

## Liturgical Ministries Schedule

	Saturday, 5:00 PM January 4	Sunday, 9:30 AM January 5
<b>Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Cheryl Becker Larry Chapman *Annette Kalkhoff *Tom Kalkhoff Jean Mohr Sharon Johnson Lisa Odendahl	Jim Alger Judy Alger *Shawna Ditsworth Jason Kirschbaum Brian Koppen Michella Koppen *Jenny Marhula Jim Staver Doug Zemler
<b>Lectors</b>	Connie Chapman	Phyllis McKeown
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Sam Odendahl Brent Scott Abigail Scott	Maxwell Ditsworth William Ditsworth Owen Lalumendre Andrew Marhula
<b>Hospitality Ministers</b>	Jim Carney Vince Elser Gayle Eral Marv Spieker	Larry Bortscheller Mike Davis Alan Ditsworth Jim Leinbaugh
<b>Music Ministers</b>		
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	The Dave Kollasch Family	The Nokleby Family

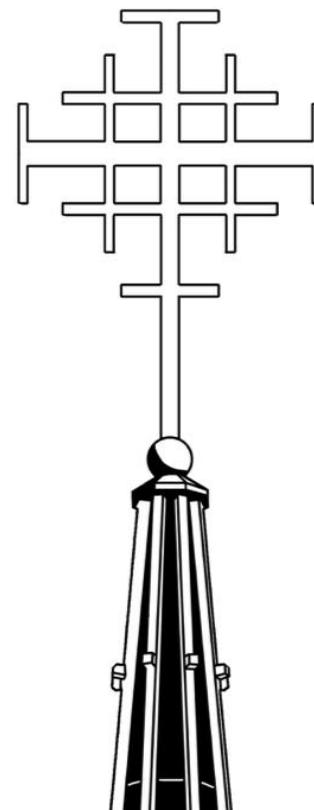
## Liturgies and Events This Week

<b>Monday, Dec. 30</b> No Mass <b>Tuesday, Dec. 31</b> 5:30PM +Cliff Garvey	<b>Wednesday, Jan. 01</b> 8:30AM Mass +Alice Bonnell NO Adoration NO Religious Education	<b>Thursday, Jan. 02</b> 5:30PM +Henry & Mildred Bibow <b>Friday, Jan. 03</b> 12:00Noon Mass +Edwin & Mary Catherine Duffy Family	<b>Saturday, Jan. 04</b> 5:00PM Mass + Living & Deceased of St. Mary's <b>Sunday, Jan. 05</b> 9:30AM Mass +Ken & Anne Hansen
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The sanctuary lamp burns this week for families who have lost loved ones.

<b>Stewardship for December 22, 2019</b> Adults: \$ 5,898.00 Loose: \$ 1,322.25 Dollar: \$ 343.00 to Ministerial Association Guatemala: \$ Special: \$	<i>Honor a loved one with a memorial gift created in your will!</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)

## The Holy Family

December 29, 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.

## Happy New Year

We would like to extend to all of you greetings for a blessed New Year. This is the season of resolutions and promises. Let us pray together that St. Mary's will flourish as a place where God's glory is reflected in the hearts of His people. Happy New Year!

## 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

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. Please note Mass on Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> will be at 5:30PM and NOT 7:30AM.

## 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.

## Parish Office

The parish office will close at 12:00Noon on Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> and be closed on Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.

## 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!

## RCIA

RCIA classes resume Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, here at St. Mary's.

## 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.

## Knights of Columbus to Hold Spelling Bee

Area boys and girls grades 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> are welcome to compete in the 2020 Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee. Iowa Great Lakes Council 5043 is sponsoring the always-entertaining contest Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at the Spirit Lake Middle School music room. Free on-site registration – requiring a parent's signature- will begin at 3:30PM in the hallway outside the music room.

## Special Thanks

The decorations in our church are always beautiful, but especially at Christmas time. We would like to thank the crew of folks who worked so hard to prepare our church for the great feast which we celebrate during the Christmas season. Thanks also to the choir and musicians for the wonderful music at the Christmas liturgies and all who served in the liturgy to make this time even more beautiful. We are so blessed here at St. Mary's with many people with generous hearts whose labors help us to offer ourselves to God! 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 of Christmas Past, Present and Future

*Glorious God,*

*We turn to you in wonder and praise as we celebrate Christmas.*

*Remind us during this sacred season of our collective story. May our roots extend deep into the soil of faith and spread outwards to share the Good News of Christ's coming.*

*Focus our attention so that we remain*

*attuned to the sights, sounds and sensations of the season.*

*May the presence of Christ be at the forefront of our thoughts and actions as we enact each holiday ritual.*

*Fill us with hope in the continuous birthing of Christ in our world. May we never lose sight of the promise of the Kingdom of peace and compassion that is both present and yet to be.*

*With gratitude in our hearts, we pray.*

*Amen*