The Faith Communities of Remsen - Marcus - Oyens
Fr. Bill McCarthy, Pastor
For the Weekend of December 23 & 24, 2017

Fr. Bill McCarthy
Use ONLY IN AN EMERGENCY 515-570-8704
Parish Offices:
Remsen
121 E 4th Street, PO Box 509
Phone 712-786-1437
Office Hours: 8:30 AM—3:30 PM, Mon—Fri
Email smparish@midlands.net
Marcus
102 N Elm St, PO Box 366
Phone 712-376-2628
Office Hours: Tues & Thurs following Mass until 2PM
Permanent Deacons:
Jerry Bertrand, Marcus Holy Name 376-4891
Rick Roder, Remsen St. Mary’s 540-3100
Business Manager: (RSM)
Jo Tentinger tentingerj@rsmschools.org
Kathy Steffen (assist) steffenk@rsmschools.org
Sheila Cronin (assist) cronins@rsmschools.org
Bookkeeper/Secretary: (MHN)
Ginell Wetter bkmarcus@scdiocese.org
        cell: 712-229-2250
Scrip: (Remsen)
Tonya Galles gallest@rsmschools.org
Development Director: Norine Harvey 786-1324
    harveyn@rsmschools.org
St. Mary’s Schools Principal: Jeff Burkey 786-1433
    burkeyj@rsmschools.org
Family Faith Formation: Rick Roder (RSM) 540-3100
    roderr@rsmschools.org
Faith Formation: Sherill Glassmaker (MHN) 229-0996
    sglassmaker@midlands.net
St. Mary’s Elementary: 786-1160
St. Mary’s Middle/High School: 786-1433

Grouping Website: www.smparishinfo.org
Bulletin Email rectorybulletin@rsmschools.org
St. Mary’s School Website: www.rsmschools.org
Prayer Chain:
Remsen: Call One
Christy Pick 786-2655
Carla Ahlers 786-2612
Marcus: Call Both
Joan Cronin 376-2288
Jacque Bird 376-4677

Christmas from the Words of Pope Francis:

“God of light beyond darkness, the season leading up to Christmas is a feast for my senses. I celebrate with twinkleing lights, glorious music, delicious and aromatic food. I celebrate the embrace and touch of those I love. In what is the darkest time of year with the shortest days, a new light shines forth, piercing my doubts, dissipating my anger and strengthening my lukewarm faith with a power that arouses something new in me. I am invited to a feast that nourishes, nurtures, renews and readies me for another trip around the sun. Be my feast and my journey, Lord. Amen”

“God of pure love, I celebrate and relish this day in so many different ways. It is a day for family and children, a day for Santa and giving gifts. I love the music and the tree and the sentiments of the greeting cards. But none of these things, however good, address this most essential of all questions: What does your presence in the world mean to me, and how does it change me? So I invite you to change me this Christmas, Jesus. Send your love into my life like the unconditional love bestowed in the embrace of a child. Amen”

Baptism: Call parish office for arrangements - pre-baptism class required.
Marriage: Engaged couples are to begin preparations at least 10 months prior to their wedding. Reservations of weddings subject to use fee of $250 at St. Mary’s. Payment due upon scheduling the wedding date.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Communal penance services during Lent and Advent seasons. Individual Reconciliation, one half hour prior to weekend Masses or by appointment.
Anointing of the Sick: Please contact the Parish Office.
**Mass Schedule/Intentions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Church</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/26</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>L&amp;D Lehan &amp; Klouer, Frances Wendt, Bob Ortmann</td>
<td>Holy Name</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Irma Dreckman, Bob Ortmann</td>
<td>Happy Siesta</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/27</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>L&amp;D Elmer &amp; Hildegarde Schroeder &amp; L&amp;D Ron Ruhland Families (Note time change)</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/28</td>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Theresa Damman, Bonnie Smith</td>
<td>Heartland</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:20 PM</td>
<td>Kathleen M Harnack, Adam Krier</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/29</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>7:45 AM</td>
<td>L&amp;D Mike &amp; Marian Staab Family, Amy Brancs</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/30</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Francis Meister, Joe Staab</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/31</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Shirley Roder, St. Mary's Alumni</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Billie Horacek, Parish Families</td>
<td>Holy Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>Poor Souls, Francis Nilles</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>7:45 AM</td>
<td>No Lauds</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Mary Helen Meyer, Dennis &amp; Betty Moser</td>
<td>Holy Name</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Don Pick, Bob Konz</td>
<td>St. Catherine's</td>
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**Stewardship**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RSM</th>
<th>MHN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Support</td>
<td>$10,796.00</td>
<td>$6,671.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loose</td>
<td>$747.82</td>
<td>$178.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
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Please pray for the soul of Timothy Weiler, whose Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, December 19, at St. Mary’s in Remsen. May he rest in the peace of the Lord. Our sympathy to the family.

**Christmas Mass Times (Holy Day of Obligation)**

- Sun, Dec. 24 - 4:00 PM - Remsen St. Mary’s (Children’s Mass)
- Mon, Dec. 25 - 8:00 AM - Remsen St. Mary’s
- Mon, Jan. 1 - 9:00 AM - Marcus Holy Name

**Mary, Mother of God (NOT a Holy Day of Obligation This Yr.)**

- Sun, Dec. 31 - 5:30 PM - Remsen St. Mary’s
- Mon, Jan. 2 - 6:30 PM - Oyens St. Catherine’s

**Scrip**

Scrip profit for the past week was $324.03. Tuition earned was $147.90 and Scrip proceeds netted $176.13. **No Scrip orders will be placed next week.** You can still stop by the Rectory and get Scrip that is on hand.

**Liturgy Ministry**

**Saturday, Dec. 30, 4:00 PM Remsen St. Mary’s**
- **Lector:** Alan Loutsch
- **Hosts:** Randy & Connie Ortmann, Maureen Pottebaum
- **Chalice:** Mike Tentinger, Kathy Weiland
- **Altar Servers:** Carter & Tessa Tentinger, Mitchell Schiltz
- **Gift Bearers:** Tom & Sheila Kockler

**Sunday, Dec. 31, 8:00 AM Remsen St. Mary’s**
- **Lector:** Katlin Harvey
- **Hosts:** Doug & Vicki Heeren, Janelle Schorg
- **Chalice:** Phil & Margie Schroeder
- **Altar Servers:** Kaylee, Wesley & Halle Galles
- **Gift Bearers:** Sharon Homan

**Sunday, Dec. 31, 10:00 AM Marcus Holy Name**
- **Lector:** Becky Whited
- **Hosts:** Pat Bird, Robin Jenness
- **Chalice:** Mike & Teresa Damman
- **Altar Servers:** Branden & Tyler Whited, Dean Jenness
- **Ushers:** Pat Bunt, Tim & Monte Dreckman
- **Gift Bearers:** Pat & Norene Bunt

**Sunday, Dec. 31, 5:30 PM Remsen St. Mary’s**
- **Lector:** Rick Loutsch

**Hosts:** Arlie Pick, Linda Slota, Chuck Tentinger
- **Chalice:** Jerry Tentinger, Monte Konopasek
- **Altar Servers:** Christian, Ana & Isaac Conover
- **Gift Bearers:** Gary & Eileen Holzman

**Monday, Jan. 1, 9:00 AM Marcus Holy Name**
- **Lector:** Sherill Glassmaker
- **Hosts:** Jeff & Ann Goth
- **Chalice:** Roger & Sue Dentlinger
- **Altar Servers:** Kaitlyn Goth, Andy Prescott, Jocee Roberts
- **Ushers:** Doug Rohwer, Al Hoeftling, Keith Hauschildt
- **Gift Bearers:** Keith & Wendy Hauschildt
- **Happy Siesta Dec. 31:** Doug & Vicki Heeren
- **Happy Siesta Jan. 7:** Roger & Donna Hestermann

**Eucharistic Minister the week of:**
- Dec. 27: Mike Klein
- Jan. 3: Janet Fiedler

**Mass Servers the days of:**
- Dec. 27: Mya Bunkers, Emily Russell
- Dec. 27: Jacie Homan, Hunter Pick

**Week Day Lectors/Servers Marcus Holy Name:**
- As Scheduled
**Upcoming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, Dec. 24:</td>
<td>No MHN CCD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, Dec. 25:</td>
<td>Merry Christmas, Rectory Office Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Dec. 26:</td>
<td>RSM Rectory Office Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Dec. 27:</td>
<td>RSM Rectory Office Opens @ 12:00; RSM KC’s Pinochle 7:00 PM @ VFW Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 28:</td>
<td>MHN Adoration 2-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Dec. 29:</td>
<td>RSM Adoration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, Dec. 31:</td>
<td>No MHN CCD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, Jan. 1:</td>
<td>Happy New Year, Rectory Office Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 2:</td>
<td>MHN Life Serve Blood Drive 1-7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Jan. 3:</td>
<td>RSM Classes Resume; MHN 1st Reconciliation Learning Centers 3:30-7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Jan. 4:</td>
<td>MHN Birthday/Anniversary Breakfast; MHN Adoration 2-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Jan. 7:</td>
<td>MHN CCD Classes; MHN 1st Reconciliation for 2nd Graders after 10 AM Mass; RSM Breakfast Buffet 8 AM - 12 PM @ RSM High School Cafeteria</td>
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The **Oktoberfest Men’s Choir** is inviting any male singers to sing with them on December 23 @ the 4:00 PM Mass. Also, on December 25 at either the 8:00 AM or 10:00 AM Mass, all choir members and cantors are invited to sing. See you in the choir loft!

MHN Knights of Columbus will be co-sponsoring a scholarship blood drive, to benefit Bethany Specht on January 2, 2018, 1-7 PM in the Church basement. Your support is greatly appreciated.

MHN CYO thanks everyone for their great support of their breakfast and bake sale.

MHN St. Anne’s Guild courtesy list: anyone wishing to move to the list due to age, health issues or has a phone number change please call Ginell @ 376-2628 by December 31.

RSM Activity Club is sponsoring a breakfast buffet on January 7, 2018, 8 AM-12 PM @ RSM High School cafeteria. The menu will consist of egg bake, pancakes, cheesy potatoes, sausage, ham, mixed fruit, assorted rolls, coffee, milk and juice. Adults $8, ages 5-10 $4 and 4 & under $2. Come hungry.

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**Prayers Please**

Please pray for the following people: Julie Benson, Will Kohn, Jaxon Thompson, Ken Alesch, Hannah Harpenau, Eli Biezuns, Helen Galles, Norma Kefferler, Pat Schiltz, Jim Grunden, Jameson Heidesch, Jett Tentinger, Ruthie Arens, Lisa Tucker, Ron Wurth, Dorothy Bohnenkamp, Mary Block, Jenn (Harpenau) Herold & Melissa (Harpenau) Jensen.

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**From the Christmas Desk of Fr. Bill**

Fr. Gene Murray has been such a blessing for me as he ministers to so many people and events that I cannot attend. He brings a smile to the parish assignment. I know Fr. Murray loves golf so I share with you this golfing joke: Jesus, Moses and an elderly man are playing golf. Moses steps up to the tee and hits the ball. It goes sailing over the fairway and lands in the water trap. So Moses parts the water and uses the sand wedge to chip onto the green. Jesus steps up to the tee and hits the ball. It too sails over the fairway and lands into the water trap. But just before it lands in the water a fish jumps up and catches the golf ball in its mouth; then an eagle swoops down and grabs the fish in its claws. The eagle flies over the green and is hit by a sudden bolt of lightning, dropping the fish. When the fish hits the green, the ball pops out of its mouth and rolls in for a hole-in-one. Jesus then turned to the elderly man and says: “Dad, if you don’t stop showing off, we won’t bring you along next time!” On behalf of the staff at St. Mary’s and Holy Name we wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Grace filled New Year in 2018. Merry Christmas! Fr. Bill.