29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • OCT 18, 2026

ST. MARY PARISH

PHONE: (920) 739-5119 • EMAIL: STMARY@STMARYPARISH.ORG
312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



"Jesus then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'" Matthew 22:21

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 Lavalle
llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Confession times:
Saturday 9-10am or by appointment

Parish ANNUAL MEETING

All are welcome!

Tuesday October 20th | **6:00 pm** | **Community Room**

The Annual Meeting is an opportunity to go over the finances and activities of our past fiscal year (July 2025 - June 2026).

Look for the **Annual Report this weekend** in your email inbox or pick it up at church.

Fr. Bill as our Pastor will lead the meeting. Our Council Chair people, Amber Zak for Pastoral Leadership Council and Sarah Higgins for Finance Council, as well as our Trustees, Cindy Boyer, Trustee, Secretary and Carol Frahm, Trustee Treasurer will be there to help answer questions.



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 18, 2026

Be the Hands and Heart of Christ Around the World

Your prayers and generous support help nurture over 1,000 **local churches** in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Eastern Europe.

SUPPORT THE MISSION CHURCH | *Share the Joy* OF THE GOSPEL | THROUGH PRAYER AND GENEROUS GIVING

----ENVELOPES WILL BE IN THE PEWS----

Generations of Sisterhood

An Encounter with Eternity



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:

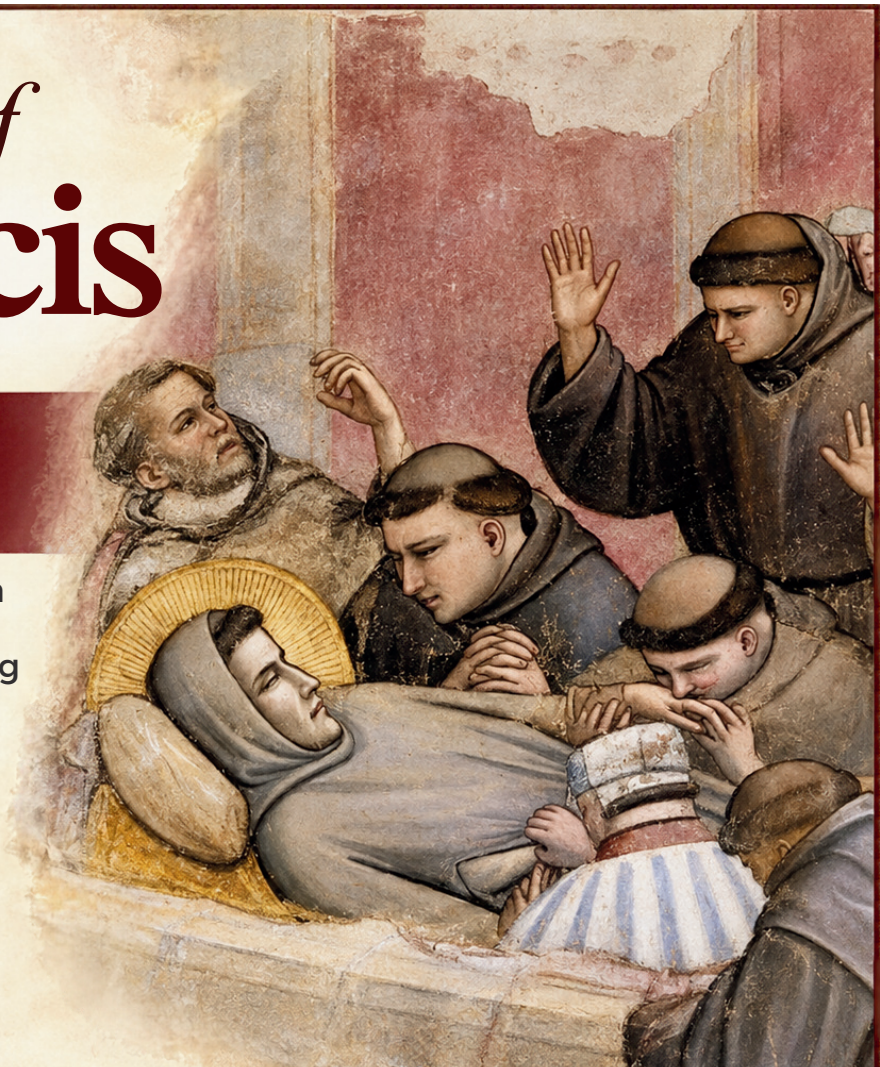
The cost is $5.00 per person

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

Transitus *of* St. Francis

Tuesday, October 27 at 6:00 PM



St. Mary is honored to host the Capuchin Friars for a special candelit Transitus service to commemorate the holy passing of St. Francis of Assisi from this life into eternal glory.

Please join us for an evening of Franciscan prayer, Scripture, and sacred song.

All are welcome.

Honor the memory of your loved ones with a memorial candle.

Leave their names in the Marian Way or at the back of church.

The candles will be lit during Masses in November and may be picked up the weekend of the 21 & 22.





COFFEE & DONUTS

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

JOIN US!
SIGN UP FOR
FALL
COFFEE & DONUTS
SUNDAYS
SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER • NOVEMBER

SCAN OR CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!

Faith, Friends, Fellowship!

HOLY TRIVIA question

In 1979 who did Pope John Paul II declare the patron saint of ecology and animals?

TRUNK OR TREAT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

ST. JOSEPH PARISH
WEST PARKING LOT & GREAT HALL

Get ready for some spooky fun! Wear your costume and come trick-or-treat in the West Parking Lot (Corner of Lawrence and Walnut Sts), then come inside for caramel apples, cider, and hot cocoa!

Families from St. Joe's, St. Mary's, and Bridges are all invited!

Want to decorate your car and pass out candy?

REGISTER YOUR CAR AT THE QR CODE!



Saint Joseph Catholic Community

bridges Child Enrichment Center

St Mary Catholic Community

All are welcome to attend

CHRIST, COMMUNICATIONS & COFFEE

Advent Retreat

Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026
8:30-10:30 a.m.
Diocese of Green Bay
1825 Riverside Dr.,
Green Bay, WI 54301

Please RSVP by Friday, Nov. 6: akawula@gbdioc.org

Diocese of Green Bay



More about Christ, Communications & Coffee:

- All are welcome to attend Catholic communications discussions for parishes and other ministries in the Diocese of Green Bay.
- This group of Catholic communicators will meet in person, twice per year, on the third Thursday of the month during Lent and Advent.
- An ongoing Microsoft Teams group chat is available to share resources, learn from others doing similar work, provide examples, and help others best communicate with their faith communities.
- Office of Communications & Marketing members serving the Diocese of Green Bay are present as a resource to inspire ideas, welcome feedback, and connect you with others.

To learn more, contact Amy Kawula, Marketing & Operations Manager serving the Office of Communications & Marketing at 920-272-8212 or akawula@gbdioc.org.

B.A.G Weekend

October 24th and 25th



with the list of items everyone needs:

- Toilet Paper
- Bath and Dish Soap
- Laundry Soap
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste

Return it the following weekend
October 31st and November 1st

These items go to the St. Joseph Food Program to help others.

Blessed Are Givers.

Thank you for caring about those in need.

BRUNCH BUNCH

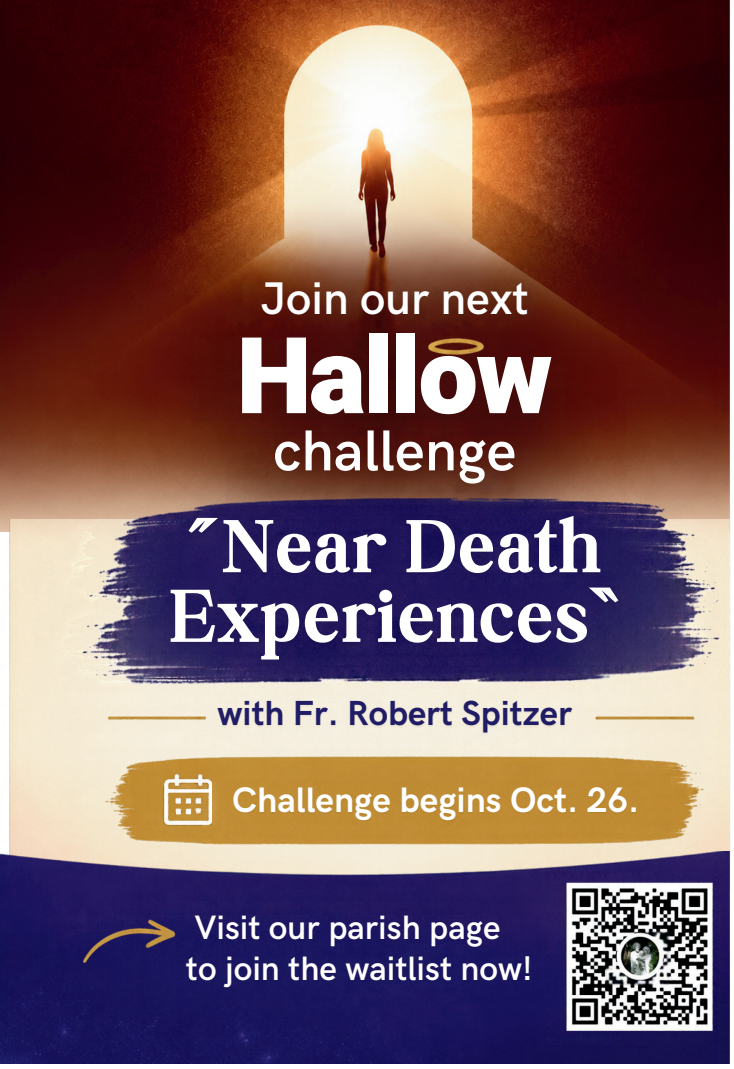
AGE 55+

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1
11:30 AM

STONE TOAD BAR AND GRILL
1109 S. Oneida St.
Appleton

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
Please RSVP by
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

CALL OR TEXT
SUE ROGERS
920-810-1545
Please leave your name and the number of people.



Providence Promise Ministries at St. Joseph Church

October 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

We need more volunteers on various days in October for morning coffee. We see, on average, 35-40 neighbors each morning. Our neighbors come in from the cold, eat a little something, charge their phones, use the bathrooms, drink coffee, and chat. Please consider taking a shift. It is a great way to start your day!

Click here to sign up



Calling all men—

a presentation just for you!



Join us for an engaging presentation by Deacon Kevin DeCleene from Resurrection Parish in Allouez.

His topic is "Resurrection: A Personal Story of Prayer, Death, and Return to Life".

Saturday, November 7, 2026

St. Mary Parish Community Room

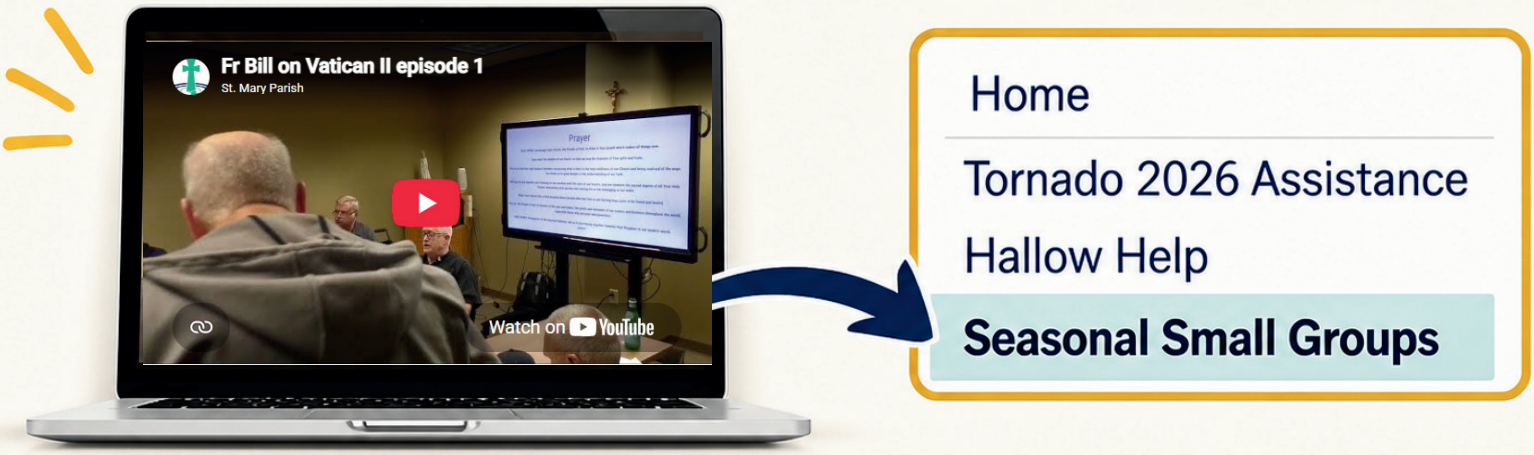
Light meal at 5:30pm
(after 4:30pm Mass)
Talk to follow

Deacon Kevin combines the perspectives of a career in business, service in ministry, and family life to his witness of faith. Kevin's tagline, 'The best is yet to come' is inspired by I Corinthians 2:9.

The presentation is *free*, but we ask that you register ahead of time by scanning the QR code or calling the parish office at (920) 739-5119.

ST. MARY
APPLETON, WI

Fr. Bill's Vatican II presentations now available on our website!



From our home page, go to 'Seasonal Small Groups," then select the episode to watch.

THANK YOU!

PASTA & TRIVIA NIGHT



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Pasta & Trivia Night! Your participation, generosity, and good company made the evening a wonderful success.

We're grateful for our amazing parish community!











EVENTS CALENDAR

Week of Oct 18 - Oct 25

Sunday, Oct 18
Pancake Breakfast 8:30am - 11:30am
World Mission Sunday
7:45 am Mass
9:45 am Mass/LS
11:00 am OCIA Catechumens/LCR
12:30 pm OCIA Candidates/LCR

Monday, Oct 19
12:05 pm Mass
5:00 pm Reach More/LL7
6:00 pm SMP Grief Support Group Cemetery Chapel
6:30 pm New Horizons Band Practice/MR
6:30 pm Handbell Choir Practice
6:30 pm THEO/CR
7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

Tuesday, Oct 20
9:00 am Connect/LL7
1:00 pm SMP & SJP Shawl Group at SJP Rm LL112
1:00 pm SMP & SJP Book Club/LL7
5:30 pm Mixed Small Group/Scout Room
6:00 pm Parish Annual Meeting/CR
6:00 pm Finance Council/CR
7:00 pm Matthew 25/LCR

Wednesday, Oct 21
8:00 am Quilting/CR
9:30 am Connect Group/LL7
4:30 pm Adoration
4:30 pm - 8:00 pm Beacon Faith Formation

Thursday, Oct 22
10:00 am Little Lambs Playgroup - Babysitting Rm
12:05 pm Mass
6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR
6:00 pm Vatican II with Father Bill/LL7

Friday, Oct 23
Parish Office Closed
9:00 am Bible Study/LL7
9:00 am Quilting/St. Anne Rm

Saturday, Oct 24
B.A.G Weekend
Kitchen & Community Room Booked All Day
9:00 am Confessions
4:30 pm Mass
5:30 pm Generations of Sisterhood/CR

Sunday, Oct 25
B.A.G Weekend
Coffee & Donuts
7:45 am Mass
9:45 am Mass/LS/Children's Liturgy
11:00 am OCIA Catechumens/LCR
12:30 pm OCIA Candidates/LCR



Saint Francis of Assisi

Mass Intentions

Sun., Oct 18	7:45 am 9:45 am	Men & Women in the Military Mike O'Connell
Mon.,Oct 19	12:05 pm	Margie & Alan Hopfensperger
Thus., Oct 22	12:05 pm	Bill & Marge Garvey
Sat., Oct 24	4:30 pm	Robert Glisczinski
Sun., Oct. 25	7:45 am 9:45 am	Living and Deceased Members of SMP William Moede



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

Thank you for your continued support of the parish. We are a little less than 50% toward our budgetary goal for the month. It is your support that keeps us going.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
October	$33,257.50	$76,800.00	-$43,542.50

Your giving at work in the parish:

- Fr. Bill is doing a Fall small group series on Vatican II with Andrew. The group is full but you can watch the sessions from the parish website. https://www.stmaryparish.org/home/seasonal-small-groups

- There are changes coming to how we distribute Offertory Envelopes. To reduce our costs for the offertory envelopes, we are moving to picking up envelopes at church. Beginning the last week of October if you use the offertory envelopes you will find a box of envelopes at the back of church. There will be more details in the bulletin next week.

in Joy & SORROW

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 10.18.2026
WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG

ST MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



> "To accomplish so great of work, Christ is always present in his church, especially in her liturgical celebrations."

VATICAN II
SACROSANCTUM CONCILIUM

In charting the events of Vatican Council II (1962-65) with some members of our Spiritual Family of Saint Mary who have been meeting on Thursday evenings, our first document from the Council deserving a good review was *Sacrasanctum Concilium*, which was promulgated on December 4, 1963 by (Saint) Pope Paul VI. This document on the sacred liturgy is one of the four documents of the Council which is designated as a Constitution, which gives it a higher priority when compared to the other documents of the Council.

Here are some highlights, accompanied by a brief commentary from me.

To accomplish so great of work, Christ is always present in his church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of his minister … but especially under the Eucharistic species…He is present in his word since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the church. He is present, lastly, when the church prays and sings, for he promised "Wherever two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
(Matthew 18:20) (Chapter 1, 7)

[Jesus is really present at the Mass in four powerful ways: (1) in the consecrated Bread and Wine, (2) in the priest (or bishop), (3) in the proclamation of the Word, and (4) in the holy assembly. Note that there was a practice by some people, quite a while back, of arriving for Mass just prior to the consecration of the bread and wine with the understanding that

one's obligation to attend Mass had been fulfilled. What a slight against the Real Presence of Jesus in the Word. Note, too, that Jesus is really present in the Holy People of God, seated in the assembly. I have said often that if you can see Jesus in the consecrated Bread and Wine but fail to see Him in the people in your life, near and far, you are dishonoring the sacredness of the Mass.]

...the liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the church is directed; at the same time, it is the font from which all her power flows. (Chap 1, 10)

[Every grace in our lives flows into the Mass (the summit) and every grace in our lives flows from the Mass (the font.)]

Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that fully conscious and active participation in liturgical celebrations, which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people "as a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people" (II Peter 2:9, 2:4-5) is their right and duty by reason of their baptism. In the restoration and promotion of the sacred liturgy, this full and active participation by all the people is the aim to be considered before all else. (Chap 1, 14)

[Our participation at Mass is to be full, conscious, and active. We are truly present in our bodies, minds, and spirits. The key to a holy life is often simply to show up and to pay attention.]

That sound tradition may be retained, and yet have the way remain open to legitimate progress, careful investigation is always to be made into each part of the liturgy which is to be revised. (Chap 1, 23)

[This is a transforming perspective: Tradition is conserved and yet open to a deepening or development of understanding. This insightful notion is attributed to Saint Cardinal John Henry Newman. This reality is still resisted by some Catholics.]

In the sacred celebrations there is to be more reading from holy scripture and it is to be more varied and suitable. (Chap 1, 35.1)

[The Council was deliberate in introducing the People of God to a greater wealth in the proclamation of the Scriptures at Mass. This impetus has given us a Sunday Lectionary (a Book of Readings) that consists of Years A, B, and C, in which the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke are featured, respectively.]

But since the use of the mother tongue, whether in the Mass, the administration of the sacraments, or any other parts of the liturgy, frequently may be of great advantage to the people, the limits of its employment may be extended. This will apply in the first place to the readings and directives, and to some of the prayers and chants... (Chap 1,36.2)

[Today, the Mass is celebrated in hundreds of different languages throughout the world. On a given Sunday in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, the Mass is celebrated in 70 or so languages. If the People of God are to be full, conscious, and active participants, celebrating the Mass in a language foreign to them does nothing to increase their participation. How can you participate in the prayers offered if you do not understand what is being prayed or said?]

Even in the liturgy, the church has no wish to impose a rigid uniformity in matters which do not implicate the faith or the good of the whole community; rather does she respect them and foster the genius and talents of the various races and peoples. (Chap 1, 37)

[Realizing this makes possible the celebration of Mass in Africa or Central/South America or Asia in a way that highlights unique aspects of those cultures.]

The Church, therefore, earnestly desires that Christ's faithful [people], when present at the mystery of faith, should not be there as strangers or silent spectators; on the contrary, through a good understanding of the rites and prayers, they should take part in the sacred action conscious of what they are doing, with devotion and full collaboration. They should be instructed by God's word and be nourished at the table of the Lord's body; they should give thanks to God; by offering the Immaculate Victim, not only through the hands of the priest, but also with him... (Chap 2, 48)

In Masses which are celebrated with the people, a suitable place may be allotted to their mother tongue. This is to apply in first place to the readings, and "the common prayer"... Nevertheless steps should be taken so that the faithful may also be able to say or to sing together in Latin those parts of the Ordinary of the Mass which pertain to them. (Chap 54)

[The above highlights a dynamic at the Council that allowed the whole body to support the works of the Council. It is a sensitivity to the Church's long-held tradition. Here, the reference to saying or singing in Latin the parts of the Mass assigned to the People of God makes something more palatable to the Bishops who opposed the switch in the Mass from Latin to the vernacular languages.]

Sadly, the pushback against these reforms of the Mass remains strong to this day. The Society of Saint Pius X (SSPX), founded by Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre in 1970, has denied the legitimacy of Vatican Council II, has ordained bishops without papal authority, and continues to celebrate the Traditional Latin Mass (TLM).

Sadly, the Eucharist, which is the Sacrament of Charity and Unity, still is a focal point for division. Pope Benedict tried to facilitate a reconciliation between the SSPX and the Catholic Church. It didn't work. Pope Francis decreed that the celebration of the TLM be limited in dioceses throughout the world. This decision caused much angst among the Latin worshipers. The hope is now that Pope Leo would reconsider Pope Francis' restrictions. The possibility that this will happen is unlikely.

The sticking points from my perspective are that some of our sisters and brothers, though not all, believe that the TLM is better than the reformed Mass and may have a tendency to judge us who attend the Mass in the vernacular. Also, some of them react very strongly against the teachings of Vatican Council II. Given these, the SSPX has imposed upon itself automatic excommunication from the one, holy, and apostolic Catholic Church. This happened way back in 1970 and was confirmed again when their leadership illicitly ordained four new bishops in Switzerland on July 1, 2026.

Fr. Bill +