

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



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

this is my name **I AM WHO AM**
for all generations

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

**Third Sunday
of Lent**

February 28, 2016

† † † † †

I will give you new Spirit, says the Lord!

CONTRIBUTIONS

OFFICE: Feb. 15-19 \$1,343.35 CHILDREN'S: \$24.00
 WEEKEND: Feb. 20-21 \$11,003.81

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

As Matt Boyle stated... "We have never missed making our Bishop's Appeal goal. Help us keep the streak going!" Thank you to all who have already given. As of this past Tuesday, we have received \$28,959 or approximately 40% 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.

Lenten Alms

\$2,600 dollars came in these last two weeks for Homeless Connections! Thank you for every coin, dollar and check! Eight people surround one of the circles on the poster in front of church. In this cold weather we are reminded how vital Homeless Connections is to people on the streets.



Breakfast Items for St. Joseph Food Pantry!

Next weekend, Mar. 5-6, please bring breakfast items: cereal, oatmeal, cream of wheat, pancake mix, syrup, breakfast bars, or anything you would have for breakfast. Place

items in the totes by the altar. Please do not bring anything perishable. Thanks you for your care and help.



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.

St. Mary's will host this Thursday, Mar. 3. St. Joseph Mar. 10 & 17

Christ Renews His Parish:

Please pray for our Men's team and participants who are on retreat this weekend (Feb. 27-28).

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.

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.

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.

What does working construction, tending bar, Hardees, and hurling have to do with following Jesus? Join us to find out! Fee: \$5 (checks payable to St. Mary Parish). Please pre-register before Monday Noon, Mar. 7. Call Carol at 739-3700 ext. 22 or e-mail: cjensen@stmaryparish.org.

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: _____

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. (checks payable to St. Mary Parish) Pre-register before Mar. 16. Call Carol at 739-3700 x22 or e-mail: cjensen@stmaryparish.org.

Ministry to Singles: For almost 17 years we have had a group for singles, age 35 and over for social and spiritual activities. Check the library shelves at St. Mary's or the Adult Ed bulletin board in the Great Hall at St. Joseph for brochures for the Unique Singles group.

Mark Your Calendars Now For:

9-10:30 AM Saturday, March 12, Community Room
 Easter Egg Hunt For kids ages 9 and younger
 Includes: Face Painting, Games, Cookies & Milk
 The Easter Bunny will be there!

Parents and Grandparents welcome. Don't forget your cameras! Watch the bulletin for more information.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Mar. 19 (Sat) 10 AM St. Mary & St. Joseph Reconciliation/St. Mary
 Mar. 20 (Sun) PALM SUNDAY (Note Mass Times: 8, 9:45, 11:30 AM)
 Bake Sale Weekend/Community Room
 Mar. 21 (Mon) 6:30 PM St. Mary & St. Joseph Reconciliation/St. Joseph
 Mar. 23 (Wed) 6-9 PM Private Confessions/St. Mary
 Mar. 24 (Thurs) HOLY THURSDAY
 NO 8:30 AM or 12:05 PM Mass
 6:00 PM Parish Family Potluck/Community Rm
 7:30 PM Mass
 Mar. 25 (Fri) GOOD FRIDAY
 NO 8:30 AM Mass/Chapel
 12:00 PM Parish Office Closed
 12:15 PM Passion & Death of Our Lord
 6:00 PM Mary's Way of the Cross/Chapel
 Mar. 26 (Sat) EASTER VIGIL – HOLY SATURDAY
 NO 4:30 PM Mass (There are NO Masses before 7:30 PM at ANY Parish due to Easter Vigil)
 7:45 PM Mass/Church (this fulfills Sunday Obligation)
 Mar. 27 (Sun) EASTER
 Note Mass Times: 8, 9:45, 11:15 AM





WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., Feb. 29 12:05 PM Mass/St. Joseph
 Tues., Mar. 1 8:30 AM Special Intention
 Wed., Mar. 2 12:05 PM Special Intention
 Thurs., Mar. 3 12:05 PM Tony Evers
 Fri., Mar. 4 8:30 AM Mary Ann Schubert
 Sat., Mar. 5 4:30 PM Rita Bushman Scovronske
 Sun., Mar. 6 8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary
 & Our Twinning Parishes
 9:30 AM Cathy Mulle
 11:00 AM Raymond & Genevieve Kappell

IN LOVING MEMORY

In the spirit of Christian charity, please pray for the family and friends of *Lucille Martin* (Arlene Boelter's sister) who has died. May fond memories comfort you during this difficult time.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Feb. 28 (Sun)

8:30-11:30 AM Beach Party Breakfast/Community Rm
 9:30 AM Babysitting available
 9:30 AM Children's Liturgy

Feb. 29 (Mon)

6:30 PM Handbells/L1
 6:30 PM Exodus/L7

Mar. 1 (Tues)

1:00 AM Prayer Shawl Mtg/SJ 209
 2:00 PM Rosary & Perpetual Help Devotions/Chapel
 6:00 PM Quilting Group/L6
 6:30 PM Taizé Prayer/Chapel

Mar. 2 (Wed)

12:35-1:35 PM Adoration/SM Church (after 12:05 PM Mass)
 4:30 & 6:30 PM Religious Ed Classes
 4:30 & 6:30 PM RE Gr. 6-8 Reconciliation
 6:30 PM Adult Choir/St. Anne

Mar. 3 (Thurs)

5:30 PM Stations & Soup Supper/St. Mary
 6:30 PM Emmanuel Choir/L5

Mar. 4 (Fri)

8:30 AM Mass
 9:30 AM-5:30 PM Adoration/Chapel
 10:00 AM Exodus Study/SJ 214

Mar. 5 (Sat)

Women's CRHP (Christ Renews His People) Weekend
 9 AM-Noon Adoration/Chapel
 9:00 AM Confessions/Church

Mar. 6 (Sun)

Women's CRHP (Christ Renews His People) Weekend
 St. Joseph Food Pantry Breakfast Items Collection
 1st Eucharist Blessing Weekend
 World's Poor Collection
 Coffee & Donuts after 8 & 9:30 AM Masses
 9:30 AM Babysitting available
 9:30 AM Children's Liturgy

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

In Joy and Sorrow PONDERING TOGETHER THE TREASURES OF OUR FAITH

Back in September 2013, in that now famous interview of Pope Francis by Father Anthony Spadaro for the Jesuit magazine, *America*, Father Spadaro asked the Pope, "Who is Jorge Mario Bergoglio?" The Holy Father paused for a long moment, and then humbly replied, "I am a sinner. I am a sinner whom the Lord gazes upon with tender mercy."

Of all the poignant sayings of Pope Francis, like "Who am I to judge?", hearing the Pope's humble admission of his sinfulness has made the greatest impression upon me. I believe that the holier you or I become, the more we are aware of our sinfulness. The greatest sinners can become the greatest saints. Saint Paul reminds us that in our weaknesses, Jesus is our only strength. It is an honest realization of our sinfulness that throws us into the wide open arms of our merciful Lord and Savior.

The great song of thanksgiving, standing in the new light of the Easter Candle, at the Vigil on Holy Saturday evening, speaks of the sin of Adam and Eve as a "happy fault." Now, I don't know about you, but I don't always think of my own sins in the framework that they are what make me happy. Yet, it is to free us from our sins that Jesus comes into our lives. Jesus is the Great Liberator and Freedom-Bringer. It does fill me with joy to know that Jesus is so eager to lavish his mercy and forgiveness upon me.

During the Holy Season of Lent, it would do us a lot of good to meditate on the Psalms that are penitential in nature. They are seven in number and were so identified as penitential psalms in the seventh century. Prayerfully reciting these psalms will help us to recognize our sinfulness, express sorrow and ask God for forgiveness." (from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website)



The Seven Penitential Psalms are Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143. I would encourage you to open your Bible and pray each of these psalms during Lent.

On top of this, I would call your attention to the Book of the Prophet Isaiah where you will find four poetic sections known as the Songs of the Suffering Servant. "The specific identity of this *Servant of the Lord* remains the topic of scholarly debate. Perhaps it refers to the prophet Isaiah himself, perhaps to the entire nation of Israel, or possibly to the promised Messiah. Christian faith sees these prophetic utterances fulfilled in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Lord." These songs consist of Chapters 42:1-25, 49:1-26, 50:1-11, and 52:1-15 in the Book of Isaiah. I would invite you to encounter our Savior Jesus through these songs this Lent. "Not only do they give us a sense of the commitment and endurance that characterized Jesus' messianic ministry, but they become a way of touching the bruised face of the Messiah, of hearing the resolute determination that sustained him in the midst of trial, and of rejoicing with him in God's ultimate vindication of his calling and service." (quotations from the USCCB website.)

By the way, if you would like to pray these psalms or songs using the audio feature, go to the USCCB website. From the home page, click on Prayer and Worship, then Liturgical Year, then Lent, and then Seven Penitential Psalms and the Songs of the Suffering Servant.

Father Bill +