

## St. Joseph

The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph. We don't know much about him except what is mentioned in the Gospels. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Holy Scripture proclaims him as a "just man," and the Church has turned to Joseph for his patronage and protection. St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because Jesus and Mary were at his death-bed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage. The Church encourages us to be devoted to Joseph because he was a model in the heroic practice of all the virtues. The example of virtuous living that he gave in the exact fulfillment of the duties of his state of life is worthy of our reflection.

**St. Joseph is a powerful guide and companion for men aspiring to holiness. His life is a testimony to his power as an intercessor for husbands and fathers.** Here are four lessons that men can learn from St. Joseph as they seek to live out God's plan for spousal and fatherly love.

**1. Be a guardian and protector.** St. Joseph was protector and guardian to Our Lady and Jesus. He took Mary to be his wife despite the mysterious circumstances of her pregnancy. **2. Accept the gift of God's plan for your vocation.**~ Marriage and fatherhood are sublime gifts from God—but family life is far from perfect. It requires us to accept many things that are unexpected, and sometimes unwanted. Joseph let go of his own expectations for spousal love and fatherhood. He yielded those to God, and God granted him true peace as he accomplished what God intended. **3. Live in fidelity to God.**~ St. Joseph's life demonstrates how complete fidelity to God facilitates obedience; strengthens faith; and brings graces to the whole family. **4. Seek the Lord in Silence.**~ In the silent space of prayer, we find God waiting for us. Speaking, teaching, and calming us. In silence He guides us. There we discover the intimate, personal nature of God's love for us. If husbands and fathers seek God in silence and prayer, away from the commotion of the world, they will be strengthened. Then, like St. Joseph, they will come to recognize more of God's generosity than they ever imagined.



## Religious Ed Students

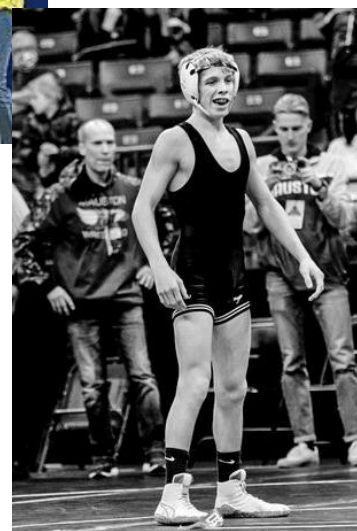
I am so excited to feature some of our students from the Religious Ed Program. I love receiving updates! Email me @ [re@stpatrickmauston.com](mailto:re@stpatrickmauston.com)



Congratulations to the 2022 Winter Fest Court! Some familiar faces are: Freshman Maddi Quist, Sophomore Brock Massey, Juniors Carver Goodman and Jayden Taylor and Senior Elle Horn.



Congratulations to the January Golden Eagles of the Month, at OMS...especially Breanna Heller and Hart Kobylski! These students were nominated by staff as being great examples of students who exhibit safe, responsible, and respectful behavior.



Congratulations to Sophomore Drake Gosda on making it to the State Wrestling Tournament in the 113lb weight class. Pictured in the background is High School Head Coach, Tom Miller and manager Eli Boppart.

## A FAMILY OF FAITH

Family Catechesis  
for Our Parish



Bishop Callahan  
with Nick and Eli



Thank You so much to our Bishop William Callahan, Father Nate Kuhn, and Father John for hosting our Youth Night last month and to Ann Benz for the delicious supper!

A group of young men were invited for a meal beforehand, and then Bishop Callahan and Father Kuhn spoke to our Religious Ed students.

We ended the night with prayer and basketball.

### Don't Leave Facebook for Lent – Take it Over! By Lisa Henley Jones

So many Christians leave Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social media channels for their Lenten devotion or fast. With the purpose of Lent being to rededicate our lives to God and grow in holiness, I understand why so many fast from social media for Lent. Our social media feeds these days are full of darkness, sadness, and temptation. They are far from the original purpose of the platforms to bring community together. Pope Benedict said in his message for World Communications Day 2013, "Believers are increasingly aware that, unless the Good News is made known also in the digital world, it may be absent in the experience of many people for whom this existential space is

important." Our call as a Christian is to go and make disciples of ALL NATIONS – even those who reside on what Pope Benedict named, the "digital continent." Rather than fast from social media for Lent, Lets flood it with God's love, mercy, and goodness! Lent is comprised of three pillars. Fasting, Almsgiving, and Prayer. So here is my Lenten Social Media Challenge incorporating all three foundations of Lent: Fasting – "If you don't have anything good to say, don't say anything at all." Fast from all negativity online. Almsgiving – "Even the smallest interactions we have with others every day profoundly affect our

relationships, productivity, health and longevity." Give to others by shining God's Love, Mercy, and Forgiveness brightly this Lent. Prayer – "Pray for one another." Pray for each person you encounter online. Encourage others to pray by sharing a bit of your interior life in an authentic way. Send a direct message to a friend letting them know you are praying for them that day. So, my challenge to myself and to you – Post EVERYDAY something that Shines the light of God's Love, Mercy, and Forgiveness brightly online. Profess and live what you believe through the authenticity of your actions online.

### MARCH Schedule

- March 9th ~ RE class 1st-5th grade 4pm-5pm // Mass @ 6:15pm // RE class with 6th grade and Confirmation I 6:15pm-8pm
- March 11th ~ Stations of the Cross @ 6pm
- March 16th ~ RE class 1st-5th grade 4pm-5pm // Mass @ 6:15pm // RE class with 7th/8th grade and Confirmation II 6:15pm-8pm
- March 18th ~ Stations of the Cross @ 6pm
- March 25th ~ Stations of the Cross @ 6pm
- March 27th ~ Social Sunday following the 8am & 10am Mass
- March 28th, 29th & 30th ~ PARISH MISSION 6pm-7:30pm



### Saint Patrick Parish Mission

**MARCH 28th, 29th, & 30th**

**6pm-7:30pm @ St. Patrick Church  
401 Mansion St Mauston, WI**

Please know that all are welcome to attend our Parish Mission. We will have childcare provided all three nights at the School Gym. A free will offering will be taken and a Light Soup Supper will be offered on Monday and Wednesday Night at 5pm. If you have any questions contact Cassandra @ re@stpatricksmauston.com I am looking forward to seeing you all there!