

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep." - Jn 10:14-15

CATHOLIC TRIVIA-JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the outer garment worn by the priest celebrating Mass called?

(Answer is under the events calendar in the bulletin)

BISHOP'S APPEAL

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has backed the Bishop's appeal. Take a look at the graph below to monitor our progress towards the target. Your donation today will bring us one step closer to reaching our goal.

Goal: \$65,143



2024 TOTUS TUUS REGISTRATION



Looking for an affordable, faith-based activity for your kids this summer? Check out Totus Tuus. We're teaming up with a few parishes throughout Appleton to gather kids (grades 1-6 in day program, grades 7-12 in the evening) together to have fun, grow in their faith, and make new friends in active ways. Register and learn more here. If you have any questions or need financial assistance, reach out to tturba@stmaryparish.org.



PARISH PUPS

Phoebe popped by last week to fill in for Fr. Bill's absence. Her agenda? Nap, bark, give Dennis' squirrels some company, and top it off with another snooze.





LET'S SEND MESSAGES OF LOVE AND SUPPORT TO POPE FRANCIS FROM OUR PARISH FAMILY!

FR. BILL WILL PRESENT OUR ST. MARY JOURNAL TO POPE FRANCIS WHEN HE IS IN ROME FOR THE PARISH PRIEST MINI-SYNOD AT THE END OF APRIL

PAPERS WILL BE IN THE PEWS THIS WEEKEND FOR YOU TO WRITE YOUR MESSAGE OF SUPPORT OR ADD A PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE POPE TO PRAY FOR

IF YOU CANNOT MAKE IT TO CHURCH, SEND YOUR MESSAGE TO NADINE @ NDUNCAN@STMARYPARISH.ORG BY THE 22ND





From Kara Main, Pastoral Council Chair

St. Mary Parish Family

It's nomination time for the St. Mary Pastoral Council, and we're asking you to participate! The purpose of the council is to promote and foster the growth and vitality of the St. Mary Parish community. We are filling three at-large seats in 2024 (length of commitment: 3 years). New members will be selected on Pentecost (5/19).

WHY CONSIDER BEING A COUNCIL MEMBER?

It's an opportunity to deepen your connection to your parish family and better understand what goes into the work of the parish. You'll also spend time with people who can help you grow in your relationship with Jesus.

NOMINATION PROCESS

- Nominations begin April 20 and will be accepted through April 29
- All parishioners who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation and are 18 years of age or older are eligible to serve on the Council
- You may nominate yourself or another parishioner
- We are filling three (3) at-large seats in 2024

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Attend monthly meetings September June (first Tuesday evening of the month)
- Serve as a liaison to one of the five mission/vision committees
- Contribute your talents and energy to meet the council's annual goals

SUPPORT PROVIDED

- · Orientation meeting
- September Retreat
- Ongoing interaction with council leaders and parish staff

HELPFUL GIFTS

- Desire to keep St. Mary and its unique mission moving forward
- Good communication and listening skills
- Passion for being a follower of Jesus



Nominations can be submitted here by scanning the QR Code provided.







Help moms & kids in need

- take a tag from the tree in the Marian Way
- return item(s) by May 12 Mother's Day
- view a list of current Vida needs at stmaryparish.org



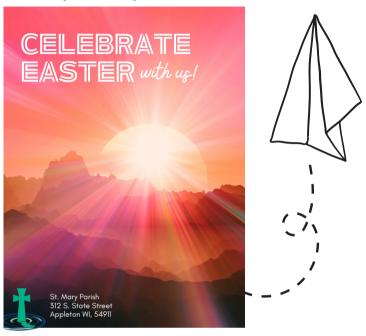
FRESH FACES ON BOARD!

Let's give a roaring welcome to our newest team member, Kate Minczeski! Joining us part-time as the Minister of Adult Disciples, she's a familiar face from our parish. Don't forget to give her a warm hello when you see her around!



EASTER MAIL

Did you receive a postcard from St. Mary's during Holy Week? That's our marketing magic in action! The positive energy poured in, bringing new faces to our parish, all thanks to those cheerful postcards circulating in our neighbourhood.





GRADUATION
2 (24)

BE WHO GOD MEANT YOU TO BE AND YOU WILL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE.
-ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

Sunday, May 19 9:45am Mass

 Give our high school seniors a big send off and show them how proud we are!

At ALL Masses May 18/19

- Grads of ALL AGES will be recognized (preschool, kindergarten, elementary & middle school, college, technical, grad school, etc.)
- ALL GRADS: be sure to pick up a ribbon at the table in the back of church



Grief Support Group

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Dealing with the loss of a loved one ranks as one of life's toughest challenges. Your faith family is here to help.

This summer, join us for an 8-week grief support program designed to accompany you on your journey and provide information and strategies to help you understand and deal with your loss.

- WHEN: Classes meet Monday evenings, 6-7:30 pm, beginning June 3
- WHERE: St Mary Cemetery Chapel
- WHO: All are welcome (Class size limited to 10 participants)
- Facilitated by Chip Acker & Thomas Walter (Certified ICare Specialists, International Grief Institute)

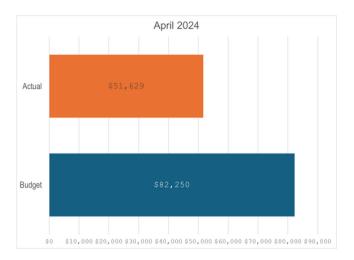


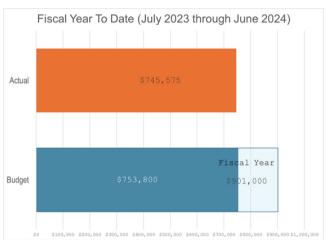


For more Info email:

cacker@stmaryparish.org or twalter@stmaryparish.org







Holy Spirit Parish Sunday Supper

Sunday, April 28, at 4:30 PM

The meal will be Pulled Pork, Corn Bread Casserole, Vegetable, Fruit, and Dessert. "free of charge"

> Holy Spirit School, Darboy Location W2796 Cty Rd KK, Appleton

We would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone who could use a delicious meal, and good company.

This meal is sponsored by

Elaine Bowers

In Memory of

Dan Bowers

With support from Mom and Pop's Bakery

- Round House Manor 300 Bicentennial Court, Kau

:35 - Pillars Adult & Family Shelter 400 N. Division Street, Appleton

3:52 - Hallmark Place 425 W. Kennedy Avenue, Kimberly 4:05 - Arrive at Holy Spirit, Darboy

Wheelchair Accessible Bus

tesburg Apartments 125 W. 10th Street, Kaukauna

:40 - Randall Court Apts 218 Randall Street, Appleton

:55 - Oneida Heights 525 N. Oneida Street, Apple Arrive at Holy Spirit, Darboy

Upcoming Suppers

at the Darboy School location: Sunday & May 19

Summer Suppers, Wednesdays June 26. July 17 and August 7

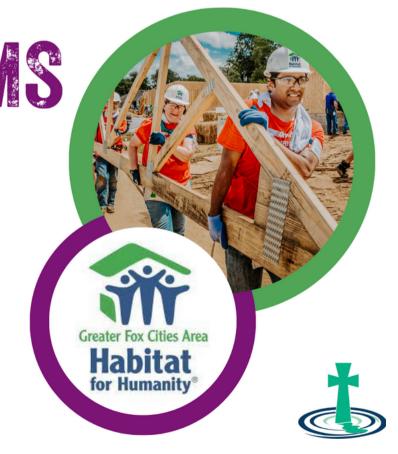
ALL are welcome!! A non-denominational prayer service will start the meal.





LENTENALN PROJECT

Thank you for helping us reach our goal to help Habitat for Humanity! We raised \$18,000.



God's Healing through Music Story & Art



MONDAY APRIL 22, 2024, 7 PM

Xavier Fine Arts Theatre, 1600 Prospect Ave, Appleton, WI

No tickets needed / Free will offering encouraged For details, google CIAFMO, email ciafmo@gmail.com, or call 920-450-3025

CIA-Faith Missian Operatives encourages YOU to investigate your faith!

Viaconate Inquirer Luncheon



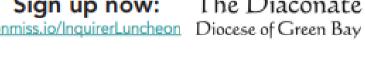
Diocese of Green Bay, Melania Hall

1825 Riverside Drive, Green Bay

If you or someone you know are a man between the ages of 30-55 and have been wondering how to dive deeper into your faith and be of service to the Church, please consider attending our next Diaconate Inquirer Luncheon. This is an opportunity for you and your wife to join with others discerning this call and learn more about the Diocese of Green Bay's formation program. There is no cost to attend, and we ask that you RSVP by April 15.







For questions or more information, contact Heidi Rosenthal at hrosenthal@gbdioc.org Office of the Diaconate

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., April 22, 12:05pm

Tues., April 23, 8:00am

Wed., April 24, 8:00am

Thur., April 25, 12:05pm

Sat., April 27, 4:30pm

Sun., April 28, 7:45am

9:45am 5:30pm **Mass at St Bernard Parish**

Mass at St Bernard Parish w/Fr. Bill

Fr. Michael O'Rourke

Adam Ruh

Eugene Dannecker

Mike O'Connell

In Loving Memory

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 22

6:30pm Reach More Small Group/Lower Level Room 7 6:30pm New Horizons Jazz Group

Tuesday, April 23

9:00am Connect Group/Lower Level Room 7 2:00pm Rosary Prayer/Church

Wednesday, April 24

9:30am Connect Group/Lower Level Room 74:30pm Adoration5:30pm Beacon Family Night6:30pm Reach More Small Group/Lower Level Room 7

Thursday, April 25

6:30pm Men's Group

Friday, April 26 Parish Office Closed

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

Saturday, April 27

9:00am Confessions

Sunday, April 28

9:00am Confirmation class 2024/St. Anne Room



04.21.24

In preparation for my participation in the International Meeting for Parish Priests for the Synod in Rome, I was asked to do an interview with one of our local TV stations. A reporter and cameraman arrived at the parish this past Monday afternoon.

We sat down in the chapel for the interview. I am guessing that we talked together for about 20 minutes and kept talking some more after the camera stopped rolling.

All of that spirited conversation was condensed into about a minute to a minute-and-a-half clip on TV. It is a mystery to me as to what makes it into the TV story.

Everyone is interested to know how I was selected as one of four Latin Rite Catholic priests to represent the priests across our great land in Rome. A Byzantine Rite priest was also selected.

Let it be known that there are hundreds of holy parish priests in our nation who are truly servant leaders and, as Pope Francis encourages, have the smell of the sheep on them. These are priests who are close to the People of God, tender and compassionate. Every one of them is deserving of the affirmation that the five of us feel as we make our way to Rome. It does a person good to feel affirmed! I wish that for our priests throughout our Diocese of Green Bay and our nation!

Let it be known, too, that there are hundreds of parishes across our nation, in the spirit of our Saint Mary Parish, who strive to be like a field hospital, as Pope Francis says, where all sorts of folk feel welcomed and valued. People of God of Saint Mary, pat yourself on the back and feel affirmed in your witness to Jesus!

With a smile on my face, I chuckle when asked, "How were you selected?" and quickly admit, "I have no idea whatsoever! I am certain the Holy Spirit played a big part! The Holy Spirit is always full of surprises!"

Here are some of the other thoughts I shared with the news reporter:

- A blessing of Vatican Council II (1962-65) was the definition of the Church as the People of God. Before
 the Council defined the role of the hierarchy, the Council reiterated that the Holy Spirit is at work in
 every baptized believer. The People of God have a sense of the faith (sensus fidei) as do the Bishops.
 Together people and bishops move forward, always inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- Saint Pope Paul VI introduced the notion of the synod to the universal Church. Synod is a Greek word which means to journey together. [Please, in pronouncing "synod", it sounds like "sin/od."] This

- walking together, which observed its 50th anniversary in 2015, is very much an experience of collegiality between the bishops and the Pope.
- Every five years or so, representative bishops from throughout the world would gather in Rome for conversations with the Pope on topics vital to the Church. For example, there was a Synod on the Eucharist, on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, on the Role of the Bishop, on the Role of the Priest, on the Church in Africa, and on the Church in Southeast Asia, just to name a few. These events were very scripted and stiff. There was little time set aside for holy conversations.
- Pope Francis has breathed new life into the synodal process. The Synod on the Family (two sessions), on Young People, and on the Church in the Amazon were opened up to include more people than just Bishops. The conversations, with Pope Francis' encouragement, were to be bold, honest, and challenging. The Pope invited participants to speak from their hearts and not be worried about what the Pope might think.
- The First Session of the Synod on Synodality, which was held during the month of October 2023, was a synod for the history books. Never was there such worldwide consultation among the People of God in preparation for the October meeting. Ideally, every Catholic in every part of the world had the opportunity to share his or her hopes, joys, and sorrows in regard to the Catholic Church. For the first time in the history of the synod, there were about 75 lay people in attendance, and among them were lay women (as well as women of religious communities). These women had a voice during the meetings that was welcomed and respected. At one of the roundtables, a participant was heard to say, "Cardinal, wait. She has not finished speaking!"
- Throughout the world, the concerns expressed by people again and again centered around giving a
 more prominent role to women in the decision-making of the Church, and being a Church more
 welcoming of divorced and remarried Catholics, of members of the LGBTQ+ community, of those of
 different races, notably here in the US, and of indigenous peoples.

And now parish priests from throughout the world will have their day to share their dreams for a synodal church!

I leave next Friday (4/26) and will return on Saturday, May 4. Thanks much to Fathers David Funk, Bill O'Brien, Ben from the Capuchin Friary, and Larry Seidl, who will be filling in for me while I'm in Rome.

If you get a chance, offer this prayer for all parish priests throughout the world.

Holy Spirit of Wisdom, open the hearts of our parish priests. May they trust that Your Grace is poured into the heart of every baptized believer. May they be gentle artists who practice holy listening, always recognizing the Lord present in the lived experiences of others. Give your Church the courage to always seek Your Guidance. May Your Church embrace transformation so that we may be more authentic witnesses of the Lord's Gospel of tenderness, closeness and compassion. Bless Father Bill and the priests meeting in Rome on these holy days!

Amen!

Thanks for all your prayers!

Fr. Bill +

STAFF AND OTHER CONTACTS

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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 Wednesdays 4:30-8pm

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



