

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 10, 2026

# ST. MARY PARISH

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

312 SOUTH STATE STREET · APPLETON, WI 54911



“Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.” John 14:21

## 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](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 Lavalley

[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



# Celebrate MOM'S Mother's Day | May 10

Join us as we sprinkle some love on all our amazing moms with a small gift and blessing during Masses (4:30pm, 7:45am & 9:45am) this weekend!



# ST. JOSEPH FOOD PROGRAM

Fighting Hunger 🍏 Sustaining Hope

## Collection: This Weekend, May 9 & 10

We are collecting packaged fruits and vegetables. These can be individual fruit cups or microwavable vegetable cups or dried fruits or raisins as well as canned fruits and vegetables. No glass or past use by dates or perishable items. Thank you for helping others to eat healthy.

*Thank you for helping those who are in need.*



# Annual Vida Collection

*Thank you for helping  
moms & kids in need*

All gifts are due back this weekend, May 9-10.



*Margaret & Alan  
Hopfensperger*

If you would like to offer financial support to the family, you may drop off your contribution at the parish office or place it in the collection box at the back of church this weekend, May 9-10. Make checks payable to St. Mary Parish. Include their names in the memo of the check. Please continue to pray for their family.



Did any Pope keep his birth name?

# BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

## Mother's Day to Father's Day

May 10 - June 21, 2026

Support new and expectant parents through an online gift. Donations provide direct support to families throughout the Diocese of Green Bay.



# Anointing of the Sick

MAY 16 & 17,  
DURING ALL  
MASSES



Scan & Donate  
TODAY!  
[dioc.io/baby](http://dioc.io/baby)

 **Catholic Charities**  
of the Diocese of Green Bay  
PUTTING OUR FAITH INTO ACTION  
Sponsored by the **Catholic Charities**  
*Adoption & Pregnancy Support program.*

# Let us pray

Evening worship experiences at St. Mary, Appleton

## MARIAN HYMN SING & CONCERT

Monday, May 18, 6:00 pm

Celebrate Mary and our mothers with a hymn sing of famous and beloved Marian hymns and songs.





## Biblical Walk through the Mass Prayer Challenge

Join this 8 session Biblical Walk Through the Mass with Dr. Edward Sri as he connects liturgy to scripture starting **May 18**. Scan the QR code to St. Mary's Hallow page, then scroll down to Community Library to join!

# Hallow



# Young Adult Listening Sessions



**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.

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.

**REGISTER TODAY!**  
diaco.io/listen

### OFFICE OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



CGehl@gbdioc.org



920-272-8229



# Brunch BUNCH

## Sunday

**May 17th,  
11:30am**

If you are 55 years old or older, mark your calendar for our next get together. Sunday, May 17th, we are going to Angel's Restaurant at 1401 East John Street, Appleton. We will meet there at 11:30. Reservations are required. Please let us know by Thursday, May 14 if you will be joining us. Call or text Sue Rogers at 920-810-1545, leaving your name and how many people. Thank you.



St. Lawrence Seminary High School

# INSTRUMENTS OF PEACE

Summer Action Retreat



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)

# OPEN AUDITIONS CHRISTMAS STARS

2026

Saturday, May 9 &  
Thursday, May 14

Scan to register



christmasstars.org

## Do you love to sing and dance?

Fill out a cast application and schedule an audition to be considered for the 2026 cast.

Go to [www.christmasstars.org](http://www.christmasstars.org) and click or tap the Join Our Cast button.

Fill out an online cast application and get a link to schedule an audition.

Students entering Kindergarten through 12th grade in 2026-2027 and adults of any age are invited to audition for the cast.

Auditions, rehearsals and performances at the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre.

2026 show dates: **Dec. 3-6 & Dec. 10-13**



St Mary/St Joseph book club will meet Tuesday, May 19, from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, at St. Mary on State Street in Room LL7. The selected book is: *Calling Me Home* by Julie Kibler. Please reach out to Mary Schulz, 920-809-4474, with questions or to request the list of books scheduled through December 2026.



## NORBERTINE CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY AT ST. NORBERT ABBEY



**Mary: The Perfect Reflection Of Her Son**  
Presenter: Fr. James Neilson, O. Praem.

**Thursday, May 14; Option A: 12-1 p.m.**  
or **Option B: 7-8 p.m.**

**Details:** A specially curated collection of images of Mary revealing the Church's ever-ancient and ever-new devotion to the Mother of God. Works of sacred art celebrating the various roles and titles of Mary will be prayerfully presented. *Cost: freewill offering.*

### Centering Prayer Retreat Day

**Saturday, May 16; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Details:** Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that is both a relationship with God and a way to deepen that relationship. Join Kathie Tilot for an introduction to Centering Prayer, enjoy the peaceful grounds of St. Norbert Abbey, and spend time with God in the silence. *Cost: \$45 (includes lunch and presentations). Registration deadline: May 1.*



# Help Shape the Future Look of St. Mary's

We are forming three new teams to help enhance our parish environment and operations. If you have a professional background or a personal passion in these areas, we would love your expertise:



- **Exterior Environment Taskforce:** Help us reimagine our outdoor spaces, including the main entrances and a potential prayer garden.



- **Interior Design Taskforce:** Assist in updating the aesthetic of our office and rectory spaces —perfect for those with an eye for color and design!



- **Technology Team:** Help us plan for the future of our infrastructure, from security and digital signage to phone systems.

Join us on May 21 @ 9am to help put out American flags on gravesites at the St. Mary Cemetery

**Rain date: May 22**  
2121 West Prospect Ave

## Moment of Remembrance Cemetery Salutes

**Sun., May 24th, 2026**

The community is invited to attend solemn salutes honoring veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice. The ceremony will feature a prayer, a memorial wreath laying, a rifle volley, and the playing of "Taps."

**1:00 PM @ St. Mary Cemetery  
(2121 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton)**

Organized by the Scarlet Guard American Legion Color Guard.

## St. Mary MEMORIAL DAY MASS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR  
THE ANNUAL  
MEMORIAL DAY  
MASS WHICH WILL  
BE CELEBRATED AT  
ST. MARY CEMETERY  
MAY 25, AT 8:00AM

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Mass Intentions

### Week of May 10-May 17

#### Sunday, May 10 (Mother's Day)

**VIDA Gift's Due**

**St. Joe's Food Program Collection**

**Coffee & Donuts**

7:45 am Mass

9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

#### Monday, May 11

12:05 pm Mass

6:00 pm Reach More/LL7

6:00 pm New Horizons Band Practice - CR

7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

#### Tuesday, May 12

9:00 am Connect Group/LL7

4:30 pm Safety Committee/LCR

6:00 pm Facilities Committee/LCR

6:30 pm Men's Ministry/LL7

#### Wednesday, May 13

9:30 am Connect Group/LL7

6:30 pm Confirmation Classes/SAR

#### Thursday, May 14

10:00 am Mom's Group - Babysitting Rm

12:05 pm Mass

6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR

#### Friday, May 15

**Parish Office Closed**

9:00 am Small Group/LL7

#### Saturday, May 16

**Anointing of the Sick at all Masses**

9:00 am Confessions

4:30 pm Mass

#### Sunday, May 17

**Anointing of the Sick at all Masses**

**Coffee & Donuts**

7:45 am Mass

9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

11:00 am Lola Gene Briones Baptism

11:00 am Maxwell Lee Gannon Baptism

11:30 am Brunch Bunch/Angel's Restaurant

Sun., May 10	7:45am	Gerald Young
	9:45am	Mary Ann Hanson
Mon., May 11	12:05pm	Paula Hebel
Thur., May 14	12:05pm	Available
Sat., May 16	4:30pm	Ted Miller
Sun., May 17	7:45am	Dylas Henderson
	9:45am	Helen Lampert



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

It is the time of year when flowers are blooming and the weather is getting warmer, and outdoor activity increases. Amid all of that blessing and beauty, thank you for your parish support.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
May	\$5,558.25	\$75,083.33	-\$69,525.08

### Your giving at work in the parish:

- Beacon concluded for the year last week. We want to thank the catechists and volunteers. We had a tremendous year with the young people of the parish who attended regular Wednesday classes, prepared for sacraments of First Holy Communion, First Reconciliation, and Confirmation.



Yes, Pope Adrian VI  
(1522-1523)

# *in Joy &* **SORROW**

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 5.10.2026

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



Friday, May 8th, marked the first anniversary of the election of Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost from South Chicago, who took the name Leo XIV, as the 267th Successor of Saint Peter. The word pope is related to the Latin word pontifex, which means bridge builder. As we have experienced the ministry of Pope Leo so far, I see him as being true to his universal role in the Catholic Church. From the moment Pope Leo was introduced to the world on the balcony of Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, announcing the first words of the Risen Lord Jesus to his disciples, "Peace be with you," the Holy Father has been committed to being the Lord's spokesperson for peace and unity. Leo is not afraid of any earthly power that would challenge his role to be a bridge builder. He is a herald of Jesus and His Gospels. Minimizing crime or crafting foreign policy have nothing to do with his ministry as Pope. Criticizing him for responsibilities he has nothing to do with is complete nonsense and disrespectful.

The majority of cardinal electors who entered the conclave on Wednesday, May 7, 2025 were of one mind and heart that the new Pope would continue the reformations begun by our beloved Pope Francis. Note that 80% of them were created cardinals by Pope Francis. The restructuring of the Curia, the focus on Jesus (God) as the Face of Mercy, the commitment to being a Synodal Church, and

*...“Peace be with you,” the Holy Father has been committed to being the Lord’s spokesperson for peace and unity.*

the call to go to the peripheries with the Gospel of Jesus to our sisters and brothers who feel marginalized or alienated are the central- emphases of the pontificate of Pope Francis.

Most of the cardinal electors were convinced that they wanted a new Pope who would be a good listener and a humble pastor in the spirit of Francis.

I am delighted to say that I see all of the above emphases from Francis being lived out in the inaugural ministry of Pope Leo.

What impresses me about the Holy Father are the following:

- He is sincere in his practice of the presence of God. He is close to the Lord and humbly acts as the Lord's instrument.
- Pope Leo is careful in his preaching and teaching. His homilies are not as colorful as Francis' but they are rich in images. I like how he uses language in a poetic way. For example, on Good Shepherd Sunday (4/26), in his homily delivered in front of ten young men about to be ordained priests for ministry in the Diocese of Rome, considering Jesus' announcement *I AM* the sheep's gate, Pope Leo said, "Today more than ever, especially when statistics seem to indicate a divide between people and the Church, keep the door open! Let people in, and be prepared to go out. This is another secret for your life: you are a channel, not a filter. Many believe they already know what lies beyond the threshold. They carry memories with them, perhaps from a distant past. Often, there is something within them that is alive and has not died out; this draws them in. Other times, however, there is something else within them that still bleeds and repels them. The Lord knows, and he waits. Be a reflection of his patience and tenderness. You belong to everyone and are for everyone! Let this be the fundamental purpose of your mission: to keep the threshold open and direct others to it, without using too many words." In all ministry in Jesus' Name, it is critical to always be a channel and not a filter.
- Pope Leo is a down-to-earth person. He likes to cook. He plays tennis. I guess he likes horses. He works out. He is in a whole lot better shape than me, considering Leo is just nine months younger than me. He takes one day off most weeks. I am thinking he knows how to change the oil in a truck! Not me! I might be just as good as he is in solving the daily Wordle puzzle though.
- I love hearing the Holy Father speak in English. He is so natural in switching from speaking in English to Spanish to Italian. That is a gift. With an IQ of 145, Pope Leo is on the threshold of being a genius.
- It was common thinking that there would never be a Pope from the US. Since Father Robert Prevost, and then Bishop Prevost, spent some twenty years as a missionary in Peru and is a citizen of Peru as well as the US, his allegiance to the US is tempered by his closeness to the poor people of the Church in South America.

We know now that what country the Pope comes from is not as important as what kind of a minister he is.

- Pope Leo has a sense of humor. He laughed when he told the Italian tennis superstar that it could turn out badly if they volleyed a tennis ball back and forth in one of the halls of the Apostolic Palace. There are too many priceless art pieces in that place!
- I like that Pope Leo is reintroducing us to the Documents of Vatican Council II at his General Audiences on Wednesdays. These documents still need the Church's attention towards full implementation. The underpinnings for what it means to be a synodal Church are present in the Council documents, and in the Acts of the Apostles, I might add. The Church is the People of God walking together, side by side with its Bishops, listening and learning and loving one another. The Holy Spirit is the energizer of this Church, shaped by Vatican II and Synodality.
- Pope Leo is a son of Saint Augustine. As a member of the Order of Saint Augustine, a worldwide community of men religious, Pope Leo is convinced of the values of peace, unity, and friendship.

Good People, I am just embarking on the adventure of getting to know what makes Pope Leo tick. His theological, spiritual, and pastoral senses impress me! I am grateful to Pope Francis for the gift of Pope Leo, Francis' last surprise to the Universal Church. Just a year ago, Cardinal Robert Prevost was very much in the background when the conclave to elect Francis' successor began! Thank You, Holy Spirit, and thank you, too, Pope Francis, for bringing Leo to us! Remember to join me in praying for our dear Pope Leo XIV!

*Fr. Bill +*