

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;

MATTHEW 11:25



July 26, 2020  
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## CONNECT WITH US

312 S. State Street  
Appleton, WI 54911

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stmary@stmaryparish.org



**BAPTISM** Contact the the parish office

**CONFESSION** Saturdays, 9 - 10 AM &  
Tuesdays, 6:15-7:15 PM

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

**ST MARY CEMETERY** 920-882-4158

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## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 PM

Sunday 9:45 AM, with live stream

6:30 PM

Monday 5:30 PM

Tuesday 5:30 PM

Wednesday 12:05 PM, with live stream

Thursday 12:05 PM, with live stream

Important in the ministry of Saint Paul, the first and greatest missionary disciple in the history of the Church, is the notion of the Body of Christ. While we might immediately think of the Holy Eucharist, the precious gift of the Risen Lord's Body and Blood given to the Church through the ages, Paul often reminds us that we are the Body of Christ. We are interconnected to each other. Christianity is a faith that cannot be experienced outside of a community. Saint Paul speaks of how the body is less without hands or eyes and how each part of the body relies on the other parts. Paul writes so beautifully to the Body of Christ which is the Church in Corinth that "if one part of the Body of Christ suffers, all the parts suffer; and if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy." (I Corinthians 12.27)

During these heartbreaking days, I feel overwhelmed at times with the compassion of Jesus. I can only watch the national news in bits and pieces. It is too painful to be constantly immersed in the sufferings of so many in our own nation and throughout the world. Over one hundred forty thousand people have died across our land. Each life lost is noticed by the Risen Lord because each person is so precious to Him. Someone said that to get a notion in your head of what 140,000 lost lives might be like would be to say that if fifty jets crashed every week over the course of four months, we might approach the number of lives lost in the US during this pandemic. That is surely a stark and heartbreaking image.

I am reminded of the medieval mystic, Julian, who lived in a small cell attached to a small church in the village of Norwich, England. She is remembered for her prayer, which has a rhythmic beat to it, almost like a heartbeat. "But all will be well, and all will be well, and every kind of thing will be well."

Mahri Leonard-Fleckman, writes in her very first article for the Jesuit magazine, [America](#), that it took Julian some fifteen years to really interiorize and make real this prayer in her heart. Simply, she had trouble believing it.

In our own time, the concerns that haunt us have to do with the impact that the virus is having on our human

experience as it forces us to be physically distanced from each other. Perhaps you know how difficult this is if you have attended a funeral of a loved one recently. Young parents are struggling with how it will be when their precious children go back to school this fall. We are concerned that the proportion of our Black and Hispanic sisters and brothers dying from the virus is much greater than that of our White sisters and brothers. We watched stunned as a brother, a precious son of God, George Floyd, had the very breath of life snuffed out of him, while so many screamed that he be lifted up off the pavement. We are concerned that the virus of racism is still too prevalent in our land as we look to the courageous witness of Congressman John Lewis, who dedicated his life to racial justice and equality. His mantra of life, "Stand up, speak up, and speak out," needs to echo in every human heart as we affirm the sacred dignity of every human person. For the first time in nearly two decades, the federal government has exercised the death penalty. There are less than five nations in the whole world who impose the death penalty.

I don't know whether or not it's true for you, but for me, it seems that so much around us is not well.

After fifteen years of struggling with the Lord's meaning for her prayer, Julian came to this conclusion. She writes, "Know it well, love was his meaning. Who reveals it to you? Love. What did he reveal to you? Love. Why does he reveal it to you? For love. Remain in this, and you will know more of the same. But you will never know different, without end. So I was taught that love is the Lord's meaning."

How can it possibly be that all will be well? Through love.

In the midst of the unsettledness of it all, our only response can be to trust in the love of the Lord and to live His love in our every word and action!

Father Bill +



July 26, 2020

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to our first communicant this weekend:

Maxwell Kellermann

*"The Eucharist is at the heart of 'Christian initiation', together with Baptism and Confirmation, and it constitutes the source of the Church's life itself. From this Sacrament of love, in fact, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness." -Pope Francis*

## PARISH OFFICE AND CHURCH HOURS

The parish office will be open from 8:00 am-1:00 pm Monday-Thursday, **closed on Friday**. The church will be open from 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Monday-Thursday. Please call Fr. Bill at 920-422-4316 with any needs.

## PRAYER NEEDS

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

There are open Mass intentions for this month and beyond. Please contact Julie in the parish office to schedule.

## IN LOVING MEMORY

Please pray for those who have lost a loved one. May fond memories comfort you at this time. If you have lost a loved one and would like him or her to be remembered in the bulletin, call the parish office at 739-5119.

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

- Mon, July 27 5:30 pm For the physical & spiritual well-being of Ellen Marie Hoover
- Tue., July 28 5:30 pm For those infected with the coronavirus
- Wed., July 29 12:05 pm For the physical & spiritual well-being of Lee Edward Hurley
- Thur., July 30 12:05 pm For all working for racial equality
- Sat., July 31 4:30 pm Parishioners of St. Mary
- Sun., Aug 1 9:45 am Jacob family, Erica Lynn Baumgart, In Thanksgiving for Gerry & Jenny Schraufnagel  
6:30 pm In Thanksgiving for Gerry & Jenny Schraufnagel

### ST MARY PARISH SUPPORT

July	Budget	Received	Variance
received 7/13-7/17		13,229	
July month-to-date	\$60,000	\$52,430	\$-7,570
7/1/19-7/31/20			
<b>Fiscal Year To Date</b>	\$880,000	\$52,430	<b>\$-827,570</b>

### FAITH DIRECT

Businesses and churches are beginning to reopen, however St. Mary Parish still depends on online donations to continue our ministry.

We prayerfully invite you to sign up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Sign up today by visiting [faith.direct/WI990](http://faith.direct/WI990), or text 'Enroll' to2. **Text to Give** - Open a new text message and enter (920-294-1189) in the 'TO' Field; In the 'TEXT MESSAGE' field, enter a dollar amount, then hit SEND. You will be prompted for the next steps.

Need help with set-up? Call Faith Direct toll free: 1-866-507-8757 or contact Pam Acker in the parish office at (920) 739-5119 or [packer@stmaryparish.org](mailto:packer@stmaryparish.org).

# PARISH CONTACTS



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Dcn. Gerry Schraufnagel  
*Deacon*  
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Mary Ann Otto  
*Minister of Missionary  
Discipleship*



Nadine Duncan  
*Minister of Pastoral Care*



Emily Jenks  
*Minister of Neighborhood  
Pastoral Outreach*



Tom Walter  
*Minister of Liturgical  
Music*



Theresa Rohm  
*Minister of Business  
Administration*



Pam Acker  
*Minister of Bookkeeping*



Chip Acker  
*Minister of Cemetery &  
Facilities Management*



Julie Morse  
*Minister of Administrative  
Assistance*



Kathy Johnson  
*Minister of Communication  
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*Parish Trustee*  
419-1166



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636-8855



Cindy Boyer  
*Pastoral Leadership  
Council Chair*  
858-7345



Mike Hurley  
*Finance Council Chair*  
740-7077

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



## UPDATED MASS INFORMATION

There is no need to sign up for Mass anymore. A Liturgical Minister signup link is on the home page of the website, to help at any Mass through August. Currently, we need four to six hospitality ministers, one lector, and someone to run the music PowerPoint at each Mass.

## NEWS ABOUT OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES INITIATIVE

(Formerly known as our Inter-Parish Religious Formation Program)  
The brainstorming and enthusiastic discussions continue as we look ahead to the 2020/2021 year. We are in the early stages of looking at a tentative (pandemic sensitive) schedule that places our Middle and High School Youth on Sunday evenings with opportunity for hospitality, and to participate in the Sunday Evening 6:30 pm Mass. The Elementary Children would remain on Wednesday Evenings. We would offer some in person and virtual options at each level.

We are also looking at resources for both in person and virtual sessions. Our goal for all grade levels is small group, relational, faith sharing. Our Middle School would be grounded in the Edge Program and our High School in Life Teen. We are reviewing a wide variety of resources for our Elementary Level, First Reconciliation and Eucharist and Confirmation. Whatever is selected, we would like it to be engaging!

Two other items have been included in our discussions for the upcoming year. We would like to offer opportunities for parents to relax together while their children/youth are in their sessions as well as provide events that would include our Catholic School Families. Getting to know each other is crucial in becoming a strong parish family and worshiping together on the weekend.

We are currently interviewing candidates for the Minister of Young Disciples position. Please pray with us that the right person will hear the Spirit's call to join us.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please call or email Mary Ann Otto at 739-5119 or [motto@stmaryparish.org](mailto:motto@stmaryparish.org)



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