

WEEKLY UPDATE

November 20, 2022

Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe



**HEY TURKEY
TROTTERS!**



**JOIN US TO WARM UP AND
REFUEL WITH SNACKS POSTRACE**

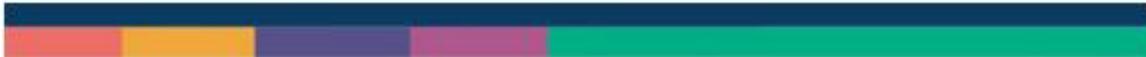
**STAY FOR MASS
NEW! LATER MASS TIME - 10AM**

**The
KINGDOM
is
COMING**
ADVENT 2022 @ ST. MARY APPLETON

*Discuss Fr. Bill's
Advent homily series
with a group!*

- TUESDAYS 9AM
- WEDNESDAYS 9:30AM
- THURSDAYS 7PM
- AT COFFEE & DONUTS
ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

**TO JOIN: CONTACT NADINE
NDUNCAN@STMARYPARISH.ORG**



November is Gratitude & Giving Month

We want to thank you for your generosity to the parish. That support enables us on our way forward with our mission and vision and the key values (*Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Ministry, Mission*) identified by the parish over the past few years.

Your financial commitment allows the parish not just the ability to keep the lights on and offer sacraments but to reach out to the parish family helping to build faith and encounter Jesus in small groups, planned programs, and fellowship activities.



These are just a few of the programs that the parish is able to offer because of your generosity.

Beacon Ministry and our parish support for the Xavier Catholic School System have helped build the Catholic faith and experience of our young people. Beacon Religious Formation reached more than 70 K-12 students last year and is growing. Our parish is committed to helping catholic education continue its strong presence in the community with more than 90 students in the Xavier schools.

For our adult parishioners, last year alone still coming out of Covid protocols, there were more than 2 dozen formation events, and a large variety of community activities:

- Be Like Jesus series
- Fr. Bill's Homily Connect series
- Dozens of college care packages have been sent to our young adult members
- Hundreds of seasonal faith-based project bags have been delivered to parish families
- Hundreds of greeting cards have been sent to our parishioners experiencing milestones in their lives.

Over the next few months we will be working on a strategic plan to focus a light on our path. It is with your financial pledge that we are able to offer programs and activities, and to hire the staff that organize these events that move us forward toward Christ.

Return your pledge card in the green envelope at Mass on November 12 & 13 or November 19 & 20. You can also send your pledge to the parish in the green envelope as well.

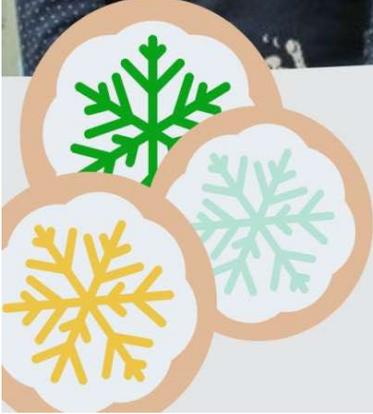
Ripples of God's Love, Through Our Hearts, to All hearts.





**ON YOUR MARK,
GET SET,
BAKE!**

**Cookies for the Appleton
Christmas Parade Open House**



Help us welcome parade attendees, participants,
neighbors & friends with delicious cookies.
Sign up & details at stmaryparish.org.



HELP NEEDED



Advent Bake Sale set up & sellers
Help us make this year's sale a success!

**For details or to
volunteer, call Cindy
at 920-731-2430**

**Student
Service Hour
Opportunity!**



SHOP SCRIP FOR YOUR HOLIDAY NEEDS

Gift cards make great gifts and stocking stuffers!

Shop the Scrip table after weekend Masses or stop in the office during business hours.



NEW!
\$25
Menards
gift cards



NEEDS TREE

KICKOFF - NOV. 19/20

Trees with tags will be in church & Marian Way

GIFTS DUE - by DEC. 3/4

NEW THIS YEAR! If possible, return gifts in a reusable cloth or vinyl shopping bag. Many residents in group homes use these bags for their personal belongings, so it's a useful gift as well.

Monetary donations are also welcomed. Contribute with cash, check made out to St. Mary Parish (write "Needs Tree" in the memo), or online via Faith Direct.

Help bring back Children's Liturgy of the Word

- Volunteers needed to work with kids ages 3-5
- The children will meet during the 9:45 am Mass.
- Beginning this Advent
- Contact Tracy in the parish office
tturba@stmaryparish.org
920-739-5119



Lost and Found!

We have several lost and found items that will be located in the community room the weekend of **November 19th and 20th**. Please look to see if we have one of your gloves, hats, mitts, and other various items. Items not taken that weekend will be given away to those in need.



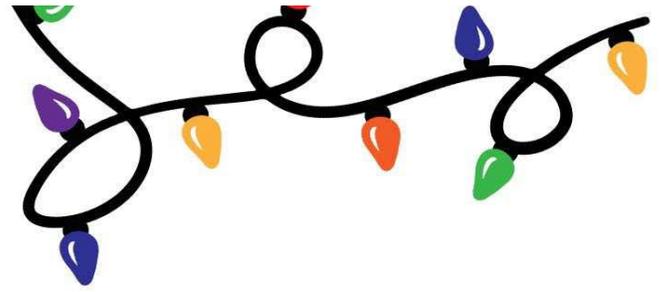
“Let Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: he is God with us.”

Blessed Carlo Acutis



Adoration

Come spend some quiet time in church with Jesus every Wednesday between 4:30pm and 8:00pm.



APPLETON CHRISTMAS PARADE OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday
Nov. 22
5-9pm

St. Mary
Community Room
312 S. State Street



hot chocolate & cookies



**warm restrooms &
gathering space**



parade livestream

All are welcome!



ANNUAL ADVENT BAKE SALE

DECEMBER 3
after 4:30pm Mass

DECEMBER 4
after 7:45am & 9:45am Masses



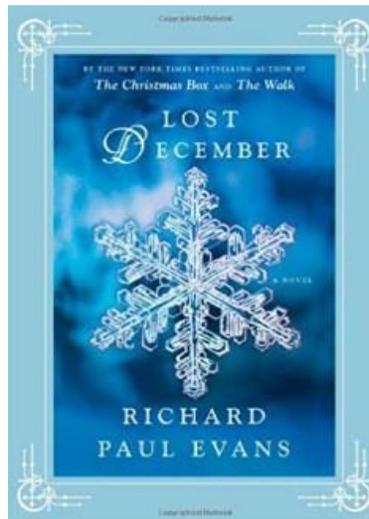
Bring in your famous baked goods! Drop them off:

• anytime
Friday, Dec. 2

• anytime
Saturday, Dec. 3

• before the 7:45am
Mass on Sunday, Dec. 4

St. Mary's Book Club



From one of America's most beloved storytellers comes his most spiritual book since *The Christmas Box*. The New York Times bestselling author of *The Christmas Box* and *The Walk* series returns with a modern-day, Christmas-themed retelling of the story of the prodigal son. We will discuss this book on December 13th at 6:00pm in room 4 of the lower level at St Mary Parish.

January's selection is *Where the Past Begins: A Writer's Memoir* by Amy Tan who is the best selling author of *The Joy Luck Club*, and, *The Valley of Amazement*.

For more information, please contact Mary Schulz, 920-809-4474. New members are welcome to join anytime.



ST. FRANCIS
XAVIER
Catholic School System



OCT. 27, NOV. 10, DEC. 1
8:30-10:30 A.M.

A MORNING OF CONVERSATION & COMPANY

Meet other parents, share experiences, and enjoy a space that nurtures positive growth and social interaction for children!

Open to all parents and their children ages birth to 4.

JOIN US! @ St. Bernard Parish
1617 W. Pine Street, Appleton

**RESERVE
YOUR SPOT!** bit.ly/joyfilledchaos

(920)735-9380 / Admissions@XavierCatholicSchools.org

Check out all the opportunities at **Xavier Middle School**

4th Grade Day



Mon., Nov. 28th
9:00-11:30 a.m.

(920) 735-9380 or Admissions@XavierCatholicSchools.org

Spectacular holiday fun for the whole family!



CHRISTMAS STARS

2022



7:00 pm December 1-3 & 8-10
1:00 pm December 3*, 4, 10, 11



*An American Sign Language Interpreter will be provided at the 1pm performance on December 3rd.



The Xavier Fine Arts Theatre is equipped with a hearing loop.

Xavier Fine Arts Theatre • 1600 W. Prospect Avenue, Appleton

www.christmasstars.org • (920) 733-8840

Christmas Stars ticket sales are open online and at the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre box office. Box office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from noon until 3pm. Come and be delighted by a spectacular Broadway-style revue featuring religious and secular holiday music performed by a cast of singers, dancers and actors ages five to senior citizen. Experience the dazzling Christmas parade, a visit from Santa and the breathtaking "Living Nativity" finale. An American Sign Language interpreter will be provided at the 1pm performance on December 3rd. For ticket purchases or questions, please call 920-733-8840 or visit www.christmasstars.org. To visit the Xavier Theatre Box Office, please use the main theatre entrance, located under the arched canopy, on the west end of the school building.

In Loving Memory

Please pray for the family and friends of Doris Skotzke and the family and friends of Ivy Peters. 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 920-739-5119.

Prayer Requests

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

Mass Times and Intentions

Mon., November 21, 12:05pm	Parishioners of St. Mary
Tue., November 22, 8:00am	Mass at St. Bernard Parish
Wed., November 23, 8:00am	Mass at St. Bernard Parish
Thur., November 24, 10:00 am	Debbie & Dave Wagner
Sat., November 26, 4:30pm	Jim Martin
Sun., November 27, 7:45am	Parishioners of St. Mary
9:45am	Deceased members of the Hebel & Kokke Families
6:30pm	

Events Calendar

Monday, November 21

6:30pm THEO Grief Support Group/Community Room

7:00pm Boy Scouts/St. Anne Room

Tuesday, November 22

9:00am Connect Group/Lower Level Room 7

2:00pm Rosary Group/Church

5:00pm Christmas Open House/Community Room

6:15pm Confessions/Chapel

Wednesday, November 23

9:30am Connect Group/Lower Level Room 7

4:30pm Adoration/Church

6:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal/Lower Level Room 5

Thursday, November 24

Happy Thanksgiving! Parish Office closed!

10:00am Mass

Friday, November 25

Parish Office closed!

Saturday, November 26

Scrip sold after 4:30 Mass

9:00am Confessions/Chapel

4:30pm Adult Choir sings at Mass

Sunday, November 27

Coffee & Donuts, and, Scrip sold after 7:45 and 9:45 Mass



In Joy & Sorrow

with Fr. Bill Swichtenberg

ST. MARY PARISH | 312 S. STATE STREET APPLETON, WI | 920.739.5119 |

11.20.2022

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Some nine years ago, I remember coming to this parish family after serving the parish families of Saint Mary in Algoma and Holy Rosary Parish in Kewaunee. My introduction to this faith community in Appleton was to pray Vespers, the Evening Prayer of the Church, with my new spiritual family. I still recall the story I told on that night. It is a Jewish story that sticks with me and has the power to speak an important Gospel message. Here is that story once again:

There were once two brothers who shared a farm. One brother had a large family to support. The other brother was single. They were good farmers, and they were blessed with abundant harvests. Each year, they gave heartfelt thanks to the Lord and then divided their grain evenly and put it into two separate barns.

One night the single brother thought to himself: "It's not right that we divide the grain evenly. I have only myself to support, but my brother has many mouths to feed. I should give him some of my grain!" So the brother went out each night and secretly transferred some grain from his barn to the barn of his married brother.

That same night the married brother thought to himself: "It's not right that we should divide the grain evenly. My children will look after me in my old age. My brother, though, has no one to look after him. He needs to save more for his retirement." So the married brother would go out each night and secretly transfer grain to his brother's barn.

Each night the brothers secretly moved grain to the other's barn. Each morning they found their grain had been replenished! They thanked God for the miracle and never told anyone about it.

Then one night they met in the middle of the field with their bags of grain. At once they realized what had happened. They embraced each other with laughter and tears.

And on that spot they built the Temple!

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate the Feast of Thanksgiving, it will do us good to remember that gratitude is the fountain from which every other virtue flows in the spiritual life. Without gratitude to the Lord, we short circuit any sense of the purpose and meaning in our lives. Gratitude to the Lord grounds us in the reality that the Lord is a part of our lives and

that without the Lord, we are nothing and can do nothing. Every gift in our lives has been placed there by the Lord. Even our next breath is a gift from the Lord and our last breath brings us into the Lord's eternal presence if that is truly something we have desired throughout our lives.

The first virtue flowing from that gratitude fountain in our hearts is generosity. Gratitude without generosity is like trying to live with one lung or having only one mitten to wear on a bitterly cold winter day.

Gratitude to the Lord and generosity to others are the cornerstones of the Church. The People of God must be people of gratitude and generosity. A Christian community cannot exist if there is no gratitude and no generosity.

The Mass itself, which is our Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, conforms us into the image and likeness of Jesus, who was effusive in his daily prayer of thanks to His Father and was generous in love for you and me, even to the point of death on the Cross. The Church is gratitude made visible and generosity made visible!

I warmly invite you to begin your celebration with family and friends on Thursday with the celebration of our greatest Thanksgiving Prayer offered at every time and place in our world every day! Our Mass begins at 10 am!

Happy Thanksgiving Day!

Fr. Bill +

St. Mary Parish Office

312 S. State Street

Appleton, WI 54911

920-739-5119

Website: stmaryparish.org

Business Hours:

Mon - Thurs, 9am-4pm

closed Fridays

Contact us:

stmary@stmaryparish.org

MINISTERS & SUPPORT STAFF**Fr. Bill Swichtenberg, Pastor**

wdswitz@stmaryparish.org

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Deacon Gerry Schraufnagel

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Beth Power 703-819-4829

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Larry Bonneville 920-419-3097

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tturba@stmaryparish.org

Mary Ellen Fisher

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mefisher@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

St. Mary Cemetery

920-882-4158

cemetery@stmaryparish.org

Website: stmaryparishcemetery.org

Xavier Catholic School System

920-735-9380