



Reflection

- When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

Lk 2:17-19

January 1, 2012 — Blessed Virgin Mary

“Living the Gospel with Love and Courage” — Today’s Scriptures: Gather #898

Church
of St.
Anne

Masses for This Weekend

Saturday, December 31—New Year's Eve

4:00 pm — † Rita Bukowski (Fr. Steve Brice)

Sunday, January 1—New Year's Day

8:30 am — † Art Seidl (Fr. Dan Crosby)

10:30 am — † Phyllis Wojciechowski (Fr. Steve Brice)

2:00 pm — The People of St. Anne's (Fr. Steve Brice)

6:00 pm — † Otto Kreill (Fr. Steve Brice)

Masses for This Week

Monday, January 2

7:00 am — Communion Service (Deacon Bob Anderson)

Tuesday, January 3

7:00 am — † Ruth and David Stencil (Fr. Steve Brice)

Wednesday, January 4

7:00 am — † Ada and Peter Calmes (Fr. Steve Brice)

8:15 am — † Mary Olson & John Spara (Fr. Steve Brice)

Thursday, January 5

7:00 am — Communion Service (Erv Burkhardt)

Friday, January 6

7:00 am — † For the Poor Souls (Fr. Steve Brice)

Saturday, January 7

8:30 am — † Louis Rank (Fr. Steve Brice)

Private Confessions to follow

Masses for Next Weekend

Saturday, January 7

4:00 pm — † Sophie Bahleda (Fr. Steve Brice)

Sunday, January 8

8:30 am — † Dale Cleveland (Fr. Steve Brice)

10:30 am — † Bob Brennan (Fr. Steve Brice)

2:00 pm — The People of St. Anne's (Fr. Steve Brice)

6:00 pm — † Richard Havlovick (Fr. Tom Zelinski)

Lectors, please consider...

Do you know a fellow parishioner that would be a good Lector? Please talk to them about volunteering. We always need additional Lectors. Training is available and they may be able to volunteer right along side of you to learn the process. Contact Tracy Scheel at 715-573-6315.

Low gluten hosts are available. If you need a low gluten host, please take one of the cards from the basket at the Church entrance. Come up the center aisle for Communion and show the Minister the card. They will go to the altar to get a low gluten host for you to take from a special dish.



About the Liturgy

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin

Mary, the Mother of God: The three readings assigned for this solemnity and used for all three years of the Lectionary cycle illustrate a tension in this festival: is it a Marian feast (focusing us on Mary) or a dominical feast (focusing on the Lord)? The festival's history tells us that originally it was a Marian feast (in fact, the first one in the Western Church, dating probably from the fifth century). This is illustrated by the reference to Mary in the second reading ("born of a woman"), which is the earliest New Testament reference to Mary and the only one in St. Paul's writings, and with the explicit mention of Mary at the center of the gospel ("And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart").



By the twelfth century the feast day had become dominical (from the Latin word for Lord) and focused on Jesus, since mention of him is prevalent in the scripture readings. In the second reading, "born under the law" connects to the Jewish custom mentioned in the gospel of naming and circumcising the sons on the eighth day after birth, while the number eight itself reminds us that this is the octave day of Christmas.

It remained a dominical feast until the revisions of the liturgical year following the Second Vatican Council reinstated January 1 as a Marian solemnity. The shift back to a focus on Mary reminds us of Mary's central role not only in the Christmas mystery but also in the whole unfolding of God's plan of salvation. In her yes, her cooperation with God, we are given a model of discipleship.

Please refer any questions you may have about the liturgy to Renee Fredel in the Parish Office. The Sacred Worship Commission will do its best to answer your question.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

is offered during the Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass for Grades K-4. This is a ritual of prayers that will make the Sunday readings come more alive for our young people. The readings are proclaimed from the Children's Lectionary and the discussion that follows is done in a child user-friendly fashion.

All parishioners and guests are welcome!



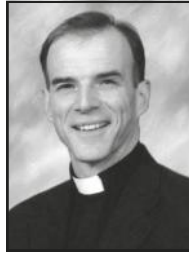
Remember Share Sunday!

December's Food donations go to
The Women's Community Food Pantry.



Dear People of St. Anne's,

**“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.”
(Luke 2:19) (Gather # 898)**



“It is the same light” burning now in the red candle outside our Blessed Sacrament Chapel that has burned in the lamp hanging over the place where Jesus was born for almost one thousand and five hundred years. With the help of Boy Scouts International the Bethlehem Peace Light came to St. Anne's this past Christmas. Flown from Bethlehem in Israel, to Austria, to New York to Wisconsin it was carried into our Church during the liturgies I presided at last weekend.



That visible flame, was our metaphor for the invisible flame of hope and love that filled the heart of the Christ

Child and now enlightens all of us. “It is the same light” shining in Christ's heart that now shines in ours. By the power of the Holy Spirit divine life has been conceived in us. If this gentle little flame is hidden it plunges the world into darkness. If spread, it has the power to transform, transfigure, even transubstantiate this world. We ended our liturgies like Mary, pondering what all this can mean.

There are so many sights and sounds from our beautiful Christmas liturgies to ponder. We have a long tradition of dynamic music in this parish, but this Christmas took us to a whole new level. The Children's Choir, the In the Moment Choir, the Prayerful Praise Choir, the Contemporary Choir, The Hmong Choir, the Joliffe-Kiepkie-Blomquist Ensemble and the Jojade family singers... accompanied by Orchestra, Bell Choir, strings, reeds, horns and outstanding pianists.... all so well rehearsed and full of joy were truly inspiring. More and more voices are maturing. More and more instruments are gaining confidence. When we had a mix up with the 10:30 a.m. liturgy Christmas Day and I got called in at the last moment to preside.... It was a joy... just to be able to take in more of the rich, rich music. Thank you, directors, musicians and singers for enkindling in our hearts the fire of His love.

My ponderings go also to the two wonderful pageants of the weekend. With almost twice last year's cast, Mary and Joseph were surrounded by a most beautiful array of

angels, shepherds, animals and kings for the grand finale, Silent Night at the 4:00 p.m. Children's liturgy in McKillip Hall. Even those who stood along the walls for the entire service lost track of time and space as we were all carried back to Bethlehem by the innocence and purity of our children. If anyone is looking for a Christmas miracle, just reflect on getting twenty nine children of different ages who don't know each other to come together in just a few practices to create something so beautiful!

Though of smaller cast, the pageant at the 1:00 p.m. liturgy Christmas Day was also moving. The very same characters of the evening before now took on olive skinned faces and spoke their lines in Hmong. Everyone was transported. No one noticed the time, in this case stretching THREE HOURS before Mass, pageant, and the community gift giving ended. All then went down to Fischer Hall for more singing and a home cooked Hmong meal. The sprinkling of Caucasians in the crowd were touched by the sense of family the Hmong Catholic community shares.

“It is the same light.”

The beautiful environment also lingers in my memory. Be sure to spend time before the Crèche this weekend and next. Each year Ralph Murkowski has added a new piece or two. Last year he hand painted from scratch the magnificent camel that accompanied one of the kings for Epiphany. Rumor has it there may be an elephant at the side of another king this year!

Perhaps this is the place to thank the team that developed our wonderful “Woven by Christ” Advent theme and the striking symbol of the basket being woven by many small acts of integrity. They also decorated the interior of the Church for Christmas. Thank you Marylee Schulta, Barb Knaut, Jim and Rita Bjork, Bill and Mary Mahoney, Ron and Carol Koltz, and Renee Fredel. For the beautiful decorations outside we thank the ever-faithful Chuck & Lee Jojade led team, this year enhanced with high school faith formation youth. The lovely Crèche on the east side of the Church is given and maintained by the Dorothy Rutz family.

Alas I am out of room this week and my ponderings are just beginning. But even with these initial reflections surely you would agree, that in all of the beauty we are enjoying this Christmas season, it is the light of Christ shining among us. It is the same light.

Stewardship of Treasure

December 24-25, 2011



The financials for Christmas weekend will appear in next weekend's bulletin. Thank you very much for your patience.

We are a parish that is 'carried' by many and EACH contribution makes ALL the difference.

Parish Wish List



1. Eco-Friendly, Floor Scrubbing Machine (any amount towards the \$5,100 purchase)
2. Youth Room Furniture (any amount towards this)
3. Parish office computers \$500 ea.
4. Parish office software (Windows 7) \$80 ea.
5. **Wall Treatment for Church \$16,000 approx.**

New Item – Wall Treatment - Many visitors have expressed how beautiful our church is and then question why the wallpaper is so bad. Building & Grounds is looking at wall covering options to replace the current wallpaper. Any donation toward this project is welcome. Checks can be made payable to St. Anne's Parish and sent to 700 W. Bridge St., Wausau, WI 54401. Indicate Wall Covering in the memo.

If you are able to contribute towards one of these wish list items—or another—please contact the parish office 715-849-3930. All gifts are significant and appreciated.

Sunday Office volunteers are needed

9:15 - 12:00 a.m. Would you be available to assist individuals who are interested in joining our St. Anne's Family, and assist parish members with routine questions and needs.

This time slot would allow you to help out after the 8:30 Mass, attend the 10:30 Mass if you like, and be available from 11:30 till noon. A fun and rewarding way to meet new people. Training provided. For more information please contact: Jill Warsaw 815-494-1870 or Jennifer Gabriel 715-848-3627. email: jillwarsaw@hotmail.com or rjmegabriel@msn.com

can you help?

Get ready for a St. Anne's Famous Fish Fry!

St. Anne Famous Fish Fry gift certificates are available to purchase at the Parish Office. Cost is \$5.75 per certificate, equivalent to a one-piece fish dinner.



New Member Welcome Opportunity

Are you interested in welcoming new parishioners into our St. Anne's Family?

HELP WANTED

As part of our new process for welcoming new parish members, we would like to assign each person or family a mentor person or family. The mentor would help the new family get oriented and feeling at home here at St. Anne's. Training will be provided. For more information please contact: Jill Warsaw 815-494-1870 or Jennifer Gabriel 715-848-3627. email: jillwarsaw@hotmail.com or rjmegabriel@msn.com

Circle of Joy



The Circle of Joy will not meet in January. The next meeting will be on Monday, Feb. 6, 2012.

The next **Grief Support Group** will be starting Monday, January 30th. It will be held from 2-3:30 pm in the Fireside room for 13 weeks. We will be using the Grief Share series. Please contact Jennifer Kareken for more information. 715-849-3930.

We will again have the **Wisconsin Right To Life Signature ad** in the Wausau Daily Herald. We need your signature and donation the weekend of January 8th in church after each Mass.

Attention MOMS (Ministry of Mothers Sharing) Participants!

On Sunday, January 8th, Ministry of Mothers Sharing, a program of St. Paul's Monastery which was recently featured on the front page of the Catholic Spirit, will be holding a 20th Anniversary Celebration. Members of our parish have participated in the Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOMS) in the past and are invited to attend the ceremony. Sunday, January 8, 2012 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. St. Paul's Monastery 2675 Benet Road St. Paul, Minnesota 55109. Find registration information online at www.stpaulsmonastery.org or by calling Jean Glaraton at glaraton@stpaulsmonastery.org/651.748.4089 with questions.

Catholic Radio for Catholic Life



Relevant Radio programming provides thought provoking dialogue, commentary and listener call-in programs with award winning journalists that cover topics like family and personal relationships, political and social concerns, religion and faith, plus national and international news. Take your faith beyond Sunday, and into the rest of the week with Relevant Radio! Tune in to Relevant Radio 92.9 or 93.9 FM or www.relevantradio.com.

Local News & Offerings

If you are considering Newman Catholic Schools and have questions regarding any of the NCS programs, please join us for the following Informational Meetings.

All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.

Families from all Catholic parishes welcome!



Monday, January 16th

NCES: St. Anne (Kindergarten through 5th Grade)

N. 6th Avenue – Wausau

715-845-5754 – Emily Miller, Principal

Tuesday, January 17th

NCES: St. Mark (Preschool through 5th Grade)

602 Military Road – Rothschild

715-359-9662 – Tina Meyer, Principal

Monday, January 23rd

NCECC: St. Michael (Licensed Childcare – Preschool – 4 Yr Pre-K)

615 Stark Street – Wausau

715-848-0206, Vicki Koeppel, Administrator

Wednesday, January 25th

Newman Catholic Middle School (Grades 6th – 8th)

Newman Catholic High School (Grades 9th – 12th)

1130 W. Bridge Street – Wausau

715-845-5754, Jamie Delikowski, Principal

Tuesday, January 31st

NCECC: St. Therese

(Licensed Child Care – Before and After School)

112 W. Kort Street – Schofield

715-355-5254, Vicki Koeppel, Administrator

Consider the gift of a Catholic education in memory or in honor of a loved one. If you would like to help provide the gift of a Catholic education through tuition assistance, please contact Newman Catholic Schools Development Office at 715-842-4805.

You can help your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with your spouse? Do you argue... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro -vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on February 17-19, 2012, call 1-877-922-HOPE(4673) or email: centralwi@retrouville.org or visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com



Is God Calling You?

Are you a high school student? Are you wondering about your future? Do you know what a BENEDICTINE is? Do you know what the word “VOCATION” means?

This is an evening for you to give serious consideration to the question, “What is God calling me to do?” Our vocations in life are more than a career or choice of employment. Join us for an evening to help you discern your traditional vocations of the priesthood and religious life.

RSVP by calling your Director of Youth Ministry, John Schmitt – St. Michael Church—Gathering Space Wednesday, February 15 at 6:15-7:45 p.m.



Mass for Health and Healing

Mass for health and healing with individual prayer Sunday, January 8, at 3:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Catholic Church, Wausau. The sacrament of reconciliation will be available from 2-3:15 p.m.



1. Go to www.signup.olanmills.com
2. Choose: Schedule New Appointment.
3. Enter Contract No. 65545 or Phone No. 715-849-3930



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Tuesday, January 3, at 2:00 p.m. Owen Mills will start taking pictures for the Pictorial Directory in the lower floor of the building. Directions will be posted in the West Entrance. For those who still need to make appointments, sign up times are available through St. Anne's Web site.

We would like to include pictures of family members who are actively serving in the Military. A good quality picture, no larger than 4/6 inches with name on the back, should be submitted by February 1, to Barb at the church office. They will not be returned.

Pictures of shut-ins will be done in your home. Please contact Barb or Win if interested.

Thank you for participating.

Barb Laurent
715/842-0385

Win Spencer
715/845-2069

Youth Ministry

tubing at Sylvan Hill!

When: Wednesday, January 18, 2012
 6:00-9:00 p.m. Meet at the Hill
 Who: All Middle School and High School Youth & their families – Whether you go to NCS, Wausau public schools, wherever – ALL are invited!!



What: **tubing, Food & Fun!!**

More details to come, but save the date now and watch the parish website or information from your Faith Formation catechist. All youth participating **MUST** have a signed permission slip on file!!

program will include conferences, time for Holy Hour, social time and Eucharist on New Year's Day. This has become one of our most popular retreats. Offering \$80.



A **Serenity Retreat for Recovering Alcoholics** is scheduled for the weekend of January 6-8, 2012. The theme is **"Having an Attitude of Gratitude."** The retreat is open to all recovering alcoholics (men and women) of any denomination or persuasion. Included are talks, discussions, and opportunities for private consultation with team members. Participants are assisted in discovering the joy and serenity of the spiritual substance of the AA program. Begins with 7 p.m. supper on Friday and concludes with mid-day meal on Sunday. Offering: \$155.

YOUTH MINISTRY MISSION TRIP 2012

DESTINATION:
 Gratiot County, Michigan
OBJECTIVE:
 Live the Eucharist

[workcamps]
 find out more at www.stanneswausau.org/youth

The next **Monthly Prayer Evening** will be held on January 9, 2012. The Evening is entitled, **"Everyday Prayer for Everyday People."** These Evenings will be held on the second Monday of each month September through May. It will be a time for people to come with all their needs and concerns and to join in prayer with each other. Time for prayer together, a presentation by either Mary Yessa or Fr. Tom Zelinski, quiet time, closing prayer service and blessing. There will also be a blessing of blankets. Those attending may bring one or more blankets to be blessed for your use or to be passed on. Begins 7 p.m. and concludes 8:30 p.m. Free will offering. No registration required.

Get ready for a life-changing trip! July 7-14, 2012

Students will help communities that have felt the effects of a chemical plant closing, the relocation of a refinery, and the outsourcing of an automobile parts manufacturing company.

Because residents now have limited incomes, they are unable to afford needed home repairs. Many homes need your tender loving care so that residents can remain in their homes that hold so many memories for them.

Application deadline is Wednesday, January 11, 2012, act NOW!!

Cost: TBA


Mark your calendars for a **Silent Retreat for Women and Men** the weekend of January 13-15, 2012. The theme for this silent retreat is **"Living In Difficult Times, Learning From St. Francis."** Begins with 7:00 p.m. supper on Friday evening and ends with the noon meal on Sunday. Offering: \$155.

Contact St. Anthony's at (715) 443-2236 to register, if you need a ride, or to receive additional information. [info@sarcenter.com] [www.sarcenter.com]



Local News & Offerings

St. Anthony Spirituality Center

New Year's Retreat begins with a 7 p.m. evening meal on New Year's eve and concludes by 2 p.m. on New Year's Day. The theme is **"Wherever You Go, I Will Go."** Presented by Fr. Tom Zelinski and Fr. Marty Pable. The 

Faith Formation Schedule

Sunday	Wednesday
January 8	January 11
January 15	January 18
January 22	January 25
January 29	February 1

New Family Magazine in Parish Library

Disney Family Fun Magazine is a monthly issue bursting with a wealth of ideas and wonderful way to have good times with family!

It's full of easy recipes, fun crafts, printables, games, playtime and party ideas for all ages. Check it out. Additional resources available online. It is full of wonderful, free opportunities to share family time this winter.



Homestudy Family Retreat

Families have their choice of either January 12th at 6 p.m. or January 21st at 2 p.m. to attend the family home study retreat. Families will be contacted by Chris Giebel, the coordinator, with more details and information. All Homestudy families are expected to attend.

Catechists Inservice: Wednesday January 4, 2012, Smart Board Training at 6 p.m., Inservice 6:30-8 p.m. in the Meeting Rooms. Meeting will cover the upcoming faith events for the Faith Formation Programs.



Faith Formation Classes resume next Sun. Jan. 8 and Wed. Jan. 11

New Year's Prayer for Families

The New Year, like a new born child, is placed in our hands as the old year passes away. The days and weeks to come are God's gift; they carry God's blessing. As a blessing we welcome them. Our hope for the year ending is that all that was good in it remains with us and all that was harmful be left behind. We ask for God's guidance and continued unconditional love. **Amen.**



Book of the Week in the Parish Library



The Jesus of Scripture DVDs
by Donald Senior, C.P., S.T.D.

The Gospels as Portraits of Jesus. It is wonderfully taught by one of the world's leading Catholic New Testament experts.

Senior explores both the New Testament text to view Jesus as well as a way to examine your own relationship with these texts.

Women's Relationship Retreat for high school and Older. See flier insert. Sign up by contacting the parish office @ 715-849-3930, West Gathering space or e-mail stannes.adultff@gmail.com.

New Member Welcome – will be next Sunday, Jan. 8 instead of this weekend following the 10:30 a.m. Liturgy. Fr. Steve leads the group in a tour, meeting of the parish staff and registration. If you have questions, please contact the parish office.



STOP BY THE PARISH LIBRARY ON SUNDAYS

A member of the library committee will be available each Sunday morning between the Masses. Would you like to find a resource, good book, DVD, children's book, Veggie Tale movie....etc? Stop by, they will be glad to help you!

Parish Mission is coming up in March and the committee could use 2 more people to help with the planning. Please contact Becky Schmitz @ becstu@yahoo.com.

New Year Prayer

God grant us this year a wider view,
So we see others' faults through the eyes of You.
Teach us to judge not with hasty tongue,
Neither the adult ... nor the young.

Give us patience and grace to endure
And a stronger faith so we feel secure.
Instead of remembering, help us forget
The irritations that caused us to fret.

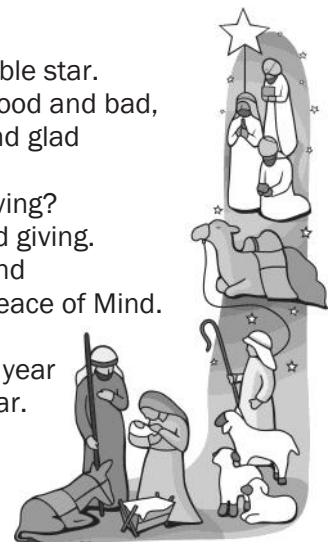
Freely forgiving for some offense
And finding each day a rich recompense.
In offering a friendly, helping hand
And trying in all ways to understand;

That all of us whoever we are ...
Are trying to reach an unreachable star.
For the great and small ... the good and bad,
The young and old ... the sad and glad

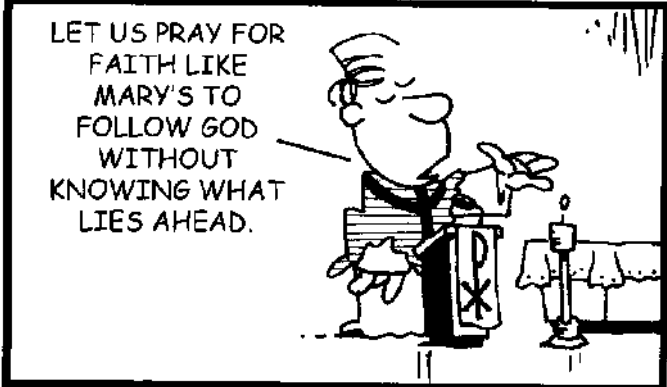
Are asking today; Is life worth living?
The answer is only in, loving and giving.
For only Love can make man kind
And Kindness of Heart brings Peace of Mind.

By giving love, we can start this year
To lift the clouds of hate and fear.

written by Helen Steiner Rice



MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

