

ST. MARY

312 S. STATE STREET
APPLETON, WI 54911



(920) 739-5119
(920) 739-5111 Fax

www.stmaryparish.org
stmary@stmaryparish.org

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



WE ARE A WELCOMING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES CENTERED IN JESUS CHRIST MOVING OUTWARD TO FULFILL GOD'S MISSION.

PASTOR
Father Bill Swichtenberg 739-5119 / cell 422-4316

MINISTER OF COMMUNITY BUILDING, SERVICE & SHARING
Deacon Gerry Schraufnagel 540-9594

MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE
Deacon Jeff Prickette 858-6020

MINISTER OF FAMILY LIFE
Betsy Pfantz-Hokamp 739-5119

MINISTER OF MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP
Mary Ann Otto 739-5119

MINISTER OF NEIGHBORHOOD PASTORAL OUTREACH
Nadine Duncan 739-5119

MINISTER OF LITURGY & MUSIC
Tom Walter 739-5119

MINISTER OF ADMINISTRATION
Theresa Rohm 739-5119

MINISTER OF BOOKKEEPING
Pam Acker 739-5119

TRUSTEES
Joseph Galarowicz 419-1166
Ted Suess 636-8885

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR
Cindy Boyer 858-7345

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR
Mike Hurley 740-7077

CEMETERY 882-4158

INTERPARISH RELIGIOUS FORMATION (IPRF) 738-7413
www.inter-parish.org
email: iprf@inter-parish.org
Diane Cahall, Coordinator K-4
Jennifer Schubring, Coordinator 5-8
Peter Leitermann, Coordinator 9-11 & Youth Minister

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
System Office 735-9380

CONFESSIONS
Saturday – 9 AM
Other times by request, privacy is assured

BAPTISM
Please contact Betsy at the parish office.

MARRIAGE
Congratulations on your engagement! Please contact Father Bill at the parish office at least 6 months before your planned wedding date.

MASSES
Daily: Tues. & Fri. 8:30 AM and Wed. & Thurs. 12:05 PM
Saturday: 4:30 PM / Sunday: 8:00 & 9:45 AM
Holy days: see bulletin



SECOND SUNDAY OF Advent



ST. MARY WEEKLY CALENDAR

December 10 (Mon)

- 6:30 PM Matthew 25/Large Conference Room
- 6:30 PM Handbell Choir Practice/Choir Loft
- 8:00 PM AI-Anon/L6

December 11 (Tue)

- 8:30 AM Mass/Chapel
- 2:00 PM Rosary & Perpetual Help Devotions/Chapel
- 6:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting/Community Room
- 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting/Community Room
- 7:00 PM Baptism Prep

December 12 (Wed)

- 6:00 AM ALPHA/@ St. Joseph
- 12:05 PM Mass
- 1:00 PM Strength & Stretch Class/L1
- 4:30 & 6:30 PM IPRF Classes
- 5:45 PM IPRF Choir Practice/St. Anne Room
- 6:30 PM Adult Choir Practice/St. Anne Room
- 6:30 PM Fundraiser Meeting//Large Conference Room

December 13 (Thurs)

- 9:00 AM ALPHA/@ St. Joseph
- 12:05 PM Mass
- 5:00 PM ALPHA/L3,6,7
- 6:30 PM Advent Communal Inter-parish Reconciliation Service/Church

December 14 (Fri)

- 8:30 AM Mass/Chapel
- 8:30 AM ALPHA/L3&7

December 15 (Sat)

- Live Nativity in Marian Way after Mass**
- 9:00 AM Confessions
- 4:30 PM Mass

December 16 (Sun)

- Live Nativity in Marian Way after Mass**
- Make chocolate-covered pretzels to spread JOY after both Masses in the Community Room**
- 8:00 AM & 9:45 AM Masses
- Coffee & Donuts after both Masses/Community Room
- 9:45 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd/L2
- 5:00 PM ALPHA/@ St. Joseph
- 5:00 PM Youth ALPHA/@ St. Joseph

PRAYER NEEDS

Contact Mary Jo Zilisch (734-1182) or Laurie Richter (lauriejrichter@gmail.com) if you have a prayer need. Please also remember the needs in our prayer baskets.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Office— \$10,657.00 Weekend—\$9,307.04
Children's—\$22.77

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., December 10	12:05 PM	Mass at St. Joseph
Tue., December 11	8:30 AM	A Special Intention
Wed., December 12	12:05 PM	Carol & Jeff Rowland
Thurs., December 13	12:05 PM	Brian McMahon
Fri., December 14	8:30 AM	Audrey & Harold DePrez
Sat., December 15	4:30 PM	Orvil Mueller
Sun., December 16	8:00 AM	Alice Smarzinski-Jansen
	9:45 AM	Marie Powers

BAPTIZED IN WATER, THESE PRECIOUS CHILDREN HAVE BEEN CLOTHED IN JESUS:

Cameron Lee,

Son of Nathan & Amanda Charais

Alexis Kinsley,

Daughter of Nicholas & Chantel Charais

Grady Ivan,

Son of Anthony Manosky & Katie Jensen

Jack Michael,

Son of Michael & Holly Schroeder



**"I PROMISE TO LOVE YOU AND HONOR YOU ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE."
UNITED IN THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

*Megan Garvey & Daniel Verhagen
November 30, 2018*

CASA OF THE FOX CITIES

Accepting applications! Winter New Advocate Training Session:
Begins Thursday, January 17
Thursday evenings from 5:30-8:30 PM

Our volunteers work directly with abused and neglected children. The primary role of our advocates is to build and maintain a relationship with their assigned child through weekly one-hour visits and to provide a voice for that child in the court system as decisions are made about their future. This is a unique opportunity to make a profound impact in the life of a child in the most difficult of circumstances. **The need is great.** There are so many children in the Foster Care system right now that could use your help. If you share our passion for helping children, please consider attending one of the following upcoming informational sessions to learn more:

Monday, December 10 or Tuesday, January 8 from 12—1 PM
Lower level, Abby Bank Building, 1500 N. Casaloma Drive



A Baby Changes Everything

It's **ADVENT 2018!** Time to prepare for baby JESUS to arrive.
 HE, like all babies, brings about beautiful **changes** in our world.
 HE is **HOPE** for a better future.
 HE is **LOVE** with no conditions.
 HE is **JOY** that fills every void.
 HE is the light of **FAITH** that no darkness can destroy.

Artwork by
Lizette Miller

WEEK 3: Jesus birthday is near! Our **JOY** grows! Dec. 10-16

Let a neighbor, stranger, or friend in need know they have been **JOY-ed!** It's a lot like BOO-ing someone at Halloween but even better! Join us in the Community Room after all Sunday masses on Dec. 16 to make chocolate-covered pretzel sticks and then spread Christmas JOY by distributing them.

➔ **LIVE NATIVITY** in the Marian Way after all weekend Masses. ➔

Let Us Build a Manger of Kindness for Jesus

Each & every time you complete an activity OR do an act of kindness OR add change to your baby bottle we invite you to add straw to the manger in the Marian Way at church. Please write your name and/or "gift of love" on it.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped fulfill our commitment to the Fox Valley Warming Shelter recently. Members of our parish family prepared and served food, cleaned, and acted as overnight on-site help. Your service made a difference in our community and spread the love of Jesus to our neighbors in need.

We would especially like to thank:

- Duane & Alice Boekers
- Jan Watson
- Gary & Roxanne Austin
- Carol Johnson
- Kathy Sauter
- Scott & Amy Dehn
- Roy & Jill Clark
- Dale Ducat



Flower & Worship Fund



Our church is especially beautiful during the Christmas season. If you would like to contribute to our church environment fund, you can use the special envelope provided with your monthly envelopes, or cut out this form and return to the parish office with your contribution. Your generous donation helps to make our church look gorgeous not only during the Christmas season, but throughout the entire year.

Please return by **Sunday, December 17** so we can include names in the insert of our Christmas bulletin.

Please print very clearly!

In memory of:

Amount: _____ Cash: _____ OR Check #: _____

Donated by:

IPRF NEWS

IPRF CHRISTMAS DISCIPLESHIP FAMILY NIGHT

Wednesday, December 19 at 5:30 PM

Religion class on December 19 will be our Christmas Discipleship Family Night **beginning at 5:30 PM** with a spaghetti dinner in the St. Mary Community Room. Please RSVP by Friday, December 14 with the number attending for your family.

2018 IRS CONTRIBUTION LAWS

We are very thankful for your financial stewardship gifts. As we approach the end of the year, please know that we are bound by IRS laws.

The IRS requires donations to be received ON or BEFORE Dec. 31, 2018 to qualify for your 2018 deductions.

Please note:

⇒ The parish office is open 8:00 AM—4:30 PM on Monday, December 31, 2018.

⇒ Checks intended for 2019 **MUST** be dated 1-1-2019 or after. Thank you for your support!

IN LOVING MEMORY

In the spirit of Christian charity, please pray for the families of John Bushelle, Edward Rausch, Joanie Streck, Tom Morse, Fred Ponschok, Ethel Ebben, and Agnes Dorn. May fond memories comfort you during this time. If you have lost a loved one and would like to have him or her remembered in the bulletin, call us at 739-5119.

IN JOY & SORROW

WITH FR. BILL
SWICHTENBERG

My tradition has always been to wait until at least the Third Sunday of Advent to bring my little Christmas tree up from the basement and place it on a coffee table in the living room. During the year, my tree remains in the basement, all decorated with lights and ornaments, covered over with a plastic garbage bag. So you see there is no hassle whatsoever. That is my style. I have a nativity set that is all one piece and that takes an honored place underneath my little tree. The tree, if you will, becomes a ladder joining heaven to earth, just as Jesus joins the divine with the human, making the human being forever divine.

These last couple of years Advent has fallen so short of the full four weeks that I just feel I want to enjoy my Christmas decorations a little longer. I am not rushing the season but am anticipating the mystery which Christmas is: God's magnificent and marvelous love made visible in the person of Jesus. It is because of the Incarnation that all of creation becomes a sacrament of the divine. All of creation, including you and me, bears within itself the spark of the divine. It does all of us good to think about that mystery of the Incarnation during the holy season of Advent. "Christ is the masterpiece of love in the midst of a creation designed for love, not a divine plumber come to fix the mess of original sin." (from Philippe Yates, *The Theology of John Duns Scotus*)

How do you and I nourish the spark of the divine within us? How do we bring the divine to others just as Mary, very much pregnant, visited Elizabeth, and brought Jesus to her.

Saint Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador, one of the newest saints of the Catholic Church, wrote these challenging words:

No one can celebrate a genuine Christmas without being truly poor. The self-sufficient, the proud, those who, because they have everything, look down on others, those who have no need even of God - for them there will be no Christmas. Only the poor, the hungry, those who need someone to come on their behalf, only they will have someone. That someone is God, Emmanuel, God-with-us...

The spark of the divine struggles to be born into our lives if we think we need no one or if we don't believe the someone we need most is God.

I would like to finish this little Advent reflection with a prayer penned by Father Austin Fleming, the Concord Pastor. If you are not familiar with his website, I would strongly encourage you to check it out!

O God, help me know how much I need you. And if I don't think I need you, or that I can get by without you on some days, or for months and even years at a time - then help me see my folly and lead me home to you. I need you to be there for me, Lord. I need you to come on my behalf, to be my strength, my guide, my advocate, my help, my healing, my hope, and my Savior. Teach me to hunger for time with you, for prayer. Teach me to thirst for your truth, your wisdom, and your counsel. Teach me to long for the peace that only you can give, the peace I so much want and need. Teach me to be poor, Lord, and help me know that your love is the greatest treasure I might ever find and possess. You hear the cry of the poor, Lord. Hear the cry of my poor heart and help me hear the cry of those in need. Amen.

Happy Advent!

Fr. Bill +

12.09.2018

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<p>John Skotzke Since 1956 CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION INC. 725-7826</p>			<p>Mike & Vickie Holschbach Owners choices Catering 2340 Holly Rd. 920-882-0071 Neenah WI 54956 Fax: 920-882-0085</p>