

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • SEPT 27, 2026

ST. MARY PARISH

PHONE: (920) 739-5119 • EMAIL: STMARY@STMARYPARISH.ORG

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



"He was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names, so that all beings should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord." Phil 2:8-9, 11a

Regular Mass Times

Saturday 4:30pm

Sunday 7:45am, 9:45am

Monday 12:05pm

Tuesday No Mass

Wednesday No Mass

Thursday 12:05pm

Friday No Mass

Pastor - Fr. Bill Swichtenberg

wdswitz@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-422-4316

Deacon - Gerry Schraufnagel

dcngerry@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-540-9594

Cemetery Info - Chip Acker

cacker@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-882-4158

Eucharistic Adoration

Every 3rd Wednesday, 4:30-8pm
We must have one person
with the Eucharist at all times.
Register online
<https://bit.ly/49Wm3k5>
or scan with your phone.



Parish Office Hours:

920-739-5119
Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9am-4pm
Wed, 9am-6:30pm
Friday-Office Closed

Sacrament of Matrimony

Getting Married?
Congratulations! Call Fr. Bill
at least six months before your
planned wedding date.

Interested in joining the Parish?

Contact Lori Lavalley
llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Confession times:

Saturday 9-10am or by
appointment



Congratulations

TO OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

We joyfully celebrate the young men and women who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last weekend.



May the gifts of the Holy Spirit continue to guide you, strengthen you, and inspire you to live your faith each day!



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Br. Ray Stadmeyer

- Aaron Bekkers
- Norah Gentry
- Livian Katz
- George Kendall
- Sophia LaBash
- Griffin Leicht
- Owen McGreevey
- Joseph (JP) Much
- Owen Peterson
- Anna Rislov
- Graham Wall
- Jasmine Wallace - VanderVelden
- Lydia Young



ST. MARY PARISH

Fr. William Swichtenberg

- Tessa Wallace
- Sean Louise Virtudazo
- Elle Krull
- Elizabeth Davis
- Sophia Miller
- Claire Erickson
- Kellin Gilbert
- Brendan Hyatt
- Adriana Schupp
- Charlie Blevins
- Mackenzie Dunnihoo
- Brecken Kriese
- Sarah Krueger



STS. PETER & PAUL PARISH

Fr. Phil Schoofs

- Adeline Bauer
- Tristan Berrens
- Adam Brochtrop
- Jozie Dontje
- Ayla Groeschel
- Maxwell Gust
- Lucas Jensen
- Nathan Lauer
- Aaron Moeller
- Katie Pomasl
- Kayla Schmitz
- Grant Schroeder
- Aubrey Tank
- Matthew Tank
- Chase Van Stippen
- Trinity Van Stippen
- Sophia Everts
- Theresa Everts



ST. PAUL PARISH

Fr. Robert Stegmann

- George Stevens
- Eli Jack

*“Be sealed
with the
gift of the
Holy Spirit
and be a
witness of
Christ.”*

ACTS 1:8



*May you always walk in the light of Christ
and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you!*



You're invited to a special presentation series

Vatican II



*Understanding the Council.
Living the Legacy.*

Join us this Fall for a journey through the teachings, history, and lasting impact of the Second Vatican Council—one of the most important events in the life of the Church.



Five Sessions This Fall
Thursdays, Beginning October 1
6:00–7:30 PM | Room LL7

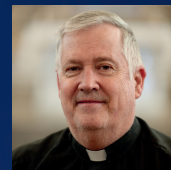
SCAN THE
QR CODE
TO SIGN UP

OR CLICK
THE LINK



VATICAN II

presented by



**Father Bill
Swichtenberg**

Generations of Sisterhood

An Encounter with Eternity



WHAT:

It's a girl thing! A special event which includes a heavenly visit from our "sister sisters" in Scripture. Come and hear from Sarah, Esther, Ruth and Deborah as they tell their heartfelt stories from their perspective! A lovely meal will be included in this event.



WHO:

We invite you to come as grandmothers, daughters, goddaughters, granddaughters, aunts, nieces, neighbors and best girlfriends. You do not need to belong to St. Mary's or be Catholic. All girls, from age 12 through 100+ are welcome! Please register as a group so you will be seated together.



WHEN:

Saturday, October 24, 2026 at 5:30pm -7:30pm
(following the 4:30pm Mass)



WHERE:

We will step into eternity at St. Mary Parish Community Room



COST:

The cost is \$5.00 per person



REGISTER:

Because of the necessary planning for the event, everyone must register. Please register by Monday, October 19th! We will have 60 spots available so register soon by stopping in or calling the parish office. 920-739-5119

hallow

REBUILD MY CHURCH

PRAYER CHALLENGE



*Seven days. One parish.
A deeper encounter with Christ.*

Our parish will participate in the Hallow Parish Week Prayer challenge, "Rebuild My Church."

This is an opportunity to spend seven days with the saints, focusing together on:



PRAYER



THE
SACRAMENTS



AUTHENTIC
COMMUNION



GENEROSITY



INVITATION



MISSIONARY
DISCIPLESHIP



THE WAITLIST IS NOW OPEN!

Go to our parish page on the Hallow app and join the prayer challenge today.



The challenge begins **October 5.**

Let's come together in prayer and allow Christ to rebuild His Church through us!

JOIN A SMALL GROUP *This Fall!*

REAL PEOPLE.
REAL CONVERSATIONS.
A DEEPER FAITH.



Small groups are a great way to grow in faith, build friendships, and journey together as disciples of Christ. All are welcome!



GROUPS FOR
MEN



GROUPS FOR
WOMEN



MIXED
GROUPS



MEET DURING
THE DAY OR
IN THE EVENINGS

FAITH GROWS TOGETHER



INTERESTED IN JOINING A SMALL GROUP?

Contact Andrew Reimer at

☎ (920) 739-5119 x110

✉ areimer@stmaryparish.org

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

— Matthew 18:20



E2F PANS (EMPTY TO FULL)

*A simple pan can make a
big difference!*

Lend a hand in stocking Pillars' freezer!

Grab some empty pans from us on **October 3 & 4**, fill them with tasty meals, and return on the weekend of **October 10 & 11**.

You can also return it during office hours, Monday to Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Let's team up to spread the love and care!

PICK UP PANS



Oct.
3 & 4

DROP OFF MEALS



Oct.
10 & 11

*Thank you for helping
feed our neighbors!*



Providence Promise Ministries at St. Joseph Church

September Current Needs List

Please drop off/or send in your items (from Amazon or Walmart) to St. Joseph Parish (404 W Lawrence St., Appleton, WI 54911) marked Grab & Go! They are in desperate need of men's shoes (size 9-12) and old backpacks. Thank you!

[Click here to view list and sign up](#)

October Morning Coffee

Help serve and have coffee with our neighbors on weekday mornings from 7:00 am to 9:00 am. Please arrive at 6:30 am. If you are new, write in the comments of the sign-up so they can pair you with someone experienced with this ministry.

[Click here to sign up](#)

October Sunday Sandwiches

Our new change of having volunteers bring 10 bag lunches has been VERY helpful for our coordinator. Lunches should include a sandwich, a soft fruit (grapes, bananas, cutie...), a drink, and a few other items (cheese, chips, or a soft granola bar). Starting in October, WE WILL MEET AT THE LIBRARY from 4 pm- 5 pm. Please meet outside the library with 10 lunches. Below is the link to sign-up for sandwiches:

[Click here to sign up](#)



Beacon Family Night

Wednesday, October 14th
5:30pm - 7:15pm



Fellowship:

Join us for a Taco & Nacho Bar dinner in the Community Room from 5:30pm - 6:00pm.



Break out session for adults and 6th-12th grade students:

Kari Reindl from Winnebago Mental Health (who is also a certified spiritual director) will give an interactive presentation on how prayer reduces anxiety. She will draw on methods that she has found successful in working with her clients — that can be of help to us too. Kari has a huge heart and is an incredible presenter — you are in for a treat!



Break out session for 1st - 5th grade students:

Our younger students will gather with Lisa and Anna Lynch to learn tips and tricks for reducing stress from two of our favorite October Saints, John Paul II and Therese of Lisieux. Anna will lead the kids in making homemade sensory toys (slime and squishes) that will be used during our stress-reduction prayer activities.

This event will replace our usual Wednesday Beacon classes for the week.



COFFEE & DONUTS

Stay after Mass to enjoy coffee, donuts, and great fellowship!



SCAN OR
CLICK HERE
TO SIGN UP!

Faith, Friends, Fellowship!

HOLY

TRIVIA
question

What does the fish symbol represent in Christianity?



Love to Cook? Join our Parish Cooking Ministry!

EMAIL LORI LAVALLE AT
LLAVALLE@STMARYPARISH.ORG
OR SIGN UP USING THIS QR
CODE



PASTA *Dinner* & TRIVIA NIGHT!

GREAT FOOD • FUN PEOPLE • AWESOME PRIZES!



SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 10, 2026



5:45 PM – 7:30 PM



ST. MARY COMMUNITY ROOM



**JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS PASTA DINNER, THEN
STAY FOR A FUN-FILLED TRIVIA NIGHT!**



ALL ARE WELCOME!

We hope to see you there!

Save The Date!

ST. ANDREW DINNER

OCT. 7 | 5:30-8 PM

**Diocese of Green Bay,
St. Joseph Chapel**

1825 Riverside Drive
Green Bay, WI 54301

An evening for
high school &
college-age men
open to the
priesthood.



Diocese of
Green Bay



SPIRITUS Ministries

Inspiring Youth & Forming Leaders

Come & See Weekends

Catholic young adults
19-29 interested in
retreat ministry, your
weekend housing, meals,
and activities are all
included at no cost to
you!

Scan to
register
or apply



Oct 16 - 18, 2026

Jan 15 - 17, 2027

April 2 - 4, 2027

April 16 - 18, 2027

May 19, 2027

NO Fundraising

**Application
open**



vocations@gbdioc.org
gbvocations.org

Diaconate Inquirer Dinner

Monday, October 19, 2026
Event begins at 6:00 p.m.

Diocese of Green Bay, Chancery Building
1825 Riverside Drive, Green Bay, WI 54301

Join us to learn more!

If you or someone you know are a man between the ages of 30-55 and have been wondering how to dig deeper into your faith and be of service to the Church, please consider attending our next Diaconate Inquirer Dinner.

We will start with prayer and dinner, then dive into information about the diaconate and formation.

This is an opportunity for you and your wife to join others discerning this call and learn more about the Diocese of Green Bay's formation program. There is no cost to attend.

Please RSVP to Tina Haanen at thaanen@gbdioc.org or 920-272-8189.



The Diaconate
Diocese of Green Bay



EVENTS CALENDAR

Mass Intentions

Week of Sept 27 - Oct 4

Sunday, Sept 27

Coffee & Donuts

AM Handbell Demo & Recruitment/Church

7:45 am Mass

9:45 am Mass/LS

Monday, Sept 28

12:05 pm Mass

5:00 pm Reach More/ LL7

6:00 pm SMP Grief Support Group Cemetery Chapel

6:30 pm Handbell Choir Practice

7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

Tuesday, Sept 29

9:00am Connect/LL7

5:30 pm Reach More Huddle/CR

Wednesday, Sept 30

9:30 am Connect Group/LL7

4:30 pm-8:00 pm Beacon

Thursday, Oct 1

10:00 am Little Lambs Playgroup - Babysitting Rm

12:05 pm Mass

1:00 pm Hooks & Needles/ CR

6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR

6:00 pm Vatican II with Father Bill/LL7

6:00 pm Women's Small Group/LL3

7:00 pm Cor Jesu

Friday, Oct 2

Parish Office Closed

9:00 am Fran Ebben Visitation

11:00 am Fran Ebben Funeral

12:00 pm Fran Ebben Luncheon

Saturday, Oct 3

Hand out E2F Pans

9:00 am Confessions

2:00 pm Lisa Schumacher - Michael Oberweiser Wedding

4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, Oct 4

Hand out E2F Pans

Coffee & Donuts

7:45 am Mass

9:45 am Mass/LS/Children's Liturgy

Sun., Sept 27 7:45 am Men & Women in the Military
9:45 am Ed Sabish

Mon., Sept 28 12:05 pm Available

Thus., Oct 1 12:05 pm Available

Sat., Oct 3 4:30 pm Living and Deceased Members of SMP

Sun., Oct. 4 7:45 am Robert Vanderheiden
9:45 am The John Ellenbecker Family



Prayer Requests Contact **Laurie Richter** (lauriejrichter@gmail.com), **Mary Jo Zilisch** (920-734-1182) or **Ann Walkowski** (920-428-0969) if you have a prayer need. Please remember these requests in our prayer baskets.

Generosity CORNER

September is coming to a close and activities of the parish are picking up. It is through your generosity that we are able to do so much in our parish. Thank you for your continued support.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
September	\$58,610.77	\$63,400.00	-\$4,789.23

Your giving at work in the parish:

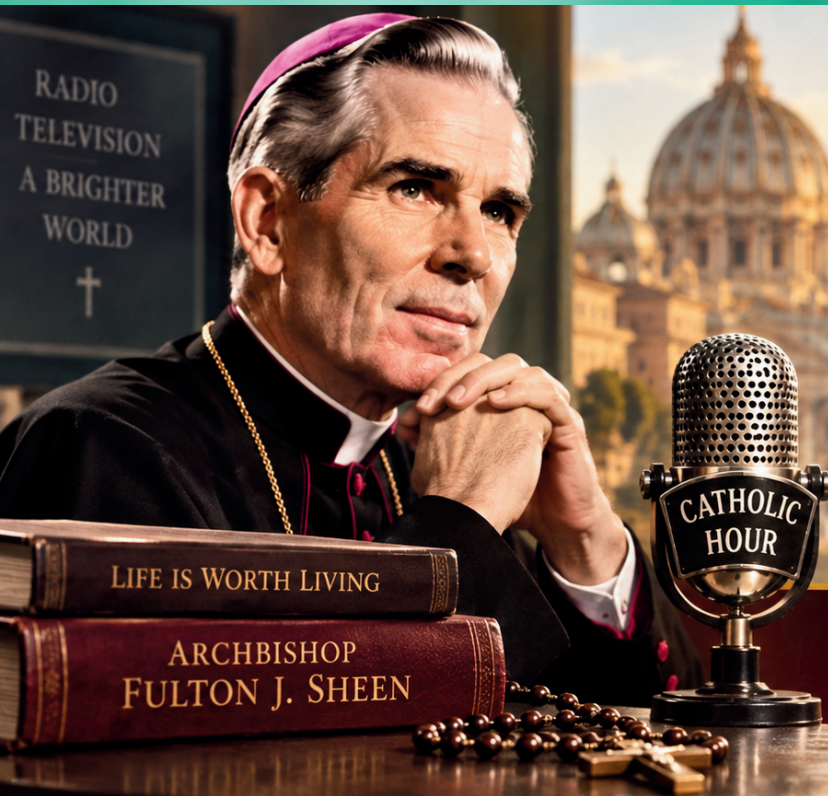
- This past week was a big one for the parish where we celebrated our patronal feast day, we had a beautiful Celtic Mass, and our young people were confirmed on Sunday.
- Fr. Bill will be starting a 5-week session on the documents of the 2nd Vatican Council. Contact Andrew (areimer@stmaryparish.org) if you would like to join this group.



Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior

in Joy & SORROW

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 9.27.2026
WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



— ✕ —
“I have no doubt.
Archbishop Sheen
is already a saint.
We’re just catching up.”

— BISHOP LOUIS TYLKA
Diocese of Peoria

BLESSED ARCHBISHOP
FULTON J. SHEEN

PRIEST · BISHOP · EVANGELIST

On Thursday (9/24) in the Dome at America’s Center, Saint Louis, at 2 pm, Archbishop Fulton J Sheen will be beatified during a Mass with the People of God gathered from Peoria, New York City, Rochester, NY, and many other places throughout the nation. Cardinal Luis Antonio (“Chito”) Tagle, who is the Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization in Rome, will read the proclamation naming Sheen a *Blessed* on behalf of Pope Leo XIV. Cardinal Chito is the former Archbishop of Manila, the Philippines. The Mass will be livestreamed and I will be praying with the assembly.

Let me sketch briefly what I know about the Archbishop.

He was born in El Paso, Illinois, on May 8, 1895. He was baptized Peter John but later took as his first name the maiden name of his mother. He was ordained a priest as World War I was ending. After serving as a parish priest in Peoria, he was appointed as an auxiliary Bishop of New York City and consecrated on June 11, 1951. In 1966, he was appointed the Bishop of Rochester, New York, where he served for three years. He died on December 9, 1979 (age 84) and was buried at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, NY.

I remember the kerfuffle that ensued when the Archdiocese of NY and the Diocese of Peoria were squabbling about who had the right to honor his body with burial. After a three-year battle, the court ordered that Sheen be reburied at Saint Mary Cathedral in Peoria in 2019.

Of course, Archbishop Sheen was one of the first to use radio and TV to share Jesus and His Gospel. He hosted a Catholic Hour radio show for twenty years, beginning in 1930. He graduated to TV in 1952 to present *Life is Worth Living* until 1957. This was followed by *The Fulton Sheen Program* (1961-68). For you in the know, was his program broadcast on Tuesday evenings? After being featured on the cover of *Time Magazine* on April 14, 1952, beating out Lucille Ball, the Archbishop won an Emmy Award for Most Outstanding TV Personality in 1953.

Folks, I was born in 1954, so like so many of you, Archbishop Sheen was before my time. If my memory is correct (which is not a sure thing anymore), I recall my Mom telling me that her big Catholic Griesbach Family of Menasha gathered around the radio to soak up Blessed Sheen's holy, inspiring messages. I have seen a couple of You-Tube videos which testify to his wide appeal among Catholics and many other Christians. He had a flair about him and a sense of humor. When he received his Emmy Award, he thanked the renowned writers of his show: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Finally, a miracle must be verified before a venerable woman, man or child can be named a *Blessed* in the Catholic Church. This miracle, however, is not required of martyrs who died because of their persecutors' hatred of the faith. I googled to find out what the miracle was for Blessed Archbishop Sheen.

In 2010, little James Fulton Engstrom was born at home, in the same area of Illinois where Sheen grew up, without a heartbeat or pulse. He was rushed to the hospital where doctors did all they could for 61 minutes to bring this little one to life. His parents petitioned Archbishop Sheen for a miracle three times during the ordeal and suddenly their little boy started breathing.

James, who is now 16-years-old, grew up as a normal and healthy boy, without any disabilities whatsoever. I am betting that he will be present at the beatification ceremony on Thursday. James' mother, Bonnie reported, "I am not surprised that God is still doing miracles of biblical proportions...That's just who God is. It is a little bit crazy that God did it in our family because we're very normal and average."

In regard to the miracle in James' life, Bishop Louis Tylka of the Diocese of Peoria commented, "I have no doubt. Archbishop Sheen is already a saint. We're just catching up."

Moving forward, here is the prayer for petitioning the Lord that Blessed Archbishop Sheen be named a saint soon:

Heavenly Father, source of all holiness, You raise up within the Church in every age men and women [and children] who serve with heroic love and dedication. You have blessed Your Church through the life and ministry of Your faithful servant, Blessed Archbishop Fulton J Sheen. He has written and spoken well of Your Divine Son, Jesus Christ, and was a true instrument of the Holy Spirit in touching the hearts of countless people.

If it be according to Your Will, for the honor and glory of the Most Holy Trinity and for the salvation of souls, we ask You to move the Church to proclaim him a saint. We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Finally, as the Catholic Church in the US, let us be hopefully insistent that we will soon have our first American Black Saint. Our black Catholic sisters and brothers rejoiced when Archbishop Wilton Gregory of Washington DC was named our first Black Cardinal by Pope Francis in 2020. Sadly, there is a holdup when it comes to acknowledging our Black sisters and brothers who are worthy candidates for entry into the Halls of the Saints in the Catholic Church. We need to pray harder as our own Nadine, Director of Pastoral Administration, reminded me.

Let us pray!

Lord God, you are praised, adored, and loved through the lives and example of your servants. May it please you to work wonders by the intercession of these servants through whom your glory shines. In them we see humanity's true greatness, a sign of your favor and blessing. Through them we are drawn more deeply into the mystery of your Son's saving love.

Even as we pray that the Church will one day designate them as canonized saints, may their witness bring transformation to our lives.

Like Mother Mary Lange, may our faith shine brightly amid hardship so that we will trust always in your providence. Like Julia Greeley, may our hope remain intact despite the darkness and pain in our lives. Like Pierre Toussaint, may our hearts be aflame with charity for all your children. Like Father Augustus Tolton, may we be instruments of unity and reconciliation, not embittered by our sufferings. Like Mother Henriette Delille, may we persevere in our calling, no matter the obstacles, so that we may serve all in your name. Like Sister Thea Bowman, may we sing your wonders tirelessly, to the greatest and least alike.

And above all else, Lord, help us to follow your Son each day. Through him, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, may we come to worship you with all the angels and saints for ever and ever.

Amen.

(from Simply Catholic: Black Catholics on the Road to Sainthood.)

Fr. Bill +