

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:

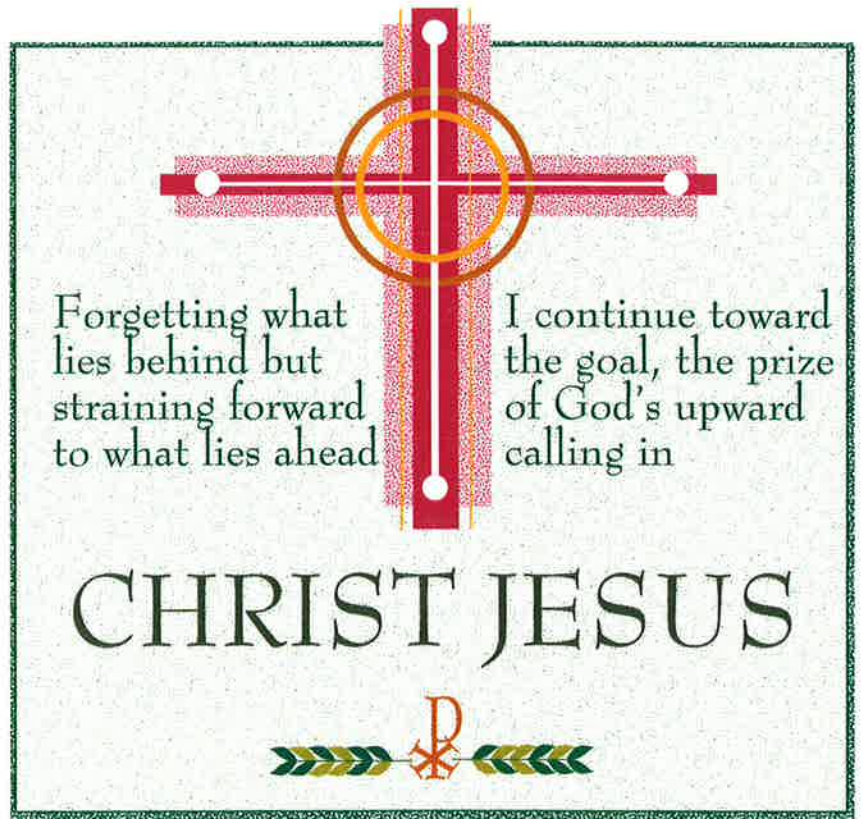
Daily: Tues. & Fri. 8:30 AM

Wed. Thurs. 12:05 PM

Saturday evening: 4:30 PM

Sundays: 8, 9:30, 11 AM

Holydays: see bulletin



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**Fifth Sunday
of Lent**

March 13, 2016



Give me justice, O my God!



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., Mar. 14	12:05 PM	Mass/St. Joseph
Tues., Mar. 15	8:30 AM	Dan Sutter
Wed., Mar. 16	12:05 PM	Joe & Adrienne Hebeler
Thurs., Mar. 17	12:05 PM	Dick Burger
Fri., Mar. 18	8:30 AM	Dewain Locy
Sat., Mar. 19	4:30 PM	Edward & Loretta Pfefferle Family
Sun., Mar. 20	8:00 AM	Frances & Carl Fisher Family
	9:30 AM	Parishioners of St. Mary
	11:00 AM	Mary Virginia Spencer

IN LOVING MEMORY

In the spirit of Christian charity, please pray for the family and friends *Judy Bekkers* (Jerry Bekkers' sister-in-law) who has died. May fond memories comfort you during this difficult time.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mar. 13 (Sun)

- Coffee & Donuts after 8 & 9:30 AM Masses
- 9:30 AM Babysitting available
- 9:30 AM Children's Liturgy
- 6:30 PM Confirmation Enrollment/St. Joseph
- 7:30 PM Confirmation Class/St. Joseph

Mar. 14 (Mon)

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

Mar. 15 (Tues)

- 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Mtg/SJ L9
- 2:00 PM Rosary & Perpetual Help Devotions/Chapel
- 7:00 PM Women's Evening of Reflection/L1-3

Mar. 16 (Wed)

- 4:30 & 6:30 PM Religious Ed Classes
- 4:30 & 6:30 PM RE Gr. 9-10 Reconciliation
- 6:30 PM Adult Choir/St. Anne

Mar. 17 (Thurs)

- 5:30 PM Stations & Soup Supper/St. Joseph
- 6:00 PM The Self-Giving of Jesus/SJ Holly Hall
- 6:30 PM Emmanuel Choir/L5

Mar. 18 (Fri)

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

Mar. 19 (Sat)

- 9 AM-Noon Adoration/Chapel
- 10:00 AM St. Mary & St. Joseph Reconciliation Service/
St. Mary Church

Mar. 20 (Sun) PALM SUNDAY

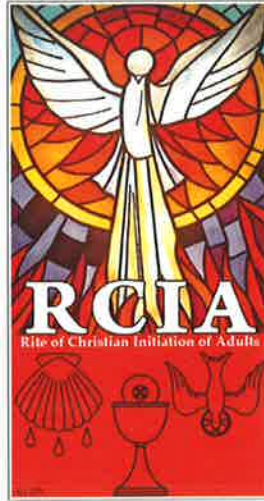
NOTE MASS TIMES: 8, 9:45, & 11:30 AM

- Bake Sale & Palm Braiding after ALL Weekend Masses/
Community Room
- 9:30 AM Babysitting available
- 9:30 AM Children's Liturgy
- 7:30 PM Confirmation Class/St. Joseph

Thank you to everyone who helps with the monthly collection for S. Joseph's Food Program. Many people eat a little better with what our parish donates. A special thank you, this month, to the children from the First Eucharist program for the individual breakfast bags they put together and donated. What a great thing to do!

In Joy and Sorrow PONDERING TOGETHER THE TREASURES OF OUR FAITH

I am hoping that you have noticed that there have been no celebrations of the Sacrament of Baptism during this holy season of Lent. For many years, I directed that the water be replaced by sand in all baptismal fonts in church. (I swear to you that a significant number of people never even noticed!) This practice served as a pointed reminder that Lent invites us into the desert with Jesus. In the desert, water is scarce. In the desert, our thirst for the Lord Jesus and his grace, healing, peace, and strength is heightened. In the desert, there is little opportunity to sit alongside the banks of a gently flowing river, mesmerized by the gurgling of the water over rocks in the river bed. This flowing water reminds us of the Lord's love constantly washing over us. This water reminds us of the waters of our baptism, celebrating the spark of the divine placed deep within us at the moment of our conception.



Lent is about Baptism. At the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening, we will be privileged to celebrate the sacrament of Baptism for our Elect, those with whom we have been journeying this Lent in anticipation of their welcome in our Catholic Christian family. The Easter Vigil is so powerful when the symbols and gestures of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist are inserted in the service. Without the celebration of these Sacraments of Initiation, the Easter Vigil lacks a certain brilliance, in my opinion.

Included in all of the Masses of Easter is the renewal of our baptismal promises. I hope these questions sound familiar to you: *Do you reject sin so as to live in the freedom of God's children? Do you reject the glamour of evil and refuse to master by sin? Do you reject Satan, and all his works and empty promises? Do you believe in God,*

the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth? Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God...? Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life...? Do you believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic church? Do you believe in the forgiveness of sins? Do you look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come?

Father Bill Reiser, SJ, has proposed some additional questions to ponder in the light of this important moment in our celebration of Easter. These questions get under the traditional baptismal promises. Here they are:

- Do you accept Jesus as your teacher, as the example whom you will always imitate and as the one in whom the mystery of God's love has been fully revealed?
- Do you dedicate yourself to seeking the reign of God and God's justice, to praying daily, to meditating on the Gospels and to celebrating the Eucharist faithfully and devoutly?
- Do you commit yourself to that spirit of poverty and detachment that Jesus enjoined on his disciples, and to resisting the spirit of consumerism and materialism that is so strong in our culture?
- Do you accept responsibility for building community, for being a person of compassion and reconciliation, for being mindful of the poor and the oppressed, and for truly forgiving those who have offended you?
- Will you try to thank and praise God by your works and by your actions, in times of prosperity as well as in moments of suffering, giving loyal witness to the risen Jesus by your faith, by your hope, and by the style of your living?
- Do you surrender your life to God as a disciple and companion of Jesus? Do you believe that God is the Lord of history, sovereign over nations and peoples, and that God's promise to redeem all of creation from its bondage to death and decay will one day be accomplished?

Certainly there is enough food for thought and prayer here as you and I prepare for Holy Week and our celebration of Easter!
Father Bill +

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.

CONTRIBUTIONS

OFFICE: Feb. 29-Mar. 4 \$2,950.00 **CHILDREN'S:** \$35.00
WEEKEND: Mar. 5-6 \$12,661.87
LENTEN ALMS FOR THE HOMELESS SHELTER YTD: \$3,434.01

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

*We have just over a quarter to go to reach our goal of \$72,919.
 Help our parish continue with never missing our goal!*

Thank you to all who have already given. As of this past Tuesday, we have received **\$53,234** or approximately **73%** of our goal. If you have not already sent in your pledge/contribution, please send in your pledge/contribution 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. 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.
St. Joseph will host this Thursday, Mar. 17

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

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: _____



Family Life Minister: St. Mary Parish in Appleton is looking for a Family Life Minister. This new position will be responsible to help foster relationships with all families of the parish, but especially those with children birth to 18 years old. Having an active presence on the weekends, a spirit of collaboration, and a willingness to meet people where they are in their journey of faith are all paramount. This position will touch on many, if not all, ministries in the parish, with special focus on our liturgical team. A degree in theology, catechesis, or other ministry is desired, and prior experience in ministry work is a plus. Interested parties should send a letter and resume to Brian Dresang, 312 S State Street, Appleton WI 54911, by March 31, 2016.

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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.

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.

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 ext. 22 or e-mail: cjensen@stmaryparish.org.

St. Mary & St. Joseph InterParish Mass & Picnic:

It is St. Mary's turn to lead the InterParish Mass and Picnic this year on Saturday, July 9. We have a committee working on the event and many volunteers to help the day of the event. However, we are looking for a couple of "lead" volunteers from St. Mary's in two areas:

1. Coordinate the plate lunch
2. Coordinate the park set up.

Would you be willing to consider one of the above leadership roles in helping to make this event happen for the parish? Ask a friend and volunteer as a team to help with this planning role. We have an outline to follow and a lot of support from the planning team. Prayerfully please consider this ministry request. Questions or if you would like more information, please contact Theresa Rohm at the parish office (739-5119).