

## Liturgical Ministries Schedule

	Saturday, 5:00 PM December 28	Sunday, 9:30 AM December 29
<b>Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	*Patty Delaney Barb Elser *Linda Hansen Eileen Skogerboe Jed Skogerboe Brenda Walsh Jack Walsh	*Mary Brandt *Deb Brown Ron Crowley Sylvia Jennings Mindy Leinbaugh Tom Lynch Margie Lynch Monica Niccum Danette Tolan
<b>Lectors</b>	Dave Hansen	Mikayla Mingus
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Kaleb Lee Noah Lee Josh Wavra	Drew Alger Ben Fisher Zac Fisher Vance Katzfey
<b>Hospitality Ministers</b>	Joe Endres Dan Lempainen Marv Spieker Dale Vortherms	Larry Bortscheller Kim Kirschbaum Brian Koppen Michella Koppen
<b>Music Ministers</b>	Donna Williams Nate Walsh	Angela Olsen Gaylene Rolling
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	Gayle Eral	The Robinson Family

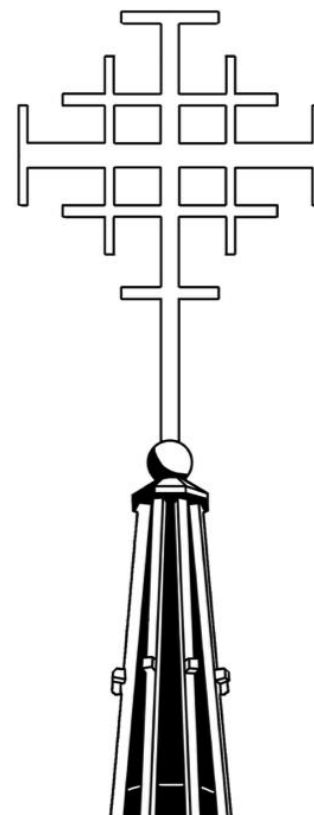
## Liturgies and Events This Week

<b>Monday, Dec. 23</b> No Mass	<b>Wednesday, Dec. 25</b> 8:30AM Mass +Fr. Al Grendler NO Adoration NO Religious Education	<b>Thursday, Dec. 26</b> NO Mass	<b>Saturday, Dec. 27</b> 5:00PM Mass + Richard Grienke
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 24</b> 4:30PM Mass +Living & Deceased of St. Mary's		<b>Friday, Dec. 26</b> 12:00Noon Mass +Bill & Millie Kisting	<b>Sunday, Dec. 28</b> 9:30AM Mass +Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary's

The sanctuary lamp burns this week for Families and safe traveling

<b>Stewardship for December 15, 2019</b> Adults: \$ 4,238.00 Loose: \$ 2,359.00 Dollar: \$ Guatemala: \$ 381.00 Special: \$ 242.00 Christmas Flowers	<i>Are you leaving a legacy of "red tape" for your heirs? A legal will can cut confusion. Your will can benefit St. Mary's.</i>
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# St. Mary's Parish



1005 Hill Avenue  
P.O. Box 354  
Spirit Lake, Iowa  
712.336.1742 office  
712.336.1013 fax  
[www.stmarysspiritlake.org](http://www.stmarysspiritlake.org)

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

### Parish Staff

Pastor  
**Rev. Paul Kelly**  
[pastor@stmarysspiritlake.org](mailto:pastor@stmarysspiritlake.org)

Parish Secretary  
**Donna Williams**  
[secretary@stmarysspiritlake.org](mailto:secretary@stmarysspiritlake.org)

Choir Director

**Allison Oyler**  
[music@stmarysspiritlake.org](mailto:music@stmarysspiritlake.org)

Director of Religious Education  
& Youth Ministry  
**Mary Brandt**  
[youth@stmarysspiritlake.org](mailto:youth@stmarysspiritlake.org)

Religious Education  
Assistant

**Danette Tolan**  
[info@stmarysspiritlake.org](mailto:info@stmarysspiritlake.org)

**Baptism** – Contact the office to inquire about pre-baptismal class.  
**Marriage** – Contact the office at least six months before date of wedding.  
**Confessions** – Wednesday 3:30PM, Saturday 4:00PM, Sunday 9:00AM.  
**Eucharistic Adoration** – Wednesday 12:30PM – 4:00PM.  
**Prayer Chain Coordinator** – Jean Mohr – 712-336-2559 or 712-320-5433.

### **Short Term Help with Meals**

If you are in need of assistance with meals at home due to a hospital stay, medical treatment or the like, please contact Lauren Cunningham to request help. The Meal Ministry at St. Mary's is free of charge and here to help one get through in a time of need. Simply call Lauren at 712-260-3266, or contact her by email at [L.cunningham628@gmail.com](mailto:L.cunningham628@gmail.com). Those interested in helping to make meals can contact Lauren. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### **Important Dates**

Christmas Mass times: Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Mass will be at 4:30PM and Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:30AM. Also, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to assist in the liturgy for the Holy Day, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30PM and January 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30AM.

### **Mass Changes**

Please take note that there will not be Mass on Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. Also, Mass on Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> will be at 5:30PM.

### **Steubenville Registrations are Rolling In**

Registration forms for Steubenville of the Rockies are available on the south kiosk in the back of the church. Registration deadline is set for Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. Registrations are being accepted first-come, first-served basis. All registrations require a \$200.00 deposit. Registration forms can be turned in to the parish office or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. The dates for the trip are June 18<sup>th</sup> (late evening departure) through June 24<sup>th</sup> (late evening arrival), 2020. Call Mary in the office if you have any questions.

### **Knights of Columbus**

The Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:00PM at the Pizza Ranch in Spirit Lake.

### **Parish Office**

The parish office will close at 12:00Noon on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and be closed on Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. On behalf of Fr. Kelly and the staff at St. Mary's we all wish you a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### **Religious Education**

We will resume religious education classes on January 15, 2020 at the regular time. May our families enjoy time with one another and rejoice in the comforts of the season. Have a very blessed new year!

### **Year End Contributions**

It's hard to believe another year is coming to an end. Just a reminder if you plan to make a contribution to St. Mary's, donations must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2019 to be included on your 2019 parishioner statement. If received on January 1, 2020 or after, the donation will be included on your 2020 statement. We cannot accept donations in 2019 for 2020 or in 2020 for 2019. Thank you for your understanding and generosity!

### **Eternal Rest**

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Blake Mart, son of Todd and Cindy Mart, members of our parish, whose funeral was Thursday here at St. Mary's. Eternal rest grant unto him o Lord.

### **Missionaries Prepare for Departure**

January 3<sup>rd</sup> marks the departure day for the group of 25 students and adults that will be serving in San Lucas, Guatemala for eight days. Please include our group in your prayers as it prepares for the journey.

### **Giving Tree Reminder**

If you have not yet done so, please return your donations from the Giving Tree by Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM. All items will be distributed that day. Thank you for your generosity.

### **Thank you**

On behalf of Council 5043, a "BIG Thank you" to all parishioners that donated to the St. Mary's Parish KC Food for Families Drive! We delivered approximately 300# of food to UDMO in Spirit Lake on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Without your help we wouldn't have been able to make the impact we did. UDMO serves 80 families weekly and every donation makes a difference.

### **Christmas Collection for Catholic Charities**

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

### **Want to Save Money on Your Iowa Taxes?**

The Monsignor Lafferty Tuition Foundation awards tuition grants to students of qualifying families that attend a Catholic school in the Diocese of Sioux City. By contributing to the MLTF donors can receive an Iowa **tax credit of 65%** of their donation. Please consider donating by December 31<sup>st</sup> to help our families pay for tuition, as well as keeping our school enrollment strong. Learn more at [scdiocese.org](http://scdiocese.org) or call the Central Catholic Offices 712-255-7933.

### **Prayer for the Parish**

Heavenly Father,  
You have chosen the parish as the vehicle  
by which You encounter us in our daily lives.  
The parish is the assembly in which  
Your Word is proclaimed,  
Your Eucharist is celebrated,  
Your people are united in a local community  
and subdivided into smaller groups  
so that they may become the agent of change  
for the betterment of the whole Church.  
Make our parishioners aware  
of the many opportunities and responsibilities  
that are theirs as witnesses of You to our age.  
Keep us open to our need of Your love and fellowship.  
Let both religious and laity work together to serve You in others.

