



Weekly Update | September 5, 2021

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Beacon Child & Youth Ministry Registration is Open!

Together at St. Mary's with our families we desire to help youth know that they are loved, that they have a home in the church, and grow in their relationship with Jesus here in the present. We are looking forward to diving deeper in this with you as Beacon begins this October.

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.

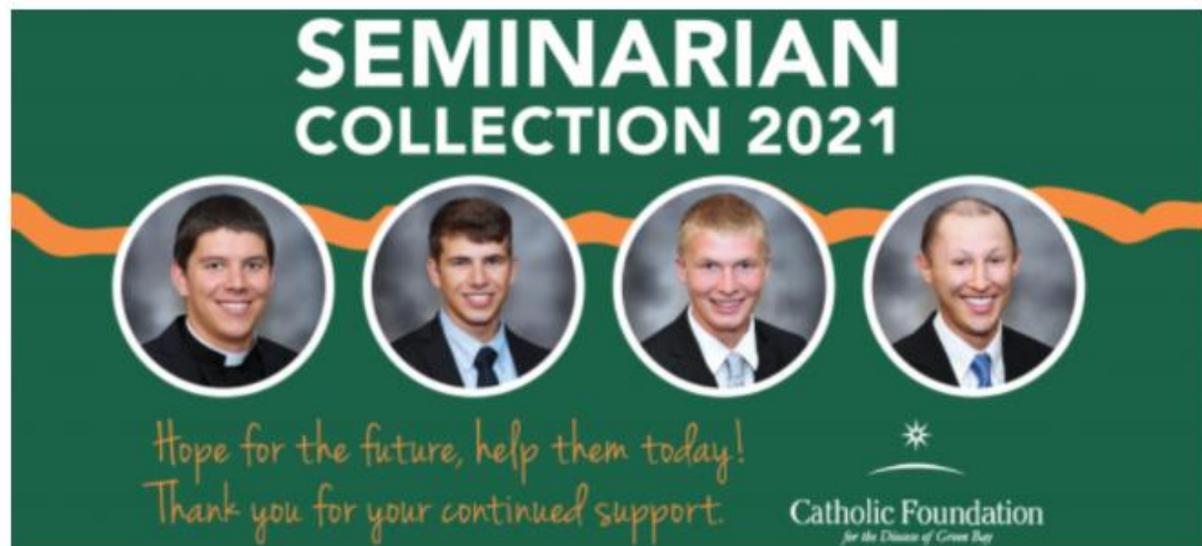
Blood Drive

St. Mary's will be hosting a blood drive this **Sunday, September 5th** from 7 - 11:30 am. There is a critical need for blood at the moment.

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.

2021 Seminarian Collection

Our 16th annual Seminarian Collection is underway. By now, you have received a letter from Bishop Ricken inviting you to take part in the vocation mission. Please return the pledge card through the mail, or donate online at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give. Whatever you are able to give is greatly appreciated.



Coffee & Donut Update

We're happy to bring coffee and donuts back on a weekly basis this Fall. This is a great time for our parish family to gather and for new people to get connected! We need volunteers to help with this ministry. Would your family consider taking a shift this Fall to help serve our Parish Family? [Sign up here](#). Contact Emily with questions - ejenks@stmaryparish.org



Irish Fest Fox Cities

St. Mary's is happy to be sponsoring Irish Fest Fox Cities on September 17 - 18.

We'll be hosting several cultural events in the Community Room and our 4:30 Saturday Mass on September 18 will be Celtic. We'll have special musical guests from Gaelic Storm and Dangle playing music before this Mass. Please keep in mind that this Mass may be larger in size.

We could use a few volunteers in the areas below from the Parish to help make this exciting collaboration successful.

- Provide hospitality during the sessions on Friday and Saturday afternoon
- A history buff who would be interested in giving a brief history of St. Mary's Irish history
- Help assist with the coordinator of the Celtic Mass

Please contact Emily if you are interested in getting involved - ejenks@stmaryparish.org.

September St. Joseph Food Collection

Our St. Joseph Food Collection for September is this weekend - September 5th & 6th. We'll be collecting items for lunch boxes (peanut butter, jelly, fruit cups, etc). Please no glass or perishable items!

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 8/23 - 8/27-2020		9,643	
August - month to date:	63,000	58,461	-4,539
7/1/21-8/31/2021			
Fiscal Year To Date :	127,000	142,911	15,911



Mass Times Intention

Mon., September 6, 8:00am	@ St. Bernard Parish
Tue., September 7, 8:00am	@ St. Bernard Parish
Wed., September 8, 12:05pm	Gerald Noskowiak
Thur., September 9, 12:05pm	Janice Mercier
Sat., September 11, 4:30pm	Mike Hurley
Sun., September 12, 7:45am	Sharon Bengel
	9:45am Bill Hoffman
	6:30pm Ed Jochman

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, September 6

Labor Day - Parish Office Closed!

6:30pm - THEO/Community Room

6:30 Matthew 25/Virtual

7:00pm Boy Scouts/St. Anne Room

8:00pm AA Meeting/L1&L3

Tuesday, September 7

1:00pm St Mary & St Joe's Prayer Shawl Group/St Joseph Church

2:00pm Rosary Group/Church

6:00pm Quilting Group/St Anne Room

6:00pm Book Club/L4

7:00pm Pastoral Council/CR

Wednesday, September 8

Staff Retreat - Parish Office Closed!

9:00am Mom's Group/Community Room

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

Thursday, September 9

8:30am CIA/FMO Meeting/L7

Friday, September 10

Parish Office closed!

Saturday, September 11

9:00am Confessions/Chapel

2:00pm Patrick & Whitney Pembroke Marriage Blessing

Sunday, September 12

Coffee & Donuts after 7:45am & 9:45am Masses

11:00am Owen Michael Higgins Baptism/Church

9:00 am Confirmation Preparation Session St Anne Room (9:45 Mass)

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 (117)

Sunday, 7:45 am (106), 9:45 am (180), 6:30 pm (71)

In Loving Memory

Please pray for the family and friends of *Jack Schaefer*, Amy Wieckert's father, and, *Judy Ann Smith*, mother-in-law of Josh Verhagen. May fond memories comfort them at this time. 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 Mary Jo Zilisch (920-734-1182 or 920-843-1249) or Laurie Richter (lauriejrichter@gmail.com) 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
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Dcn. Gerry Schraufnagel
 Deacon
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Nadine Duncan
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Theresa Rohm
 Business Administrator
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Chip Acker
 Cemetery & Facilities Management
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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
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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

Guest Columnist: Emily Jenks, Minister of Parish Vitality, Outreach, and Communications

As August draws to a close I, like many of us, have been trying to soak up the last few moments of summer. For me this means an extra trip (or two) to the ice cream shop, wearing my favorite summer dresses a few more times and enjoying the bountiful summer produce. It has also meant reviewing the summer house projects I've been putting off.

On a recent, random Tuesday evening, I decided to tackle one of these projects. I took out the needed tools and equipment to install a piece of equipment on my house, but quickly realized I needed a taller ladder to gain access. I summoned a neighbor and he quickly came over to help me reach the height I needed. That neighbor left and I proceeded on to the next step. Not being the most mechanically inclined, I hit another stumbling block and didn't have the right screwdriver size. I spent some time fumbling around trying to make what I had work. I was becoming frustrated when another neighbor came and offered me help. Being an actual tradesman, he was able to help me finish the installation without a hitch. When he first offered to help, my reaction was to say "no, I got this". I wanted to be able to do at least a portion of this project myself. Reluctantly, I took the help and it was amazing how quickly he was able to finish, what I couldn't even start. We shared a few laughs about it and also caught up-

happenings in the neighborhood. Later on that evening I was reflecting on the experience of needing not one, but two neighbors to help me. My first feeling was of a bit of embarrassment for not being able to finish a simple project on my own. This quickly turned to a feeling of gratitude. Not only gratitude for having people willing to help, but also for the ability to accept help and to strengthen neighborly friendships through it.

Pope Francis often speaks on the illusion of individualism that dominates our modern society. It's the tendency to make everything about ourselves and our own self-reliance. It was the voice that allowed me to say to my neighbor, "no thanks, I got this". In the *Joy of the Gospel*, he has this to say "*individualism of our postmodern and globalized era favours a lifestyle which weakens the development and stability of personal relationships and distorts family bonds*". He has since warned of our need to come out of the pandemic not caught up in individualism. In an address to Italian healthcare workers in June of 2020, he shared this: "*It is easy to quickly forget that we need others, someone who takes care of us, who gives us courage. Forgetting that we all need a Father who holds out his hand.*"

In Joy & Sorrow

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When we accept the help of others, we accept the help of God. We practice the ability to see our places of perceived weakness as opportunities to be strengthened by the community and family of God. We are reminded that we aren't made for ourselves, but rather to love and serve one another.

As we move into this season of fall our lives may pick up new routines, responsibilities or struggles. We'll likely have the opportunity to reach a hand out to help others and to have that hand extended to us. May we have the courage to say "yes" in both these situations and in doing so greater experience the love of the Father in ourselves and our communities.

- *Emily*