

Weekly update 03/31/24



HAPPY EASTER

CATHOLIC TRIVIA- JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the term for the change of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ during the Mass?

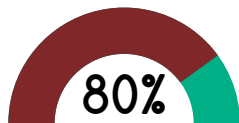
(Answer is under the events calendar in the bulletin)

BISHOP'S APPEAL

A sincere thank you to all who have supported the Bishop's appeal. Check out the graph below to track our advancement towards the goal. Your contribution today will help us get closer to our goal.

For more information on the Bishop's appeal, please visit:
<https://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/bishops-appeal/>

Goal: \$65,143



NO EASTER EGG HUNT 2024

Due to spring break scheduling, St. Mary has decided not to host an Easter Egg hunt this year.

We apologize for the inconvenience and hope to resume our Easter egg hunt next year, when spring breaks align between the public schools and private schools.



HAPPY EASTER ST. MARY!

Happy Easter to you too! May your day be filled with joy, love, and hope. Whether you're spending time with family, enjoying a delicious meal, or simply taking a moment to relax and reflect, may this Easter bring you peace and happiness. Let the spirit of renewal and new beginnings inspire you today and always. Wishing you a wonderful Easter filled with blessings and kindness.

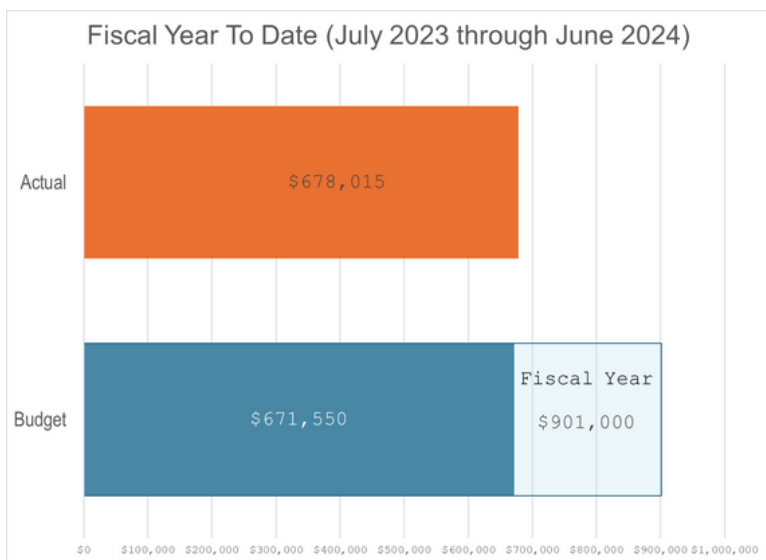
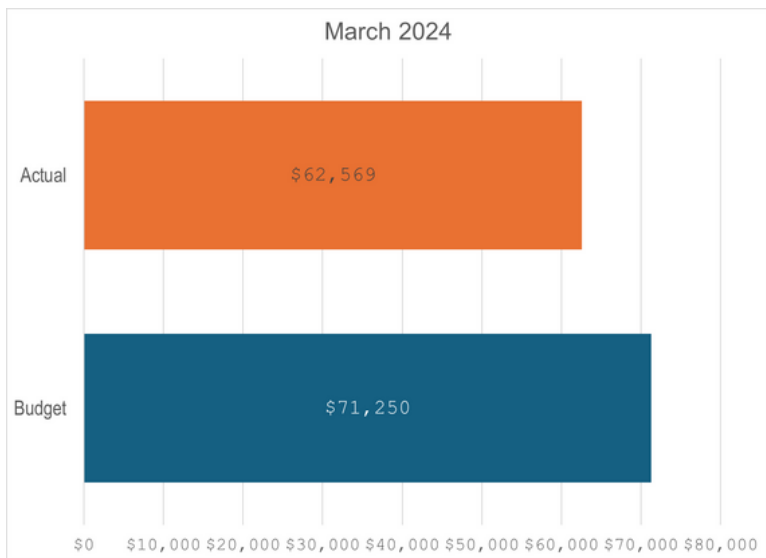
SPIRITUS MISSIONARIES

SPIRITUS missionaries are young adults who give nine months of service to ignite the faith of our Catholic youth. They will be here next weekend to share how they are inspiring the youth of our parish and parishes throughout mostly Wisconsin but also in other states. After their brief witness, they will invite parishioners to partner with their missionary efforts through prayer and financial support. We hope you will join in this vital mission of the Church.

CELEBRATE
EASTER *with us!*



Easter Vigil 8pm
Easter Sunday
7:45 & 9:45am



XAVIER SCHOOLS UPDATES:

Songs Stories & Fun!

at St. Francis Xavier Elementary School

April 12 Marquette St Campus
April 17 McDonald St Campus

All events begin at 9:00 a.m.

Open to children **ages 2-5** with their parent(s)/grandparents. Younger siblings are welcome! More information is available from Admissions at (920)735-9380 x5226.

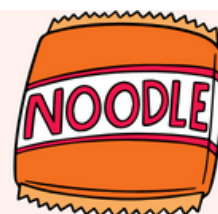


Reserve your spot at bit.ly/ssf23-24

FOOD DRIVE

April 13 & 14

THE ST. JOSEPH FOOD PROGRAM COLLECTION IS APRIL 13TH AND 14TH. THE COLLECTION IS FOR BOXED MEALS SUCH AS **MAC & CHEESE, HAMBURGER HELPER, INSTANT POTATOES OR RICE, OR THINGS TO MAKE A CASSEROLE.** GLUTEN FREE, SUGAR FREE AND LOW SODIUM ITEMS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED. NO GLASS CONTAINERS, PERISHABLE ITEMS OR ITEMS PAST THE DUE DATE.





LENTEN ALMS PROJECT

Habitat For Humanity

Almsgiving is considered prayer because it's giving to God, and it's a form of fasting because it involves sacrifice.

MORE ABOUT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Vision: A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Mission: Seeking to put God's love into action, we bring people together to build homes, communities and hope.

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!



LEARN MORE

thank you

\$10,000 GOAL



<https://www.foxcitieshabitat.org/>





shamrock shenanigans 2024





Missionaries for Our Youth

Inspiring Youth and Forming Leaders

- SPIRITUS missionaries are making an impact on your parish youth this year by inspiring them through a retreat and accompanying them on their path as they journey ever closer to Christ.
- The missionaries are young adults who give six days a week, nine months of the year to ignite the faith of our Catholic youth. In return, they are provided with room and board, health insurance, ministry and leadership formation, and a small spend.
- SPIRITUS keeps retreats affordable for tight parish budgets so that they can inspire as many Catholic youth as possible, but these fees only cover approximately 30% of the actual costs associated with SPIRITUS. It's only possible for SPIRITUS missionaries to inspire your youth because of partners who give donations to support the missionaries and their mission.
- Please consider partnering with SPIRITUS through your prayers and financial support. We hope that you will join in this vital mission of the Church. Your gift will make a difference today for our Catholic youth and for years to come as we form future leaders for the Church.

"Faith is God's gift and it grows thanks to the faith and charity of evangelizers who witness to Christ."
Pope Francis



Moment of Remembrance Cemetery Salutes

Sun., May 26th, 2024

The community is welcomed to gather as local veteran service organizations assemble and perform somber salutes to veterans that paid the ultimate sacrifice and are laid to rest at the two cemeteries listed below. The salutes will include a prayer, the laying of a memorial wreath, a rifle volley, and the playing of “Taps”.

12:00 NOON @ Moses Montefiore Cemetery (*E. Woodland Ave., Appleton*)

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



Organized by the *Scarlet Guard American Legion Color Guard*.
Follow the *Scarlet Guard Color Guard* on *Facebook* for more information and updates.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., April 1, 12:05pm

Tues., April 2, 8:00am

Wed., April 3, 8:00am

Thur., April 4, 12:05pm

Sat., April 6, 4:30pm

Sun., April 7, 7:45am

9:45am

5:30pm

Mass at St Bernard Parish

Mass at St Bernard Parish w/Fr. Bill

Special Intention

Bill Garvey

Brett Saathoff

In Loving Memory

May fond memories comfort them at this time. 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.

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 the requests in our prayer baskets.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, April 1

6:00pm THEO Grief Group

6:30pm Jazz Horizons Ensemble Practice/Music Room

Tuesday, April 2

9:00am Connect Group/Lower Level Room 7

1:00pm St Mary & St. Joe's Prayer Shawl Group/St. Joe's

2:00pm Rosary Prayer/Church

Wednesday, April 3

9:30am Connect Group/Lower Level Room 7

4:45pm Beacon

6:30pm Beacon

Thursday, April 4

1:00pm Hooks & Needles/Community Room

6:00pm Adult Choir/Music Room

6:00pm Shamrock Shenanigans Meeting/Lower Level Room 7

7:00pm Cor Jesu

Friday, April 5

Parish Office Closed

9:00am Friday Morning Meeting/Lower Level Room 7

Saturday, April 6

9:00am Confessions

Sunday, April 7

7:45am 1st Communion Retreat/Lower Level Room 7

11:15am OCIA





03.31.24

EASTER DAWN by Rev Malcolm Guite

He blesses every love which weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,
Or recognize the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question, "Why,
Why are you weeping?", or sees the play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply
"They took my love away, my day is night"
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

Every encounter between the Lord Jesus and another person is moving and transforming. Even when Jesus addressed a crowd, those people listening with open hearts often felt that He was speaking directly to him or to her only.

The encounter of the Risen Lord Jesus with Mary Magdalene on that first Easter dawn is especially profound. Mary Magdalene is grief-stricken. Her heart has been crushed. She is frantic with despair. She feels abandoned by her best friend, Jesus, and separated from Him forever. To say that Mary is beside herself is the understatement of all times and places.

As the sun gradually peaks up over the horizon, announcing the end of a long dark night and the beginning of a welcomed new day, Mary, standing at the empty tomb, hears something or someone move behind her. Even the birds hear what Mary hears!

The risen Jesus, whom Mary thinks is the gardener, notices tenderly that she is weeping. He does not ignore her emotional display. Jesus does not shy away from people who are emotionally fragile. Sometimes you and I might. Jesus asks her, "Why?" Mary, panicking, blurts out her concern that the Body of her Lord is missing from the tomb.

Why doesn't Mary Magdalene recognize Jesus? Sometimes we can be blinded by the circumstances of our lives. Sometimes we just forget that the Lord is always close to us, so tender and compassionate. Sometimes we have lost our way.

Jesus tenderly whispers her name and the floodgates of Mary's heart are opened wide. She recognizes her best friend. She remembers His calm voice. She experiences His unconditional love. She realizes that nothing can separate her from Him.

Tradition has raised up this holy woman, Mary of Magdala, and given her the title, *Apostle to the Apostles*. In 2016, Pope Francis, noting that each of the Twelve Apostles was remembered by the Church with a Feast Day, raised Mary Magdalene's day of remembrance on July 22 from a Memorial to a Feast. How appropriate for this first witness to the Lord's Resurrection! To think that in the time of Jesus no woman would be able to testify to anything in any legal proceeding. Knowing this, Jesus still trusted Mary with the Good News of his Resurrection.

My friends, this is Easter Joy! Jesus is real and alive forever. Jesus loves you with a love that nothing can squelch. No sin, no suffering, no grief, no guilt, no shame, no addiction, no anger, no lust, no unwillingness to forgive, no prejudice, no quickness to judge, no war, no terror, not even the greatest of all traumas, that is, death itself, can interrupt the Lord's magnificent, remarkable love for you and me.

Easter Joy is all about encountering this Risen Lord. Faith is so much more than giving my assent to a list of dogmas or teachings. Faith is so much more than following some moral code or following all the rules and regulations. Faith is an encounter with the Risen Lord, who is always interested in me, who suffers right alongside me, who never stops calling me by name in a way that no one else can, who always loves me, forever and ever. Amen!

Happy Easter to you and all your loved ones!

Fr. Bill +

STAFF AND OTHER CONTACTS

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Xavier Catholic School System
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St. Mary Cemetery
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Website: stmaryparishcemetery.org

Pastoral Leadership Council Chair
Kara Main | plc@stmaryparish.org

Finance Council Chair
Larry Bonneville | fcchair@stmaryparish.org

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

Sacrament of Baptism
Need Baptism information?
Congratulations! Contact Nadine Duncan for more
information.

Funeral Livestream Link
<http://stmaryparish.org/funeral-livestream/>

Confession
Sat. 9-10am

Eucharistic Adoration
Starting April 10th
4:30-8pm

Sign up for a slot to sit
with Jesus. We must
have one person
with the Eucharist at
all times.



SCAN ME

