



Weekly Update | August 22, 2021

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



Health & Safety Information

With Covid-19 numbers increasing due to the Delta variant we want to remind everyone of our health and safety practices in place. We will continue to monitor and adjust to state, local, and Diocesan level health directives.

- Masks are **strongly** encouraged. Staff will be masking during Mass.
- Those who are **not** fully vaccinated **should** continue to wear a face covering in our indoor and outdoor spaces. Those who are fully vaccinated can attend Mass or be in any parish building without a face covering.
- Face coverings are *always* welcome for anyone, even if you are fully vaccinated.
- During Mass, the chapel and choir loft will be reserved for those wearing face coverings. You are always welcome to wear a mask in the church.

[CLICK HERE](#) if you would like to find out where you can get a vaccine.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see CDC guidelines for choosing safe activities

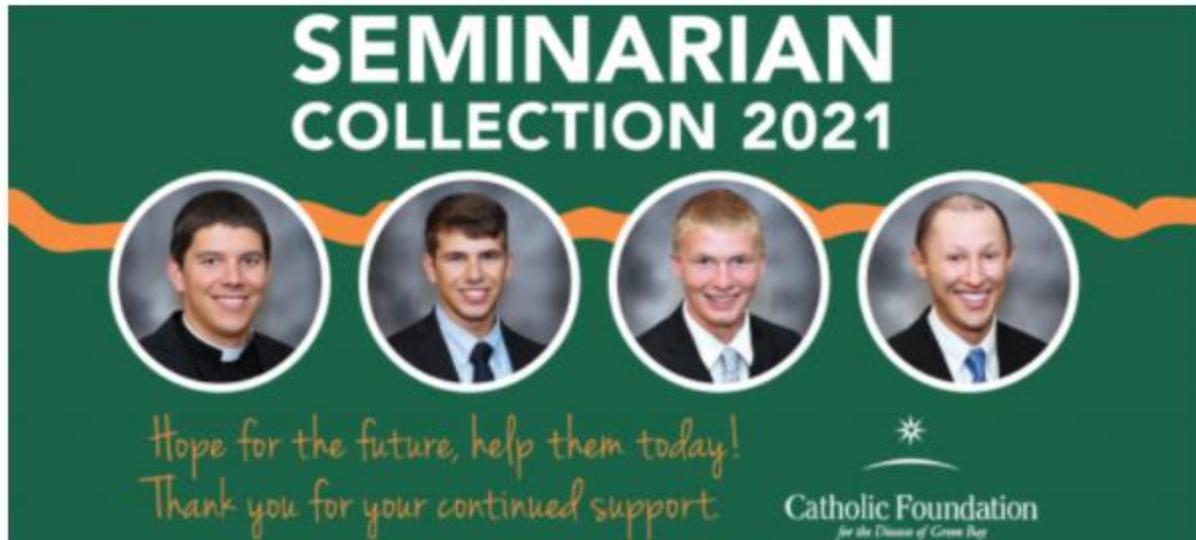
Technology Upgrades Are Nearing Completion

Last weekend we began to use the in-person displays. Thank you Mary Ellen J., Kara M., and Helen K. for being the first operators! Carpentry projects are ongoing to hide wires and complete the ushers room. We have a few small items to finish in the coming weeks, but are almost at a point of completion.

Thank you for your patience as we've rolled this project out in stages!

Seminarian Collection

The annual Seminarian Collection invites the faithful of the Diocese to participate in the Seminarian education of our future priests, who are our "Hope for the Future." Find out more and make a donation here.



Free Vaccine Clinic

On Monday August 23rd LEAVEN will host a FREE COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic from 8:30am - 12:30 PM. ID and Insurance NOT required!

Those who get vaccinated will receive each of the following:

- \$20 Gas Card
- Voucher for a free box of food
- Free lunch from onsite food truck

LEAVEN is located at 1475 Opportunity Way, Menasha WI 54952 To learn more or to register please call (920)204-6729

Get vaccinated. Protect your family.

FREE COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC

**Monday, August 23, 2021
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Second dose vaccine clinic options:
 • LEAVEN on 9/15/2021
 • Menasha Health Department on 9/15/2021

LEAVEN Fox Cities
 1475 Opportunity Way
 Menasha, WI 54952

Located on the Valley French bus line. Need transportation support? Contact Make the Ride Happen at (920) 204-1719.

Those who get vaccinated will receive:

- \$20 gas gift card
- Voucher for a free box of food
- Meal provided by the on-site food truck from **HSW**

Pfizer Vaccine The Pfizer vaccine requires a second dose and is available to those 12-years-old and up. Those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. For more information about vaccines, visit the WI Department of Health Services online. www.wisconsin.gov/health-services

ID and insurance NOT required.

- ▶ Walk-ins welcome
- ▶ Name and phone number needed
- ▶ Spanish and Hmong interpreters on site

To register or for more information, call **(920) 204-6729**
 Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thank you to our supporting community sponsors:

Logos include: Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, LEAVEN, Ascension, Food Programs, Community Foundation, Calumet County, HSW, Multicultural Communications Committee, KUNZINGER, 60, and others.

College & Military Care Packages

We are searching for our young adults who will be in college or the military for 2021-2022. It is our intention to send *Ripples of God's love from our hearts to their hearts* via WONDERFUL CARE PACKAGES several times in the upcoming year.

To participate please send the following information on your young adult(s):

Name

College or Military Base

Address (at college or military base; be sure to include the correct zip code)

Name any food allergies _____

We are also looking to create a team of parents who might enjoy creating our WONDERFUL CARE PACKAGES and perhaps do some packaging. We will be sending three packages in 2021-2022.

Please send your young adult's information and/or if you are willing to help to Mary Ann Otto at motto@stmaryparish.org or call 920-739-5119.

School Supply Drive & Backpack Blessing

- **School Supply Drive** -Weekends of **August 14/15 & 21/22**. We'll be collecting new school supplies for our community partners at the CELC & Harbor House.
- **Backpack Blessing** - Weekend of **August 28/29**. Students of all ages are invited to bring in their school bags for a special blessing and gift. We'll also have Coffee & Donuts after the 7:45 & 9:45 Masses.

Blood Drive

St. Mary's will be hosting a blood drive on **Sunday, September 5th** from 7 - 11:30 am. To schedule your lifesaving donation visit this [site](#). Log in, click "Donate Now" and use sponsor code A364. You may also sign up by calling the Community Blood Center at (800) 280-4102.

A Grateful & Blessed Family

Ripples of God's Love - Through Our Hearts - To All Hearts!

St. Mary Parish Support			
August 2021	Budget	Received	Variance
received 8/9 - 8/13-2020		24,374	
August - month to date:	63,000	34,947	-28,053
7/1/21-8/31/2021			
Fiscal Year To Date :	127,000	119,397	-7,603



Mass Times Intention

Mon., August 23, 8:00am	@ St. Bernard Parish
Tue., August 24, 8:00am	@ St. Bernard Parish
Wed., August 25, 12:05pm	Victor Weber
Thur., August 26, 12:05pm	Heidi Seinel
Sat., August 28, 4:30pm	Fr Bob Lexa
Sun., August 29, 7:45am	Bill Polley
9:45am	Jeff Voras
6:30pm	Parishioners of St Mary Parish

We have openings for intentions for weekday and weekend Masses. Please stop by the parish office or call us at 739-5119 to schedule a Mass in memory of a loved one. We are happy to take Mass intentions over the phone. The \$10 stipend can be sent via the mail or dropped in the weekend collection in an envelope with a note to apply it to your Mass intention.

Events Calendar

Monday, August 23

Parish Office Closed!

7:00pm Boy Scouts/St. Anne Room

8:00pm AA Meeting/L1&L3

Tuesday, August 24

2:00pm Rosary Group/Church

6:15pm Confessions/Chapel

Wednesday, August 25

9:00am Mom's Group/Community Room

9:00am Connect, Pray, Reflect on the Sunday Scriptures/L7

Thursday, August 26

No events

Friday, August 27

Parish Office closed

Saturday, August 28

9:00am Confessions/Chapel

2:00pm Altenhofen/Wagner Wedding

Sunday, August 29

Mass Attendance

As we have plenty of socially distanced capacity at all weekday Masses, we will no longer be tracking and publishing weekday Mass counts. Please join us! Our weekday Masses offer a very safe worship environment.

Saturday, 4:30 pm (114)

Sunday, 7:45 am (67), 9:45 am (157), 6:30 pm (70)

In Loving Memory

If you have lost a loved one and would like them to be remembered in the bulletin, call the parish office at 739-5119.

Prayer Requests

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.

St. Mary Parish Office

312 S. State Street
Appleton, WI 54911
920-739-5119
stmaryparish.org

MINISTERS & SUPPORT STAFF

Fr. Bill Swichtenberg, Pastor
wdswitz@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-422-4316

Dcn. Gerry Schraufnagel
Deacon
cell 920-540-9594

Nadine Duncan
Pastoral Care
nduncan@stmaryparish.org

Tom Walter
Liturgical Music
twalter@stmaryparish.org

Theresa Rohm
Business Administrator
trohm@stmaryparish.org

Chip Acker
Cemetery & Facilities Management
cacker@stmaryparish.org

Parish Trustees

Ted Suess 920-636-8855

Pastoral Leadership Council Chair
Beth Power 703-819-4829

Finance Council Chair
Larry Bonneville 920-419-3097

St. Mary Cemetery
920-882-4158

Xavier Catholic School System
920-735-9380

Hours

Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm
closed Fridays
Contact us:
stmary@stmaryparish.org

Mary Ann Otto
Missionary Discipleship
motto@stmaryparish.org

Tracy Turba
Minister of Young Disciples
tturba@stmaryparish.org

Emily Jenks
Neighborhood Outreach & Parish
Vitality, ejenks@stmaryparish.org

Chris Higgins
Director of Information Technology
chiggins@stmaryparish.org

Pam Acker
Bookkeeper
packer@stmaryparish.org

Julie Morse
Administrative Assistant
stmary@stmaryparish.org

Marriage

Congratulations! Contact Fr. Bill at least 6 months before your planned wedding date.

Baptism

Congratulations! Contact Nadine Duncan for information.

Confession

Sat. 9-10am and Tues. 6:15-7:15pm
(except for the 1st Tues. of the month)

In Joy & Sorrow with Father Bill +

Perhaps you watched the New York Yankees vs the Chicago White Sox play in Dyersville, Iowa, last Thursday evening. The location was in the middle of nowhere and amongst the tall-standing, emerald green corn stalks. The field, bleachers, and refreshment stands were all created for the night by the MLB. The site, of course, was the location where the movie *Field of Dreams*, starring Kevin Costner, was filmed in 1989.

There was something magical about this baseball game. Of course, in addition to baseball, there were hotdogs, apple pie, and even Chevrolet trucks. The evening weather was picture perfect and the sunset was majestic. There was something so pure about the night. The scoreboard was wooden and the runs and hits were put up on cards by hand. The home run balls soared out into the cornfield and no one went looking for them.

We always think somehow that things were simpler in the past, easier, and more innocent. While technology, the internet, cell phones, and social media are great gifts in our time, they often can be great distractions and quite addictive. Life was simpler without all of that stuff back then, but that life still had its ups and downs. Certainly the World Wars and the Great Depression were very challenging times to live through.

We sometimes dream about a different life back then. Or we dream about how our lives could be less complicated and cluttered. Or we dream about how our

global family could one day live in peace and harmony, treasuring the sacred dignity of every single human being.

Our sisters and brothers in Haiti have dreamed so hard for so many years for a life that is free from natural disasters and political corruption and disruption. They dream about simply providing the basics of food and shelter for their loved ones. Those dreams struggle to become reality still today.

The dreams of our sisters and brothers in Afghanistan have been shattered. Certainly progress had been made in affirming the sacred dignity of girls and women across that land. Yes, education is a basic human right. Yes, the opportunity to have a career is a right for all women. Have these dreams been put on hold or even destroyed?

Our dear veterans, serving so faithfully so far away from their homes and loved ones, over the course of twenty years, had dreams for the people of Afghanistan, too. They met them, they worked alongside them, they knew them as good people with fierce hopes. Whatever the outcome under the new rule of an extremist Islamic group, what our men and women did in those individual moments to affirm and encourage ordinary people can never be erased. For a time, so many people were beginning to live their dreams. Those holy moments were real and transforming. We are grateful to our women and men who served. We pray for those who gave their lives to create so many sparks of hope.

In Joy & Sorrow with Father Bill +

We pray for their families and friends who grieve their deaths.

Father Henri Nouwen once said, "Most prayers are prayers of grieving."

My prayers this week have centered around connecting with my brothers and sisters who are grieving in Haiti and Afghanistan. There is a heavy sadness. The key is to ask the Lord to give us a renewed desire to dream again.

Terence Mann's speech in *The Field of Dreams* is maybe a good way to end our reflection. Terence was a fictional character played by James Earl Jones in the movie.

They'll come to Iowa for reasons they can't even fathom. They'll turn up in your driveway, not knowing for sure why they're doing it. They'll arrive at your door as innocent as children, longing for the past...And they'll walk out to the bleachers, and sit in shirt-sleeves on a perfect

afternoon. They'll find they have reserved seats somewhere along one of the baselines, and it'll be as if they'd dipped themselves in magic waters. The memories will be so thick, they'll have to brush them away from their faces...The one constant through all the years, Ray, has been baseball. America has rolled by like an army of steamrollers. It's been erased like a blackboard, rebuilt, and erased again. But baseball marked the time. This field, this game - it's part of our past, Ray. It reminds us of all that was good, and it could be again. Ohhhhh, people will come, Ray. People will most definitely come.

Let us dip our hearts into the magical love of the Lord. Let us remember all that is good. Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who are struggling to experience the Lord's hope, peace, and strength.

By the way, the White Sox eked out a victory against the Yankees by a score of 9 to 8.

Fr. Bill +