

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

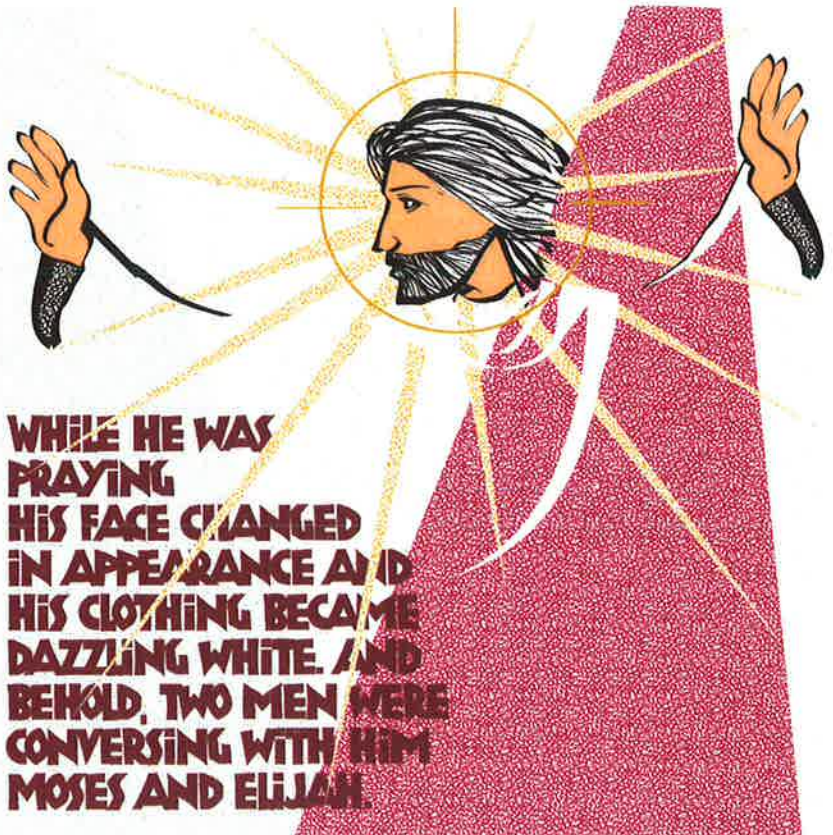
BAPTISM: Please contact Sr. Joanne at the
parish office

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



**WHILE HE WAS
PRAYING
HIS FACE CHANGED
IN APPEARANCE AND
HIS CLOTHING BECAME
DAZZLING WHITE. AND
BEHOLD, TWO MEN WERE
CONVERSING WITH HIM
MOSES AND ELIJAH.**

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CHRIST is our light!

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**Second Sunday
of Lent**

February 21, 2016



Redeem us, Lord, from our distress!



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., Feb. 22	12:05 PM	Mass/St. Joseph
Tues., Feb. 23	8:30 AM	Living & Deceased Members of the DeBrue Family
Wed., Feb. 24	12:05 PM	Sedella Jacob
Thurs., Feb. 25	12:05 PM	Ed Salm
Fri., Feb. 26	8:30 AM	Elmer Steffens
Sat., Feb. 27	4:30 PM	Parishioners of St. Mary
Sun., Feb. 28	8:00 AM	Erika Anna Meyer
	9:30 AM	Bob Keenan
	11:00 AM	John & Wilhelmine Kokke

BAPTISMS

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we welcome to our Faith Community:

- †Caroline Claire, child of Joseph & Jennifer McCormick
- †Maxwell Thomas, child of Jason & Kristy Fast

IN LOVING MEMORY

In the spirit of Christian charity, please pray for the families and friends of *Geraldine Van Handel*, *Mary Ellen Hietpas* (Rose Ann Lauer's sister), and *Harold Radke* (Rich Lohrbach's brother-in-law) who have died. May fond memories comfort you during this difficult time.

WEEKLY EVENTS

- Feb. 21 (Sun)** Blood Pressure Weekend
Coffee & Donuts after 8 & 9:30 AM Masses
9:30 AM Babysitting available
9:30 AM Children's Liturgy
- Feb. 22 (Mon)**
6:30 PM Handbells/L1
6:30 PM Jeff Stadler Memorial/Church, Community Rm
6:30 PM Exodus/L7
- Feb. 23 (Tues)**
9:30 AM Playdate/Babysitting Rm
2:00 PM Rosary & Perpetual Help Devotions/Chapel
6:30 PM The Things That Last Forever: Heaven, Hell, Purgatory/Community Rm
- Feb. 24 (Wed)**
4:30 & 6:30 PM Religious Ed Classes
6:30 PM Adult Choir/St. Anne
- Feb. 25 (Thurs)**
5:30 PM Stations & Soup Supper/St. Joseph
6:30 PM Emmanuel Choir/L5
7:00 PM Women's CRHP Mtg/L7
- Feb. 26 (Fri)**
8:30 AM Mass
9:30 AM-5:30 PM Adoration/Chapel
10:00 AM Exodus Study/SJ 214
5:30 PM Pizza before Family Way of the Cross/
Community Rm
6:35 PM Family Way of the Cross/Church
- Feb. 27 (Sat)**
Men's CRHP (Christ Renews His People) Weekend
9 AM-Noon Adoration/Chapel
9:00 AM Confessions/Church
- Feb. 9 (Sun)**
8:30-11:30 AM Beach Party Breakfast/Community Rm
9:30 AM Babysitting available
9:30 AM Children's Liturgy

In Joy and Sorrow PONDERING TOGETHER THE TREASURES OF OUR FAITH

Being very much like you and me, Jesus felt the need at times just to get away from the hecticness of his daily life and make space for some down time. I think that was one of the reasons that Jesus snuck away with three of his closest companions and climbed to the summit of Mount Tabor. It was there on the mountaintop that Jesus felt closest to his Father. It was on the mountaintop that Jesus heard, at the center of his being, that his Father was well pleased with him. It was on the mountaintop that Jesus was able to see the big picture and to better discern the important things from those which may have seemed little or petty. It was on the mountaintop that Jesus was able to soak up the beauty of stillness and silence. It was on the mountaintop that Jesus was able to recharge his batteries for when he stepped back on level ground and was immediately surrounded by people who needed his help and healing.

Prayer is all of these things. Prayer is listening for the voice of the Lord at the depth of our being. Prayer helps us to keep all things in proper perspective and gives us the wherewithal to cope better with whatever stressors might come our way. Prayer is about stillness and silence. The deepest form of prayer is a resting in the Lord without any words or thoughts. Prayer gives us a greater joy and enthusiasm for all that we must be doing on a daily basis.

During this holy season of Lent, the Church invites us to dedicate more quality time to the Lord in prayer. I certainly commend those moments during the day when you and I take the time to be conscious of the Lord's presence. Those moments can come when we are "on the go", so to speak, driving to work, enjoying a cup of coffee or tea in the morning, or pausing for a walk (once the weather warms up) during the lunch hour. But I also think that prayer means sitting still, maybe lighting a candle or gazing upon an icon of the Lord (I especially like Rembrandt's "Head of Jesus"). Consider praying the Church's morning and evening prayer or maybe spending some time in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. The bottom line about personal prayer is that it requires us to slow down, to be still and alone. This sometimes is very hard for us.

I would like to suggest some helps to this kind of prayer. If you have a smart phone or laptop, you might checkout "The Daily Disconnect" at www.carmelites.net and/or the website Pray-as-you-go (this title is quite misleading). Both of these prayer experiences require at most ten minutes. You might also consider downloading the app, "Divine Office." This is the official prayer of the Church which always centers on the psalms and Scripture to be pondered in the morning and in the evening, as well as other times during the day. There is an audio option so that you can listen to a small community praying these prayers. This app approximately costs \$20.

Certainly, praying over the Scriptures that are proclaimed at daily Mass is a great way to attune your heart to hear what the Lord might be saying to you. *Lectio divina* (divine reading) is a four-step process: **1)** Read out loud the Scripture passage and reread it at least one more time. **2)** Ask yourself what thought pops into your mind; maybe it's an image or a word or a phrase. Ponder over this. **3)** Talk to the Lord about this. **4)** Set all of this aside and just rest in the presence of the Lord without thoughts or words.



Familiarize yourself with the Jesus Prayer which is a mantra that is repeated silently over and over, coordinated with your breathing.

- Breathing in, pray: "*Lord Jesus Christ*"
- Breathing out, pray: "*Son of the Living God*"
- Breathing in, pray: "*Have mercy on me*"
- Breathing out, pray: "*a sinner.*"

This is an ancient prayer that responds to Saint Paul's invitation to pray without ceasing. You might set aside ten minutes or so for this prayer.

Familiarize yourself with "centering prayer." Google "The Method of Centering Prayer" by Thomas Keating to learn more.

The rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, at their core, are also prayers which help us to come to our center, that point of stillness that is far from the constant noises and distractions of our lives.

Thank you for taking the time to read this *In Joy and Sorrow*. *Father Bill +*

Prayer Requests: Contact Mary Jo Zilisch (734-1182) or Laurie Richter (lauriejrichter@gmail.com) 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.

CONTRIBUTIONS

OFFICE: Feb. 1-5 \$3,143.35 **CHILDREN'S:** \$24.00
WEEKEND: Feb. 6-7 \$12,295.64

2016 BISHOP'S APPEAL – "FACES OF GOD'S MERCY"

Thank you to all who have already given. As of this past Tuesday, we have received **\$16,862** or approximately **23%** of our goal of \$72,919. If you have not already sent in your pledge/ contribution, please do your part this week. If each of us gives generously from our gifts, we will reach our assessment.

Please mail your completed pledge card directly to the Office of the Bishop or return it in the collection. *Note: Your pledge/ contribution may be charged to Mastercard or VISA.* If you do not receive a letter, please contact the parish office (739-5119) or pick a pledge card at the back of church.

St. Mary & St. Joseph Lenten Stations of the Cross at 5:30 PM followed by a Soup Supper

Come and appreciate Christ's sufferings and death.

The schedule: **St. Mary's: Mar. 3, St. Joseph's: Feb. 25, Mar. 10 & 17**

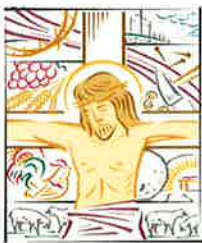
On March 3, St. Mary's hosts the Soup Supper after the Stations of the Cross. We are in need of volunteers to make enough soup to serve 12 and also need 4-6 people to help set up, serve, and clean up each evening (4-7 PM). Sign-up sheets are in the Marian Way after all Masses this weekend OR call the parish office (739-5119). Students, this is an **excellent** opportunity for **Service Hours!**

Family Way of the Cross

Plan to join your parish family

Friday, Feb. 26, for this special experience.

The Stations of the Cross will be shown through the artistic talent of our parishioners. The evening begins at 5:30 PM with a simple meal in the Community Room, followed by our family-focused Way of the Cross at 6:35 PM featuring our members' artwork, a reflection for each station, and music by the Emmanuel Choir. Join us for all or part of the evening.



Christ Renews His Parish: Take time this Lent to reflect on your faith and grow closer to Christ. More than 277 St. Mary and St. Joseph parishioners have participated in CRHP. *Join them as we build stronger parish communities focused on Jesus, and as we help and support each other in our journey as disciples.*

Men's Renewal Weekend - Feb. 27-28; Registration deadline: Feb. 23

Women's Renewal Weekend - Mar. 5-6; Registration deadline: Mar. 1

Registration forms available at the back of church. Questions, please call Carol at 739-3700 x22.

Feb. 23 - The Things That Last Forever: Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, 6:30 PM, St. Mary Parish Center

Can you clearly share with someone else what the church believes and teaches about life after death, including heaven, hell, purgatory, limbo? Have we changed our teachings? Are we just expressing them in a different way? We invite you to join Fr. Bill as he talks about what we believe about the things that last forever and answers your questions. Please let us know in advance that you plan to attend. Call Carol at 739-3700 x22 or e-mail: cjensen@stmaryparish.org.

Taizé Prayer: Tuesday, Mar. 1, 6:30 PM, St. Mary Chapel

Join us for this beautiful prayer focused on simple music, scripture, candlelight, and prayer around the cross.

Join Us for a Lenten Evening of Reflection Tuesday, Mar. 8, 6 PM, St. Joseph Holly Hall

6:00 PM - A simple supper with several choices of soups and salads, fresh bread, and homemade desserts.

6:45 PM - Invited to Get Out of the Boat: Reflections on Discipleship with Peter Leiterman, St. Mary & St. Joseph Youth Minister.

Fee: \$5 (*checks payable to St. Mary Parish*). Please pre-register before Monday Noon, Mar. 7 so that we have enough food for everyone. Call Carol at 739-3700 ext. 22 or e-mail: cjensen@stmaryparish.org.

The Self-Giving of Jesus, Thurs., Mar. 17, St. Joseph Holly Hall 6:10 PM Soup Supper

7:00 PM Rich Curran speaks on "The Self-Giving of Jesus"

Hollywood has produced several films in recent years depicting the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, but have you ever wondered what really happened to Jesus, and more importantly why Jesus said yes to such suffering? Several years ago a team of doctors at Mayo Clinic medically diagnosed what most likely happened to Jesus from Thursday night through Friday afternoon when He died. Come understand the realities of crucifixion and more importantly, understand the spiritual nature of Jesus' "kenosis" or total self-emptying for God's will. *Rich Curran is a St. Mary parishioner and a national Catholic speaker. Each year, Rich speaks to more than 50,000 teens, young adults and adults about life, faith and what it means to be a follower of Christ today.* **Fee: \$5/person. Pre-register before Mar. 16 so that we have enough food for everyone.** Call Carol at 739-3700 x22 or e-mail: cjensen@stmaryparish.org.

Adults, Have you Been Confirmed? If you are an adult Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist, but have not been Confirmed, we invite you to consider joining our upcoming classes to prepare for this Sacrament. Classes begin Monday evening, Mar. 28. We will celebrate confirmation with other young adults and adults at the Cathedral in Green Bay in May. Contact Carol Jensen (739-5119) to pre-register for classes or to answer questions you might have.

Rite of Election: Last Sunday our four catechumens, (unbaptized) *Kevin, Tina, Dassani, and Tani Bui*, along with candidate (baptized) *Matthew Petersen* were received by Bishop David Ricken at the Cathedral in Green Bay. Bishop Ricken recognized them for their growth in the faith these past months and welcomed them into the final stage of preparation this Lent before receiving the Easter Sacraments. God has been most generous with His grace to them and they have been open and eager to learn.

Remembering Jeff Stadler:

An evening of Prayer, Fond Memories & Celebration... a.k.a. Staddlerfest Monday, Feb. 22, 6:30 PM, St. Mary Jeff died Feb. 3. We will never forget his robust laughter, caring ways, quick wit, and sense of humor. All are invited to join us for the service followed by a reception in the Community Room. Bring your Jeff stories to share!

Flower/Worship Environment Fund

If you wish to contribute to the Flowers/Worship Environment for Easter please use the envelope provided with your monthly envelopes OR fill out the form below and return to the parish office **no later than Sunday, March 20, to be published in the Easter bulletin.** Please Print: IN MEMORY OF:



Amount: _____ Check# _____ Cash _____
 Donated by: _____