

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

December 25, 2022 - The Nativity of the Lord

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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St. Mary's Catholic School

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR DECEMBER 24 – JANUARY 1

ST. MARY'S

Saturday Christmas Eve	6:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Sunday Christmas	12:00 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	+Becky Anderson
Friday	8:15 a.m.	+Louise Bellm
Saturday New Year's Eve	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Sunday New Year's	8:30 a.m.	In Thanksgiving for the New Year

ST. AGNES

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Monday, December 26	Feast of Saint Stephen, The First Martyr 8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service
Tuesday, December 27	Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
Wednesday, December 28	Feast of The Holy Innocents, Martyrs 8:15 a.m. Mass
Friday, December 30	Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 8:15 a.m. Mass
Saturday, December 31	New Year's Eve
Sunday, January 1	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God, The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord New Year's Day

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, January 2	Memorial of Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishop & Doctor 8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service
Wednesday, January 4	Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton 8:15 a.m. Mass 6:15 p.m. PSR Classes Resume 7:30 p.m. Mass Knights of Columbus Meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the C.R.
Thursday, January 5	Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop
Friday, January 6	8:15 a.m. Mass
Sunday, January 8	Solemnity of The Epiphany of The Lord

OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in December: Bonnie Parrigon and Glen Carver

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 3282.65

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Melissa Cahalan, Kayla (Deickhoff) Thomas, Jack Parrigon, Andrea Kristek, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

SECOND COLLECTIONS: On second collections all checks need to be made out to St. Mary's Church. We will then send one check from the church. Thank You.

AFTER YOU COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS, consider sharing them with the Church. As the spirit of gratitude to God permeates our lives at this time of year, please prayerfully consider our parish in your giving. Your generosity helps to give others the most precious of gifts-the love of God, and the sacraments and ministries of the Church. By writing a check to St. Mary's Church by December 31, 2022 you can reduce the sting of income taxes if you itemize. Your gifts provide the necessary support for all our parish does. Thank You!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

APPOINTMENTS

If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement

Saturday, December 31 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller

Servers: William Garner, Blythe Garner

E.M.: John Witt

Ushers: Larry Gasser, Doug Sloan, Michael Sloan, Doug Witt

Sunday, January 1 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Barbara Glouse, Cody Washam

Servers: Aubrey Elbert, Lucy Elbert

E.M.: Rachelle Brown, Jennifer Eaton(Choir)

Ushers: Dereck Washam, Rick Washam, Levi Cooper, Jesse Cooper

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

The Nativity of the Lord

Vigil Mass

Isaiah 62:1-5
Acts 13:16-17,22-25
Matthew 1:1-25

Midnight Mass

Isaiah 9:1-6
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14

Daytime Mass

Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

Monday December 26 St. Stephen

Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59
Ps 31:3-4,6,8ab,16bc,17
Matthew 10:17-22

Tuesday December 27 St. John

1 John 1:1-4
Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12
John 20:1a,2-8

Wednesday December 28 Holy Innocents

1 John 1:5--2:2
Ps 124:2-5,7b-8
Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday December 29

1 John 2:3-11
Ps 96:1-3,5b-6
Luke 2:22-35

Friday December 30 Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14
or Colossians 3:12-21
Ps 128:1-5
Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Saturday December 31

1 John 2:18-21
Ps 96:1-2,11-13
John 1:1-18

Joy to the world! This is our song. This is what we should always be proclaiming as a people of faith.

Don't focus on what destroys your joy, for nothing can destroy the coming of the Lord. The absence of joy is merely a blank area in your view of what God is doing.

Look at the love that Jesus has for you! Jesus was born not only to save you from the darkness of sin; he was born because he loves you -- he loves YOU! Even if you had never sinned, he would have come into the world so that he could love you on your level, human-to-human.

Sometimes, great things come in surprising packages that do not seem to be great at all. The Eucharist -- in the form of a little wafer of bread -- does not look like it contains the full presence of Jesus with all of his humanity and his divinity. The baby Jesus -- a tiny, helpless child -- does not look like the conqueror of evil. But he is! And so is Jesus in the Eucharist; he is here for you.

And you! You might not seem to be a great person, but you contain Jesus. You contain greatness beyond imagining! This greatness does not dwell only in you; it comes out from



you in every good thing that you do. This is a life of faith!

To be a follower of Jesus means we learn to imitate him. In doing good, evil is defeated. In this goodness, the greatness of Jesus extends outward from us. In this goodness, there is cause for great joy.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. How much do you *really* believe that Jesus loves you? What are some examples of Jesus taking good care of you?
2. How do you reveal the love of Jesus to others?
3. When was the first time you can remember experiencing the love of Jesus and realized that it was a gift from God?
4. What does the Eucharist mean to you? How can it change you so that you leave church ready to give the love of Christ to others?

Merry Christmas! Be very blessed this Christmas season -- because Jesus is delightedly in love with you! You are invited to experience the extravagant love of Jesus all year.