

# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2011

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 26	6:30am	Jim & Jane Stelpflug for the reparation of our sins and salvation of our souls TLM (St. Steven)
	8:15am	+Dick & Mary Goss
Tues., Dec. 27	6:30am	Jim & Jane Stelpflug for the reparation of our sins and salvation of our souls TLM (St. John)
	8:15am	+Mariam Clare
Wed., Dec. 28	6:30am	Jim & Jane Stelpflug for the reparation of our sins and salvation of our souls TLM (Holy Innocents)
	8:15am	+Ruth Hentrich
Thurs. Dec. 29	6:30am	Jim & Jane Stelpflug for the reparation of our sins and salvation of our souls TLM (5th day in the octave of Christmas)
	8:15am	+Maurie Tobin
	10:30am	Manor Care Nursing Home
Fri., Dec. 30	6:30am	Jim & Jane Stelpflug for the reparation of our sins and salvation of our souls TLM (6th day in the Octave of Christmas)
	8:15am	+Margaret M. Conrad
Sat., Dec. 31	8:00am	Jim & Jane Stelpflug for the reparation of our sins and salvation of our souls TLM (7th day in the Octave of Christmas)

St. Mary's  
24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration  
Wednesdays

## WEEKEND LITURGIES

Sat., Dec. 31	4:00pm	+Joe Timmerman
Sun., Jan. 1	9:00am	+Richard "Chip" Knutson
	12:00nn	Hispanic Mass

Private Reconciliation  
every day, one hour  
before each Mass.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Christmas Eve:** Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25—Mt 1:18-25  
**Christmas Day:** Is 52:7-10—Heb 1:1-6—Jn 1:1-18  
**Monday:** St. Stephen, first Martyr—Acts 6:8-10—7:54-59  
**Tuesday:** St John, apostle and evangelist—1 Jn 1:1-4—Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
**Wednesday:** The Holy Innocents, martyrs—1 Jn 1:5-2:2—Mt 2:13-18  
**Thursday:** 5th Day in the Octave of Christmas—1 Jn 2:3-11—Lk 2:22-35  
**Friday:** the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph—Sir 3:2-7, 12-14—2:22-40  
**Saturday:** 7th Day in the Octave of Christmas—1 Jn 2:18-21—Jn 1:1-18  
**Sunday:** Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God—Nm 6:22-27—Gal 4:4-7—Lk 2:16-21—Lk 2:16-21



**REFLECTION**—Nativity of Our Lord  
 “She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” - Luke 2:7  
 Where is Jesus in your life? Have you made room for Him or is He still in the manger wrapped in rags? If we are living our lives like all the rest of the modern and commercial world, we may be leaving Jesus out. It might be time to pick up this Infant Child and make Him a priority in our lives.

### With Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Barb Martens, wife of Bob Martens and daughter of Carol Nabbefeld, who died Saturday, December 17th. And to the family of Joe Pennekamp, brother of Ada Osterholz, who died Tuesday, December 20th. *Eternal rest grant unto them Oh, Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.*

**Parish office will be closed  
Monday, December 26th  
and Friday, December 30th**

**Alone for Christmas?** - Free Christmas Dinner - Is your family alone for Christmas? Several Platteville churches have joined together to serve a free turkey dinner with all the trimmings at 12 noon Christmas Day at the United Methodist Church.



Crafts and activities will be available for children while adults socialize after dinner. Music and caroling will make the Christmas spirit come alive. In town transportation available for those in need. Please call the parish office (348-9508) to make reservations or transportation arrangements. Walk-ins welcome!

### ST. MARY PARISH GIVING

**Needed to operate each week \$11,500.00**  
 December 18, 2011

Weekly Envelopes.....\$4,802.00  
 Weekly Average Electronic Funds \$1,300.00  
 Offertory.....\$ 422.00  
 School operating Fund (past week).. \$9,575.00

**Thank you for your generosity!**

Saturday, Dec. 31 4:00pm		Sunday, January 1 9:00am
Max Frommelt Mick Frommelt	<b>Altar Servers</b>	Vince Momot John Drefcinski David Drefcinski
Andy Frigo Angie Boldt	<b>Lector &amp; Leader of Prayer</b>	Lee Eggers Kevin Bernhardt Mark Ihm
Connie Koeller	<b>Sacristan</b>	Mike Momot
Open Ensemble	<b>Music Ministry</b>	Classic Choir
Dave & Donna Swanson	<b>Greeters</b>	Rob Kelly Erickson Mike & Julie Tashner
Rose Kuhn	<b>Rosary Leaders</b>	Virgil Splinter
Kelly Shea	<b>Scrip</b>	Patti Eggers

### PARISH COOKBOOKS

are on sale for \$10 each. Cookbooks can be purchased at the parish office during office hours. They make nice gifts.



**CEW**—The upcoming Southwest Wisconsin CEW (Christian Experience Weekend) weekends will be held at Sinsinawa Mound Center, Sinsinawa, WI. The women's weekend will be **February 17-19, 2012**. The men's weekend will be **February 24-26, 2012**. These weekends begin at 7:00 PM Friday and end on Sunday at approximately 4:30 PM. If you want to do something special for yourself, attend a CEW weekend. Application forms are available in the church entrance. For more information on the women's weekend, call (608) 748-4403 or for the men's weekend, call (608) 348-4848. Weekends fill up fast. Applications will be taken on a first come, first served basis.

**New inspiring Religious CD's** available in the north entrance. Just \$2.50 each. Buy them to listen to in the van, at work, or at home. Great stocking stuffers too. These CD's are provided by the Adult Faith Committee.

**End of Calendar Year Update and Reminder: Parish Giving** - As the end of the calendar year approaches, we wish to remind you that charitable contributions must be applied to the year in which they are received, except that contributions delivered by mail are acknowledged based on the date/year the letter is postmarked, even if it is received in the following calendar year. If the donor (parishioner) wishes to claim the contribution as a charitable deduction for income tax purposes, then the donor must relinquish control of the funds before it is technically a contribution. Therefore, if the donor has not mailed payment by year-end, no matter what date is on the check, he/she hasn't really given up control. Additionally, the IRS – Internal Revenue Service states that a mailed contribution must be postmarked on or before December 31, which proves that control was given up by the end of the year. A complication for churches this upcoming end of calendar year is that December 31, falls on a Saturday and January 1 falls on a Sunday, resulting in a "split weekend" for tax purposes. This means the collections for those two days should be segregated into the correct calendar year for accurate donor acknowledgement. In conclusion, charitable contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, donations charged to a credit card before the end of the year count for 2011. This is true even if the credit-card bill isn't paid until next year. Also, charitable contributions by cash and check can be claimed by the taxpayer for 2011, as long as they are mailed and postmarked or relinquished by placement in the collection basket by December 31.

**THANK YOU**

Thanks for all of you who continue to volunteer to help with the food pantry. And thanks too for our St. Mary school children who continue to come and help with the food distribution. We served 97 families which included 15 first time visitors, 214 individuals, 49 seniors and 56 children under 18. Seventy-nine of the families reported as being unemployed. Thanks again for all of your help and I hope that you all and all of those that we serve have a wonderful New Year.

**Natural Family Planning Class** at St. Mary's in Bloomington to be held Saturdays, Feb. 4, Mar. 3 and 31 from 10:00am to Noon. To register go to [www.madisondiocese.org/nfp](http://www.madisondiocese.org/nfp) or contact Alison Hetue at (608) 821-3134 or [nfp@straphaue.org](mailto:nfp@straphaue.org). Additional classes available in Madison.

**The 6:00pm Adoration is open on Wednesdays. Please consider coming to spend an hour with Jesus at this time. The sign-up sheet is in the back of church.**

**No Mission Sewing December 27th**

**PRAY FOR OUR PARISH**—Bishop Morlino has asked our parish to fast from meat on all Fridays. The purpose of this request is to strengthen our prayers and reunify our parish. Please remember to fast and pray on Fridays.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**  
No Classes this week.

**THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S**  
**Tuesday**—No Mission Sewing  
**Wednesday**—Religious Education (see below).  
**Sunday**—Wishing you a very blessed Christmas!!



*Wishing you abundant blessings  
 this Christmas  
 and through out the New Year.*

**Capital Campaign Update**  
 Number of Donors 439  
 Total Pledged to Date: \$1,916,693.72  
 Amount Received to Date \$1,028,299.89

**PRAYER LINE** Anyone requesting prayer may call 348-6041. Please call in the morning between 8am & 9am. If there is no answer please leave your prayer.

<p><b>THANKS TO          OUR          ADVERTISERS          FOR THEIR          SUPPORT!</b></p>	<p>The sponsors of our bulletin are shown on the back of the bulletin each Sunday. We invite you to consider these businesses and thank them for their support.          This week we recognize:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Martin Schwartz Funeral Home</i></b></p>
--	--