



# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

## *Parafia Najświętszego Serca Pana Jezusa*

### IN POLONIA

**7379 Church Street • Custer, Wisconsin • 54423 • Tel: 715-600-6942**  
**parishoffice@sacredheartpolonia.com • www.sacredheartpolonia.com**

*Please submit bulletin notices to [bulletin@sacredheartpolonia.com](mailto:bulletin@sacredheartpolonia.com) by noon on Tuesday.*

**PARISH CLERGY** DUCHOWIEŃSTWO PARAFIALNE

Father Mark Miller • Pastor.....[fr.miller@sacredheartpolonia.com](mailto:fr.miller@sacredheartpolonia.com)  
 Deacon Jim Sniadajewski.....[dcn.jim@sacredheartpolonia.com](mailto:dcn.jim@sacredheartpolonia.com)  
*You may reach Father Miller for both emergency and non-emergency situations by calling the parish office number 715-600-6942 at any time of the day.*

**PARISH OFFICE** BIURO PARAFIALNA

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9:00am–3:00pm  
 Friday: 9:00am–1:00pm • Closed on Wednesdays  
 • Please note that the parish office will be closed daily from 11:15-11:45am for lunch.

**PARISH STAFF** PRACOWNICY PARAFII

Business Administrator.....Veronica Bruske ext. 130  
 Administrative Assistant.....Susanna Lepak ext. 100  
 School Principal .....Dawn Cisewski ext. 160  
 Basement Kitchen.....Barb Lepak (715-600-0396)  
 Coordinator of Religious Ed.....Debbie Riske (715-340-4626)  
[CCD@sacredheartpolonia.com](mailto:CCD@sacredheartpolonia.com)

**CONFESSION** SPOWIEDŹ ŚWIĘTE

Thursday: 7:30am–8:00am Friday: 7:30am–8:00am  
 Saturday: 2:45pm–3:45pm at Saint Mary's in Custer

**ADORATION** ADORACJA EUCHARYSTYCZNA

Thursday: 7:00am–8:00am  
 Friday: 7:00am–8:00am at Saint Mary's in Custer  
 First Friday: 8:45am–3:00pm at Saint Mary's in Custer

**BAPTISM PREPARATION** CHRZEST

Please contact the parish to schedule a baptism class and request a date for the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism. Parents are encouraged to attend before the birth of their child.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION** MAŁŻEŃSTWO

Couples requesting the celebration of Marriage should contact the parish at the time of formal engagement or at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage.

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE** MSZE ŚWIĘTE

**Monday, February 19 – Feria**

**Tuesday, February 20 – Feria**

**8:15am Mass—Sacred Heart**  
 †Loretta Klesmit by Roger Klesmit

**Wednesday, February 21 – St. Peter Damian**

**8:15am Mass—St. Mary's**  
 †Janet Peplinski by Russell & Diane  
**6:15pm Stations of the Cross—Sacred Heart**

**Thursday, February 22 – The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

**7:00–8:00am Adoration—Sacred Heart**  
**7:30–8:00am Confessions—Sacred Heart**  
**8:15am Mass—Sacred Heart**  
 †Regina Groshek by Virginia Groshek

**Friday, February 23 – St. Polycarp**

**7:00–8:00am Adoration—St. Mary's**  
**7:30–8:00am Confessions—St. Mary's**  
**8:15am Mass—St. Mary's**  
 †Myron, Frances, Conroy, Felix & Regina Soik by Soik Family  
**2:00pm Stations of the Cross—Sacred Heart School Children**

**Saturday, February 24 – Feria**

**8:15am Mass—Sacred Heart (Collective Intention)**  
 †Gladys Lepak by Family  
 †James Kozak by Sue Wanta  
 †Norman Platta by Edwin & Betty Damask  
 †Henry Wierzba by Duane & Dee Wanta  
 †Elsie Fliss by Marie, Tom & Barb Platta  
 †Henry & Frances Burant by Joe & Linda Burant  
 †Ernest Kezeske by Ernie & Carol Kezeske  
 †Peter Wrycza by Dolores & Family  
 †Andrea Singer by Dave & Judy Zdroik  
**2:45–3:45pm Confessions—Sacred Heart**  
**4:00pm Anticipatory Mass—Sacred Heart**  
 †Leo & Elizabeth Gagas by Larry & Elaine Gagas

**Sunday, February 25 – Second Sunday of Lent**

**8:00am Mass—Sacred Heart**  
 †Norman Eiden by Maurice & Sandy Damask  
**9:25am Stations of the Cross—St. Mary's**  
**10:00am Mass—St. Mary's**  
 St. Mary's & Sacred Heart Parish Families

**A WORD FROM FATHER**

**SŁOWO OD PASTORA**



*My precious and crucified Lord, I offer You this Lent. I offer it to You with total abandonment and trust. I offer You my prayers, sacrifices and my very life this day. Do with me, Lord, as You will. I pray that this Lent will be fruitful. I know You have much to say to me and much to do in my life. May this Lent be a time through which Your mercy is poured in abundance into my soul, and into the souls of all Your faithful. Dearest Lord, help me to especially see my sin, this Lent. Humble me so that I may see clearly. Give me courage and strength to confess my sins, and to turn from them with all my heart. Enlighten me with Your Holy Word, dear Lord. Help me to come to know You and to deepen the gift of faith in my life. Show me the plan You have for me, and place my feet upon the path You have chosen. My suffering Lord, I thank You for the fullness of Your perfect Sacrifice. I thank You for holding nothing back, giving Your life to the last drop of blood. May I offer You my very life as a sacrifice, trusting in Your mercy with every offering. Keep me faithful to my Lenten promises, and bring forth new life through these sacrifices of love. Amen (Prayer for a fruitful Lent)*

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**POSŁUGI LITURGICZNE**

**Altar Servers**

February 24: 4:00 pm Magnus & Dmitri  
February 25: 8:00 am Jonah, Quinn & Drew

**Hospitality**

February 24: 4:00 pm Volunteer Ushers  
February 25: 8:00 am Volunteer Ushers

**Readers**

February 24: 4:00 pm Patt Roberts  
February 25: 8:00 am Gary Ross

**Wellington**

February 22: Dcn. Jim

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**PROŚBY MODLITEWNE**

Let us remember the following in our daily prayers:

Austin James, Brittany Olivia, JD Wysocki, Dave Grawey, Megan Rose, Jennifer Lepak, Agnes Milanowski, Patsy Goretski, Ernie Kurszewski, Beverly Stanczyk, Jerry Lepak, Theresa Pliska, Vanessa Lawson, Randy Schulist, Dorothy and Raymond Gagas, Frank Kurszewski, Donald J. Firkus, Ronald Trzebiatowski, Alice Wierzba, Jason Wrycza, Trisha Wrycza, Newton Family, Gail Tepp, Dwight Hucke

*If you would like someone added to the list please contact the parish office. Always be sure you have permission to add someone's name.*

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

**NAMASZCZENIE CHRZYCH**

If anyone is in need of spiritual care at your home or the hospital (e.g. confession, Holy Communion, or Anointing of the Sick) please call the parish to make arrangements. Father Miller is here for your spiritual and sacramental needs. Also, be aware that if you are in the hospital for an extended period of time, and would like a visit, please contact the parish. This is important because hospitals *do not* make us aware of these situations.

**LAST WEEK'S PARISH SUPPORT**

**DAROWIZNY**

Adults: \$3,882  
First Offering: \$5  
Youth: \$19  
Offertory: \$168  
Total: \$4,074  
Vigil Lights: \$43  
Blessed Candles: \$64  
School Donations: \$1,200  
Renovation: \$100

Feb Budget: \$22,700  
Feb to Date: \$ 9,577

*Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*

Scrip Sales: \$3,260 | Profit: \$121

**Automated Giving Program:** Parishioners have the option to enroll in Direct Payments (ACH debits) as a means of sharing your financial gifts. Additional details are on the Authorization Agreement form available on our website: [www.sacredheartpolonia.com](http://www.sacredheartpolonia.com).



**2023-2024 Diocesan Annual Appeal**

Sacred Heart's Goal: \$48,950  
Contributions to Date: \$25,654 (52.4%)  
# of Donors: 91

**SACRED HEART NEWS • OGŁOSZENIA PARAFIALNE**



**Stations of the Cross** will be on Wednesday, February 21st at 6:15pm at Sacred Heart and Sunday, February 25th at 9:25am at St. Mary's. Sacred Heart School children will be having Stations at 2:00pm on the following Fridays:

February 23rd, March 8th, and March 15th. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**Blessed Palms from last year.** Please consider disposing of your blessed palms properly. There are baskets at the entrances of the church to collect your old blessed palms to use for next year's Ash Wednesday. ~ *Thank you.*

**Blessed Candles.** A reminder that blessed candles for home use can be found at the elevator entrance of the church. A suggested \$3.00 donation is appreciated to help cover the cost. Father is always able to bless personal candles for devotional use at home as well. ~ *Thank you*



**RaiseRight** **SCRIP NEWS.** Scrip will be sold by the front entrance after the Sunday Mass. Also, during the week you can purchase scrip through the parish office. Thank you for supporting our scrip program and helping our parish and school!

**PARISH MEETINGS**

**SPOTKANIA PARAFIALNE**



**Home and School.** Thursday, February 22nd @ 6:00pm— Sacred Heart School.



**Knights of Columbus.** Tuesday, March 5th @ 6:30pm— Sacred Heart Parish Hall



**PCCW.** Monday, March 12th @ 1:00pm— Sacred Heart Parish Hall. Roses 1 & 2 bring desserts.

**Poncza and Peanut Square Workers.** A BIG THANK YOU to all the special and great workers who came to help on Friday and Saturday. We were so happy to see 50 or more workers for this event. We are proud and thankful for our many parishioners and also many others who came to help! We appreciate everyone's efforts. It truly made this event possible. Blessings to you all. ~ Karen and Arleen



**Sacred Heart Parish—PCCW** will be having a bingo on Sunday, March 3rd in the church basement. Doors open at 11:00am and bingo will start at 1:00pm seating availability will be limited to 200. The bingo will offer over \$600 in cash prizes. Also, there will be a 50/50 Raffle and Cherry Tree. Concessions will be available. Everyone is welcome!

**Cemetery Care - Now Hiring!** Sacred Heart Parish is now accepting applications for a Cemetery Groundskeeper position. This position will be responsible for the mowing, trimming and grounds upkeep of the Sacred Heart and St. Martin Church cemeteries. If you are interested in this part-time position please contact the parish office by March 15th for more details or to express your interest.



**BINGO.** PCCW is having a Cherry Tree at the Bingo on Sunday, March 3rd. We are looking for prizes please consider donating. The prizes can be dropped off in the designated area in the church basement. ~ Thank you

**The Women's book club** will be reading Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist by Brant Pitre during the Lenten season. We invite you to join us on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in the church basement at 7:15pm. We begin with prayer and fellowship and have open discussion of the book. Our meeting dates are: 2/19, 3/4, 3/18, 4/1. This will be a very interesting study! Please order your own book prior to the meeting. For more information, call or text Theresa Glavin at 715.321.4464. See below for the book description:

*Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist shines fresh light on the Last Supper by looking at it through Jewish eyes. Using his in-depth knowledge of the Bible and ancient Judaism, Dr. Brant Pitre answers questions such as: What was the Passover like at the time of Jesus? What were the Jewish hopes for the Messiah? What was Jesus' purpose in instituting the Eucharist during the feast of Passover? And, most important of all, what did Jesus mean when he said, "This is my body... This is my blood"?*

**PICNIC NEWS.** Last year we had a very successful Cash Raffle. It is that time of year to plan for the 2024 cash raffle. Thank you all for the wonderful support of this event. The raffle is a good way to promote your business, honor a loved one or be recognized for your individual raffle support. Please consider sponsoring or co-sponsoring our Cash Raffle Prizes. All contributor names will be listed and printed on the back of the raffle tickets. If you are interested, you may drop your donations in the collection basket or drop/mail it to the parish office by March 17th. For more information, call Donna Zaborowski at 715 677-3878 or Arleen Gross at 715 341-3645 for more information.

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

**WIECZNA LAMPKA**



The Church prescribes that the sanctuary lamp should shine permanently near the tabernacle in the church. By it, the faithful are reminded of the presence of Christ and the light itself is a profession of their love and affection. This week, the sanctuary lamp burns in memory of:

**Loretta Klesmit**



**the "Answer" - Eucharistic Rally**

Discover and embrace the gift of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist! Join us on Friday, June 7th as we travel by bus to La Crosse to join in this monumental event.

We will depart from Stevens Point at 7 a.m. and arrive in La Crosse in time to participate in the Pilgrimage from the Cameron Street Bridge to the La Crosse Center. Once at the La Crosse center will will join in Mass, listen to presenters Chris Stefanick, Immaculee Ilbagiza, Josh Rosa, and enjoy the music of Luke Spehar.

Our departure time from La Crosse will be 6:30 p.m. to return to Stevens Point.

**Cost:** Sacred Heart high schoolers (grades 9-12) are free! All others: \$20.00. All youth younger than high school may attend as a family unit. There are several buses leaving Stevens Point for this event...and the ride is FREE!

Go to [diolc.org/the-answer](http://diolc.org/the-answer) for more information about this once in a lifetime event - but for headcount purposes, DO NOT register through the Diocesan website.

**Ready to register???** Register online by February 29th at: [sacredheartpolonia.com/events](http://sacredheartpolonia.com/events)

**SCHOOL NEWS**

**WIADOMOŚCI SZKOLNE**



**On Tuesday, February 13th, Sacred Heart students** were given an

AMAZING opportunity to see Blessed Brother James Miller's relics.

They were able to touch a Blessed Brother James Miller holy card to his 1st class

relic giving them a 3rd class relic. What a special moment! Blessed Brother James Miller, pray for us!



**RELIGIOUS ED NEWS**

**AKTUALNOŚCI KATECHIZMU**

**Wednesday, February 21st.** During Lent classes will begin with Stations of the Cross in the church at 6:15pm. Parents are encouraged to stay for stations!

## CORRESPONDENCE • KORESPONDENCJA

**Synod on Synodality.** Your input is requested! With the ongoing Synod on Synodality, the Church values your feedback regarding how Church structures and organization further or hinder the Church's mission and how such structures can help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel. Please take some time to offer consultation using an online questionnaire at <https://forms.office.com/r/SVPGxJChAv> Consultation must be received by March 20th, 2024. Thank you for your participation.



### DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or [intakeagent@diolc.org](mailto:intakeagent@diolc.org). The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: [diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting](http://diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting). **Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities.** Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the [diocesan website](#). If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or [tbrown@diolc.org](mailto:tbrown@diolc.org).

## AREA EVENTS • WYDARZENIA LOKALNE



"That Man Is You" is every Tuesday starting with breakfast at 6:00am, followed by a video presentation and small group discussion, ending at 7:30am. Come to one meeting....or several. It's never too late!

**Area Confessions.** During Lent Fr. Placid Stroik OFM is available for Confessions at Franciscans Downtown, 1000 Main St. across from the public library from 2:00 - 3:00pm on March 5th, March 12th, and March 19th.

**FREE Blessed Votive Candle** for home use. Made by Sacred Heart parishioner from melted down and reformed candle stubs from our church. To obtain one, please use sign up sheet at the elevator entrance area.

**St. Ladislaus Parish, Bevent—Lenten Soup Suppers.** Gather and enjoy a delicious meal of soup, sandwiches, salads, and desserts every Wednesday starting February 21—March 20th. Serving from 5:30--6:30pm in the church basement. Open to the public there will be a weekly prize drawing. Free will donation.

## AREA EVENTS • WYDARZENIA LOKALNE

**Lenten Mission.** The Parishes of St. Peter, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, and St. Casimir will host Deacon Keith Strohm for our 2024 Lenten Mission, February 25th-27th at St. Peter, 800 4th Avenue, Stevens Point beginning at 6:30pm each evening.

**Fish Fry.** Pacelli High School, Stevens Point. March 1st. Serving from 4 to 7pm

**St. Philip Catholic Church in Rudolph, WI.** Annual Pancake Breakfast and BAKE SALE. Potato and Buttermilk Pancakes on Sunday, March 3rd, 2024. Serving 8:00 am - 12:00 pm in Wagner Hall. The menu includes: Potato and Buttermilk Pancakes, Pork Sausage Patties, Applesauce, and Cinnamon Rolls. Adults - \$10.00 Ages 6-12 - \$5.00 5 and under - Free.

**St. Patrick's Day Ham Dinner at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish – Almond** on Sunday, March 17th from 10 am to 1 pm at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church, 8611 State Highway 54. Menu: Ham, Potatoes, Corn, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Beverages, Homemade Pies Cost: \$13 for Adults, \$6 for Children 6-12, FREE for Children 5 and Under. Country Store, Basket Raffle, Silent Auction, Cash Prize Raffle

**St. Michael Parish (Junction City) Annual Grilled Pork Chop Dinner – Drive Thru ONLY** serving from 10:30am to 1:00pm on Sunday, March 17th. Double Chop meal (\$13) includes 2 grilled & seasoned chops, baked potato, green bean casserole, garden salad, bread and dessert. Enjoy and early taste of Summer!

**POLONIA PARK EASTER EGG HUNT.** Save the date: Saturday, March 30th. All are invited to attend our Easter Egg Hunt for children 10 and under. Registration starts at noon & Egg Hunt begins at 1:00pm. Food & beverages will be provided at concession stand. Don't miss the basket raffles! All proceeds benefit the Polonia Park implementation plans.

**BEVENT LIONS CLUB. ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST** on Sunday, April 7th from 8:00 AM - NOON at St. Ladislaus Parish Basement, Bevent. Breakfast includes: potato and regular pancakes, syrup (sugar-free available), sausage links and patties, applesauce, milk, coffee, juice, and scrumptious desserts. 12 years and older \$10; 6 to 12 years \$5; children under 6 eat free. Great prizes at the mini and large raffles! Come and enjoy a great meal with friends and family!

**Domestic Church Retreat.** The next Domestic Church Retreat will be held April 13-14, 2024, at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Wisconsin Rapids. During the retreat, couples are invited to delve more deeply into the graces of their shared spiritual journey. The retreat aims to strengthen the couple's spousal union and lead them to experience complete harmony and joy in their marriage through simple formation and meaningful dialogue that intentionally places Christ in the center. To register and find out more information, click this link: [diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/](http://diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/)



## Fostering a personal relationship with the Eucharistic Lord

Do you believe Jesus wants a deep, personal relationship of love with you? Do you believe He is at the door of your heart at this moment, and at every moment, longing for you to be united with Him?

Place your name at the beginning of this sentence from the Gospel of John: “[Name], as the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in My love” (John 15:9). Be assured that Jesus means that message for *you* as He declares that He is the Vine and we are the branches. So emphatic is He that in the space of ten short verses He repeats “remain in my love,” or “remain in me,” *seven times*. Notice that He doesn’t ask us to remain *with* Him, but rather to remain *in* Him, indicating the closest possible union. In His Divine nature, Jesus is infinitely capable of entering into deep, one-on-one communion with every single person who has ever lived, or will ever live, all at the same time.

Speaking of Communion, it is in the Eucharist that this invitation is profoundly fulfilled. Indeed, in chapter six of this same Gospel, Jesus declares: “Whoever eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood *remains in Me* and I in Him” (John 6:56). We have all heard that passage multiple times at Mass, but have we let it really sink in? It should make our hearts burn with joyful longing!

To strengthen our faith that it is truly the Body of Christ that we receive in Holy Communion, Jesus has worked extraordinary Eucharistic miracles over the centuries, turning the consecrated host into literal flesh and blood. Some of the most striking examples have happened in our own day – in Argentina, Poland, Mexico. In every case, scientific analysis has determined the flesh to be heart tissue, with the rare blood type AB (the same as that found on the Shroud of Turin). In addition, the flesh has continued to exhibit the properties of *living* tissue months and even years after the miracle first occurred, a fact that science is utterly unable to explain.

Is it not clear what Jesus is telling us here? He is saying, “I give you My very Heart, pierced on the Cross and poured out for you. Receive Me, join My Heart to yours.” Let this be our meditation each time we receive Him in Holy Communion. Dear Jesus, *remain in us*, and help us to *remain in You!*

### **Questions for reflection:**

The late Pope Benedict XVI said in one of his Wednesday Audiences: “Faith is first and foremost a personal, intimate encounter with Jesus, it is having an experience of His closeness, His friendship and His love.”

1. How would you describe your current relationship with Jesus, and what might you do to nurture it? Consider how you have developed and deepened other relationships in your life.
2. Do you do anything in particular to prepare yourself to receive Holy Communion at Mass and to give thanks afterwards? What might you do?

### **Ideas:**

1. Take time to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, whether at one of the adoration chapels around the diocese (see [diolc.org/adoration](http://diolc.org/adoration)), or before the tabernacle in your parish church.
2. Make a habit of praying to prepare your heart to receive Jesus in Holy Communion, and of praying in thanksgiving afterwards. For some suggested prayers, visit [diolc.org/eucharist/pray](http://diolc.org/eucharist/pray).

# “Take; this is my body”

—Mark 14:22

The presence of  
Christ in the  
Eucharist is real, true,  
and substantial.

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“Jesus awaits us  
in this sacrament  
of love.” (St. John  
Paul II, *Dominicae  
cenae*, no. 3)

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“It is called: Eucharist,  
because it is an action of  
thanksgiving to God.”  
(CCC, no. 1328)

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Eucharist “makes  
present the one  
sacrifice of Christ the  
Savior.” (CCC, no. 1330)

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