

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

ST. MARY PARISH

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

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.'

BULLETIN

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

Cemetery Info - Chip Acker

cacker@stmaryparish.org

cell 920-882-4158



Let us pray

Evening worship experiences at St. Mary, Appleton



Discover the Power of Lectio Divina with Fr. Bill

September 29 | 6:30-8:00 PM

**Are you hungry for a deeper relationship with Jesus?
Are you longing to hear from God, but don't know how?**

Take a start-of-the-week pause to rest in God's word. Join Fr. Bill and experience *lectio divina* – an ancient form of prayer that draws us into a deeper relationship with Christ through Scripture. Whether you are experienced in this type of prayer experience or trying it for the first time, you are warmly welcome.

Come with an open heart. Leave with a renewed spirit!



Pancake Breakfast



buttermilk pancakes
french toast sticks
bacon, sausage, fresh fruit

**SUNDAY, OCT. 5
8:30 - 11:30AM
COMMUNITY ROOM**

**All are welcome!
free will offerings accepted**





DIOCESAN RETREAT FOR GRIEVING PARENTS

10 - 25 - 2025

SAVE THE DATE



Organized by:

- The Diocesan Office of Marriage & Family Life
- Fox Valley Respect Life team
- Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents

For more information or to register:
marriageministries@gbdiocese.org
or call us at 920-272-8283




Hallow

PRAYER HOW TO PRAY CHALLENGE



Join Fr. Mike Schmitz, Bishop Barron, Sr. Miriam, Johnathan Roumie, Mark Wahlberg, and other world-class spiritual guides as together we experience the transformative power of prayer.

- Sign up to join our Parish Community
- Go to our **website** to see how to login as a new member, already a member, or would like to pay for more options.
- From our website, go to the upper right and click on , then **Hallow Help**.

To signup, go to hallow.com/parish



Congratulations!

TO OUR NEW CONFIRMANDS

**Ornella
Haileigh
Dylan
Brynn
Wyatt**

**Andrew
Lauren
Cecilia
Joy
Michael
Katie**

**Sophia
Bernice
Reid
Michaela
Jaden
Nate**

**Trista
Evan
Rocco
Isaac**



St Mary/St Joseph book club meets Tuesday, October 21, from 1 to 2:30 pm, at St. Mary on State Street in Room LL7. The selected book is True North by Andrew J Graff. Please reach out to Mary Schulz, 920-809-4474, with questions or to request the list of books scheduled through July 2026.



Join Us on the Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

Oct 2 Wall Rock, Prepare a Meal

Oct 25 Paint and Stain, Prepare a Meal

Contact Ray Fuchs rfuchs1944@gmail.com to build.

Contact Sarah Fraley sfraley@new.rr.com for meals.



Confirmation Mass

Please pray for our Confirmation students who have been preparing over the last year and will be confirmed this month, 9/27.

Minister of Young Disciples, Grades 1-5, Children's Liturgy

Join Our Pastoral Team

Tracy is going part-time and will minister to our middle and high school students. We are hiring someone to minister to our students in grades 1-5 and our youngsters who attend Children's Liturgy of the Word.

Contact Nadine or Tracy for more information.

Tracy@tturba@stmaryparish.org
Nadine@nduncan@stmaryparish.org



What is the term for the practice of praying at fixed times during the day?

TIE BLANKET TIME!



We are looking for volunteers to help tie fleece blankets again this year. The blankets will be donated to OUT OF HOME CARE CHILDREN IN OUTAGAMIE COUNTY and to THE VETERANS VILLAGE here in APPLETON. We will be meeting on Thursday, October 2, 16, and 30 from 1:00 to 3:00 in the Community room. If needed, we will continue with dates into November.

If you have sewing scissors, bring them along. We do also have some for you to use. If you have any questions, contact Barb Rowland by email: rbsafari@sbcglobal.net



Pillars is low on E2F Pans that are meals for their residents. These are meals you can put together easily for about \$15-\$20. One pan can feed 10 people. **Pick up a pan on October 4th and 5th** after the Masses. Please follow the enclosed directions and **return the frozen meal on October 11th and 12th.** Thank you for helping.

Celebrate



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

**PEACE
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2025
September 1 - October 4

St Mary
PRAYER TREE

LEAVE A PRAYER,
TAKE A PRAYER.
LOOK FOR OUR
PRAYER TREE IN
BACK OF CHURCH.



Love to Bake or Cook? Join our Parish Bakers & Cooks list!

Email Lori Lavallo at llavallo@stmaryparish.org and she will contact you when we need baked items or a meal prepared for an event.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Week of Sept 20-Sept 28

Saturday, Sept 27

9:00am Confessions/Chapel
4:30pm Mass
7:00pm Confirmation Mass
8:00pm Confirmation Rectption/ CR

Sunday, Sept 28

Coffee & Donuts after mass

7:45am Mass
9:45am Mass/Livestreamed
11:00am Baptism Preparation Course
11:00am Flock of Sparrows

Monday, Sept 29

12:05pm Mass
6:30pm Let Us Pray Event

Tuesday, Sept 30

9:00am Connect Group/LL7
2:00pm Rosary Prayer group/Chapel

Wednesday, Oct 1

9:30am Connect Group/LL7
4:30pm Adoration/Chapel
4:45pm Beacon Faith Formation 1st -5th grade
6:30pm Beacon Faith Formation 6th -8th grade
6:30pm Beacon Faith Formation 9th -12th grade

Thursday, Oct 2

10:00am St. Mary Young Families Small Group/BSR
12:05pm Mass
1:00pm Hooks & Needles/CR
6:00pm Choir/Music room
6:00pm Womans's Ministry/LL7
7:00pm Cor Jesu/Chapel,Church, CR

Friday, Oct 3

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, Oct 4

9:00am Confessions/Chapel
4:30pm Mass

Sunday, Oct 5

Coffee & Donuts after mass

7:45am Mass
8:30am Pancake Breakfast
9:45am Mass/Livestreamed

Mass Intentions

Sat. Sep 27	4:30pm	Nina Ellenbecker
Sun. Sept 28	7:45am 9:45am	Gloria Louch Molly Grow
Mon. Sept 29	12:05pm	Members of St. Mary Parish
Thur. Oct 2	12:05pm	Karen Livingston
Sat. Oct 4	4:30pm	Dean Gatz
Sun. Oct 5	7:45am 9:45am	Ellenbecker Family Sally Grall

IN LOVING MEMORY

Please pray for the family and friends of those who have recently passed. May your memories comfort you at this time.

John DeVos

June 16, 1947 — September 13, 2025

Paula Helbeler

March 8, 1938 — September 22, 2025

Generosity CORNER

Your support of St. Mary Parish is greatly appreciated.
We cannot do what we do without you.

	2025 Income	Monthly Budget	Income vs Budget
September wk 3	\$58,354.75	\$75,083.33	\$16,728.58
September wk 2	\$47,143.25	\$75,083.33	-\$27,940.08

Last week we launched our partnership with Hallow. We already have nearly 80 parishioners in our Hallow community. Join us for the How to Pray challenge going on now. This program is supported by a generous donation that encourages expansion of the core pillars of our parish mission: Discipleship, Fellowship, Ministry, Worship, and Mission. Your support helps keep our mission moving forward with programs like Beacon, Let Us Pray, Coffee & Donuts, and much more.

Clergy

Pastor, Fr. Bill Swichtenberg
wdswitz@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-422-4316

Deacon Gerry Schraufnagel
schraufnagel@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-540-9594

Pastoral Team

Nadine Duncan (Ext. 116)
Director of Pastoral
Administration
nduncan@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-659-1337

Lori Lavalle (Ext. 121)
Minister of Parish Vitality
llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Kate Minczeski (Ext. 110)
Minister of Adult Disciples
kminczeski@stmaryparish.org

Tracy Turba (Ext. 119)
Minister of Young Disciples
tturba@stmaryparish.org

Tom Walter (Ext. 114)
Minister of Liturgy and Music
twalter@stmaryparish.org
cell (920)-422-8669



Liturgy of the Hours

Parish Leadership

Tim Schraufnagel
Pastoral Leadership
Council Chair
plc@stmaryparish.org

Sarah Higgins
Finance Council Chair
fcchair@stmaryparish.org

Business Office

Chris Higgins (Ext. 102)
Director of Business
Administration
chiggins@stmaryparish.org

**Kristina Resterhouse
(Ext. 101)**
Administrative Assistant
stmary@stmaryparish.org

Mary Ellen Fisher (Ext. 103)
Bookkeeping Assistant
mefisher@stmaryparish.org

Michael Kozoroz (Ext 100)
Communication Coordinator
mkozoroz@stmaryparish.org

Facilities & Cemetery

Chip Acker
cacker@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-882-4158

Chad Tisdell
ctisdell@stmaryparish.org

Prayer Requests

Contact Laurie Richter
lauriejrichter@gmail.com

Mary Jo Zilisch
(920-734-1182) or

Ann Walkowski
(920-428-0969)

Important Contacts

Parish Office Hours:
920-739-5119
Mon through Thurs, 9am-4pm
Office Closed on Fridays

Sacrament of Matrimony
Getting Married? Congratulations!
Contact Fr. Bill at least 6 months
before your planned wedding date.

Funeral Information
Contact Tom Walter
cell (920)-422-8669

Interested in joining the Parish?
Contact Lori Lavalle
llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Mass Intentions
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

Confession times:
Saturdays 9-10am, or by
appointment

Parish Website:
stmaryparish.org
Cemetery Website:
stmaryparishcemetery.org

Eucharistic Adoration Wednesdays
4:30-8pm
Sign up for a slot to sit with Jesus.
We must have one person
with the Eucharist at all times.

[Click here to schedule Adoration](#)

Or scan with your phone



in Joy & SORROW

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 9.28.2025

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



Our Catholic faith is enriched by the graces which flow into our lives from our treasured Seven Sacraments. The Sacraments capture Jesus' deep desire to be with us always, especially in the ordinary and extraordinary moments of our lives.

New parents, remember that the Lord rejoices with you at the holy birth of your child. Baptism celebrates that the Divine Trinity is closer to your precious little one than you are. In Baptism, the divine brand is seared on the heart of that newborn; sin is washed away and the fire of divine love is set ablaze.

In the Eucharist, Jesus invites us to take our honored places at His banquet table, where the food and drink, so lavish, so juicy and rich, are His Precious Word and His Risen Body and Blood, really given for love of us.

In Reconciliation, Jesus reassures us that He is mercy incarnate and that no sin can stymie His desire to pour forgiveness upon us.

*The Sacraments
capture Jesus' deep
desire to be with us
always, especially in
the ordinary and
extraordinary
moments of our lives.*

In the Sacrament of the Sick, Jesus draws near to us in difficult moments of vulnerability and fear, blessing us with His Healing, Strength, and Peace.

A newly-married couple, so filled with joyful love for each other, glowing in the grace of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, are reminded that their love is only a glimmer of Jesus' love for each of them.

And a deacon, priest, or bishop, never forgets the laying on of hands on the day of his ordination, as Jesus hands down the unique charisms of His Holy Spirit for servant leadership in His Church, to bring a Holy Order amidst the Holy People of God.

Now if you are paying close attention, you should have noticed that I missed one of the Sacraments. Which one? You got it!

So much more than a rite of maturity or passage or "graduation", Confirmation is a deepening of the gifts of the Holy Spirit received at Baptism.

As we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday, welcoming the young people of Saint Joseph Parish and Saint Paul Parish in Combined Locks, along with our young people of Saint Mary, along with Abbot Dane Radecki of Saint Norbert Abbey, we ask the Holy Spirit to take these good women and men under Her Wings, that they might always feel the Lord's tender closeness to them.

Like the other Sacraments, the moment of Confirmation on Saturday in Church is not a "one-and-done-deal." The grace of Confirmation is always unfolding in our lives. Your heart and my heart can always open wider to the gifts of the Holy Spirit! Those seven gifts are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear (reverence/awe) of the Lord (Isaiah 11:1-3). The Holy Spirit is never done with us! Hopefully these gifts will produce the fruits of the Holy Spirit in our lives. In his Letter to the Church of Galatia, Saint Paul lists the Spirit's fruits: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, generosity, and self-control (5:22). At the end of each day, a review of the presence or absence of these fruits of the Spirit throughout my day may serve as a worthwhile examination of conscience.

In his homily last Sunday at Saint Anna Parish in Vatican City, Pope Leo said, "*No servant can serve two masters, therefore, you cannot serve God and wealth.* (Luke 16:13) [Who you will serve] is not a contingent choice, like so many others, nor an option that can be reviewed over time, depending on the situation. It is necessary to decide on a real lifestyle. It's about choosing where to put our heart, clarifying all we sincerely love, who we serve with dedication, and what our good really is."

Yes, Confirmation is about *choosing where to put your heart, clarifying all you sincerely love, who you serve with dedication, and what your good really is.*

With the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, I wrote this prayer on the occasion of this Fall's celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. I named the prayer "My *Credo*". Note that the Latin *credo* is best translated as *I give my heart to*. Think about that when we pray the Apostles' Creed together at Mass!

Here is another Latin phrase for you: *lex orandi, lex credendi*, which might be translated as *the way we pray shapes the way we believe*. This Confirmation prayer is chock-full of beliefs that are integral to our Catholic Christian understanding of the Gospel of Jesus. In a politics-infused Christianity, which is practiced by too many in our nation, and is fake and a travesty against the integrity of Jesus, Gospel values are subordinated to one's perspectives, political and otherwise. What we need to uphold is a Christianity-infused perspective. Our faith permeates every aspect of our lives and should necessarily impact our political positions.

Here is the prayer:

LORD GOD, since the beginning of the human story, You have kept Your Promise, "I will be Your God and you will be My People, precious to Me!"

Even when I miss the mark and turn away from You, You keep Your Promise. You even became human in Jesus, Your Beloved Divine Son, to show me how I can remain faithful to You. Jesus lived close to others, always tender and compassionate.

With Jesus in my heart, I promise

- *to never doubt my sacred dignity, Your Precious Gift to me*
- *to trust always in my inestimable worth and value*
- *to see Jesus' dignity in every person in my life*
- *to always affirm the worth and value of every person by speaking and acting in holy ways that will encourage and strengthen him or her*
- *to believe that I am a better person when I stand with others on the side of what is right and just, good and true*
- *to love every person, just willing all that is best for him or her*
- *to speak out with courage when I witness another person being treated in a way that lessens her or his dignity*
- *to be a living witness to Jesus' closeness, tenderness and compassion, especially to persons who are pushed out as if they do not belong or are treated as if they are less than others*
- *to be a living tabernacle for Jesus, Your Son and my Friend. May His Light of Love always shine through me.*

All of this I promise You, LORD GOD. In the power of the Holy Spirit, help me to live these promises every day, all for You and Your Greater Glory. Amen.

Congratulations to our newly-confirmed young people!

Come Holy Spirit!

May the Holy Spirit give our dear confirmands the courage to always stand up, in the Church and in the world, for Jesus and His values!

Let us infuse all of our viewpoints with the Gospel of Jesus! His Gospel is the only compass of our lives!

Fr. Bill +