



The Angelus

January 2026

From the Rector's Desk

Here's a minimalist poem from one of my favorite Russian poets, Vsevolod Nekrasov. He was a dissident poet during the later Soviet period. He wrote very densely and cleverly about political and spiritual realities during the Cold War, when a lot people's perceptions and values were determined very much by Division and Polarization. Then it was about East and West in opposition. Much like our own times, though our divisions now come in different forms.

I've tried my best to translate his packed and seemingly simple language. It's harder than it looks! But I know it's not a perfect translation.

This poem is about something that goes beyond "this side" or "that side." And the poem's paradoxical transcendence of polarity has everything to do with the cold air we know a lot about in Wisconsin and the north. Maybe the simplicity and profundity of this poem can open us up to the possibility of another surprising and paradoxical something, beyond the divisions that would totalize all of our souls—the Word made flesh.

so at last

without sarcasm

without scent

without west

without the east

clean

northern air

Peace,

WLB+

Epiphany Open House at the Rectory January 9th!

Please join Fr. William and Tomomi Kanemaru for Epiphany Eve/Twelfth Night of Christmas at the Rectory, **Friday, January 9th, 5pm – whenever.**

Some food and drinks will be provided, but please bring something to eat, drink, and share, potluck style, to close out the Twelve Days of Christmas and usher in the showing of Christ to the nations of the world, the Epiphany. There will be a brief seasonal blessing of Tomomi and Fr. William's home, along with an evening of friendship and warm belonging. No need to RSVP. You may bring a friend or two who don't yet know our delightful congregation, or might be nervous about approaching Church otherwise.

Questions? Contact Fr. William: wbulson@gracesheboygan.com (920) 452-9659.

Save the Date!

Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 18, 2026

Please note: there will be **one Mass at 9:00 a.m.** celebrated on this day, with the Annual Meeting to immediately follow in St. Nicholas Hall.

Please come and take part in our annual parish meeting, lend your voice, review our 2026 budget, elect members to our vestry (church council), and give thanks to God for our life together over the past year. This is about so much more than "admin." How we spend money and set up our decision-making bodies are essential to how we spread the Kingdom and grow into deeper communion with God. Where would we be without inspired vision and mission along with the means to carry it out? Thanks be to God!

Catechesis – Thursday nights!

Catechesis is instruction and grounding in the ancient Christian faith, usually for people preparing for baptism, but anyone can join this group. Whether they struggle with faith, have questions, or want to go deeper. People who have gone through Catechesis have found it enlightening, comforting, energizing, & deepening.

September 11 through May 28, we will meet Thursday evenings, from 7-8:30 pm, taking breaks for holidays and such. Please contact Fr William to sign up:

wbulson@gracesheboygan.com; 920.452.9659.



Meet the new Executive Director of Love, INC. Our very own parishioner, Shannon Luckey-Mueller

Love INC, the Name of Christ, is so excited to announce our new Executive Director, Shannon Luckey-Mueller! Shannon has a wonderful breadth of leadership experience, competency, and heart for this mission. We are thrilled she will be joining the Love INC team!



Shannon has many years of experience in the nonprofit sector, serving on the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan as well as Communications & Outreach Director (Co-Executive Director) of “Take Off Pounds Sensibly” (TOPS), a Milwaukee-based membership organization with chapters across the U.S. and Canada. Shannon also brings a very active and vibrant faith to this position. She is strong, humble, compassionate, and a team player.

Shannon’s official start date was Monday, October 6, 2025.

Connect with Shannon at shannon@loveincsheboygancounty.org

Love INC update

Thank you to the willing volunteers who provided the New Way Community Meal : Anne Hanlon, Jessica Ambelang, Joanne Middlesworth and Bob Hanlon. Your generosity and caring are appreciated by everyone.

New Way Community fall session is ending soon and to celebrate each participant receives a \$25 Kwik Trip gas gift card. Your donation helps honor their hard work and encourages their continued growth.

Also needed are platform bed frames for mattress and boxspring delivery by the furniture delivery volunteers. These are available on the Love INC.

As always we are looking for volunteers and current opportunities are: 5 to 7 new additional childcare volunteers to serve the spring 2026 term.

Handyman volunteers to help with small household projects for a growing team. Send an email for more information to allison@loveincsheboygancounty.org

Furniture Delivery volunteers for Saturdays for 1 time per month. Women volunteers are encouraged to consider this opportunity to help with the neighbor ministry during deliveries.

Also of interest, the Living Out Love Gala raised over \$62,000 and met the goal set for this event.

To stay informed, please subscribe to the Love INC newsletter online at loveincsheboygancounty.org/

Constance Schneider



New! Coffee hour coordinator-Dennis Snyder

Be sure to thank Dennis Snyder for assuming the role of Sunday Coffee Hour Coordinator. If you wish to host an after-service coffee hour, you may sign up on the schedule in the Narthex, or contact Dennis at 715-360-4990. Also, be sure to thank Jennifer Pawlus for her many years as Coffee Hour Coordinator.



Ladies of Grace Gathering! Tuesday, January 6th



The next Ladies of Grace Gathering is **Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 2pm**, at the Wright/Snyder home. Mary Snyder will be hosting the January meeting. Please sign up on the Narthex. Ladies of Grace meet once a month for Prayer, singing, a bible reading, and to share needs of family/friends, and the sick. Tea, coffee, & bites to follow. If you have not attended before, please know all ladies are welcome each month.

2026 Book Club Schedule

There will be No January meeting. Meetings will resume on Monday, February 2, and continue on the first Mondays through August 3, 2026. Due to the conflict with Labor Day, the September meeting is Monday the 14th. There will be two Monday meetings in November, the 2nd and the 30th, and No meeting in December.



Altar Guild Volunteers?

The altar guild is in need of a few more members. It is an opportunity to learn about the preparation for masses and work behind the scenes. Please contact Claudia Fischer at cjfish61@gmail.com

Lectors Ministry

We are in need of additional lectors. This is a good way to get involved without serious commitment. Please reach out to Bill Rees, head of 10:15 lectors, for more details about participating in this ministry. You may leave a message for Bill by calling the office, or email him at: wt7337@aol.com



Highlights in October

The 74th Annual Pilgrimage to the American Proto-Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

*Walsingham Pilgrimage Next Year→**October 8,9 and 10th, 2026** ... Check out the website: Walsingham.us





Holiday Parade 2025

We had approximately 100 parade guests enjoying the Christmas festivities. We served 70-75 hotdogs, 3 batches of hot chocolate, 1.5 gallons of cider, 3 pots of regular coffee, 2 pitchers of ice water and 1 pan of mint and 1 pan of nut brownies. We had left over hotdogs and buns (about a dozen) and brownies, leftovers are in the freezer. We also had a table of hats, gloves, handwarmers, scarfs and socks for those to take. Leftovers were given to the unhoused which Pat delivered. This was a big hit. Suggestions for next year would be that we open the doors at 4:30 and set up starting at 2:30pm (4 people needed). Popcorn made by Jeff, need 2 kids to assist with filling popcorn bags. Christmas music to play during activities. Ice water went over well, continue with 2 pitchers next year. Used nesco roaster instead of frying pan and worked well (added water in bottom and water in nesco with hotdogs.) Jeff took hotdogs and served the outside and went over well. Dianna handed out Christmas candy, Pat and Paul handed out popcorn outside to guest as well. For brownies we had a lot left over 1 pan of mint brownies for new year would be enough.



Thank you to the volunteers this year who helped make this a success!!

- Dianna and John Keller
- John Davis
- The Schmeizer Family (Steve, Polly and SJ)
- Pat Fort-Smith
- Jeff Krueger
- Paul Alparicio



Christmas Joy.

On December 17 many elves gathered in the church kitchen to package dozens of delicious Christmas cookies which, with small poinsettias {**many thanks to Pat and Tim Miller for this contribution**}, were delivered to our shuts in, and elderly. The many volunteers who made this special event possible by baking and delivering included: Pat Miller, Bob and Anne Hanlon, Pat Sather, Joanne Middlesworth, Mary Snyder, Jessica Ambelang, Andrea and Leona Aparicio, Polly Schmeiser, Mary Clabots, Sarah Clabots Kim, Addison Spray, and Barb MacEwen



December Happenings



DECEMBER 7: VISITATION OF ST NICHOLAS

St. Nicholas was visiting us after the 10:15 service on Sunday, December 7th.



SUNDAY SCHOOL MAKES CUPCAKES



Tom & Jessica Ambelang 50th Wedding Anniversary



Tom and Jessica Ambelang celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 28th. Congratulations to the happy couple and may God bless you with many more years together.

BOY SCOUTS CHRISTMAS PARTY



Tuesday, December 16 at Grace Church. This is our future and our legacy. Boy Scout troop #1 in the state of Wisconsin started right here... and the Scouts legacy lives on. It brought tears to my eyes to see so many young families celebrating in St. Nicholas Hall. Submitted by Pat Ford Smith.

Kis were lead by Jessica Ambelang in helping decorate 100 cupcakes for the Community Cafe lunch on December 15th. So fun-and chaotic and cute!



November Financial Focus

<u>November Income</u>	<u>YTD Income</u>	<u>Annual Budget 2025</u>
\$ 17,109	\$ 322,120	\$ 318,048

<u>November Expenses</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>Annual Budget 2025</u>
\$ 33,222	\$ 327,459	\$ 360,081

Mark Your Calendars

- **January 6th**
The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ – 6pm Mass
Ladies of Grace Gathering! At 2pm
- **January 9th**
Epiphany Open House at the Rectory – 5pm
- **January 18th**
Parish Annual Meeting - One Mass at 9:00 a.m.

January Birthdays

Bob MacEwen	1/8
Bob Hanlon	1/10
Erika Gallimore	1/10
Brian Heck	1/13
Steven Schmeiser	1/18
William Bulson	1/22
Anne Hanlon	1/24
Barb MacEwen	1/28
Steve Schmeiser	1/28

Parish Staff

The Rt. Rev. Matthew A Gunter, *Bishop*
The Reverend William L. Bulson, *Rector*
The Reverend Paul D. Aparicio, *Deacon*
Clayton Logue, *Organist-Choirmaster*
Crystal Lopez, *Parish Administrator*
Greg Allen, *Sexton*

The Vestry

The Reverend William L. Bulson, *Chair*
Mary Snyder, *Senior Warden*
John Davis, *Junior Warden*
Brian Heck, *Treasurer*
Helen Mullison, *Chancellor*
Vestry: Sarah Bernhardt, Jack Britton,
Fr. Jack Connelly, Jane Hanson,
Doug Jenkins, Robert McMillan,
Tim Miller, and Steve Weinert



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