WELCOME TO SAINT MARY & SAINT BARBARA PARISHES

We're blessed to have you worship with us today. If you're visiting, may God guide and bless you on your journey. If you're seeking a church home, we warmly invite you to consider joining our church family. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to learn more about our parish community.

December 7, 2025

Pastor

Fr. Abraham Mupparathara MCBS

E-mail: smuppara@hotmail.com 906-369-0028, emergency only

Saint Mary Parish

401 Main Street Norway, MI 49870

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00pm Sunday: 10:00am

Saint Barbara Parish

W5058 Main Street, Vulcan

Mail: 401 Main St Norway, MI 49870

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 6:00pm Sunday: 8:00am

Confessions at St. Mary

Saturday from 11:00am-Noon

Sunday from 9:15-9:45am, before 10:00am Mass Tuesday from 4:30-4:50pm before 5:00pm Mass

Website: www.stmarybarbara.org E-mail: saintmary@norwaymi.com

Parish Office: 906-563-9845 Fax Number: 906-563-7623

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Parish Personnel

Secretary: Sharon Halloran Bookkeeping: Mary Lindstrom

Email: smbookkeeping1878@gmail.com

Music/Liturgy: Kelli McGeehan Email: smmusic1878@gmail.com

Faith Formation Coordinator: Jen Murvich Email: religioused@norwaymi.com

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Michelle Chartier Email: youthgroup@norwaymi.com

Holy Spirit Catholic School

Principal: Cathy Menghini

906-563-8817 Email: info@hscsnorway.org

St. Vincent de Paul Store 906-563-7302 Catholic Social Services 906-774-3323



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. - Mt 3:4

excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

Friday:

©LF

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/

Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30 Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt

17:9a. 10-13

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas

5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Mass Intentions

12/8 MON - 8:00am SM - Todd & Mary Glanville
12/8 MON - 6:00pm SB - For the People of St. Barbara and St. Mary Parishes

12/9 TUE - 5:00pm SM - William VanPeymbroeck and Robert Luypen

12/10 WED - 8:00am SM - Daniel P. Ball & the living and deceased members of the Ball & Beitel Families

12/11 THUR - 8:00am SB - Ann Guiliani

12/12 FRI - 8:30am SM - Francis, Lenore & Gary Waegle

12/13 SAT - 4:00pm SM - Diane Palmcook

12/13 SAT - 6:00pm SB - Paul Cieslak, Sr.

12/14 SUN - 8:00am SB - For the People of St. Barbara and St. Mary Parishes

12/14 SUN - 10:00am SM - Ruth Pretto

When there is a funeral, daily Mass will NOT be cancelled

What's happening this week:

12/7 Sun. 9:15-9:45am, Confession, SM

12/7 Sun. 10am-12:30pm, Faith Formation, 7th-11th, St. Mary

12/7 Sun. 11:00am, Coffee Donut Social after Mass

12/8 Mon. PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

12/9 Tue. 10am, AA Meeting in classroom, use St. Joseph Center entrance in parking lot

12/9 Tue. 4:30-4:50pm, Confession before Mass at St. Mary

12/9 Tue. 5:45pm, K of C Rosary at Evergreen

12/9 Tue. 7:00pm, K of C Meeting, St. Mary

12/10 Wed. 3:30-4:30pm, Faith Formation, 1st-6th Grades

12/10 Wed. 6:00pm, Women's Book Club, St. Mary

12/11 Thu. 6:30pm, OCIA, St. Mary's St. Joseph Center

12/12 Fri. 6:00am, Men's Prayer Group, St. Mary

12/13 Sat. 11am-12pm, Confession/Eucharistic Adoration, SM

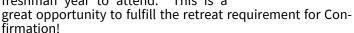
12/13 Sat. 4:30-7pm, K of C Chicken & Spaghetti Dinner for Cory

<u>Vocational View</u>: Who will herald Christ in our world? Consider becoming a priest, brother, or sister. (Matthew 3:10-12)

Registration is open and filling quickly for the next **Steubenville North Youth Conference** held in St. Paul, MN. This year's dates are,

July 24th-26th.

Students need to be going into their freshman year to attend. This is a



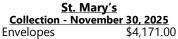
The cost of the trip is \$525, but thanks to the Legacy of Faith Grant each participant receives a \$50 discount, bringing the total cost to \$475 per person.

A \$50 deposit is due by 12/10 and can be dropped off at the church office or put in the collection basket on Sunday in an envelope marked "Steubenville".

There will be fundraising opportunities to help cover the cost. Any questions can be directed to Jen Murvich.

It Pays to Advertise ~ Our parishes benefit significantly from the ads placed in this bulletin. The advertising dollars pay for our bulletin service. Many thanks to those who have continued to renew, and the new advertisers that joined us this past year. When patronizing those businesses that advertise with us, please let them know you saw their ad on our bulletin.

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School Support 140.00
Maintenance 10.00
Total: \$5,515.00

Collection - November 30, 2025
Envelopes & Holy Day \$2,346.00
Loose 222.00
Christmas Flowers 880.00
School Support 40.00
Maintenance 110.00
Total: \$3,598.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Thank you for sharing your time, talents and treasure in building God's Kingdom. Your generosity strengthens our parish community.

To support financially, you may drop envelopes at Mass or the church mailbox, mail it in or give online through our website e-Giving option:

https://giving.stmarybarbara.org/give



Please pray for our parishioners in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living, are homebound and those who suffer in silence. Special prayers for healing were requested for: **Sue Giesen, Peyton**

& Paisley Pietrantonio, David Hoheisel, Sharon Harder, Joe Haferkorn, Gina Zanon, Missy Marcelini, Cathy Baciak, Cory Groeneveld, Danielle Ball, Georgeanne Van Wolvelaere and Ginger Moore. If you need continued prayers or would like to request prayers for someone else, please email or call the parish office.

St. Barbara 50/50 Raffle Winners for November



\$25 - Rachel Moreau \$25 - Cory Groeneveld

\$25 - Jerry Cieslak \$25 - Don Benzie \$25 - Margaret Baciak \$25 - Jim Bal

\$25 - Cory Groeneveld

Norway SVDP Prepares for the Holidays

As we prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of the Christ Child during this wonderful season of giving, St. Mary and St. Barbara Conference continues to prepare for the needs of those less fortunate. This past fiscal year (Oct.1, 2024--September 30, 2025) we were able to provide over \$42,547.00 of assistance for utility bills, rent, prescriptions, food, shoes for back-to-school, and other necessities. The number of individuals and families in need of assistance has increased significantly since last year. In addition, we spent \$1,556.00 on additional conference and operating expenses.

The conference office for assistance is available on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>Wednesday</u>, or <u>Thursday from 9-11 a.m.</u>, or by special appointment if needed.

Monetary or food donations may be brought to us at anytime, Monday thru Friday from 9:00am to 3:30pm. During December we will need **canned kidney beans** or

chicken noodle soup and toothpaste. Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Note: The pantry and store will be closed during the Christmas holidays from December 22 through January 2, and re-open on January 5.

We are truly appreciative of the ongoing monetary or pantry donations which have made such a difference in the lives of so many people and hope your continued generosity and prayers will help to provide for those in need.

Thank you and be assured you are in our prayers. May the infant Jesus smile down on you and your love ones during this Blessed Christmas season. God Bless!

<u>Communion Call Visits:</u> If you are home bound or know someone who is and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please call the parish office to be added to our Communion Call list.

A note from Fr. Abraham

We celebrate the Feast of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on December IMMACULATE CONCEPTIO



8, and it is a Holy Day of Obligation. This feast reminds us that Mary, from the moment of her own conception, was preserved free from the stain of original sin through a special grace from God. This doctrine asserts that Mary was in a state of grace and free from sinful inclinations. making her a pure vessel for carrying Jesus. This special privilege was granted to Mary because she was chosen to be the mother of Jesus, and it was necessary for her to be perfectly pure to become the mother of God's son.

The Masses will be as follows on December 8th: St. Mary at 8:00 AM and St. Barbara at 6:00 PM. Come and celebrate, not out of obligation, but out of our love for the Lord and his Blessed Mother.

Also, a reminder that in preparation for the Christmas celebration, we will have the Advent Penitential Service on Sunday December 14th at St. Mary Parish. Priests from our neighboring parishes will be available to hear confessions starting at 3:00pm. Let us make ready our hearts for the coming of the Savior by receiving the Sacrament of Confession.

May God continue to bless our parishes, families, friends and the community and may He keep all of us in His lov-

With love and prayers, Fr. Abraham, MCBS



St. Barbara's annual **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

will take place on Wednesday, December 24th before the 6pm Christmas Eve Mass. Practice will be held on Saturday, December 20, at 10:00am. Please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule of the church. We welcome and encourage all the children of the parish to participate. We are also in need of some parental help. Thank you.



The Holy Rosary in devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus, will meet Sunday, December 14 at St. Mary Parish, after the 10am Mass

Women of St. Mary & St. Barbara Christmas Cookie Ministry: The women of St. Mary's will be coordinating a Cookie Ministry whereby small packages of homemade Christmas cookies will be delivered to our parishioners in assisted living facilities, nursing homes and others who might need a little holiday joy due to recent circumstances in their lives.

We ask that all ladies of both parishes who are able to bake please provide at least 2 dozen (more if you'd like) homemade Christmas cookies (please no bars) for use in these packages.

Cookies will be packaged in St. Mary's Parish Hall starting at 4pm on Tuesday, December 16th. Please drop your cookies off in the hall anytime that day. Thank you!

St. Mary's card sender is Rosemary Haepers: 906-563-5071 St. Barbara's card sender is Shirley LaValley: 906-563-5011



Coffee Doughnut Social

Join us on Sunday, December 7, after the 10am Mass in St. Mary's Parish Hall. All are welcome!



The Knights of Columbus will meet on Tuesday, December 9 at 7:00pm. Saint Mary's, St Joseph Center. Join the Mass at 5:00pm, pray the holy rosary at Evergreen at 5:45pm



All are welcome in joining the Knights of Columbus to pray the Holy Rosary at Evergreen Meadows on Tuesday, December 9th at 5:45pm.

Bakery Needed for December 13th Dinner!

Sign up sheets are in the entry of church for women of the parishes who would like to volunteer to bake or work at the Knights of Columbus Benefit for Cory Groeneveld coming up next weekend (Dec. 13).

Don't forget to get your Christmas Tree from the **Knights of Columbus**

All profits go to fund the annual Coats For Kids program.

Trees are 5 to 7 feet tall and can be delivered free of charge!

Sign up after Mass or call 906-221-2450. Cost per tree, \$45



Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever. (Ps 72)



I'm a little behind on getting this thank you note out but I had to take some time to welcome and get to know my new little brother Ellis who took forever to get here! What a sale to miss! We set a record, making 3,522 pasties with the help of the most wonderful workers. Thank you to

all of you who support our pasties, not just the makers but the eaters, too! We will be taking a little break before our next sale in the Spring, hopefully shortly after Easter. We do have a few pasties left in our freezer if you want to have a few for the long winter months. Call our school office for further information.

Thank you everyone! Wishing you the Peace and Joy of the Season!

for Saint Mary has MINISTRY SCHEDULE been sent for Dec.

2025 - April 5, 2026. If you did not receive your copy, please call the Parish Office. Please remember if you are not available on your scheduled day, please find a substitute. Thank you for your ministry!



Chicken and Spaghetti Dinner Silent Auction and games! To Support Cory Groeneveld

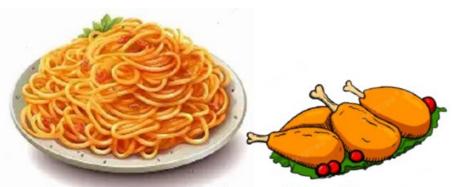
Everyone Welcome!!

Suggested donation

Adult: \$10

12 and under **\$5**

All You Can Eat!



Where: Holy Spirit Catholic School

201 Saginaw Street Norway MI

When: Saturday, December 13th

Time: 4:30 to 7:00 PM

Our Brother Knight Cory, is facing his second battle with cancer. He has beaten it once, he will do it again. Let's all come together, as a community to show our support for Cory, his wife and children. Join us for a delicious dinner with friends, family, fun and games!!



Advent Penance Service

Sunday, December 7th, 3:00pm Immaculate Conception, Watersmeet

Thursday, December 11th, 6:30pm St. Mary & St. Joseph/Iron Mountain

Sunday, December 14th, 3:00pm St. Mary, Norway

Wednesday, December 17th, 5:30pm St. Rose, Channing

Thursday, December 18th, 6:30pm American Martyrs, Kingsford

Friday, December 19th, 6:00pm Guardian Angels, Crystal Falls

Sunday, December 21st, 4:00pm St. Cecilia, Caspian



~God is making a way~

BISHOP JOHN DOERFLER LAUNCHES NEW PODCAST

On Oct. 2, 2025, the first episode of Bishop John Doerfler's new podcast titled "The Anchor of Hope" was released. Alongside Bishop Doerfler, the podcast is co-hosted by Hattie Hanold, former assistant editor of the U.P. Catholic. The two discuss Jesus and living with hope in today's world.

New episodes of the podcast will be released on the first and third Thursdays of each month. The show will be hosted on multiple websites and apps, including Spotify and Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Pandor and more, as well as <a href="mailto:theatheathcolor: blue released on the released on the first and third Thursdays of each month. The show will be hosted on multiple websites and apps, including Spotify and Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Pandor and more, as well as <a href="mailto:theatheathcolor: blue released on the first and third Thursdays of each month." The show will be hosted on multiple websites and apps, including Spotify and Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Pandor and more, as well as <a href="mailto:theathcolor: blue released on the first and theathcolor: blue released on the first and theathcolor: blue released on the first and theathcolor: blue released on the first and the

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve at Saint Mary
Carols at 3:30pm
Mass at 4:00pm

Christmas Eve at Saint Barbara
Mass at 6:00pm

Christmas Day at Saint Mary
Mass at 10:00am



March for Life 2026

Join Fr. Ryan Ford and pilgrims from the U.P. on a bus trip to the National March for Life in Washington D.C. **Wednesday**, **January 21**st – **Sunday**, **January 25**th, **2026**. Pilgrimage includes lodging, sightseeing, rally and march on the National Mall, and attendance at the Cardinal O'Connor Conference on Life. Registration is due with \$50 deposit by January 1st. Visit <u>yoopercatholic.org/march</u> for more information.

Going Deeper Retreat

High school students who desire to deepen their relationship with Christ are invited to Going Deeper: **Friday**, **January 2**nd – **Sunday**, **January 4**th, **2026** at Fortune Lake Camp, Crystal Falls. This retreat is led by parish youth ministers from the U.P. and includes food, fun, talks, and prayer times. Visit yoopercatholic.org/deeper for more info and to register.

Exodus 90

For all men - Are you living up to your calling as a man and son of God? We are bombarded by all kinds of distractions, temptations, and barriers preventing us from living as good men. Exodus 90 is a 90-day spiritual and physical battle plan of prayer, fasting, exercising, and fellowship with other men. It begins January 5th. An informational meeting will be held at 8:30 am on January 3rd in the Sharing Room at Immaculate Conception. Please come if interested or reach out to Matthew Maiers at (563) 608-9668 or matthewmaiers12@gmail.com

Super One Food Receipts

Please remember to turn in your Super One Foods receipts as soon as possible. PLEASE do not hang on to your receipts.

Fourth Quarter Receipts: October 1 - December 31
Any receipts submitted after the quarterly deadline will NOT be accepted.
Please continue to save and turn in your Tadych's Market receipts as well.

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