

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION, MARCH 29, 2026

ST. MARY PARISH

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

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



HOLY WEEK

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life. John 3:16

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

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 Lavallo

llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Confession times:

Saturdays 9-10am or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays 4:30-8pm

Sign up for a time to sit with Jesus.

We must have one person

with the Eucharist at all times.

Or scan with your phone.



SCAN ME

The Palm Sunday Path



Multi Church & Interfaith Rally

Sunday, March 29, 1:00-3:00 pm

Jesus instructed us in Matthew 25, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

On Palm Sunday, **March 29th**, we will meet at **12:50 pm** in the St. Joseph East parking lot and walk over to the Houdini Plaza from 1:00-3:00 pm to lift our voices to speak for our brothers and sisters who are struggling and seem to be forgotten by many in our society.

Palm Sunday BAKE SALE

You may drop treats off any time after 10am on Friday (**March 27**) or Saturday (**March 28**) or before 7:45am Mass on Sunday (**March 29**)



Remember to wear RED this coming weekend for Palm Sunday

PALM BRAIDING

March 28 & 29 Community Rm. After 4:30pm, 7:45am and 9:45am Masses

- Learn the History
- Watch a demo
- try it for yourself

Keeping the Lights On

Confession with Fr. Bill
March 30 • 6pm-9pm



Holy Week Schedule

3/28-
29/2026
Palm
Sunday
Masses

Saturday
4:30 pm
Sunday
7:45 am
9:45 am

4/2/2026
Holy
Thursday
Pot Luck
5:30 pm

4/2/2026
Holy
Thursday
Mass
7 pm

4/3/2026
Good
Friday
Service
12:15 pm

Tenebrae
Service
6:30 pm

4/4/2026
Easter
Vigil
8 pm

4/5/2026
Easter
Sunday
Masses
7:45 am
9:45 am



HOLY THURSDAY POTLUCK DINNER

April 2nd at 5:30 PM

Join us before the Holy Thursday Mass for food and fellowship.

If you can contribute a dish, we welcome any item you would like to share! Do you have a specialty that you enjoy making? We would love to sample it! If cooking isn't feasible, feel free to pick something up from a drive-through on your way. Please ensure you bring enough to serve approximately 10 people.

We will provide water, wine, grape juice, and milk. Additionally, this year we will be offering ham and rolls.

Please sign up below if you are willing to volunteer.

Sign-up
to help!



<https://bit.ly/3P4YSgP>



Tenebrae SERVICE

**Friday, April 3
6:30 PM In Church**

Join us this Good Friday for Tenebrae—Latin for “shadows” or “darkness”—a solemn and moving Holy Week service that commemorates the passion, death, and burial of Jesus. Through Scripture, prayer, and the gradual extinguishing of candles, we enter into Christ's suffering and the profound mystery of his sacrifice.



HOW THE PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION IS USED

What is the Pontifical Good Friday Collection?

It supports the people of the Holy Land and the pilgrims that visit.

At the request of the Holy Father, the Franciscans of the Holy Land promote the Pontifical Good Friday Collection in the United States and other parts of the world. Funds are distributed at the direction of the Vatican's Congregation for the Oriental Churches. A portion of the funds are directly allocated to the educational and ecclesial projects in the Middle East. The rest of the funds collected in the United States and a number of other countries support the ministries and programs entrusted by the Holy See to the Holy Land Franciscans. The Franciscans have served in the Holy Land for 800 years.

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides, Humanitarian, Liturgical, Pastoral, Archaeological, Charitable, Educational services, as well as care for the Holy Places.

Serving those in need in the Holy Land

- 250 friars 11 countries
- 65 sanctuaries and 23 parishes
- 6 guest houses for pilgrims
- 30 youth served by Bethlehem Boys' Home
- 63 apartments restored for families in need
- 1,020 employees in Israel and Palestine
- 17 schools with more than 10,000 students
- 509 university scholarships
- 56 Friars preparing for the priesthood
- 700 refugees aided on the island of Rhodes
- 8,000+ Syrian families aided
- 650+ families in Lebanon assisted
- Construction of a Catholic school in Cana

Help us to continue to serve!



EGG HUNT

For kids ages 1-10!

**SAT
APRIL
4TH**

**CELC/SCHOOL PLAYGROUND & GYM
(FORMERLY CATHOLIC CENTRAL)
9:00 - 11 AM
HUNT BEGINS AT 10 AM**

**TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. SIGN UP AT
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/47V3EUD](https://bit.ly/47v3eud) OR USE THE QR CODE**



GAMES | ACTIVITIES | COOKIES & MILK





**Saturday, April 25th
5:45-7:00 PM**

Join us for fun in the Community Room. A light meal will be served during the event.



ADORATION CHANGE

Adoration will resume after Lent on the third Wednesday of the month beginning

**April 15th from
4:30-8pm**



Lenten Alms Project 2026

SCAN TO
DONATE



HEADSUP

Help young people aging out of foster care step into a hopeful future—surrounded by safe housing, meaningful mentorship, and a community that believes in them.

Place donations in the box in the back of church or the parish center. Make checks payable to “St. Mary Parish” and “alms” in the memo line. Sponsored by St. Mary Matthew 25 Committee.



**There will be no 9:00 am
reconciliation and no 4:30 Mass on
Holy Saturday, April 4th.**

Easter Flowers

Donations for Easter flowers can be dropped off at the parish office, mailed in, or put in the collection basket. Please include your name and if you want the flowers to be in memory of a loved one, please include the name. Donations need to be in by Palm Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!

Your name: _____

Amount: _____

Please circle one: Cash or Check #

In Memory of:

Be the LIGHT

Creating A Faith-Filled Culture in our Parishes



The Lord has blessed us in so many ways! Our parish family continues to reach out and be with people through the joys and challenges of life.

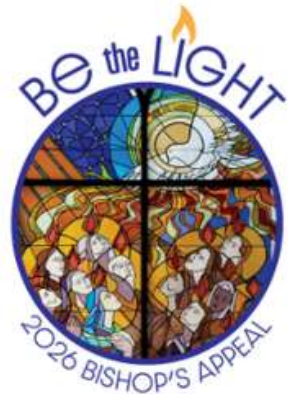
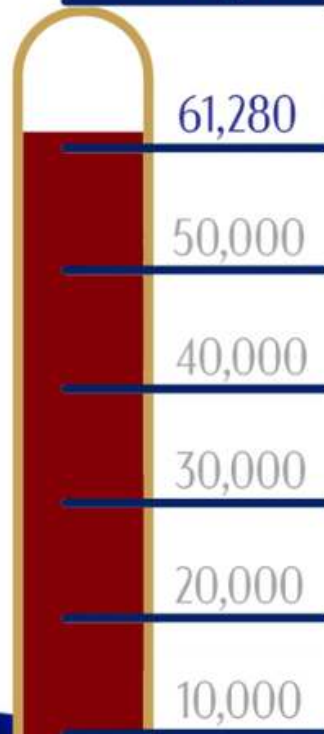
Thanks to the support of the Bishop's Appeal, the Church has found innovative and effective ways to connect with people and share gifts.



Please give generously at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give

2026 BISHOP APPEAL

GOAL \$74,729



Which is the only apostle who was not proclaimed a saint?





PLEASE HELP! ALTAR SERVERS ARE NEEDED...

to assist Father at Mass. Training provided for anyone age 10 and over. Adults are welcome.

Please contact Deacon Gerry at 920-540-9594 or dcngerry@stmaryparish.org if interested.



Coffee & Donuts

We are seeking volunteers to serve in 2026. If you're interested in lending a hand, please sign up using the link or QR code.

Thank you for considering this opportunity. Your time and talent play a vital role in building our community.

Volunteers needed

Scan here



Help our parish make an impact on Earth Day!

ASH WEDNESDAY (Feb 18) - EARTH DAY (Apr 22)

Bring in these hard-to-get-rid-of items:

- Christmas lights
- Compact fluorescent lightbulbs
- Batteries (rechargeable and non)
- Printer cartridges
- CDs/DVDs/Blue Ray discs/albums
- Books/magazines
- Egg cartons
- Reuseable fiber, paper and plastic bags (Clean and dry)



Items will be reused or properly recycled by:

- Outagamie County Resource Recovery Park
- St. Joe's Food Pantry
- Office Depot
- Half Price Books
- Home Depot

Any proceeds go to St. Joseph Food Program

Sponsored by the St. Mary Care for Creation Ministry

EVENTS CALENDAR

Mass Intentions

Week of Mar 29-April 5

Sunday, Mar 29 - Palm Sunday Bake Sale & Palm Braiding

7:45 am Mass
9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed
1:00 pm Lenten Small Group/LL7

Monday, Mar 30

12:05 pm Mass
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Keeping the Church Lights On
(Confessions w/Fr. Bill)
6:00 pm New Horizons Band Practice/CR
7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

Tuesday, Mar 31

9:00 am Connect Group/LL7

Wednesday, April 1

9:30 am Connect Group/LL7

Thursday, April 2 Holy Thursday

10:00 am Mom's Group - Babysitting Rm
1:00 pm Hooks & Needles/SAR
5:30 pm Potluck Dinner/CR
6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR
6:00 pm Women's Ministry/LL7
7:00 pm Mass

Friday, April 3 Good Friday

Holy Land Collection Parish Office Closed

9:00 am Small Group/LL7
12:15 pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
6:30 pm Tenebrae Service

Saturday, April 4

9:00 am Easter Egg Hunt-CELC Gym & Playground

9:00 am THEO/CR
12:00 pm Seder Meal-Bible Study/SAR
8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday

7:45 am Easter Day Mass
9:45 am Easter Day Mass/Livestreamed

Sun, Mar 29	7:45am 9:45am	Available Marge Schnese
Mon, Mar 30	12:05pm	Harry Morse
Thur, Apr 2	7:00 pm	No Intentions
Fri, Apr 3	12:15 pm	No Intentions
Sat, Apr 4	8:00 pm	Paula Hebler
Sun, Apr 5	7:45am 9:45am	Fr. Michael O'Rourke Margaret Higgins



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.

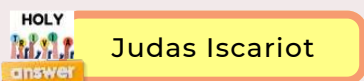
Generosity CORNER

Welcome to Palm Sunday! I pray your Lent has been a blessing. Thank you so much for supporting your parish.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
March	\$66,700.67	\$75,083.33	-\$8,382.66

Your giving at work in the parish:

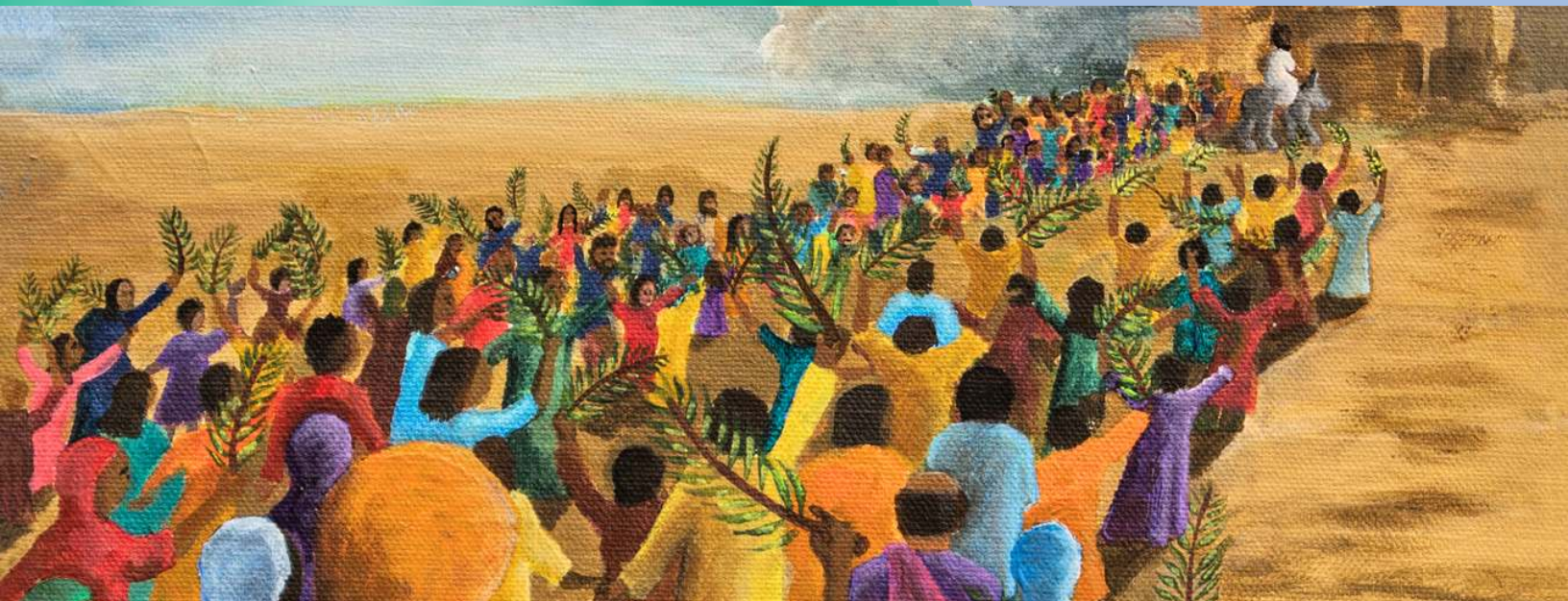
- To deal with the snow we had 4 people working over 3 days to ensure our parking lots were clear and sidewalks safe for reopening on St. Patrick's Day. A special thank you and shout out to Chad Tisdell, Mike Morse, Stephan Johnson, and Chip Acker for their efforts during this record-breaking blizzard.
- Monday was the Lenten Let Us Pray series event on the Scriptural Stations of the Cross in Art with Fr. Jim Neilson, O. Praem. It was a unique look at the stations through sacred art as introduced by St. John Paul II.



in Joy & **SORROW**

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 3.29.2026

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



HOLY WEEK

by Ann Weems from [Kneeling in Jerusalem](#)

Holy is the week...

Holy, consecrated, belonging to God ...

We move from hosannas to horror

with the predictable ease

of those who know not what they do.

Our hosannas sung,

our palms waved,

Let us go with passion into this week.

It is a time to curse fig trees that do not yield fruit.

It is a time to cleanse our temples of any blasphemy.

It is a time to greet Jesus as the Lord's Anointed One,

to lavishly break our alabaster jar

and pour perfume out for him

without counting the cost.

It is a time for preparation ...

The time to give thanks and break bread is upon us. he time to

give thanks and break bread is upon us.

The time to give thanks and drink of the cup is imminent.

*The time to give
thanks and
break bread is
upon us.*

Eat, drink, remember:

*On this night of nights, each one must ask,
as we dip our bread in the wine,
"Is it I?"*

*And on the darkest of days, each of us must stand
beneath the tree
and watch the dying
if we are to be there
when the stone is rolled away.*

*The only road to Easter morning
is through the unrelenting shadows of that Friday.*

*Only then will the alleluias be sung;
only then will the dancing begin.*

Here is a prayer I wrote for this Holy Week:

Dear Jesus, I arrive at the Holiest of Weeks once again, a year older, and hopefully, a bit more deeply in love with You. Still, it is too easy to observe this week as just business as usual. Remind me to pause for moments of silence and stillness on each of these Holy Days.

On Holy Thursday, You renew Your Promise to be with me always. The Eucharist celebrates God-with-us for all eternity! Deepen my love for You and Your Real Presence in the gift of the Mass. May the Mass be the heartbeat of my faith and the heartbeat of our Church and our World! Encourage me to see you really present in the gift of Your Most Precious Body and Blood. Bless me with the grace to see You, as well, in my brothers and sisters, especially in the least among us!

On Good Friday, You declare if I was the only human being to ever live on this little planet, Earth, You would still have died for love of me. Your Love for me is magnificent and marvelous. You love me even though I am still a sinner. Give me a compassionate heart that overflows with tears, seeing You still being crucified today, especially in my sisters and brothers whose lives are a living hell, trapped in war-torn countries, in detention centers, and in places where there is too much prejudice and hatred.

At Eastertime, may my renewal of the grace of my baptism be sincere. I do want to turn my back on all that contradicts Your Gospel of Love. I do want to be an icon of the Communion of Your love shared with Your Father and Holy Spirit. May my love for You and my neighbors be the only reason for my life! Remind me that darkness always yields to the fire of Your Spirit's Love, that hope never disappoints, and that cruelty and indifference never have the last word. Jesus, Risen from the Dead, You have the last words. "Do not be afraid! Whoever believes in me, even though you die, you will live forever!"

Happy Easter to you and your loved ones, my dear Spiritual Family of Saint Mary Parish!

Fr. Bill +