

SUNDAY, January 5, 2025

ST. MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

312 S STATE STREET, APPLETON, WI | 920.739.5119 | STMARY@STMARYPARISH.ORG




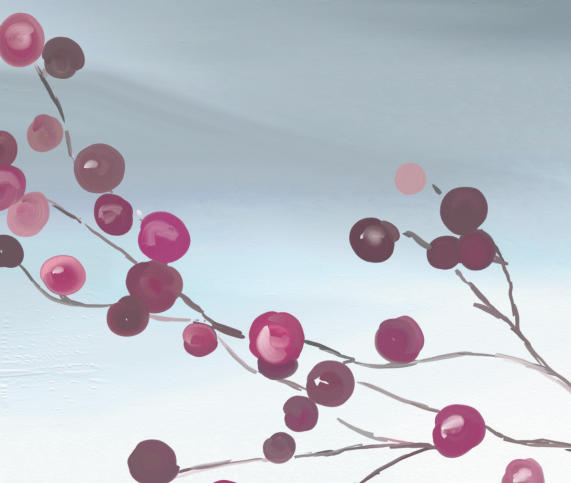



Christmas Flower Donations and Memorials

Tom & Kathy Courtney: In Memory of Ken & Betty Courtney and Jerry & Bernice Cops

*Michael & Julie Morse: All living and deceased members of the Bardon, Frost, Morse,
and O'Connell Families*

*If your donation or memorial was inadvertently missed, please notify the parish office and a correction
will be printed*





GRATITUDE & GIVING



St. Mary Parish Offertory Numbers December 2024

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
December	\$130,200.00	\$130,049.85	\$150.15
Year-to-date (July 1 – December 31)	\$537,600.00	\$434,575.02	\$103,024.98

ST. JOSEPH FOOD PROGRAM

Fighting Hunger  Sustaining Hope

The St. Joseph Food Program collection category is international food, will be January 11th and 12th. Bring any fixings for Italian, Mexican, German, Chinese, Dutch, French, Irish or whatever your heritage may be. Nothing perishable, in glass or past the use by date. Thank you for your generosity.

REMOVING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Tuesday, January 7th 9:00am.

We will be removing Christmas decorations in the chapel, Marian Way, and the community room. Your help would be much appreciated.





St. Mary

Grief Support

Our next session starts January 13th, 2024

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 January, 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.

- Monday evenings 6–8 PM starting January 13
- Facilitated by Chip Acker & Thomas Walter
(Certified ICare Specialists, International Grief Institute)
- Sessions are **free**; group size limited to 10 participants

cacker@stmaryparish.org • 920-882-4158

twalter@stmaryparish.org • 920-739-5119





ST. MARY NEWS & EVENTS



ST. MARY - APPLETON shamrock shenanigans *It's time to party again!*

March 15, 2024 at 6pm

The Fox Club, Timber Rattler Stadium

An evening of music, games, libations, and general merriment

Donation Information

Please note - we are not holding a basket raffle this year. We are looking for a few items for game prizes as well as items for the silent auction. We'd especially love to feature experiences or unique items; e.g. a home-baked dessert, a pontoon ride around the lake, time at a vacation rental, event tickets, or a gourmet meal. Questions? Ready to donate? Call Kathie Shadick at 920-427-8282.



Sponsor Shamrock Shenanigans

Why sponsor? We are dedicated to keeping Shamrock Shenanigans an affordable community event, and sponsors help us meet that goal.

NEW! Ticket Sponsors. Sponsor tickets for those who may not otherwise be able to attend. Please indicate how many you want to sponsor below

- Blarney \$50-249
- Smithwick's \$250-499
- Guinness \$500-999
- Jameson \$1000+

Name to be printed on promotional materials

Needed for donation receipt

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Donor Name

Business Name (if applicable)

*Mail or return this form to parish office by **FEB. 27, 2025** to be included on promotional materials.*





AREA NEWS & EVENTS



Xavier Registration and Preview Night



You're invited to **Xavier High School Registration Nights**

January 27 OR 28 at 7 pm in the XHS Theater

Reserve your spot at bit.ly/REGNIGHTS



Course information, guidance with course selection, and tours will be available at the event.

More info at 920-733-6632



OPEN HOUSE

XAVIER ELEMENTARY

**PK3 • 4K • KINDERGARTEN
THURS., JANUARY 23
5:00 - 6:30 P.M.**

Reserve your spot at bit.ly/xeh2025 or



More info available at admissions@xaviercatholicschools.org/(920)735-9380



XAVIER MIDDLE SCHOOL

PREVIEW NIGHT



**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22ND
6:30-8:00 P.M.**

Reserve your spot at bit.ly/xmspn25 or



Admissions@XavierCatholicSchools.org/(920)735-9380

MASS INTENTIONS & EVENTS CALENDARS

Sat., Jan 4, 4:30pm Lauren Arkens

Sun., Jan 5, 7:45am
9:45am Molly Grow
5:30pm

Mon., Jan 6, 12:05pm Mary Corry Ellis

Thur., Jan 9, 12:05pm

Sat., Jan 11, 4:30pm Eugene Dannecker

Sun., Jan 12, 7:45am
9:45am Janice Clark
5:30pm Molly Grow

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 these requests in our prayer baskets.

Saturday, Jan 4

9:00am THEO
9:00am Confessions
4:30pm Mass

Sunday, Jan 5

Coffee & Donut event
7:45am Mass
9:45am Mass (Livestreamed)
11:00am Flock of Sparrows/LL5
5:30pm Mass

Monday, Jan 6

12:05pm Mass

Tuesday, Jan 7

9:00am Connect Group/LL7
1:00pm St Mary & St Joe's Prayer Shawl Group at St Joe's LL112
2:00pm Rosary Prayer Group

Wednesday, Jan 8

9:00am Connect Group/LL7
4:30pm Adoration
4:45pm Beacon Faith Formation 1st -5th grade
6:30pm Beacon Faith Formation 6th -11th grade

Thursday, Jan 9

9:30am CIAFMO/LL1
10:00am Neuro Endocrine Cancer Support Group/LL7
12:05pm Mass
6:00pm Adult Choir
6:30 Men's Group/LL7
7:00pm Cor Jesu

Friday, Jan 10

Parish Office Closed
5:00pm Jonah Casimir and Isabel Cole Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, 11

9:00am **CONFESSIONS**
1:30pm Isabel Cole/Jonah Casimir Wedding-Guest Priest
4:30pm Mass

Sunday, Jan 12

St. Joe's Food Collection
Coffee & Donuts
7:45am Mass
9:45am Mass (Livestreamed)
11:00am Student and Parent meeting/Tracy/St. Anne Rm
5:30pm Mass

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.



SCAN ME

HOLY



Question
Who was the longest reigning Pope in history?

In Joy + Sorrow

01.05.2025

ST. MARY PARISH-APPLETON

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



I am the door of the sheepfold *by Rev Malcolm Guite*

Not one that's gently hinged or deftly hung,
Not like the ones you planed at Joseph's place,
Not like the well-oiled openings that swung
So easily for Pilate's practiced pace,
Not like the ones that closed in Mary's face
From house to house in brimming Bethlehem,
Not like the one that no man may assail,
The dreadful curtain, The forbidding veil
That waits your breaking in Jerusalem.

Not one you made but one you have become:
Load-bearing, balancing, a weighted beam
To bridge the gap, to bring us within reach
Of your high pasture. Calling us by name,
You lay your body down across the breach,
Yourself the door that opens into home.

In the story of our Israelite sisters and brothers, as recounted in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), a time of grace from the Lord was observed every fifty years. Every fifty years, this Jubilee time was like a reset button for the covenant relationship between God and God's People. It meant that all debts were to be forgiven; land that was procured, sometimes by seedy means, was to be returned to its original owners; and slaves were to be freed. The Jubilee was a vivid reminder that every relationship is sometimes in need of renewal.

The Roman Catholic Church is celebrating a Jubilee Year in 2025. Note that the last Jubilee was in 2000, at the beginning of the third millennium. Interesting to note however, that Pope Francis declared an Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2016.

All of Rome is geared up to welcome millions of pilgrims in this Ordinary Jubilee Year. A ceremonial moment of great grace is when the Holy Father opens the Jubilee Door of Saint Peter's Basilica. This Holy Door will be closed at the end of the Jubilee Year on January 6, 2026, and remain locked until 2050. I remember a feeble Saint Pope John Paul II presiding at this ritual in 2000. He was vested in a beautiful many-colored cope [like the technicolor dream coat of Joseph, son of Jacob], which Pope Francis should have gone on a search for so that he could have worn it when he opened the Jubilee Door on Christmas Eve. Standing outside the opened Door, and looking into the Basilica, is a beautiful sight to behold.

In his Urbi et Orbi Message (to the City [of Rome] and the World) on Christmas morning, Pope Francis said, Brothers and sisters, the door of God's heart is always open; let us return to him! Let us go back to the heart that loves and forgives us! Let us be forgiven by him; let us be reconciled with him! God always forgives! God forgives everything. Let us allow ourselves to be forgiven by God.

This is the meaning of the Holy Door of the Jubilee, which I opened last night here in Saint Peter's Basilica: it represents Jesus, the Door of salvation open for all. Jesus is the Door; the Door that the Father of mercies has opened in the midst of our world, in the midst of history, so that all of us can return to him. We are all like lost sheep; we need a Shepherd and a Door to return to the house of the Father. Jesus is that Shepherd; Jesus is the Door.

Brothers and sisters, do not be afraid! The Door is open, the door is wide open! There is no need to knock on the door. It is open. Come! Let us be reconciled with God, and then we will be reconciled with ourselves and able to be reconciled with one another, even our enemies. God's mercy can do all things. It unties every knot; it tears down every wall of division; God's mercy dispels hatred and the spirit of revenge. Come! Jesus is the Door of Peace.

Often we halt at the threshold of that Door; we lack the courage to cross it, because it challenges us to examine our lives. Entering through that Door calls for the sacrifice involved in taking a step forward, a small sacrifice. Taking a step towards something so great calls us to leave behind our disputes and divisions, and surrender ourselves to the outstretched arms of the Child who is the Prince of Peace. This Christmas, at the beginning of the Jubilee Year, I invite every individual, and all peoples and nations, to find the courage needed to walk through that Door, to become pilgrims of hope, to silence the sound of arms and overcome divisions!

Let me conclude with Pope Francis' Prayer for Jubilee 2025:

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation

of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

STAFF AND OTHER CONTACTS

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Pastoral Leadership Council Chair
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Finance Council Chair
Sarah Higgins | 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 Kate Minczeski for more information.

Trivia Answer
St. Peter
(traditionally considered to have served for 34-37 years)

