

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



We already know that the people of...

**ST. MARY'S GOT
T★LENT**

... But would you give your time, too?

St. Mary Parish Time & Talent Weekend



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Fourth Sunday
of Easter

April 17, 2016

† † † † †

The Good Shepherd is truly risen!



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., Apr. 18	12:05 PM	Mass/St. Joseph
Tues., Apr. 19	8:30 AM	Nicholas & Sedella Jacob
Wed., Apr. 20	12:05 PM	Bill Hoffman
Thurs., Apr. 21	12:05 PM	Sis Balliet
Fri., Apr. 22	8:30 AM	Special Intention
Sat., Apr. 23	4:30 PM	Jim Schroeder
Sun., Apr. 24	8:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Mary
	9:30 AM	Jerry Mauthe
	11:00 AM	Fr. Mike O'Rourke

BAPTISMS

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

- †*Evan Matthew*, child of Matthew & Ashley Brochtrup
- †*Lillian Jo*, child of Michael & Amanda Berg

IN LOVING MEMORY

In the spirit of Christian charity, please pray for the family and friends of *Gene Verhagen* (Diane Murphy's father). May fond memories comfort you during this difficult time.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Apr. 17 (Sun) Time & Talent Stewardship Weekend

- Blood Pressure Weekend/Marian Way
- 9:30 AM Babysitting Available
- 9:30 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 7:30 PM Confirmation Class/SJ
- 6:30 PM City-Wide Mission/St. Thomas More Parish

Apr. 18 (Mon)

- 6:30 PM THEO/Community Rm
- 6:30 PM City-Wide Mission/St. Thomas More
- 6:30 PM Handbells/Church
- 6:30 PM Adult Confirmation Class/SJ 214

Apr. 19 (Tues)

- 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Mtg/SJ L9
- 2:00 PM Rosary & Perpetual Help Devotions/Chapel
- 6:30 PM Liturgy Mtg/Lg Conference

Apr. 20 (Wed)

- 4:00 PM RE Registration/Community Rm
- 4:30 & 6:30 PM Religious Ed Classes
- 5:00 PM RE Pizza Sale/Community Rm
- 6:30 PM Adult Choir/St. Anne

Apr. 21 (Thurs)

- 6:30 PM Emmanuel Choir/L5

Apr. 22 (Fri)

- 8:30 AM Mass/Chapel
- 1st Eucharist Practice for 4:30 PM & 11 AM Communicants
- 5:15 PM Readers
- 5:30 PM 1st Communicants
- 5:50 PM Altar Preparers & Giftbearers

Apr. 23 (Sat)

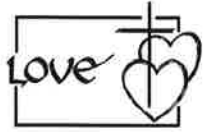
- 9:00 AM Confessions/Church
- 1st Eucharist Practice for 9:30 AM Communicants
- 10:00 AM Readers
- 10:15 AM 1st Communicants
- 10:40 AM Altar Preparers & Giftbearers

Apr. 24 (Sun) 1st Eucharist Weekend

- Coffee & Donuts after the 8 & 9:30 AM Masses
- 9:30 AM Babysitting Available
- 9:30 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 1:30 PM Handbell Open House/Choir Loft

In Joy and Sorrow PONDERING TOGETHER THE TREASURES OF OUR FAITH

As I write this column, I am just starting to read Chapter 7 (page 197 of 264 total pages) of Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, which is the Pope's response to the two Synods on the Family, which were held in Rome in October of 2014 and 2015. Note that the word "synod" comes from a Greek word which means to "walk or journey together." Representative Bishops from throughout the world, meeting with the Pope, had spirited discussions at these two synods regarding the challenges facing families in the twenty-first century. The Pope's synopses of those meetings, in addition to his own reflections, make up this Exhortation which Pope Francis has entitled "The Joy of Love." Titles for papal documents are always taken from the first sentence of the document. In this case, the first sentence of "The Joy of Love" is "The Joy of Love experienced by families is also the joy of the Church." You will also find that this document is referred to by its Latin title as well: "Amoris Laetitia."



How does one summarize a document of such length? It is probably one of the longest documents published by a Pope in the history of our Catholic Church. If you are not feeling especially ambitious to read the whole paper, I would strongly encourage all married and engaged couples to read Chapter 4: Love in Marriage. Pope Francis uses Saint Paul's great hymn to love found in the First Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 13, as the basis for his meditation on love in marriage. Paul's meditation on love is probably heard proclaimed at about 90% of all Christian wedding ceremonies.

I have read many commentaries on "The Joy of Love." Of course for me, I am always finely attuned to whatever Archbishop Blaise Cupich of Chicago is praying about, thinking about, and doing for the ministry of the Church in the U.S. His news conference regarding the Pope's exhortation was spot on for me. So I am once again appreciative to him for helping me to see the "big picture" of the Pope's big paper.

Here are some gems from Archbishop Cupich's news conference:

"The Holy Father says some things that might surprise you -- he is complimentary of the women's movement and tells us that we can learn things from Eastern Rite married priests. His language is colorful and highly expressive - he warns us not to *simply apply moral laws to those living in 'irregular' situations, as if they were stones to throw at people's lives.*"***

This very readable text reveals a true pastor, someone who has honed a pastoral sensitivity as a priest for more than half a century. His writing style is crisp and fresh, making the text easily accessible. He holds the reader's attention through the use of imaginative references that range from the Danish film, "Babette's Feast" to a sermon by Martin Luther King that urges us to see a good in every person, even those who hate us... Pope Francis demonstrates his closeness to the real lives of people, that he is someone who knows the smell of the sheep, as he takes up a wide spectrum of the complexity that defines families living in our time. Virtually no challenge is ignored, marriage preparation, proper training of future priests, adoption, family prayer, children's rights, sex education, the dignity of women, you name it."

"Describing marriage as a journey, *a dynamic path to personal development and fulfillment*, Pope Francis speaks of the importance of discernment in *those situations in which we fall short of what the Lord asks of us*. With profound respect for people, the Church has *to make room for the consciences of the faithful, who very often respond as best they can to the Gospel amid their limitations, and are capable of carrying out their own discernment in complex situations*. We have been called, Pope Francis reminds pastors; *to form consciences, not replace them*. There are no *easy recipes* and it is impossible to *provide a new set of rules, canonical in nature and applicable in all cases*. Rather Francis urges *a responsible, personal and pastoral discernment of particular cases* by priests, who have the duty to *accompany the divorced and remarried in helping them to understand their situation according to the teaching of the church and the guidelines of the Bishop*. *It can no longer simply be said that all those in any 'irregular' situation are living in a state of mortal sin and are deprived of sanctifying grace.*"

Stay tuned for more on this important document in the history of our Church.

***Words in italics are Pope Francis' own words.

Father Bill +

Prayer Requests: Contact Laurie Richter (lauriejrichter@gmail.com) or Mary Jo Zilisch (734-1182) if you have a prayer need. **Please include** the prayers in our prayer basket, marriages, thanksgiving, health, nursing home & homebound parishioners.

CONTRIBUTIONS

OFFICE: April 4-8 \$2,060.35 **CHILDREN'S:** \$20.00
WEEKEND: Apr. 9-10 \$12,696.98

2016 BISHOP'S APPEAL – "FACES OF GOD'S MERCY"
The streak continues!

Once again, due to your generosity, we have made our goal.
 Thank you to all who have given. God bless!

6-WEEK CHALLENGE TO DOUBLE YOUR MONEY!

St. Mary Cemetery has received a very generous offer. A family fund within the Community Foundation of the Fox Cities is willing to match any gift to the cemetery up to a total of \$10,000. **The deadline for donations is May 15, 2016.** Please do not reduce your contribution to the parish to support this effort to help our cemetery. Cash and checks will be accepted at the parish office, can be placed in the weekend collection, or mailed to the office. Please make checks payable to: St. Mary Cemetery. If you have questions please contact Brian at 739-5119. These funds are designated to improve the appearance of the grounds at the cemetery and can be used for labor, supplies, and equipment to accomplish that. Thank You!

Acts of Mercy, A City-Wide Mission, April 17, 18, 19

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!

Sun. April 17 – 6:30 PM – *Luke: Stories of Mercy*
 Mon., April 18 – 6:30 PM – *John: Signs of Mercy*
 Tues., April 19 – 6:30 PM – *James: Works of Mercy*

Sponsored by all eight Appleton Catholic parishes and held at St. Thomas More Parish, 1810 N. McDonald St., Appleton. Children age 7 or over are encouraged to join us each evening.

"A spell binding encounter with the life of Jesus... perfect for all generations... enlightening... moving... Don't miss it!"

(St. Cecelia Church, Wisconsin Dells, WI)

Scripture: Head and Heart: Would you like to learn more about Scripture... from the basics of how to find books and quotes in the Bible to how to make it more a part of your daily prayer? We invite you to bring **YOUR questions** to a basic information session about scripture and the Bible **Thursday, Apr. 28, 6:30-8 PM, St. Mary Parish Center, Rooms LL 1 & 3.** Please pre-register (739-3700 ext 22 or e-mail: cjensen@stmaryparish.org). Free will offering to help defray the cost of materials and handouts.

Time & Talent Stewardship This Weekend April 16-17

"We are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance." Eph. 2:10

Be sure to stop in the Community Room after Mass to check out the many opportunities in which you can be involved in the life of St. Mary Parish. All of us need to utilize our gifts of time and talent in service to our Lord. **How do we do that?** Through the many volunteer options St. Mary offers. You are the "parish ministers." Share your gifts of time and talent. The Ministries of our Parish are successful because of the involvement and commitment of YOU! This is accomplished with all of us giving a grateful return to the Lord through the gifts He has given us.

Save the Date: Mother and Child Supper, Thurs., May 5, 2016
 Watch next week's bulletin for complete details!

Food Fair at Xavier: Sunday, May 1: We are in need of donations of gently used books, CDs, videos, games, and puzzles for our Used Book Sale. Donations can be dropped off at Xavier High School before Friday, April 29. Questions? Contact Kim Oskar (830-1822).

Caregiver's Cafe - Making Time for You
April 28, 10 AM - St. Joseph Holly Hall

An expert from the Outagamie County Aging and Disability Resource Center will be with us to support those who are caregivers. Join us for new ideas and resources that will directly help you as you care for your loved ones. Table topics include: Being a strong caregiver--- Taking Care of Myself--- Building a Strong Support System. Refreshments will be served.

Parish Administrative Assistant

Due to a retirement, St. Mary Parish, Appleton is looking for a full-time parish administrative assistant for a vibrant parish serving over 1,100 families. We seek an individual who loves the Lord, has passion for the Catholic faith, and demonstrates a positive spirit in all they do. This position requires use of Microsoft Office and other church related computer systems, strong verbal and written communication skills, and ability to maintain confidentiality. Candidate must have excellent organizational skills as well as a willingness to make decisions collaboratively. Duties include: being support for all staff members, working with many volunteers of the parish, and managing all the details for our members in support of their Catholic faith. We would consider multiple part-time employees (job share) for the right candidates. Please submit resume by April 22, 2016, to: *St. Mary Parish, Attn: Brian Dresang, 312 S State Street, Appleton WI 54911.*

Our Dresser Program is Back!



The Human Concerns Committee is happy to announce that our "Dresser Program" is once again an outreach ministry of St. Mary Parish, but we need your help. We want to fill "dressers" with new or gently used baby things for families in need. These could be clothing, blankets, diapers, wipes, bottles, or any item you know a baby needs. We will have a baby tree in the Marian Way the next two weekends, April 23-24 and April 30-May 1. It will be decorated with cards listing specific needs. If you able, please take a cord or two, purchase the items, (or bring in your gently used items) and return them to church by Mothers' Day weekend, May 7-8. All donations will be given to Mothers and Unborn Baby Care on Wisconsin Avenue, Appleton. Your generosity will make a huge difference in the lives of many little ones. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

The **BELLS OF ST. MARY HANDBELL CHOIR** is looking for persons interested in ministering through music. The choir rehearses Monday evenings at 6:30 PM September-May and plays at various Masses throughout the year, averaging one weekend per month with Christmas Eve and Easter seasonal highlights. We also occasionally do additional Community Outreach in the form of concerts at local Nursing and Assisted Living Homes. Previous exposure to bells is not a requirement, but the ability to read music and experience with other instruments or ensembles is an asset. Regular membership in the choir requires a steady commitment to practice and performance schedules. Swing/substitute positions are also open for those interested in participating, but unable to fully commit to all obligations. Need more information? Questions? Contact Martha Paalman (920-420-6451 or mpaalman@stmaryparish.org), visit our facebook page (www.facebook.com/bellsfstmary).