

ST. MARY PARISH OFFICE 312 S. State Street Appleton, wi 54911 920-739-5119 Stmaryparish.org Stmary@stmaryparish.org

Pastor – Fr. Bill Switchtenberg (cell 422-4316)

Minister of Pastoral Care - Dcn. Gerry Schraufnagel (cell 540-9594)

Minister of Family Life – Betsy Pfantz-Hokamp

Minister of Missionary Discipleship – Mary Ann Otto

Minister of Neighborhood Pastoral Outreach & Parish Vitality - Nadine Duncan

Minister of Liturgical Music - Tom Walter

Minister of Business Administration – Theresa Rohm

Minister of Bookkeeping - Pam Acker

Youth Minister – Ben Wolf (738-7413)

Parish Trustees – Joseph Galarowicz (419-1166) & Ted Suess (636-8885)

Pastoral Leadership Council Chair - Cindy Boyer (858-7345)

Finance Council Chair - Mike Hurley (740-7077)

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

Confessions – Saturdays, 9 AM & by appointment (privacy assured)

Baptism - Contact Betsy in the parish office

Marriage – Congratulations! Contact Fr. Bill in the parish office at least 6 months before your planned wedding date.

St. Mary Cemetery (920) 882-4158

Ben Wolf, Coordinator 9-12

Inter-parish Religious Formation (IPRF) 738-7413 / inter-parish.org Diane Cahall, Coordinator K-4 Jennifer Schubring, Coordinator 5-8

Xavier Catholic School System 735-9380





ST. MARY WEEKLY CALENDAR

July 29 (Mon)

8:00 PM Al-Anon/L6

July 30 (Tues)

8:30 AM Mass/Church

2:00 PM Rosary & Perpetual Help Devotions/Church

July 31 (Wed)

11:30 AM Communications Task Force/Large Conference Room

12:05 PM Mass/Church

7:00 PM Betsy's Rebuilt Discussion Group/Large Conference

August 1 (Thurs)

Quilting Retreat/Community Room

12:05 PM Mass/Church

6:00 PM Alpha/L4 & L6

August 2 (Fri)

Quilting Retreat/Community Room

8:30 AM Mass/Church

August 3 (Sat)

Monthly St. Joseph Food Program Collection

Quilting Retreat/Community Room

9:00 AM Confessions/Church

4:30 PM Mass

Quilt Display & Exhibition in Marian Way & Community Room—

visit the quilters before or after Mass!

August 4 (Sun)

Monthly St. Joseph Food Program Collection

8:00 & 9:45 AM Mass

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., July 29 12:05 PM Mass at St. Joseph Tue., July 30 8:30 AM Violet Beyel

Wed., July 31 12:05 PM A Special Intention

Thurs., Aug. 1 12:05 PM Nancy Langenhuizen, Shirley More

& Douglas Steward

Fri., Aug. 2 8:30 AM For all travelers

Sat., Aug. 3 4:30 PM Ethel & Gerald Ebben and Les

Zitzelsberger

2:00 PM Mendoza-Trapp Wedding

Sun., Aug. 4 8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary

9:45 AM Bill Hoffman

PRAYER NEEDS

Contact Luanne Witthuhn (dlaawi@gmail.com) or Ann Walkowski (920-428-0969) if you have a prayer need. Please also remember the requests in our prayer baskets.



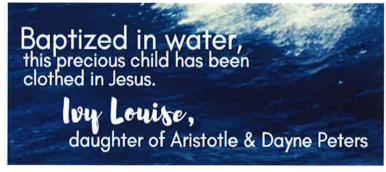


REBUILT: Awakening the Faithful, Reaching the Lost, Making Church Better by Michael White and Tom Corcoran

We have limited copies available for loan (find them on the bookshelves in the Marian Way), or you can purchase it online at amazon.com or avemariapress.com.



Once you've read it, head to the Rebuilt page at **stmaryparish.org**. There, you can sign up to join a discussion group, as well as find discussion questions for each chapter in the book. Join us on this exciting new journey!





CONTRIBUTIONS

Office—\$2,684.00 Weekend—\$5,525.50 Children's—\$19.75





Mile of Music is coming next week -August 1-4!

With over 80,000 people expected to visit the downtown area, please allow extra time for travel and parking during weekend Masses.



Curious about quilting?

If you're a quilter, a quilt admirer, or have questions about quilting, stop in the St. Mary Community Room on the afternoon of Saturday, August 3. Forty quilters from 4 states will be displaying and demonstrating their quilting expertise and they want to chat with YOU!

SCAM ALERT!

Nationwide, there have been reports of scammers posing as priests to ask parishioners to purchase gift cards.

You will NEVER be contacted via email, text, or phone to purchase gift cards by Father Bill or anyone in the St. Mary Parish Office.

If you are targeted by this or any other scam, file a report with the WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection at datcp.wi.gov.

IN LOVING MEMORY

In the spirit of Christian charity, please pray for the family of Beverly Darkow. May fond memories comfort you. If you have lost a loved one and would like him or her remembered in the bulletin, call us at 739-5119.

IN JOY & SORROW

With Fr. Bill Swichtenberg

Even though it has been five years since I moved from the Lakeshore to Appleton, I am still looking for things that should have followed me to Appleton. I never did find the mold for my dental bite plate (that's probably too much information!).

On the 50th anniversary of the moon landing, I was on the hunt for a framed photograph I had of the view of the planet Earth from outer space. For the life of me, I don't know what I did with this photograph but most likely left it behind in Algoma in a house that has been recently torn down.

To see our tiny planet, surrounded by a sea of darkness, with the bright light of the sun illuminating the large areas of brilliant blue oceans and the solid greens and browns of the land, was quite moving. Of course from that perspective in outer space, there are no boundary lines between nations. We are all interconnected with each other and with the land, water, and air. I am reminded of our responsibility as Christian believers to be good stewards of the gifts of creation, entrusted to us by our gracious and generous Creator God for just a little while.

One of the bishops in our nation that I am following closely is the Bishop of San Diego, CA.. Bishop Robert McElroy was educated by the Jesuits and is a bishop who very much has the smell of his sheep upon him, as Pope Francis likes to say. In a summit on Care for Creation, hosted by Creighton University in Omaha, NE, Bishop Bob was enlisted to give the keynote address. I would like to give you a little taste of this marvelous address, which is grounded in the work and ministry of Pope Francis, notably the Pope's encyclical letter Laudato Si', which addresses Francis' concern for the future of our planet Earth. You might ponder over the whole talk, but let me just give you some of the salient points of Bishop McElroy's address. I do so with the hope that you would come to appreciate that our care for the environment is a pro-life (whole-life) issue and requires consideration in the seamless garment understanding of the connectivity of all the life issue, beginning in the womb and taking us to the edge of the tomb.

Beginning with a bit of poetry from John Milton's Paradise Lost, which finds Satan lamenting his estrangement from creation, Bishop McElroy remarks that "for us in the US at this perilous moment in our national history, the core themes of Laudato Si' are especially urgent. We stand, deeply estranged from one another, seething in divisions, and unwilling to reconcile. We are the most powerful nation in

the history of the earth, yet have rejected the only realistic pathways that have emerged to heal our broken planet. When Europeans came to the New World, they were often drawn by a vision of a New Paradise in the which the raw beauty of the original creation was untouched. Now the earth calls out to us in agony, and we remain blind to the harm that we are inflicting more deeply with every passing year...It is the estrangement of so many women and men from the recognition that the world is the gift of the Creator that is the primary and fundamental estrangement that endangers the earth. For the estrangement from God leads in turn to the denial that there is a universal destination for material goods because all such goods flow ultimately from the act of God in creation. The estrangement from God the Creator leads to the refusal to recognize that the whole of the human family is one precisely because we share one Father and one destiny. And most dangerously of all, this estrangement from the Creator sets in motion the acquisitive and dominating spirits of the human heart and soul that claim their untrammeled grasping (of) the right to own and utilize the created order without reference to the grandeur of creation's order and its goal."

From a discussion of human beings' estrangement from God, Bishop moves on to discuss our estrangement from nature, truth, and from one another.

Let me conclude with this observation from Pope Francis' encyclical letter: "We are called to be instruments of God our Father, so that our planet might be what he desired when he created it and correspond with his plan for peace, beauty and fullness. The problem is that we still lack the culture needed to confront this crisis. We lack leadership capable of striking out on new paths and meeting the needs of the present with concern for all and without prejudice toward coming generations."

I wonder if those astronauts who explored the moon fifty years ago, while looking back at our planet Earth, felt a tug on their heartstrings to protect and preserve the precious gifts of creation that fill our earth. We have a responsibility to secure a just future for all of humanity.

If you are interested in reading Bishop Bob's entire address, go to the homepage for National Catholic Reporter and scroll down to "Climate should be a central priority for US church, says Bishop McElroy."

Fr. Bill +



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