains technology plan, envisions growth and implements plans. Planning Committee meets once a month. Technology meets quarterly. Policy, Budget and Advancement meet as needed. Contact: School Office, 262-782-7057

Home & School Committee: The H & S Committee provides programs, opportunities and funds to assist our students and families with educational, religious and community enhancement. Volunteers needed: Board Members: Chair or Co-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator. Time Commitment: One school year with monthly board meetings. Committee/Program Chairs for the following programs: Publicity, Parish Picnic, Trivia Night, Spooks & Spoofs, Chili Chomp, Memorial Day Parade Float, Field Day, Hospitality, SCRIP Auction, Soles Walk and Grandparent's Day. Program Chairs organize volunteers within their committee. Contact: School Office, 262-782-7057

Liturgy & Music

Adoration Chapel: Volunteers are needed to spend time as Adorers of the Holy Eucharist in the Chapel. Coverage is needed 24/7. You may commit for an hour weekly, bi-weekly or monthly, depending on your schedule. Substitutes are also needed. If you cannot sign up for a regular hour, you may volunteer to serve as a substitute, to be contacted when a need arises. Volunteers are needed to maintain the environment within the chapel. Contact: Parish Office, 262-782-4575

Annual Adoration Chapel Cleaners are needed for 2-hour shifts on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, 9:30-11:30 am. Volunteers must be mobile and able to lift, bend, kneel, carry, reach and be comfortable climbing a ladder. Contact: Fran Auger, 262-844-8801 or gauger@wi.rr.com

Altar Society/Holy Dusters: Volunteers are needed to perform general housecleaning duties of altars and sacristies, once a month on Fridays for an hour or two. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Art & Environment Ministry: This ministry consists of volunteers who decorate the sanctuary and church throughout the liturgical year. Their function is to develop an atmosphere within the worship area that enhances the prayer life of the community and promotes their active participation. Christmas and Easter are the major seasons that require assistance. All are welcome to volunteer, whether you're creative or simply able to offer a helping hand. Assistance is also needed for selling poinsettias during Advent and Easter lilies during Lent. Time Commitment: Days prior to liturgical seasons or church feast days. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Christmas Crèche Set-up: Volunteers are needed to set up the Christmas Crèche in the church. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Choirs: If you would like to sing as a cantor or choir member, please contact: Julie Huebner, 262-782-4485 or jhuebner@stmaryeg.org

Church Linen Maintenance: Volunteers are responsible for the cleaning of the sacristy linens and server albs. Linens can be washed at the volunteer's home. Help is needed several hours during the weeks in which volunteer is scheduled. Volunteers are scheduled on a rotating basis. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are privileged to assist the presider in distributing the Body and Blood of Christ to the assembly. They serve at all liturgies. There is a group who minister only at the daily 6:30 am Mass. All Catholics who have been confirmed are invited to share in this special ministry. Scheduled approximately twice a month. Mass preferences are accommodated. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Lectors: Lectors accept the privileged role of proclaiming the Word of God in a manner that can nourish the assembly. They reflect upon the reading itself as well as its contextual background. They apply effective methods of oral proclamation so that the congregation may enter into the experience of God's Living Word. High school youth and adult parishioners interested in proclaiming God's Word are always welcome. Scheduled once or twice a month. Mass preferences accommodated. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Marriage Preparation: Happily married couples are needed to help prepare engaged couples for the Sacrament of Matrimony and administer the FOCCUS questionnaire. Training is provided. Sponsor couples work with 1-2 couples per year and meet with each couple 2-3 times. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Sacristans: Sacristans open the church doors in the morning and set up Mass needs for the priests. Replenishing candles as needed is also part of the position. Volunteers are needed before and after 6:30 am Mass, rotating every 4-6 weeks. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Servers/Adult: Volunteers are trained to be Acolyte ministers who serve at the daily 6:30 am and Saturday 8:00 am Masses. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Servers/Youth: Boys and girls who are in 6th grade through high school are invited to be altar servers. They act as the assembly's representatives in assisting the presider in the celebration of daily and Sunday Mass, weddings and other liturgical celebrations. Servers are trained mid to late summer to both to assist in the celebrations and to prepare and clean up the sanctuary and sacristy. Servers are scheduled for your preferred weekend Mass. Day students are scheduled for the 8:00 am Mass during the school year. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Servers/Funerals: Adult and high school servers assist our priests at funerals as needed. High school students serve on weekends and during school vacations. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Ushers: Our ushers are the first to welcome each person to Sunday worship. They help with the collection, the Communion procession and other needs of the community. All ages are welcome to help. Young children are encouraged to participate as able with their families. Scheduled one month at a time at the Mass of your choice. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

School

School parents donate hundreds of hours of service, selecting their roles in August. We welcome non-school parent parishioner assistance for many of our activities. We extend our thanks to all school parent and non-school parent volunteers. Please contact the School Office, 262-782-7057 unless otherwise specified. Volunteer opportunities are as follows:

Ambassador Family: Assist in the recruitment of new families by providing tours during Open House and to follow up with prospective families to invite them to various programs, to make them feel welcomed and to respond to any questions they might have.

Athletics: There are various athletic opportunities available. Contact the Athletic Director through the School Office.

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Auction for Education: This is an annual adult social function and fundraiser held in the school gymnasium. Volunteers are needed to assist with the silent auction. This involves help with solicitation, follow-up, packaging and set-up of donated items. Volunteers are also needed with decorations, set up and clean up.

Field Day: This year-end event is held at SMV. Volunteers are needed to help run the various competitions and serve lunch. This event runs all day.

Hospitality: All events are preplanned and you are given a list of all the events for the year (usually 8 to 10). Great for people who like to cook and those that do not have time to cook. You will receive an email two weeks prior to an event and will be given a choice of items to prepare or purchase. Meals are usually simple: salads, desserts, soups, fruits, veggies, etc. Even though we love homemade things, we do also ask for items that can easily be purchased such as rolls, condiments, lunchmeats, drinks, etc. We especially need help with setup and cleanup.

Library Aides: Assist students during scheduled library time and/or categorize and shelve books as directed by the Librarian. Times are flexible. In-service required.

Memorial Day Parade: The fourth grade classes are responsible for coordinating the SMV activities for the Elm Grove Memorial Day Parade. You will be representing the school during the parade.

Parish Pancake Breakfast: The Pancake Breakfast is sponsored by the Boy Scouts and takes place in January. Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks including ticket sales, ordering food, food service, decorations, dishwashing, set up and clean up.

Parish Picnic Volunteer: In September, school parents organize and host a picnic for parishioners to thank them for their support of the school. Following the 11:00 am Sunday Mass parishioners share a meal, visit and enjoy entertainment. Volunteers are needed to assist in scheduling volunteers, organize children's games or activities, entertainment, marketing, decorations, set up, take down and help day of the event.

Room Parent: The teacher's main contact for organizing Classroom Aides to assist with special projects, field trips and other classroom needs. Commitment will vary depending upon grade level and classroom.

Scrip Program: This program raises funds for our school through the use of gift certificates purchased from a variety of retailers. When St. Mary's school families and parishioners make purchases using these gift certificates, the retailers give a percentage back to the school. Help is needed with advertising and promoting this program. Also, weekly help needed with sales and inventory, tabulations and filling orders.

Scouting: Scout leaders and co-leaders are needed. Parental assistance is always welcome.

Spooks & Spoofs: This is a community event held in the school and gymnasium. Volunteers are needed to help with setup, decorations, food and drink service, games, prizes, takedown, etc.

Catholic Formation

Catholic Formation at St. Mary's Visitation strives to provide opportunities for children, adults and families to grow in their Catholic faith life and more fully enter into their faith journeys. These opportunities take on the form of religious education, discussion, group study and community fellowship. For a complete description and schedule of all Catholic Formation programs, please go to our parish website, www.stmaryeg.org

Catechists for K4-5th Grades: Help pass on the faith as a catechist or aide to our youngest students. Contact: Erica Nelson, 262-782-4575 or enelson@stmaryeg.org

Catechists for 6th-8th Grades: (EDGE) Help pass on the faith as a catechist or aide to our middle school students. Contact: Josh Dieterich, 262-782-4575 or jdieterich@stmary.org

Catechists for 9th-12th Grades: Help pass on the faith as a catechist or aide to our high school students. Contact: Erica Nelson, 262-782-4575 or enelson@stmaryeg.org

Catechists for Sacramental Preparation 2nd Grade: Help students prepare for 1st Reconciliation and 1st Communion (2nd grade) as a catechist or aide. Contact: Erica Nelson, 262-782-4575 or enelson@stmaryeg.org

Catholic Formation Committee Members: Help advise the Director and Co-Director of Catholic Formation as well as the school Theology teacher on matters of Formation for the parish and school. Contact: Josh Dieterich, 262-782-4575 or jdieterich@stmaryeg.org

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) Team Members: Help adults who are becoming Catholic or are completing their Sacraments of Initiation by teaching and modeling faithful Catholic life. Contact: Josh Dieterich, 262-782-4575 or jdieterich@stmaryeg.org

Vacation Bible School (VBS) Coordinator and Volunteers: One adult is needed to coordinate this fun filled week of faith formation for children grades K3-4th grade. A stipend is paid for this position. Volunteers (7th grade, 8th grade and high school age) are needed to help with various activities during this weeklong program to help keep kids connected to their faith and continue to grow in it. Contact: Erica Nelson, 262-782-4575 or enelson@stmaryeg.org

Human Concerns

AA: Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. The Elm Grove Staying Sober AA group meets Saturday mornings from 7-8:00 am in the Senior Center. Contact: Parish Office, 262-782-4575

Angel Tree: This outreach program strives to make the Christmas holiday special by providing clothing, toys, games and personal items to children, adults, and organizations in need during the Advent and Christmas season. The Angel Tree truly represents the Christian Spirit of giving. Monetary donations are distributed to area organizations to ensure that the wishes of those in need are fulfilled during the Christmas season. Please see the bulletin or parish website for further information. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Christian Women's Society: The Mission Statement of the Christian Women's Society is "to enhance the spirituality of the women of the parish and community" and by extension, all who come in contact with these women, especially their families. Programs and events are planned to minister to women of all ages and to refresh and renew the spirit. The hope is that each member's participation is enriched through finding friends, fellowship, and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. All are welcome and encouraged to attend any or as many of the programs and events scheduled, including: Advent by Candlelight, Ash Wednesday Morning of Reflection, Annual Salad Supper, Family Rosary and May Crowning. Contact: Parish Office, 262-782-4575

Elizabeth Ministry: This ministry is an outreach that responds to the joys and sorrows of a woman's life during the childbearing years. By sharing personal stories and similar experiences, women are able to support, encourage and assist one another during this unique time in their lives. The Elizabeth Ministry follows the example of the scriptural story of the Visitation by bringing women together who share a similar story. Learn more about how you can receive the assistance or join this ministry. Contact: Nancy Kasun, 414-559-2364 or nkasun@wi.rr.com

Feed the Hungry: This monthly collection provides non-perishable food items to St. Rose Parish on the even months of the year and to Blessed Savior on the odd months. Both pantries are overwhelmed with the generosity of our parish members. If you are interested in donating items for the "Feed the Hungry" program, please leave your bags of non-perishable items in the west vestibule or in the Atrium on the second Sunday of every month. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check out to St. Mary's Visitation and denote "Feed the Hungry" in the message section of the check. SMV ensures these pantries receive the money. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Good Grief: Losing a loved one can be one of the most difficult, painful things we experience in our lives. To help people through their grief journey, St. Mary's offers a 12-week "Good Grief" class led by Certified Grief Counselor, Deacon Tom Binder. Previous participants have experienced significant healing and have rediscovered peace, joy and love in their lives. Twelve-week sessions are offered every spring and fall. Class size is limited and fills quickly. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Homebound Ministry: Volunteers are needed to take communion to the homebound. This special ministry connects St. Mary's Visitation with parishioners who are unable to celebrate Mass with us due to age, illness or physical limitations. Our homebound parishioners are loved and prayed for and are vital members of our parish community. Any St. Mary's parishioner who has been confirmed and is a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church may be a Homebound Minister. We especially encourage family members of the homebound person to be a part of this ministry. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Jail/Prison Ministry: A confidential ministry to those incarcerated and to the members of their families. In confidence, please contact Deacon Dick Niggemann, 262-782-4575 or niggemannr@archmil.org

Knights of Columbus: As a Knight, you have the opportunity to support your parish, give back to your community and grow in your faith. This band of brothers is a network of men in communities around the world dedicated to doing good in the service of God and our neighbor. Efforts are directed toward supporting our priests and seminarians, pro-life, Catholic education and charitable aid to those in need. Over fifty Knights belong to our parish, many serving in roles such as Ministers of Hospitality, Eucharistic Ministers and caring for parish grounds. We even help to beautifully decorate the church at Christmas. Contact: Jim Dragani, jmdragani@aol.com

Prayer Request Ministry: We are blessed to have faithful parishioners who consider it a privilege to pray for others and their special intentions. Please consider joining the joyful and rewarding ministry of lifting others up through prayer. If you, a family member, or a friend are in need of immediate prayer, please let us know. Confidentiality is always respected. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Parish knitters dedicate their time, talent and prayers while creating beautiful prayer shawls and baptismal blankets. Prayer shawl recipients receive a blessed, comforting reminder that the prayers of our parish community are with them and that God is near when one is suffering. All babies baptized at our parish are given a white blanket that has been blessed at their baptism, as a welcome gift to our newest members. Please stop in the Parish Office if you know of someone in need or if you are interested in knitting or donating to this ministry. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Pro-Life Wisconsin: As the largest 100% pro-life organization in the state, Pro-Life Wisconsin exists to cultivate a society in which every human life is welcomed, treasured and loved. Through education, activism, and legislation, PLW advances the culture of life throughout the Badger State. This ministry transforms hearts and saves lives from abortion through sidewalk counseling, media campaigns, speaking engagements, websites, and their prayerful presence outside of Wisconsin abortion centers. Be an advocate for life by promoting PLW's services including pregnancy support, youth education, chastity promotion, and medical decision instruction. With affiliates throughout the state, Pro-Life Wisconsin assists churches, schools, organizations, and individuals in any region of Wisconsin. Visit the website: ProLifeWI.org for more information or contact Dan Miller, 262-796-1111 or Dan.M@ProLifeWI.org

Respect Life Ministry: This ministry promotes the culture of life from conception to natural death through prayer, education and formation, and service. Respect Life activities include assisting local pregnancy care centers with diaper drives, community baby showers, Baby Bottle Boomerang, Mother's Day rose distribution, promotion of annual Life Chain, Roe vs. Wade Prayer Vigils and the spring and fall 40 Days for Life Campaign. Individuals, families, teens – and new ideas to promote culture of life – are welcome! Contact: Kathy Easter, easterk859@gmail.com

St. Mary's Visitation Catholic Men's Group: This ministry is open to men in the parish or surrounding parishes who want to deepen their relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ, understand their Catholic faith more completely, and meet other men who do the same, so as to live more fully as the men that God created them to be. Regularly scheduled meetings include fellowship, prayer and intentions, as well as a Catholic faith formation video presentation followed by discussion. The Catholic Men's Group looks for ways to live out their Catholic faith in serving others in various ways as a group. Contact: Chris Holland, 414-322-2548

St. Ben's Meal Program Ministry: Volunteers are needed every other first Tuesday of the month to prepare and bake casseroles; make pudding or baked goods; help deliver the food to St. Ben's. Volunteers are also needed to deliver ham and cheese to those who volunteered to make the casserole. This is to be done the weekend before the first Tuesday of the month. Contact: Sue Olbrantz or Monica Schmidt through the Parish Office, 262-782-4575

The Center – A Family of Families: Support the Center's community of more than 300 families! Join fundraising initiatives and participate in events to raise awareness of the Center's mission to accompany, support and empower families in situations of vulnerability throughout Quito, Ecuador. Please connect with Serena Steele, C4WF Development Director, for more information: development@c4wf.org

Administrative & Hands-on-Help

Baker for Parish Events: Volunteers are needed throughout the year to provide baked goods for parish events. Contact: Parish Office, 262-782-4575

Gardeners: We need volunteers to help maintain the beautiful grounds of St. Mary's Visitation. The work involves prepping beds in the spring, planting flowers, trimming and fall clean up. You can work in a group or work on your own if you prefer. Contact: Liz Steybe, 262-782-4575 or lsteybe@stmaryeg.org

Thrift Shop: Volunteering at the Thrift Shop is a wonderful way to meet new people and make new friends. Please considering helping us make money for our parish. Volunteers are needed to help with the following: process incoming donations, cashiering, testing electronics and cleaning. Contact: Terri Maciejewski, 262-784-6644