

ST. MARY

312 S. STATE STREET
APPLETON, WI 54911



(920) 739-5119

(920) 739-5111 Fax

<http://www.stmaryparish.org>

email: stmary@stmaryparish.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 AM to 4:30 PM
Friday 8 AM to Noon

*St. Mary Parish of Appleton
is a Catholic faith community that makes Eucharist the
primary celebration of our unity in Christ.
We are committed to nourishing spiritual needs and
responding with our gifts to Jesus' call to stewardship
both locally and in our world.*

PASTOR

Father Bill Swichtenberg 739-5119
cell 422-4316

DEACON

Gerry Schraufnagel 540-9594

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sr. Joanne Goessl, OSF 739-5119

TRUSTEES

Joseph Galarowicz 419-1166
Beth Vogt 428-4319

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

Matt Boyle 284-7948

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Sarah Higgins 882-1955

CEMETERY

882-4158

INTERPARISH ADULT ENRICHMENT

Carol Jensen 739-5119

INTERPARISH RELIGIOUS FORMATION

www.inter-parish.org 738-7413

email: iprf@inter-parish.org

Andrew Russell, Director/Sacraments
& Coordinator K-4

Jennifer Schubring, Coordinator 5-8

Peter Leitermann, Coordinator 9-11
& Youth Minister

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM OFFICE

735-9380

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday - 9 AM

Other times by request
Privacy is assured

BAPTISM: Please contact Sr. Joanne at the
parish office

MARRIAGES:

Congratulations on your engagement.
Please contact Deacon Gerry at the parish
office at least 6 months before your planned
wedding date

MASSES:

Daily: Tues. & Fri. 8:30 AM
Wed. Thurs. 12:05 PM

Saturday evening: 4:30 PM

Sundays: 8, 9:30, 11 AM

Holydays: see bulletin



*The voice
of the Lord is
over the waters.
The voice of the Lord
is mighty
and majestic.*

This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased.



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*You are my beloved Son;
with you I am well pleased.*

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**Feast of the
Baptism of the Lord**

January 10, 2016

† † † † †

May we be transformed in the Baptism of Christ!



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. Jan. 11	12:05 PM	Mass/St. Joseph
Tues. Jan. 12	8:30 AM	Jerry Morrissey
Wed. Jan. 13	12:05 PM	Germaine Doerfler
Thurs., Jan. 14	12:05 PM	Spiritual & Physical Well-being of Lee & Mary Elizabeth Hurley
Fri., Jan. 15	8:30 AM	Elmer Steffens
Sat., Jan. 16	4:30 PM	Gail & Sue Morgan
Sun., Jan. 17	8:00 AM	Francis & Lida McGinnis
	9:30 AM	Parishioners of St. Mary
	11:00 AM	Matt Chuchel

Mass Intentions Needed! We are in need of Mass Intentions for weekdays. If you would like a Mass said for a family, a family member, loved one, friend, or other intention, please call the parish office (739-5119). Thank you and God bless. Remember: only 2 Masses per family can be scheduled on weekends.

IN LOVING MEMORY

In the spirit of Christian charity, please pray for the families and friends of Leonard Chesney, Gerald Noskowiak (father of Geralyn Hartmen), and those who have died. May fond memories comfort you during this difficult time.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Jan. 10 (Sun) Baptism of Our Lord

Coffee & Donuts after 8 & 9:30 AM Masses
9:30 AM Babysitting available
9:30 AM Children's Liturgy
Raffle Tickets & Fundraiser Tickets

Jan. 11 (Mon)

9:00 AM Trees & Decorations Taken Down
6:30 PM Handbells/Church

Jan. 12 (Tues)

9:00 AM Playdate/Babysitting Rm
2:00 PM Rosary & Perpetual Help Devotions/Chapel
6:00 PM Facilities Management Mtg/Community Rm
6:30 PM 1st Eucharist Parent Mtg/SJ Great Hall
7:00 PM Finance Council Mtg/Community Rm

Jan. 13 (Wed)

6:00 PM Parish Health Ministry/Lg Conference
NO Adult Choir/St. Anne

Jan. 14 (Thurs)

6:30 PM 1st Eucharist Parent Mtg/Community Rm

Jan. 15 (Fri)

8:30 AM Mass

Jan. 16 (Sat)

4:30 PM Mass

Jan. 17 (Sun) Blood Pressure Weekend

Coffee & Donuts after 8 & 9:30 AM Masses
9:30 AM Babysitting available
9:30 AM Children's Liturgy
Raffle Tickets & Fundraiser Tickets

CONTRIBUTIONS

OFFICE: Dec. 28-31	\$25,912.69
CHILDREN'S:	\$30.00
WEEKEND: Jan. 2-3	\$15876.59

In Joy and Sorrow PONDERING TOGETHER THE TREASURES OF OUR FAITH

In my ministry as a priest-pastor (servant leader), the single most important thing I do every week is to prepare for the celebration of the Mass on the weekends. I want you to know that I do not take any shortcuts in my weekly process of preparation for the celebration of the Mass. I begin already on Sunday evening, or at the latest Monday morning, pondering the Scripture readings for the following weekend. I pray these Scriptures during the week. I read them again and again. My activities for the whole week are lived in the shadow of these Scriptures. I read commentaries on the Gospel so that I have an informed understanding of the "bigger picture" in which it was written: the culture of the people of the time, the audience addressed, and the issues confronting the early Christian community. On Saturday morning, I sit at my laptop and type out my homily. I am a firm believer in preparing a text for my homily. I am reminded of the former Archbishop of Chicago, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin (a mentor that I admire very much!), who always wrote out his homilies.

Last weekend, the gist of my homily for the Feast of the Epiphany was that there are no barriers or boundaries in the heart of Jesus. In the heart of Jesus, there is no discrimination, prejudice, racism, or sexism. Jesus' precious gift of salvation is extended to all peoples in every nation. More important than the star of long ago and even the torch of Lady Liberty today, is that you and I are bearers of the light of Jesus. What is in our hearts should match what is in the heart of Jesus. Compassion, sensitivity and respect must be the hallmarks of our Christian lives. All of these points were in my prepared homily.

Sometimes something comes over me and I embellish on my prepared remarks. I speak off-the-cuff, if you will. This can sometimes prove to be problematic because those remarks are not as carefully spoken. In speaking of the Catholic Church's relationship to other Christian Churches and to non-Christian religions (including Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, and others), I should have been more careful in how I made the points first suggested in the Documents of Vatican Council II, especially in *The Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions (Nostra Aetate) [In our time]*. I should have said that the fullness of truth subsists (or resides or can be found) only in the Catholic Church. But something very new was introduced in *Nostra Aetate* that declared that pieces of the truth can be found in other non-Christian religions. Quoting from this beautiful document, which was proclaimed by Blessed Pope Paul VI fifty years ago this past October, are these incredible lines: "The Catholic Church rejects nothing that is true and holy in these religions. She regards with sincere reverence those ways of conduct and of life, those precepts and teachings which, though differing in many aspects from the ones she holds and sets forth, nonetheless often reflect a ray of that Truth which enlightens all men. Indeed, she proclaims, and ever must proclaim Christ 'the way, the truth, and the life' (John 14:6), in whom men may find the fullness of religious life, in whom God has reconciled all things to Himself."

The fact that for centuries the Church taught that there was no salvation outside of the Church (Ask your grandparents if this is so!) was changed by Vatican Council II. The gift of salvation always comes through Jesus and how Jesus might save even non-Christians is deep in his heart and may be beyond our capacity to understand. I do believe that this was something new! Now some may chose to disagree with this interpretation and even Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and Pope Francis might have an engaging conversation about the interpretation of Vatican Council II.

We are Catholic Christians, and proud of that fact, not because we have been coerced somehow into believing that there is no truth elsewhere or that we cannot be saved elsewhere. We are Catholic Christians because we are enthralled by the gift of the Sacraments - especially the gift of the risen Jesus really present in His Most Precious Body and Blood at every Mass. It all comes back to that personal relationship with Jesus, who can bring us salvation. We have a responsibility to pass on to our children the riches of our faith in a way that encourages them to grow in a reverence for what makes us Catholic. In all of our relationships with non-Catholics and non-Christians, we must always propose and never impose. We must always listen with great respect.

If you are interested in reading more, you will find the links to *Nostra Aetate* and Pope Francis' message for the Word Day of Prayer for Peace on our parish web site. I would highly encourage you to read both of these beautiful documents.

Thanks for taking the time to read this *In Joy and Sorrow*.

Father Bill +

Prayer Requests: Contact Luanne Witthuhn (dlaawi@yahoo.com) or Anne Walkowski (830-1534) if you have a prayer need. **Please include** the prayer requests in our prayer basket and all other needs we've been asked to pray for.

Save the Dates: Apr. 17, 18, 19
Acts of Mercy, A City-Wide Mission

We invite you to join with Catholics from throughout Appleton for "a spellbinding encounter with the life of Jesus." Frank Runyeon, professional actor and performer of Biblical texts, will be with us to bring the Gospels and the Letter of James to life. Perfect for all generations.

Sunday, Apr. 17, 3 PM – Luke: Stories of Mercy;

Monday, Apr. 18, 6:30 PM – John: Signs of Mercy;

Tuesday, Apr. 19 – 6:30 PM - James: Works of Mercy.

Sponsored by all eight Appleton Catholic parishes. The Mission will be held at St. Thomas More Parish, 1810 N. McDonald St., Appleton.

Christ Renews His Parish Renewal Weekends

As we begin a New Year,

We invite you to join us to be renewed in your faith.

Christ Renews His Parish has touched the hearts of more than 277 parishioners since we began. Two teams of men and women have been preparing to welcome YOU.

Our weekend dates are:

Men's Weekend

Feb. 27-28, St. Joseph Parish Center

Women's Weekend

Mar. 5-6, St. Mary Parish Center

Our time together begins Saturday morning and ends at about noon on Sunday. **Plan to spend this weekend being inspired, renewing your faith and drawing closer to Jesus.** We are grateful that there is no cost for you to participate because of the generosity of our parishioners.

Questions? Contact Carol at 739-5119.

Christ Renews His Parish Christmas Potluck

January 10; St. Joseph Parish Center Holly Hall, 11 AM

Please bring a dish to pass. We'll provide plates, silverware, and beverages. Family members and guests are always welcome. Food can be dropped off Jan. 10 beginning at 9 AM. And don't miss our sing-a-long!

Bring in Old Palms:

We've just celebrated Christmas and are already looking toward Lent and Easter (March 27). Ash Wednesday is February 10, just 5 weeks from now! Each year on Palm Sunday fresh, green palm fronds are used and you were invited to take them home. Many of you placed them behind a crucifix or in some other favorite place in your home. They have since dried and are ready for proper disposal. Since they are blessed, we encourage you to **return them to bins in back of church on or before Sunday, Feb 7**, so they may be burned into the ashes that will be used on Ash Wednesday.



Getting Married?

Any time is a good time to get engaged. We encourage couples who plan on getting married at St. Mary to contact the parish sooner rather than later in their planning. Six months before the wedding date is the minimum amount of time to contact the parish (920-739-5119). It's a wise idea to contact the parish even before setting a date with the reception hall.

ST. MARY PARISH
FUNDRAISER

February 6

Waverly Beach

Doors open at 6 PM

Dinner at 7 PM



Join us for a fun night!

Wear your Sports attire

(Any Sport! Any team!)

Event tickets for our annual fundraiser will be available for purchase at the Scrip table in the Marian Way after all Masses OR in the parish office during regular office hours now through Jan. 31. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.stmaryparish.org. Cost: \$30 per person which includes dinner and entertainment by Comedy Sportz Entertainment. There will also be games of Heads/Tails, Wild Card Game, and much more. **NOTE: Raffle tickets are also available after Masses, in the parish office, and at the event.**



Focus on Depression

Thurs., Jan. 28, 7 PM

St. Mary Community Room

Presenters: Dr. Jim & Laurie Richter

1) Depression, Anxiety, Grief – What are the Differences?

Explore what your doctor needs to ask, different medical models of depression and anxiety conditions, as well as approaches to and goals of treatment. Dr. James Richter is a family physician with 30 years of experience recognizing and treating these conditions. He will provide an informal presentation and answer questions related to this topic.

2) Finding God in Depression

Dealing with clinical depression can be a time of isolation, loneliness, and a deep feeling of being disconnected from God. Laurie Richter, Spiritual Director, explores ways of finding God in the darkness of depression.

Pre-register before Jan. 26. (cjensen@stmaryparish.org OR 739-5119). Free will offering.

Catholic Daughters:

Our next meeting will be held Monday, Jan. 11, at 1 PM in the St. Pius X Parish 1st floor meeting room. There will be an Anointing of the Sick by Msg. Jim VandenHogen. Come and enjoy this Sacrament with your sisters. Guests are welcome. A short meeting will be followed by refreshments. Questions or for more information, call Rosemary Cummings (734-2806).

Prayers for Families:

We invite you to check out our prayer display for families (St. Mary's Marian Way or St. Joseph's Great Hall on the Adult Ed bulletin board). Examples of prayers include: celebrating the New Year, birthdays, babies, children, pets, students beginning high school, new drivers, plus others are among those you can pick up from the display.