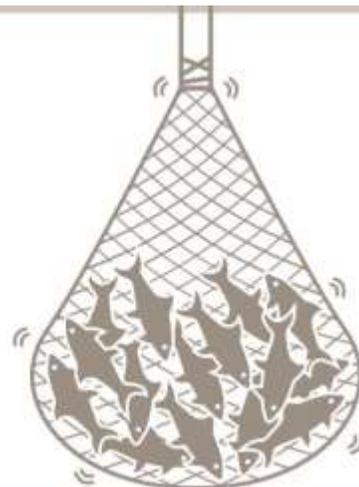


# ST. MARY PARISH - APPLETON WEEKLY UPDATE



**January 22, 2023**

*3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

## **Come Join Our Team**

After nearly seven years on staff at the parish, Julie Morse is retiring. If you are interested in applying for the Business Office Administrative Assistant position, follow this link -

<https://www.gbdioc.org/front-page/careers> Click on the Parishes of the Diocese of Green Bay link and click on the Business Office Administrative Assistant link.

Feel free to contact Chris Higgins with questions.

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## **Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**



**Wednesdays  
4:30 pm – 8:00 pm  
in the Church.**

**Come to me all you who  
labor and are burdened  
and I will give you rest.**

*Matthew 11:28*

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## 2023 Financial Pledge Forms

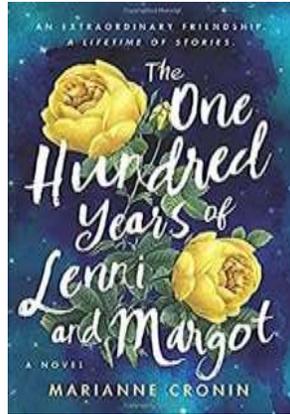
We have received 38% of them so far. **Very soon we will begin calling members who have not returned their pledge yet**, so please continue to send them in via the mail or drop them in the collection box. Thank you!

## Seeking Volunteers for Eucharistic Ministry

The Spiritual Care Department at St. Elizabeth Hospital is in need of volunteer Eucharistic Ministers to help bring Our Lord and Savior in the Holy Eucharist, to our brothers and sisters who are patients at the hospital. Volunteers, however, need to already be commissioned as Eucharistic Ministers within their parish. All new volunteers shadow an experienced Eucharistic Minister until they feel comfortable to distribute Holy Communion alone.

All volunteers are required to be Covid-19 vaccinated and complete a volunteer application and training. Background checks and annual flu vaccinations are part of the initial orientation. If you are interested, please contact Volunteer Services at (920)738-2425 or email [sehvolsvs@ascension.org](mailto:sehvolsvs@ascension.org).

# St. Mary's Book Club



The next St Mary/St Joseph Book Club discussion will take place at 6pm on Tuesday, February 7th in Room L4 (changed to first Tuesday due to Valentine's Day Feb 14). Our book selection is: *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot: A Novel*. The book is a mixture of love and laughter, loss and sorrow, hope and new adventures, of two people separated by sixty-six years.

Looking further ahead, the book selected for discussion Tuesday, March 14, is *I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives* by Catlin Alifirenka, a New York Times bestselling true story of an all-American girl and a boy from Zimbabwe and the letter that changed both of their lives forever.

Looking even further ahead, the book selected for discussion on Tuesday, April 11, is *We Begin at the End* by Chris Whitaker. Winner of the Gold Dagger for Best Crime Novel from the Crime Writers Association (UK); winner for Best International Crime Fiction from Australian Crime Writers Association; and an instant *New York Times* bestseller.

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

## 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 920-739-5119.

## 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.



# PREVIEW NIGHT

WEDS. JAN. 25  
6:30-8:00 P.M.

#1

IN BEST PRIVATE  
K-12 SCHOOLS IN  
APPLETON AREA  
[NICHE.COM 2022]

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT

[Admissions@XavierCatholicSchools.org](mailto:Admissions@XavierCatholicSchools.org) or (920) 735-9380

Reserve your spot! [Bit.ly/xmspn2023](https://bit.ly/xmspn2023)



# XAVIER ELEMENTARY

## OPEN HOUSE

PK3 · 4K · KINDERGARTEN

Thurs., January 26 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

More info at (920)735-9380 or [Admissions@XavierCatholicSchools.org](mailto:Admissions@XavierCatholicSchools.org)



Reserve your spot at [bit.ly/xhsregnight2023](https://bit.ly/xhsregnight2023)  
or by phone to (920) 733-6632



# Xavier High School Registration Nights

JAN. 30 JAN. or 31 at 7 p.m.

# ST. MARY PARISH - APPLETON

## Xavier Scholarship Opportunities



**FOR ST. MARY  
PARISHIONERS  
CONSIDERING OR  
ATTENDING XAVIER  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
IN 2023-24**

St. Mary offers several scholarship opportunities for our parish students that are not need-based. In addition to the standard scholarship and tuition assistance (FACTS) program through the St. Francis Xavier Catholic School System, multiple other scholarship opportunities are available through the Xavier Catholic Schools Foundation.



### WHERE CAN I FIND APPLICATIONS AND MORE INFO?

- At [xaviercatholicschools.org](http://xaviercatholicschools.org) under Admissions > Tuition Assistance and Scholarships > Scholarships
- In our parish office

Information about FACTS, School Choice and other scholarship opportunities is also available at [xaviercatholicschools.org](http://xaviercatholicschools.org).

*Considering Xavier Catholic Schools for your children but have questions? The Xavier Admissions office is happy to help you! Call 920-735-9380.*

### ST. MARY ADOPT-A-STUDENT PROGRAM

In addition to FACTS Tuition Assistance, School Choice Program, and the Xavier Foundation Scholarships available, here at St. Mary Parish we have an Adopt-A-Student program to help families who may need additional financial assistance.

Contact Fr. Bill or Chris Higgins in the St. Mary Parish office for more information @ 920-739-5119.

**ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS  
DUE BY MARCH 3, 2023!**



### ST. MARY SCHOOL/CATHOLIC CENTRAL LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

To carry on the 150 year tradition of generosity and fraternity associated with our school community, this scholarship has been established to help support young families in their decision to send their child(ren) to Xavier Elementary (PK3-4th grade) schools.

**What?** Three scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded to families with \$1,000 being awarded the first year and \$500 in years two and three.

**Who is eligible?** Active members of St. Bernard, St. Joseph or St. Mary Parishes with students registered at **Xavier Elementary Schools**.



### THE FATHER MICHAEL K. O'ROURKE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**What?** Three \$500 scholarships awarded for the upcoming school year.

**Who is eligible?** Students/families of **Xavier Middle School** who are registered parishioners of St. Mary Parish.  
*Note: There is a second middle school scholarship opportunity for students interested in science.*



### MERLIN AND JOAN BRUNNER SCHOLARSHIP

**What?** One scholarship of \$1,000 available to an incoming freshman. Follows the recipient for their four years at Xavier High School (total of \$4,000). Students must remain in good standing to be awarded the scholarship each year.

**Who is eligible?** Parishioners of St. Mary Parish who are registered as **incoming freshman at Xavier High School** for the 2023-24 school year. Applicants are required to write an essay on "What do you want to be doing ten years from now and how do you plan to attain it?"

**Fun fact:** There are **11 additional scholarships** available for XHS students outside of tuition assistance program. Please check [xaviercatholicschools.org](http://xaviercatholicschools.org) for more information.

# Mass Times and Intentions

Mon., January 23, 12:05pm	Living & Deceased members of the Jan & Ed Salm Family
<b>Tues., January 24, 8:00am</b>	<b>Mass at St Bernard Parish</b>
<b>Wed., January 25, 8:00am</b>	<b>Mass at St Bernard Parish</b>
Thur., January 26, 12:05 pm	Bill Hoffman
Sat., January 28, 4:30pm	Steve & Mary Scannell
Sun., January 29, 7:45am	Ron Kostelnik
9:45am	Luke Zeleger
6:30pm	Parishioners of St Mary

## Events Calendar

### ***Monday, January 23***

4:30pm RCIA Meeting/Large Conference Room in Parish Office  
6:30pm Bell Choir Practice/Choir Loft

### ***Tuesday, January 24***

9:00am Connect Group/Lower Level Room 7  
2:00pm Rosary Group/Church  
6:15pm Confessions/Chapel

### ***Wednesday, January 25***

9:30am Connect Group/Lower Level Room 7  
4:30pm Adoration/Church  
6:30pm Choir Practice/Choir Loft

### ***Thursday, January 26***

8:00am CIA-FMO Meeting/Lower Level Room 7  
1:00pm Senior Connections/Community Room

### ***Friday, January 27***

**Parish Office Closed!**

### ***Saturday, January 28***

**Selling Scrip after the 4:30 Mass!**

9:00am Confessions/Chapel

### ***Sunday, January 29***

**Coffee & Donuts and selling Scrip after the 7:45 and 9:45am Masses**

9:45am Jordan Gavin Goodman Baptism  
11:00am First Communion Meeting/Community Room



# In Joy & Sorrow

with Fr. Bill Swichtenberg

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

01.22.2023

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A Novena of (Nine) Weeks

Week IX

Discerning the Holy Spirit's Path Forward

Before the Cardinals enter the conclave to elect a new pope, they hold a series of conversations to get the lay of the ecclesial land, one might say. The group of cardinals is over 100, coming from all parts of the world, needing to hear each other as they don't know each other well. Some ten years ago, Cardinal Bergoglio, the Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina, introduced himself and gave a short speech for the ages. He made a splash, so to speak!

The future Pope Francis lamented a church which is turned in on itself, that is, a self-referential church. A self-referential church is a church which is sick, the future Pope said shockingly. He suggested that Jesus was not knocking on the doors of the church to be let in but rather to be let out. Pope Francis suggested that the church was most alive when it was going out, especially to the peripheries, to share the Good News of God's tender, merciful love. The church must be missionary, and if it is not missionary, it is not the church.

Deacon Keith Strohm, in [Ablaze: Five Essential Paradigm Shifts for Parish Renewal](#), cautions parish leaders and members of the dangers of looking inwards. Of course, a Parish Annual Report does take a look at the numbers of new members, Baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations, and Masses of Christian Burial, and even weekend Mass attendance. We maintain parish programs and are comfortable with the customary ministries. We even fall into the habit of saying, "We have always done it this way!"

More important, though, is our mission which catapults us out into the community. How can Jesus and His love minister to folks in our city and county, and even in our nation and world, who are struggling? Let's become informed about the issues that are strangling the bodies and spirits of our brothers and sisters beyond our parish walls. Let us see Jesus in them and be Jesus to them.

Deacon Strohm reminds us that people are more important than programs. The parish is a field hospital for the least, the lost and the last. Of course, we will have programs that wow! but how can we value and affirm the people who attend our programs and provide opportunities for them to connect with each other on an ongoing basis? Our Christian faith binds us to each other. How can we connect better with each other and walk with each other on the Way that leads to Jesus and his peace and joy, healing and hope? The Body of Christ in our midst is not a program but a people. People are not problems. Every person is Jesus among us!

Let us continue to dedicate to the Holy Spirit this holy process of discerning a path forward for our parish family! May the Holy Spirit accompany us as we open our hearts and minds to our path forward as a parish family ablaze with the fire of the Lord's Love for all people!

*Holy Spirit, draw us closer to you. Keep us out of Your way. Reveal to us Your plan which will inflame us with the fire of Your love. Touch the heart of every member of our Parish Family. Give us Your holy gifts of wisdom, integrity, and honesty. Write the values we hold as Your Spiritual Family on the heart of every member. May Your love impel us to go forth on mission, bringing Your healing and hope to every person we encounter. Make us Your joyful disciples so that we can invite more and more people to discover, follow, and worship Jesus! We make our prayer in His name. Amen.*

*Fr. Bill +*

## **St. Mary Parish Office**

312 S. State Street

Appleton, WI 54911

920-739-5119

Website: [stmaryparish.org](http://stmaryparish.org)

## **Business Hours:**

Mon - Thurs, 9am-4pm

closed Fridays

Contact us:

[stmary@stmaryparish.org](mailto:stmary@stmaryparish.org)

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## **MINISTERS & SUPPORT STAFF**

### ***Fr. Bill Swichtenberg, Pastor***

[wdswitz@stmaryparish.org](mailto:wdswitz@stmaryparish.org)

cell 920-422-4316

### ***Deacon Gerry Schraufnagel***

[schraufnagel@stmaryparish.org](mailto:schraufnagel@stmaryparish.org)

cell 920-540-9594

### ***Chris Higgins***

Director of Business Administration  
& Information Technology

[chiggins@stmaryparish.org](mailto:chiggins@stmaryparish.org)

### ***Nadine Duncan***

Director of Pastoral Administration &  
Pastoral Care

[nduncan@stmaryparish.org](mailto:nduncan@stmaryparish.org)

### ***Tom Walter***

Liturgical Music

[twalter@stmaryparish.org](mailto:twalter@stmaryparish.org)

### ***Chip Acker***

Cemetery & Facilities Management

[cacker@stmaryparish.org](mailto:cacker@stmaryparish.org)

## **Parish Trustees**

Ted Suess 920-636-8855

Carol Frahm 920-733-0207

## **Pastoral Leadership Council Chair**

Beth Power 703-819-4829

## **Finance Council Chair**

Larry Bonneville 920-419-3097

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### ***Tracy Turba***

Minister of Young Disciples

[tturba@stmaryparish.org](mailto:tturba@stmaryparish.org)

### ***Mary Ellen Fisher***

Bookkeeping Assistant

[mefisher@stmaryparish.org](mailto:mefisher@stmaryparish.org)

### ***Julie Morse***

Administrative Assistant

[stmary@stmaryparish.org](mailto:stmary@stmaryparish.org)

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## **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](mailto:cemetery@stmaryparish.org)

Website: [stmaryparishcemetery.org](http://stmaryparishcemetery.org)

## **Xavier Catholic School System**

920-735-9380