

St. Mary’s Catholic Church

Annunciation Church of B.V.M., Shumway, IL
+Bishop Thomas John Paprocki
Father Albert (Al) Allen, Pastor
Reconciliation Time: Saturdays 3-3:30 pm

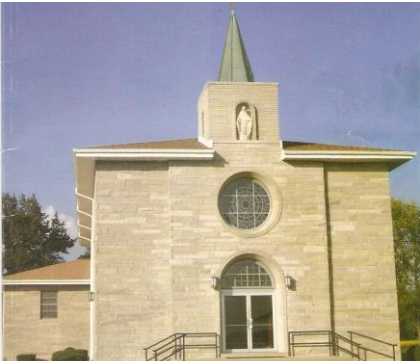
Or by appointment
Mass Times: Saturday 4:00 pm & Sunday 8:00 am
Wednesday 8:00 am

Phone: 1-844-536-6514 (leave a message)
During a life emergency please contact
217.703.1042 to reach a priest.

Website: www.stmaryshumway.org
Email: stmarysshumway@gmail.com
Address: PO Box 96, Shumway, IL 62461

To reserve the church basement please call
1-844-536-6514.

Diocese Website: www.dio.org



Green Creek Mass Times:

Friday – 8 am
Saturday – 6 pm
Sunday – 10:30 am

Victim Assistance Contact Information-To Report Child Sexual Abuse by Church Personnel or to inquire about Safe Environment Programs in the Diocese of Springfield call 217-321-1155 or Children & Family Services Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-25-ABUSE

PRAYER LIST: Please remember them in your prayers!



Dennis Koester
Nelda McCoy
Marita Kemme
Sam Sheehan
Larry Nation
Jim Gordon
Don Kemme
Danny Zacha
Don Clark
Kendall Fulk
Dan Zacha Sr.

Dean Gengler
Steve Moore
Sally Wakefield
Pat Kuhns
Bill Hamilton
Christie Dust
Helen Kollinger
Bill Nuxoll
Mrs. Scott (Stacey)
Vonderheide
Jane Emmerich
Marita Elson



Call: 1-844-536-6514 to add or remove someone. Thank You.

January Committee: Vanessa Kessler,
Wanda Ohnesorge, Irene Koester, Alice Richards

LITURGICAL MINISTERS					
SAT 4pm	Dec. 9	Dec. 16	Dec. 23	Dec. 30	Jan. 6
Servers	Abby Brown Anna Brown Aubrey Brown	Trey Brown Tryston Brown Madalyne Brown	Isaac Wells Abby Brown Anna Brown	Aubrey Brown Tryston Brown Trey Brown	Anna Brown Madalyne Brown Isaac Wells
Lector	Katrina Davis	Mike Holland	Alaina Miller	Jesse Davis	Abby Brown
Usher	Jason Wells Mike Holland	Jesse Davis Don Brown	Doug Brown Mike Holland	Jason Wells Don Brown	Jesse Davis Doug Brown
Ech Min	Don Brown Kathy Brown Rosemary Holland	Donna Davis Jesse Davis Katrina Davis	Mike Holland Don Brown Kathy Brown	Donna Davis Rosemary Holland Katrina Brown	Mike Holland Jesse Davis Don Brown
Gift Bearers	Don Brown Family	Doug Brown Family	Jesse Davis Family	Jason Wells Family	Wanda Ohnesorge
Greeters	Wells Family	Davis Family	Wells Family	Davis Family	Wells Family
SUN 8am	Dec. 10 Parish Families in Faith	Dec. 17 Parish Families in Faith	Dec. 24 NO 8 AM MASS	Dec. 31 8am	Jan. 7 Parish Families in Faith
Servers	Wade Conder Zoey Conder Olivia Vonderheide	Garrett Hoene Rory Miller Wylie Miller	Christmas Eve Mass at 6:30 pm. This mass doesn’t fulfill your Sunday obligation. Christmas Day Mass at 8 am. Sign up for ministries in the cry room.	Daisy Miller Zoey Conder Olivia Vonderheide	Garrett Hoene Wade Conder Jacob Vonderheide
Lector	Lisa Thompson	Terry Hoene		Lisa Thompson	Terry Hoene
Ushers	Justin Conder John Neu	Don Antrim Jason Vonderheide		Charley Vonderheide Larry Lieb	Jim Vonderheide Roy Waldhoff
Ech Min	Lisa Waldhoff Barb Vonderheide Roy Waldhoff	Lisa Thompson Leslie Kemme Timber Miller		Linda Doedtman Barb Vonderheide Lisa Waldhoff	Leslie Miller Lisa Thompson Roy Waldhoff
Gift Bearers	Greg Michelle Spannagel	Deb Stremming		Wanda Ohnesorge	Wally Thompson Family
Greeters	Tom Helen Doedtman	Ed Leslie Kemme		Jim Mary Miller	John Karen Neu
Money Counters	Doedtman Shadwell	Waldhoff Hoene	Kemme Adams	Bales Richards Sheehan, Hackman	Stremming Conder
WED. 8am Lectors	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	Dec. 20	Dec. 27	Jan. 3
	Irene Koester	Kay Conder	Linda Doedtman	Irene Koester	Kay Conder

Weekly Offering.....12-17-23

Adults..... \$1280.00
Loose..... \$326.00
Child Home..... \$260.00
Retired Religious.....\$75.00
Total..... \$1941.00

Poland > Effingham > U.S. Citizen – Fr. Michal Rosa’s unique story – Fr. Michal Rosa, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Effingham, became a U.S. citizen July 7. It’s a journey he would have never imagined, growing up in Poland. So how did this all happen, how did Bishop Paprocki play a role, what does Fr. Rosa think of America, what does he miss the most about Poland (besides family), and what aspects of our faith does he wish America prioritized more? We Dive Deep with Fr. Michal Rosa. Go to dio.org/podcast or youtube.com/diospringfield or search “Dive Deep” on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe.

~CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATION~

Ross & Violet Pautler and Trobe & Gladys Shadwell by Duane & Joyce Shadwell



Clarence & Antonette Feldhake and Gene & Evelyn Ferguson by Kathy & Larry Ferguson

Deceased members of the Miller and Kirchhofer Families by Jim & Mary Miller



Mike & Virginia Conder by Joe & George Conder families

Shannon Vonderheide by Vonderheide, Ohnesorge & Tabbert families

Clarence & Teresa Worman and Sr. M. Florentia Koelsch SSND
by Dan & Rita McKay family and George & Diana Conder family

Viola & Clifford McLaughlin and Lloyd & Wilma Spannagel by Greg & Michelle Spannagel

In Memory of Kevin Hackman and Joe Hackman by Carolyn Hackman

Karen Waldhoff by Lisa & Roy Waldhoff

Albert & Lavina Herrmann and Leroy & Leona Zacha Family

Alli & Elizabeth Habing and Jim Antrim by Don & Marcella Antrim

Memory of Colin B. Woods by Dan & Angela Woods



Saturday, Dec. 23 – Louis Tegeler by family
Christmas Eve-Bernard, Dorothy & Charlotte Ruholl by family
Christmas Day-Members of the Bolton, Stump, Montello and Witken Families
Wednesday, Dec. 27 - John Sheehan by Carol Sheehan
Saturday, Dec. 30 –Living deceased members Ed Louise Kemme family
Sunday, Dec. 31 -Members of the Bolton, Stump, Montello and Witken fam.

Please call or email (info on front page) to schedule an intention or put an envelope in the collection basket with the information. Envelopes can be found in the mailbox in the cry room. There is a calendar of available dates located on the bulletin board and in the cry room.

2024 Masses are now being scheduled.

Happy Birthday



Don Brown 12-25
David Bales 12-25
Timber Miller 12-30

Happy Anniversary

Tom and Sandy Laue
12-27-1975
48 years

St. Mary's, Shumway CCW-
We will be hosting a casserole dinner
on Jan. 9 @ 6:30pm.
The ladies of St. Anthony's, Sacred Heart and
St. Mary's, Green Creek will be our guests.
Come for a night of fellowship and good food.

The parish family extends its sympathies
to Dwight and Bev Storm and family
on the passing of his brother,
Darwin Storm.
May he rest in peace.



Parish Families in Faith



Next classes:
Jan. 7, 14, 28, 2024

Adult classes AND Parish Family Time
are for ALL PARISHIONERS not just those
who have children in PSR!!!

Congratulations to the winners of the
cash raffle drawing!!!

Thank you to everyone who bought
and sold tickets.

We really appreciate it.

Jenny Miller	\$5000
Roy Waldhoff	\$1000
Charley Vonderheide	\$1000
Tom/Sandy Laue	\$500
Carol Manhart	\$500
Tom/Sandy Zacha	\$500
Tiffany Hackman	\$500
Christine Probst	\$500
Mark/Karen Kemme	\$500

\$2050 was donated back!!

MASS SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING HOLIDAYS-

Christmas Eve

Shumway @ 6:30pm
Green Creek @ 4pm

Dec. 30/31 – normal schedule

New Year's Eve

Shumway @ 6pm
Green Creek –No Mass

Christmas Day

Shumway @8 am
Green Creek @ 10:30am

New Year's Day

Shumway –No Mass
Green Creek @ 9 am

REFLECTIONS—cont. from page 2

Advent is a period of expectant waiting, not just for the celebration of Christ's birth, but also for the acknowledgment of this revelation in our lives. Paul's words encourage us to embrace this mystery with joy and awe, recognizing that the unfolding of God's plan in Christ is a continuous process, reaching us and calling us to faith and obedience.

Furthermore, Paul's emphasis on the obedience of faith for all nations reminds us of the universal scope of Christ's incarnation. The revelation of this mystery is not just for a select few but for all humanity, inviting everyone into a relationship with God through Christ. This universal call challenges us to look beyond our immediate circles and recognize the inclusivity of God's salvation plan.

As we prepare to celebrate the Nativity of Christ, we are called to ponder how this revelation of God's mystery impacts our understanding of faith, community, and our role in God's universal plan of salvation. Advent, therefore, becomes a time to not only marvel at the mystery revealed in Christ but also to recommit ourselves to living out this faith, sharing the joy of this revelation with all, and participating actively in the realization of God's kingdom on earth.

Reflection Questions

- How do my own plans and visions for my life align with or differ from what I perceive to be God's plan for me?
- In what ways can I practice discernment and openness to God's guidance, especially when it diverges from my expectations or desires?
- How do I respond to unexpected or challenging calls from God in my life? Can I find parallels with Mary's "Fiat" in my own experiences?
- In what ways can I cultivate a deeper trust in God's plan, especially in times of uncertainty or hardship?
- What does it mean to me to have a heart willing to listen, trust, and respond to God's call? How can I develop these qualities during Advent and beyond?
- How can I better embody the spirit of Advent in my daily life, both in my personal faith journey and in my interactions with others?
- In what ways does the imagery of Mary as the new Ark of the Covenant deepen my understanding of her role in salvation history?
- How can I, like Mary, become a bearer of Christ in my own life and environment?
- How does the revelation of the mystery of Christ's incarnation, as described by St. Paul, impact my understanding of faith and my relationship with God?
- In what ways am I called to participate in the universal scope of Christ's incarnation, reaching out to all nations and communities in faith and love?

Please join us as we study the Eucharist, Discovering the Mass in the Bible, by Brant Pitre. This will be a 10 week course beginning on Thursday January, the 11th. You may attend either the 9:15 am or 6:30 pm session. Classes are held in the St. Anthony Parish Center. To sign up, please call the Parish Office at 217-347-7129.

Pre-Cana Dates---Upcoming dates for programs in the diocese are listed below.
Sunday, February 4, 2024 - St. Francis, Teutopolis
Call 217-961-6404 to register. The fee is \$50 per couple to cover lunch and expenses.

REFLECTIONS—

Listening and Trusting in God's Plan

The readings for the 4th Sunday of Advent Year B, invite us to a deeper understanding of God's plan and our role in it. In the first reading from 2 Samuel, we witness King David's desire to build a house for God, reflecting his vision of a worldly kingdom. However, God reveals a different plan through the prophet Nathan, one that isn't confined to physical structures or earthly realms but focuses on establishing His eternal Kingdom. This story serves as a poignant reminder that our human aspirations and understandings often differ significantly from God's divine intentions. Like Nathan, we are called to listen attentively to God, even when His messages challenge our expectations or desires.

In the Gospel of Luke for the 4th Sunday of Advent Year B, we encounter Mary, a young woman whose response to God's call exemplifies total openness and trust. Amidst the oppression and suffering of her people, Mary's heart must have echoed the cry of "Adanah Adonai!" – a longing for divine intervention. When presented with the angel's message, unlike many who would seek to rationalize or dismiss such a daunting revelation, Mary embraces it with a profound "Fiat!" Her willingness to become an instrument of God's plan, despite the uncertainties and potential hardships, is a testament to her extraordinary faith.

As we journey through Advent, Mary's example beckons us to listen for God's voice in our daily lives, to trust in His timing, and to be ready to respond with our own "Let it be." Just as she embraced her role in God's salvific plan, we too are invited to trust that our prayers are heard and that, in God's time, they will be answered. Let us then approach God with a heart willing to accept and participate in His divine plan, embodying the spirit of Advent in our willingness to listen, trust, and respond.

Mary, the New Ark

The readings for the 4th Sunday of Advent Year B beautifully intertwine the imagery of the Ark of the Covenant with Mary's role in the divine plan. In the first reading from 2 Samuel, we encounter King David's intention to build a physical house for the Ark, symbolizing God's presence among His people. However, God reveals a different plan to David through Nathan, signifying that His presence cannot be contained in a mere structure.

This revelation foreshadows the incarnation, where God chooses not a temple made with hands, but a living ark – Mary – to bear His presence into the world. Mary, as the new Ark of the Covenant, embodies the fulfillment of God's promise to dwell among His people. Her role as Theotokos, the God-bearer, signifies a profound shift: God's presence is no longer confined to the Holy of Holies but is now intimately accessible through Christ, born of Mary.

Mary's acceptance of her role, as depicted in Luke's Gospel, marks a pivotal moment in salvation history. Just as the original Ark was revered and held the tablets of the covenant, Mary carries within her the Word made flesh, the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. Her fiat – her yes to God – ushers in a new era where God dwells not just among us but within us, through Christ. For us, Mary as the new Ark represents not only the fulfillment of ancient prophecies but also a model of discipleship.

Her willingness to accept God's plan, despite the uncertainties and challenges, calls us to be bearers of Christ in our own lives. As we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth, we are invited to reflect on how we, like Mary, can carry the presence of Christ into our world, living out the Gospel in our actions and being vessels of God's grace and love in a world that yearns for His presence.

Embracing the Revelation

In the second reading for the 4th Sunday of Advent Year B, from Romans 16:25-27, St. Paul concludes his epistle with a doxology that beautifully encapsulates the essence of the Advent season. Paul speaks of the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages, now disclosed through the prophetic writings and made known to all nations according to the command of the eternal God. This passage invites us to reflect on the profound mystery of Christ's incarnation, a plan hidden for ages but revealed in the fullness of time.

Article continued on a later page...

