



*At St. Charles, all are invited to
meet Christ, know Christ,
love Christ and serve Christ.*

**December 22, 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

4TH SUNDAY OF Advent

*“And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord
should come to me?” (Luke 1:43)*



St. Charles Parish & School | 313 Circle Drive, Hartland, WI 53029

262-367-0800 | www.stcharleshartland.com | email: parish@stcharleshartland.org



WELCOME TO ST. CHARLES - WE ARE HERE FOR YOU



PASTOR
Fr. Ken Omernick



ASSOCIATE PASTOR
Fr. Ariel Orozco

ST. CHARLES STAFF TEAMS

ASSOCIATE PASTOR & Becoming Fully Catholic:
Fr. Ariel Orozco, aorozco@stcharleshartland.org

TEACHING PARISH SEMINARIAN:
Timothy Heyrman, theyrman@sfs.edu

SCHOOL TEAM 262-367-2040
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School Administrative: Karen Dejewski, Ext. 206,
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Liturgist: Elizabeth Thompson, M.Div., 262-367-6704
ethompson@stcharleshartland.org
Liturgy Team Member: Jacqueline Bernard, Ext. 205
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Wedding Coordinator: Dee Anne Hamer, Ext. 215,
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Student Discipleship Lead: Bri Alexander, Ext. 209,
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Baptism Coordinator: Mary Jo Romportl, Ext. 200,
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Maintenance Manager: Tim Orzechowski, Ext. 217,
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Phase III Cornerstone: Brenda Zingsheim, Ext. 215,
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Safeguarding: Karen Dejewski, Ext. 206,
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PARISH OFFICE: 262-367-0800,
Mon. - Fri., 8 am - 4 pm
EMAIL US: parish@stcharleshartland.org

PARISH SCHOOL: 262-367-2040
school@stcharleshartland.org



WEBSITE & LIVESTREAM:
www.stcharleshartland.com
or scan QR code
with phone camera

WELCOME TO ST. CHARLES - WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION: 5:00pm

SUNDAY MASS TIMES: 7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am & 6:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday - Friday: 8:30am* & Saturday: 8:30am

* Thursday: 9:00am (School Mass)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

We offer Adoration from Mondays at 5:00 a.m. through Friday evenings at midnight.

For current openings, scan QR code.



RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 9:30am - 10:30am & Thursdays: 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Please arrive within 30 minutes of the start time.

We have one Priest on Saturdays and two Priests on Thursdays.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/ ANOINTING MASSES

Sacrament of the Sick Masses are the 2nd and 4th FRIDAYS of every month or by appointment with Fr. Ken or Fr. Ariel (call the Parish Office).

OUTREACH SERVICES TEAM: Terri Blazek: 262-367-7608, jtblazek@wi.rr.com

TO ASK FOR PRAYERS or to be added to the email list, please email: prayernetwork@stcharleshartland.org

FOR EMERGENCY PRAYERS, please email: emergencyprayers@stcharleshartland.org

Printed weekly prayer sheets are available on the information wall.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: if you need food, shelter or assistance call 262-367-0800 (Parish Office)

NEED HOME COMMUNION:
For information call 262-367-0800 (Parish Office)

Mass Intentions for the Week of December 22nd



Sunday, December 22 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:00 am Living and Deceased Members of St. Charles
9:00 am Deceased Parents of Jim & Shirley Hallada
11:00 am † Bud & Alys Hemmy
6:00 pm † Judith Couri

Monday, December 23 (last 6:30 am Advent Mass)

6:30 am † Carl Greenway
8:30 am † Eric Molenda & Living and Deceased Members of the Molenda & Wilke Families

Tuesday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

4:00 pm † Deacon Jim Hudzinski & Living and Deceased Members of St. Charles
6:00 pm † Bernice Yeater
9:00 pm † Living and Deceased Members of Daniel Fitzgerald & Joseph Connolly Families

Wednesday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day

7:00 am † Brian Gillstrom
9:00 am Living and Deceased Members of the Ahner Family

Thursday, December 26

9:00 am † Stan Wiliszewski

Friday, December 27

8:30 am † William C. Meyer

Saturday, December 28

8:30 am † Frank O'Hara
5:00 pm † Nick Hirsch

Sunday, December 29 ~ Feast of the Holy Family

7:00 am † Alvin Rohde
9:00 am Living and Deceased Members of St. Charles
11:00 am † Amy Lamerand Zott
6:00 pm † Eli Hansen



WEDDING BANNS

1st & 2nd Bann ~ Keeley Hamill & John Eck Jr.

One of the easiest ways to support St. Charles Parish and School is through the secured online e-giving system.



PARISH SUPPORT
THRU NOVEMBER 24TH

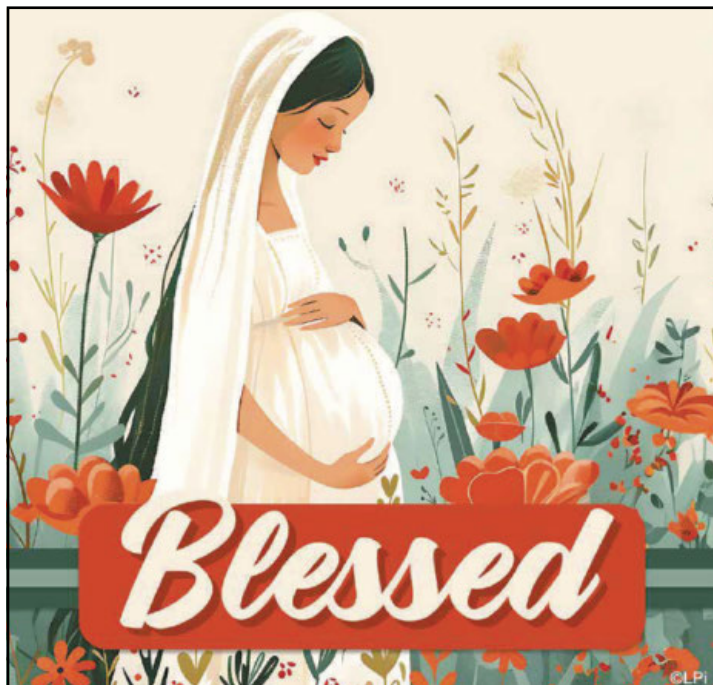
FISCAL YEAR
JULY 1 THRU JUNE 30

2024 - 2025

Envelopes..... \$13,782.00
Offertory..... \$3,054.25
Weekend Total \$16,836.25
E-Giving \$12,542.50
YTD \$1,003,749.86

2023 - 2024

Envelopes..... \$32,908.14
Offertory..... \$2,309.75
Weekend Total \$35,217.89
E-Giving \$14,030.02
YTD \$934,059.68



THIS WEEKEND'S GOSPEL MEDITATION

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Blessed Virgin teaches us the secret to being blessed, happy, and full of joy. When Elizabeth, her cousin, greets her, she calls Mary "blessed" for two reasons, her motherhood of Jesus and Our Lady's belief that "there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord" (Luke 1:45). Mary is "blessed" entirely because of her relationship to the Incarnation of God in Jesus and for no other. This of course makes perfect sense because as the Lord, as God-in-the-flesh, her son is the source of all blessedness, life, and joy. Mary is blessed because of her contact with Jesus and by her faith in him.

So, it is with us, too. We become blessed by our "motherly" contact with Christ in our souls through baptism. He lives in us and grows to maturity within us. We bear him to the world. This requires unshakeable faith that his promises to us will be fulfilled despite all the problems and difficulties that plague us. We become blessed, happy, and joyful in the measure that we are in contact with Jesus and trust in him.

Advent challenges: 1.) This week, go to someone who has borne the love of Jesus to you and tell her or him how they have been a blessing to you. 2.) Name someone in your life now to whom God has sent you to bring Jesus' presence. Pray: "Lord, thank you for the blessing of sending me to bring your presence to this person. Help me bear you faithfully to him/her."

— Father John Muir

©LPi

PRAY WITH SCRIPTURE

Lectio Divina

15 minutes each day spent in God's presence — reading, reflecting, responding and resting with his Word — adds up to 90 hours in one year. That is time well spent and a testimony to how a little at a time turns into something remarkable!

Sunday, December 29th Readings

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (see 5a)/
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

To find readings for the weekdays and/or Feast Days, please visit
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

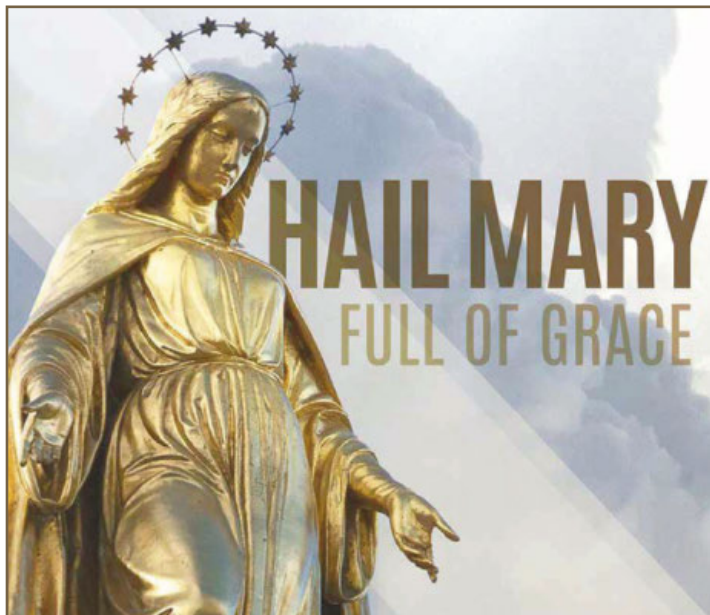
Reflection questions for Sunday, December 29th

- In gratitude to the Lord, Hannah returned the gift of her son Samuel. Is there a gift from the Lord for which you are particularly grateful?
- As children of God, John teaches us that believers should love one another and believe in the name of Jesus. In addition to faith and love, what else do you think unites us as children of God?
- Luke presents an anxious experience that Mary and Joseph had as parents raising the young boy Jesus. Do you recall a time when your parents were worried or anxious about you?

READ. REFLECT. RESPOND. REST.



Cut out and keep in your Bible for reference!



A LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP



CHRISTMAS 2024

*And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant
wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.*

— Luke 2:12

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we gather to celebrate the joyous feast of Christmas, my heart is filled with gratitude for the gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and for my time with you as your archbishop. This sacred season reminds us of God's immense love, manifested through the birth of His only Son. It is a time for reflection, renewal, and deepening of our faith as we embrace the hope and peace that Christ brings into our lives.

At the heart of our faith is the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian life. The Eucharist is not merely a ritual we observe; it is the real presence of Jesus Christ, a divine gift that nourishes our souls and strengthens our spirits. This Christmas, I invite you to renew your commitment to the Eucharist, allowing it to transform your hearts and guide your lives.

I encourage you to take this season as an opportunity to deepen your faith through prayer, participation in the sacraments, and acts of compassion and generosity for those who are less fortunate; the lonely, the sick, and those who are struggling. Let the light of Christ shine through you, illuminating the path for others to follow. Together, let us build a community rooted in love, faith, and hope, a community that reflects the true meaning of Christmas.

May the peace and joy of Christ be with you and your loved ones during this blessed season. As I move into the next phase of life, my retirement, I encourage you to extend the same warm welcome our new archbishop, the Most Rev. Jeffrey Grob, as you did to me, and I close with my ceaseless reminder to love one another as Christ loves us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki
Archbishop of Milwaukee



ST. CHARLES CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

(NOTE: There are 3 Masses on Christmas Eve and 2 Masses on Christmas Day)

Tuesday, December 24

- 4:00 pm (Family Mass – overflow seating in the Borromeo Hall)
- 6:00 pm
- 9:00 pm (Incense will be used during this Mass)

Wednesday, December 25

- 7:00 am
- 9:00 am (Incense used)
- No 11:00 am or 6:00 pm Mass

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 31

- 5:00 pm (Vigil Mass)

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

- 9:00 am (Incense used)
- 11:00 am (Incense used)






PARISH & SCHOOL OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The St. Charles School Office will close at noon on Friday, Dec. 20, 2024 and will reopen on Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025.

The Parish Office will close at noon on Tuesday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 31. It will be closed all day December 25 & 26 and Wednesday, January 1.





ADORATION HOLIDAY HOURS

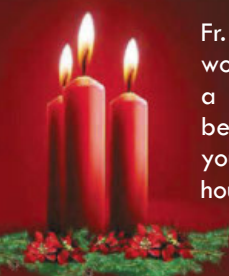
With the holidays approaching, we will be making adjustments to the hours of the Adoration Chapel. The chapel will close for the holidays during the following hours:

Christmas: 12am on Christmas Eve to 12am on December 26.

New Year's: 12am New Year's Eve to 12am on January 2.

We invite you to consider making Adoration part of your resolution for the New Year! For more information or to reserve a spot, you may visit the Adoration news story on our website.

Merry Christmas



Fr. Ken, Fr. Ariel and the St. Charles Staff would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas! Thank you for being a part of our community and for your support throughout 2024. From our house to yours, we wish you many blessings during Advent and beyond!

SERVER TRAINING

All St. Charles youth in 4th Grade through high school are invited to an active role in our parish liturgies by being a server! Training opportunities are open! Please visit our website to sign up for a new server or lead server training.

New Server Training ~ Trainees must be in 4th Grade or above. A parent/guardian must accompany their child.

Lead Server Training ~ Those who have previously completed server training who are interested in becoming leads or would like a refresher are invited to attend!

Class size is limited! Students will be registered for each class on a first come, first choice basis. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Thompson at 262-367-0800.



Greeter Ministry

NEW OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOUR PARISH!

When you come to Mass, isn't it great to have someone open the door and welcome you? We are inviting single people, couples, families, or friends to be part of this wonderful ministry - once a month, every week, or occasionally.

To make it convenient, you won't have to sign up in advance as many of us don't always attend the same Mass each weekend. Instead, just arrive at church 15-20 minutes before Mass starts, sign in and take a nametag or lanyard and go to the door you will be stationed at. Return the nametag or lanyard when Mass starts and attend Mass as usual.

We are excited to offer this opportunity for all ages to enjoy this welcoming ministry! Please email mjromportl@stcharleshartland.org with questions and to receive updates.



EVENTS & NEWS AT ST. CHARLES PARISH SCHOOL

School's Jingle Shop: Thank you to everyone who donated items and money toward the school's Jingle Shop this year! Students loved shopping for presents for their family members and appreciated having so many different items to choose from. Proceeds will go toward improving our Tot Lot playground for our youngest scholars!



MISSION STATEMENT: *St. Charles Parish School in Hartland, Wisconsin nourishes and grows a vibrant Catholic community committed to innovation, responsiveness and compassion as it prepares and challenges students in their intellectual, spiritual and moral lives.*

JOIN US AT OUR SCHOOL'S OPEN HOUSE!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Meet Principal Garvey, staff,
and current families!

Find out what makes our
community so special!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE
INFORMATION OR CONTACT US AT
262-367-2040!

Applications
open January 15!



St. Charles Parish and School 2025 Gala

JAZZ & Generosity

The trumpeters and singers were heard as a single voice
praising and giving thanks to the LORD. ~ 2 Chronicles 5:13

GIVE THE GIFT OF THE GALA!

Pre-order your tickets or become a sponsor with all the perks for our Jazz and Generosity Gala on Saturday, February 22 at the Delafield Hotel. Enjoy live music featuring our talented alumni from Marquette High and special appearances by our very own Music Director Dr. Aaron Matthews. Plus, our beloved MC Fr. Ariel will return as the man in black! Visit StCharlesGala.com for more information.

TEACHING SUBS NEEDED

St. Charles Parish School is in need of substitute teachers! Candidates must complete Safe Environment training through the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and they must also have a bachelor's degree and a valid teaching license and/or a substitute teaching license. The process of acquiring a substitute teaching license is easy. Please contact the School Office at 262-367-2040 if you are interested!

STEWARDSHIP: YOUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURES

VISIT US ON SUNDAY!

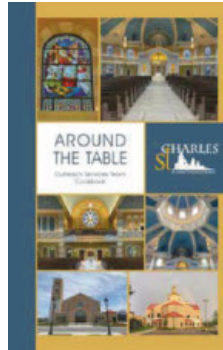
The Parish Office will be open one last Sunday in December before Christmas! You are welcome to stop by on **December 22 after the 7am, 9am, and 11am Masses.** This is a great opportunity to schedule Mass intentions, purchase SCRIP gift cards, drop off campaign pledge cards, and ask any questions you may have.



AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT ST. CHARLES AND START YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING!

One of the simplest ways to financially support St. Charles Parish and School without spending an extra dime is through RaiseRight, formerly ShopWithScrip. Your everyday expenses for groceries, gas, gifts and dinner out can give back 1% to 15% of your purchase cost to St. Charles. By buying Scrip cards at the parish or online, you are providing a financial boost to St. Charles. Visit raiseright.com to check out what retailers they are partnered with! Some cards are even easily refillable online.

PURCHASE OR PICKUP YOUR COOKBOOKS



The Outreach Services Team's cookbooks have arrived! Please stop by to pick up cookbooks you preordered and/or to purchase more as gifts. You do not need to have preordered to buy a cookbook! They will be available outside the Parish Office on December 21 & 22. This year's cookbook is \$20. We have a limited amount of 2016 cookbooks that are available for \$10 or \$25 if you purchase both. Please pay by cash or check made out to St. Charles Parish. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

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CHRISTMAS CHURCH FLOWERS

The beautiful decorations in our Church during the Christmas season lift our spirits closer to the Lord Jesus as we celebrate His birth. They help us to pray more deeply and feel closer to one another. We invite you to donate toward our decorations by making an offering in memory of a loved one, in thanksgiving for a blessing in your life, for a special intention or simply as a free-will offering. We will list the names of the people remembered, the blessings recalled or the intentions held in your hearts in the bulletin on Jan. 12th. However, we will not print the donor's name nor the amount given. **Again this year, you can give by the offertory envelopes mailed to your home if you give by envelope. You can list the below information on the backside of the envelope.**

If you wish to make this offering, please fill out this form or mailed offertory envelope and return it with your donation to the Parish Office by Friday, Dec. 27th.

Name of Donor _____ Phone _____
In Memory of those Deceased _____
Blessing Recalled _____
Special Intention _____
Amount Enclosed \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT –THANK YOU



ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: Salad Dressing, Boxed Potatoes (Scalloped, Au Gratin, Julienne, etc.), Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Mac & Cheese

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, we imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. Your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought light into the darkness surrounding the heart of those living in poverty, bringing them the real, lasting deep joy of Christmas. We would like to express our gratitude for your benevolence toward our ministry of service to the poor. Have a peace-filled Christmas week and a Happy New Year.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please contact the St. Charles SVDP at 262-367-0800 so that together we can help the suffering and the poor to celebrate Christmas. The St. Charles SVDP Food Pantry is located at 229 Lawn Street, Hartland and it is open Tuesday mornings between 10am and noon. It is also open on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of the month between 5:30pm and 7pm. If you know of someone in need of our services, please call us at 262-367-0800.

The food pantry will be closed when Arrowhead Schools close for inclement weather. It will reopen the following week, weather permitting.

BULLETIN DUE DATES!

If you have an event(s) you would like to publicize in a December and/or January bulletin, please submit your information by the due dates listed below. This earlier deadline is due to the printer's holiday schedule. **Please submit all articles by 8:00 am on the due date.** Thank you!

- Jan. 26th Bulletin information is due Wednesday, Jan. 15th

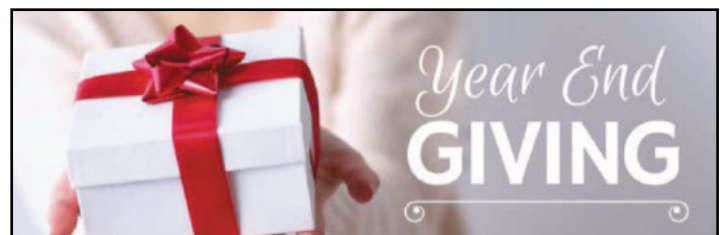


YOUR 2025 PLEDGE COMMITMENT IS IMPORTANT!

As we come to that time of the year when we prepare to make our financial commitment to our parish, we invite each of you to think and pray about what St. Charles means to you. A letter from Fr. Ken and a pledge commitment card was mailed this past week to all parish households. Fr. Ken and Fr. Ariel are asking you to prayerfully consider pledging your support for next year at this time. Your contribution to the parish and its ministries helps to keep the parish operational on a day-to-day basis.



Please bring your completed card with you to Mass and drop it in the offertory basket or at the Parish Office drop box by December 29th. If you prefer to make your commitment online, you may do so by going to our parish website or scanning this QR code. Of all the "bright lights" we have at St. Charles, we are most thankful for you!



YOUR SUPPORT MEANS EVERYTHING!

We thank you for keeping St. Charles at the forefront in this season of giving and for your generous financial support to help St. Charles be the light of Christ in our community! **Please drop off year-end donations to the Parish Office no later than Friday, December 27 to allow adequate time to record contributions for 2024.** For information or questions about contributing an end-of-year donation to St. Charles Parish and School, please contact Brenda Zingsheim at bzingsheim@stcharleshartland.org or 262-367-0800 x215.

"Advent's Message of Hope: Trusting in God and Choosing Life"

Advent is a season of hope and anticipation, reminding us that God's promises are fulfilled in His time and way. Mary's "yes" to life embodies this hope, as she trusted God's plan despite uncertainty and risk. Her openness to life reminds us that every human being, created in God's image, possesses inherent dignity and divine purpose, beginning at conception.

This truth is beautifully affirmed in the Nativity of Jesus, when the Creator of life entered the world through the womb, taking on human form to dwell among us. Mary embraced God's authority over her life, recognizing that her body ultimately belonged to Him. Mary's "yes" came with great courage, considering the social and personal risks she faced as an unwed mother in her time. Through her courage and faith, Mary brought forth the Savior of the world and teaches us that choosing life is an act of trust in God's providence, knowing that He works through every circumstance for good.

In a culture that often reduces unborn children to "tissue," Catholics proclaim the sanctity of life, rooted in God's authority as the giver and sustainer of all life. Mary's faith and submission remain a powerful model, calling us to defend the dignity of every human life and to trust God's plans, even when they challenge our own. Through her "yes" to life, the greatest gift—Jesus Christ—was given to humanity, bringing forgiveness, hope, and eternal life.

This Advent, may we renew our commitment to honor and defend the sanctity of life, recognizing that in every unborn child, vulnerable person, and human being, Christ's image shines brightly.

Deacon Jim Matthias
Director of Respect Life Ministry
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

4 STAGES OF MARRIAGE

The 4 stages of marriage are: (1) Romance, (2) Disillusionment, (3) Misery, and (4) Awakening. Many marriages experience the first 3 Stages. Marriages that end in divorce never make it to the 4th Stage of Awakening. Don't give up without learning about the 4th Stage of Awakening. If your marriage suffers from Disillusionment or Misery, please contact Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-VI with a long I).

For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend February 7-9, 2025 in Franklin, WI, please call (414) 502-7685 or email: Milwaukee@HelpOurMarriage.org or visit the website at <http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org>.



ST. JEROME PARISH



If you are a caregiver for a loved one with a mental health challenge or mental illness, would you value joining others in a conversation about mental health? Would you like to discover what God, Scripture, and Catholic mental health professionals, theologians, and clergy have to say about the experiences of mental health challenges? Would you value creating a greater awareness of mental health while reducing stigma and shame within your family and parish community by your participation?

Consider registering for *The Sanctuary Course for Catholics* by contacting the St. Jerome Mental Health Apostolate — MHASTJerome@yahoo.com — and providing us with your contact information so that we can give you a call and connect with you to help answer any questions you may have about the course.

The Sanctuary Course for Catholics is an eight-part course held on Saturday mornings beginning in January, 2025, at St. Jerome Church, 995 S. Silver Lake St., Oconomowoc, in the Parish Conference Room. Meetings will be Saturday mornings from 8:45-10:45 a.m. on January 18 & 25, February 8 & 22, March 8 & 22, and April 5 & 26.

THE CATHOLIC STUDY CLUB

We welcome faithful women in Waukesha County. Our luncheon will be on Tuesday, January 14th. Following the luncheon Detective Tom Johannik will speak on "Fraud and Scam Awareness." Reservations are required and due by December 30. Please call Jane at 262-549-3803.



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