

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 19, 2026

# ST. MARY PARISH

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

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



“Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us.” Luke 24:32

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

cell 920-422-4316

## **Deacon - Gerry Schraufnagel**

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

cell 920-540-9594

## **Cemetery Info - Chip Acker**

[cacker@stmaryparish.org](mailto: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 Lavalle

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

## **Confession times:**

Saturday 9-10am or by appointment

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 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

**No**  
**Coffee & Donuts**

**On Sunday April 19**

Sign up to be a volunteer at  
future coffee & Donuts



<https://bit.ly/3OAa3hC>



**Monday, April 20th at 6:15 pm  
in church.**

Deacon Gerry will be holding an adult  
server training for those interested in  
becoming an altar server.

# Bingo Night!



**Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:45-7:00 PM**

Join us for bingo fun and fellowship in the Community Room  
after the 4:30 pm Mass.

A light meal will be served during the event.



When were the side altars in our church  
installed and at what cost?



# AI

WHY IT  
MATTERS TO  
POPE LEO



Does technology—including artificial intelligence—put our families at risk? Pope Leo XIV seems to think so! He is calling on people of faith to be wary of today's digital culture.

**How should we respond?**

## Xavier Fine Arts Theatre

1600 Prospect Ave, Appleton, WI

No tickets needed / Free will offering encouraged

> Seats available on a first come basis <

For details, google CIAFMO, email [ciafmo@gmail.com](mailto:ciafmo@gmail.com), or call 920-450-3025

CIA-Faith Mission Operatives encourages  
**YOU to *Investigate Your faith!***



With Terry Mattingly  
veteran religion-beat  
journalist & professor.  
Check him out at  
#Rational Sheep blog  
and podcast(s).

# Hallow



Join our Parable Challenge  
with Johnathan Roumie  
beginning  
**Monday, April 27.**  
Click on the Hallow app on  
our parish page to join the  
Challenge.





# RAFFLE

Tickets will be sold in the Marian Way  
on April 25th & 26th

Wisconsin State Council  
Knights of Columbus  
**CHARITIES**  
*United in Charity.*

1st Prize **\$50,000!**

2nd Prize **\$25,000!**



or 2026 Harley Davidson Motorcycle

**An Amazing 98 More Cash Prizes!**

3rd through 100th - \$500 each

**Tickets \$5.00 each. 100% of profits go to charities in Wisconsin!**

Drawing held Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 7:15 PM at Marriott Madison  
West Hotel, Middleton State Raffle License # R0009675-A-A-65783  
Winners will be posted on the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus website  
within 48 hours.

## Tootsie Roll Raffle

Tootsie Roll Raffle After the Masses on  
**May 2 & 3**

# 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)



## Final Week!

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



## Annual Vida Collection

APRIL 25 - MAY 10

### Help moms & kids in need

The VIDA collection for moms, babies and toddlers starts April 25/26 and goes until May 9/10, Mother's Day weekend. Some things Vida helps with are free medical support and parenting education. Please take a tag from the tree and purchase the needed item. Bring it to church by Mother's Day weekend. Thank you for being generous and helping others.

The logo for Vida, featuring the word "Vida" in a blue, sans-serif font with a stylized green and blue graphic element above the 'i'.

# BE the LIGHT

## Youth Ministry



### 2026 BISHOP APPEAL

GOAL \$74,729

73,957

60,000

50,000

40,000

30,000

20,000

10,000



98.97%



Helping children discover Jesus is one of the most important things we do as Catholics. This happens every day in our parishes and in our Catholic schools.

Your support of the Bishop's Appeal funds the tools and training for youth ministers and faith formation leaders across northeastern Wisconsin.

Please give generously at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give)



St. Francis Xavier  
Elementary  
School  
**Songs**

**Stories**  
& Fun!



Choose your session  
at 9 a.m. or 10 a.m

May 8th  
McDonald St. Campus

Open to children ages 2-5 with their parents/grandparents. Younger siblings are welcome to join in on the fun!

Call, email or scan the QR code to register



McDonald St. Campus | 1810 N. McDonald St. | 920.739.7826 | [McDonald@XavierCatholicSchools.org](mailto:McDonald@XavierCatholicSchools.org)



This past week, we had a tragedy in our parish family. Our Sacristan, Margie Hopfensperger and her husband, Alan, were in a serious car accident. They are both in critical condition and need our prayers. We are putting together a book of notes and cards for them and their family. There is note paper in the community room and in the parish office. If you'd like to send a card, feel free to address it to the parish in care of Margie & Alan Hopfensperger. We will make sure it gets to their kids.



# Cemetery Clean Up Day

May 2, 2026 | 9am | @ St. Mary Cemetery

Get your student service hours!



- Wear weather-appropriate clothing
- Bring work gloves & rakes
- Meet at the St. Mary Cemetery office (2121 W. Prospect Avenue)
- Questions? Contact Chip Acker at 920-882-4158.

We again plan to have a cemetery and Fox River cleanup day. It will be held in conjunction with the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance cleanup on the morning of May 2. It has been great to have both youth and adults joining in to meet new people and complete the work so quickly. Please mark your calendars!

**ST MARY** CEMETERY  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

# Open HOUSE

MAY 2ND, 1-6 PM



Join us for the St. Mary Cemetery  
Open House on May 2 from 1-6 pm.

2121 West Prospect Avenue

- See the newly Renovated chapel
- Ask questions
- Take a tour
- Explore pre-planning



# Young Adult Listening Sessions

REGISTER  
TODAY!

[diaco.io/listen](https://diaco.io/listen)

SPRING 2026

Join fellow young adults for a listening session to share your hopes, concerns, and dreams for the Church and our diocese. This is your opportunity to speak directly about how the diocese can better shepherd, support, and walk with young adults in our Catholic community.



APRIL  
**21**  
St. Pius X Parish  
500 W Marquette St  
Appleton, WI 54911  
6:00pm - 8:30pm

MAY  
**5**  
St. Peter & St. Paul  
710 N Baird St  
Green Bay, WI 54302  
6:00pm - 8:30pm

MAY  
**19**  
St. John the Baptist  
2597 Glendale Ave  
Green Bay, WI 54313  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Young adults ages 18-35. Catholic parishioners and non-parishioners are welcome! Food and refreshments will be provided.

OFFICE OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



[CGehl@gbdioc.org](mailto:CGehl@gbdioc.org)



920-272-8229



Diocese of  
Green Bay

## St. Lawrence Seminary High School **INSTRUMENTS OF PEACE** Summer Action Retreat



**Monday, June 15 – Wednesday, June 17**

Calling all current middle school boys! Bring yourself and a friend Monday, June 15 – Wednesday, June 17 to St. Lawrence Seminary High School in Mt. Calvary, WI for three days of field olympics, games, team building, and prayer. You're sure to have a blast living in our dorms, eating lots of food, making new friends, and growing in your Catholic faith! Cost is \$50 and includes housing and food. Free transportation is available from select cities throughout the state. Register at [www.stlawrence.edu/retreats](http://www.stlawrence.edu/retreats)

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Mass Intentions

### Week of Apr 19-Apr 26

#### Sunday, Apr 19

7:45 am Mass  
9:00 am First Eucharist Retreat/Chapel, SAR  
9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

#### Monday, Apr 20

12:05 pm Mass  
6:00 pm Shenanigans meeting/SAR  
6:15 pm Adult Server Training  
6:00 pm Reach More/LL7  
6:30 pm THEO/ CR  
7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

#### Tuesday, Apr 21

9:00 am Connect Group/LL7  
1:00 pm SMP & SJP Prayer Shawl Group/SJ LL112  
1:00 pm SMP & SJP Book Club/LL7  
6:00 pm Strategic Fellowship Group/LL7  
6:30 pm Finance Council/CR  
6:30 pm Matthew 25/LCR

#### Wednesday, Apr 22

**Last day for Spring Clean Up**  
9:30 am Connect Group/LL7  
4:45 pm-7:45 pm Beacon Faith Formation  
6:30 pm Confirmation Classes

#### Thursday, Apr 23

10:00 am Mom's Group - Babysitting Rm  
12:05 pm Mass  
6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR  
6:00 pm Discipleship Committee/LL3

#### Friday, Apr 24

**Parish Office Closed**  
9:00 am Small Group/LL7

#### Saturday, Apr 25

**VIDA Collection Starts**  
9:00 am Confessions  
4:30 pm Mass  
5:45 pm Bingo/CR

#### Sunday, Apr 26

**K of C State Raffle Ticket Sale in the Marian Way  
Coffee & Donuts**  
7:45 am Mass  
9:00 am First Eucharist Retreat/Chapel, SAR  
9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

Sun., Apr 19	7:45am	Sis & Bob Balliet
	9:45am	Nicholas & Sedella Jacob
Mon., Apr 20	12:05pm	Mike & Helen Lampert
Thur., Apr 23	12:05pm	Bill & Florence Polly
Sat., Apr 25	4:30pm	Fr. Bob Lexa
Sun., Apr 26	7:45am	Available
	9:45am	Fr. Michael O'Rourke



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

As we come into our 3rd week of Easter and some warmer weather, I want to thank you for your continued support of the parish.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
April	\$38,564.25	\$75,083.33	-\$36,519.08

### Your giving at work in the parish:

Bishop's Appeal! We are almost there! Only \$500 to go to reach our goal. If you haven't yet given to the Bishop's Appeal, please give now. If you no longer have your letter and envelope for the Appeal, there are some at the back of the church. You can give online at <http://bit.ly/4t8eKhC>

If you give \$500 or more, you become a member of the crozier society. As part of the Crozier society you will be invited to a Mass and luncheon for the society as well as other special diocesan events. You will also be mailed the advent (blue), lent (black) and Easter (white) devotional books.

Thank you for contributing to the Bishop's Appeal and how generously you support the parish.



The Blessed Mother and St. Joseph side altars were installed in 1911 at a cost of \$800 each.

# *in Joy &* **SORROW**

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 4.19.2026

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



With the help of Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows, as we besiege the Lord Jesus with our heartfelt prayers for the recovery of our dear Margie and her husband, Alan, I have been deeply moved by the many expressions of love originating in our Spiritual Family. In speaking of the Church as the Body of Christ, Saint Paul got it right when he declared that when one member rejoices, we should all rejoice, and when one member is weeping, we should all weep. (see Romans 12:15) The grace of solidarity reminds us that we do not have to navigate through the ups and downs of life all by ourselves.

I am proud of our Saint Mary Parish because I sense that more and more of you are operating out of a sense of what it truly means to be a synodal parish. Synodality will be the holy legacy of our beloved Pope Francis, whose First Anniversary of Death we observe on Tuesday.

In his address on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Synod of Bishops on October 17, 2015, Pope Francis stated, "A synodal Church is a Church which listens, *which realizes that listening is more than simply hearing*. It is a mutual listening in which everyone has something to learn. The faithful people, the college of bishops, the Bishop of Rome: all listening to each other, and all listening to the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth (John 14:17), in order to know what *[the Spirit] says to the Churches* (Revelation 2:7).

*...when one member rejoices, we should all rejoice, and when one member is weeping, we should all weep.*

Here is Rev Malcolm Guite's take on the Emmaus journey.

*We thought that everything was lost and gone,  
Disaster on disaster overtook us  
The night we left our Jesus all alone  
And we were scattered, and our faith forsook us.  
But oh that foul Friday proved far worse,  
For we had hoped that he had been the one,  
Till crucifixion proved he was a curse,  
And on the cross our hopes were all undone.*

*Oh foolish foolish heart why do you grieve?  
Here is good news and comfort to your soul:  
Open your mind to scripture and believe  
He bore the curse for you to make you whole  
The living God was numbered with the dead  
That He might bring you Life in broken bread.*

Deep listening is the gateway into the synodal adventure. I trust that the Holy Spirit is at work in every person and in his or her experience. I believe that we all share in the priestly ministry of Jesus. Each of us is co-responsible for advancing the presence of the Reign of God in a world that has wandered too far away from Gospel values.

Lest you think that I had anything to do with the Special Prayer Service for Margie and Alan last Saturday, let me enlighten you. I did not. This beautiful gathering in prayer as a Spiritual Family was Annie Van Stralen's idea. Along with Mary Ellen Julien and Tom Walters, they created a holy service which included the praying of psalms, some music, and prayers of the faithful. I am also grateful to Mark Jeffers, who was in the assembly, who prayed for the other victims in Thursday's (4/9) crash. I was happy to pray with about 100 of you who showed up on the spur of the moment. The Holy Spirit, who is the protagonist of synodality, was really present in our gathering!

This is what synodality in a parish feels like. Baptized believers, embracing their priestly charism bestowed through the grace of baptism, taking the initiative, being responsible for putting together a prayer service, and leading it with grace and authenticity.

On Sunday, we will acknowledge with much gratitude, the many members of our Spiritual Family who are always so willing to take responsibility for many aspects of parish life. One and all, they are servant leaders, empowered by the grace of the Holy Spirit, sharing their time and talent in a way that furthers Jesus' presence in our midst and the growing of His Kingdom.

Remember that the Kingdom of Jesus is so much more than a faraway place in eternity. No! The Kingdom of God is here and now, breaking into our world, with a holy way of living for peace and justice, love and joy, dignity and forgiveness.

Please join me in continuing to pray for Margie and Alan, seeing them surrounded by the bright and constant light of the Lord's healing love! Let us not forget to pray for the others injured in that horrific traffic accident as well!

*Fr. Bill +*