



## Weekly Update | April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter



### Welcome Back

We are happy to see many of you returning to in-person worship! As the vaccine becomes available to more members of our community, we expect Masses to return to our familiar vibrant celebrations. When you're ready, we can't wait to see you again! For your continued safety, know that we are still sanitizing between services, social distancing, and requiring masks.

### St. Joseph Food Program Collection – April 10/11

This time, we're looking for boxed meals such as macaroni & cheese or Hamburger Helper, instant potatoes, rice, or anything that can be used to make a casserole. There will be a collection cart in the Marian Way. Nothing glass, perishable, or past its expiration date please. Thank you for your care and generosity!

### A Grateful & Blessed Family

Ripples of God's Love - Through Our Hearts - To All Hearts!

St. Mary Parish Support			
April 2021	Budget	Received	Variance
received 3/29- 4/2/2021		12,279	
April- month to date:	70,000	12,279	-57,721
7/1/20-4/30/2021			
Fiscal Year To Date :	752,000	643,484	-108,516





At the Easter Vigil we welcomed six new brothers and sisters into the Catholic Faith. Please help us welcome them in to our parish family and pray for them as they continue their lifelong journey with Jesus and our Church!

### **Newly Received**

Layna Petersen (left photo)

Beth Vanderloop, Drew Hoppes, Amanda Lee, Jake Zwayer, and Marissa Menting.

(bottom photo, middle row from left to right)



## Mass Attendance

In an effort to help you determine your safest options, we are providing Mass attendance numbers from the previous week. For reference, our church capacity at 25% is 120.

Monday, 5:30 pm (18)	Saturday, 8:00 pm (168)
Tuesday, 5:30 pm (15)	Sunday, 7:45 am (147)
Wednesday, 12:05 pm (57)	9:45 am (199)
Thursday, 7:00 pm (81)	11:45 pm (94)
Friday, 12:15 pm (125)	
6:30 pm (63)	

## In Loving Memory

Please pray for family of Robin Wege, son of Grace Wege. May fond memories comfort you 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 739-5119.

## Prayer Requests

Contact Mary Jo Zilisch (920-734-1182 or 920-843-1249) or Laurie Richter (lauriejrichter@gmail.com) if you have a prayer need. Please remember the requests in our prayer baskets.

## UPDATE! COVID-19 Safety Protocols

We are encouraged by the increasing number of people in our community who are able to receive the vaccine! The Diocese of Green Bay has given direction that taking temperatures is now an optional practice for parishes. Based on this directive, we will have discontinued temperature taking. Please continue to monitor your personal health. If you have a temperature, other symptoms, or aren't feeling well, stay home.

**Mask wearing, hand sanitizing, and social distancing will continue to be required for Mass and all other parish activities.**

### Mass Times

Mon., April 12, 5:30pm  
Tue., April 13, 5:30pm  
Wed., April 14, 12:05pm  
Thur., April 15, 12:05pm  
Sat., April 17, 4:30pm  
Sun., April 18, 7:45am  
9:45am  
6:30pm

### Intentions

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Jaya Kumar  
Parishioners of St. Mary  
Audrey & Harold Deprez  
Debbie & Dave Wagner  
Audrey Nussbaum  
Lauren Ann Arkens  
Kathy Davis

# Events Calendar

## *Monday, April 12*

7:00pm Boy Scouts/St. Anne Room

## *Tuesday, April 13*

2:00pm Rosary Group/Chapel

6:00pm Facilities Council/virtual

6:15pm Confessions/Chapel

7:00pm Finance Council/virtual

## *Wednesday, April 14*

6pm Beacon Elementary/Community Room & virtual

## *Thursday, April 15*

no events

## *Friday, April 16*

Parish office closed

## *Saturday, April 17*

9:00am Confessions/Chapel

10:00am THEO/L1&L3

## *Sunday, April 18*

11:00am RCIA/Community Room

6:00pm Beacon - Middle School/virtual

7:00pm Beacon - High School/virtual

# Ministers & Support Staff

*Fr. Bill Swichtenberg, Pastor*

wdswitz@stmaryparish.org  
cell 920-422-4316

*Nadine Duncan*

Pastoral Care  
nduncan@stmaryparish.org

*Emily Jenks*

Neighborhood Outreach & Parish Vitality  
ejenks@stmaryparish.org

*Mary Ann Otto*

Missionary Discipleship  
motto@stmaryparish.org

*Chip Acker*

Cemetery & Facilities Management  
cacker@stmaryparish.org

*Tom Walter*

Liturgical Music  
twalter@stmaryparish.org

*Theresa Rohm*

Business Administrator  
trohm@stmaryparish.org

*Dcn. Gerry Schraufnagel*

Deacon  
cell 920-540-9594

*Pam Acker*

Bookkeeper  
packer@stmaryparish.org

*Julie Morse*

Administrative Assistant  
stmary@stmaryparish.org

## Parish Trustees

Joseph Galarowicz 920-419-1166  
Ted Suess 920-636-8855

## Pastoral Leadership Council Chair

Beth Power 703-819-4829

## Finance Council Chair

Larry Bonneville 920-419-3097

## St. Mary Cemetery

920-882-4158

## Xavier Catholic School System

920-735-9380

## Marriage

Congratulations! Contact Fr. Bill at least 6 months before your planned wedding date.

## Baptism

Congratulations! Contact the parish office for information.

## Confession

Sat. 9-10am and Tues. 6:15-7:15pm (except for the 1st Tuesday of the month)

## St. Mary Parish Office

312 S. State Street  
Appleton, WI 54911  
stmaryparish.org

Monday – Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm  
Closed Fridays

Contact Us  
920-739-5119

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

# *In Joy & Sorrow with Father Bill*

I would like to share with you my homily for Easter Sunday. You may have missed it!

Throughout these Sacred Three Days, I have begun our homily reflections by sharing a poem from Malcolm Guite, an Anglican priest and a college chaplain in Cambridge, England, who is also a poet and songwriter. Here is his poem *Easter Dawn*. [The *her/s* refers to Mary Magdalene.]

He blesses every love that 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, into  
Day.

Fifty-three years ago today on Thursday, April 4, 1968, Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr was martyred on a hotel balcony in Memphis, Tennessee. He preached his last homily on Sunday, March 31 at the National Basilica in Washington, DC. The scripture text for his homily was taken from the sixteenth chapter of the Book of Revelation: *Behold, I make all things new; former things are passed away.*

The title of his homily was: *Remaining Awake Through a Great Revolution.*

Doctor King began his sermon with the image of Rip Van Winkle, who fell asleep on the mountain top for twenty years. At the foot of the mountain, there was a sign on the local inn depicting King George the Third of England. Twenty years later, when Rip Van Winkle awoke and came down from the mountain, the sign had been changed to a picture of George Washington, the First President of the United States of America. King noted, *Rip Van Winkle slept through a revolution...One of the great liabilities of life is that all too many people find themselves living amid a great period of social change, and yet they fail to develop the new attitudes, the new mental responses, that the new situation demands.*

You and I, and everyone, should pray over Dr King's Homily on this Easter Sunday. It would do us good. Dr King addresses racial injustice. He talks about nuclear weapons and war. He addresses violence and non-violence, justice and peace. His sermon is ever new. He concluded with these inspiring words: *We shall overcome because the arc of the moral universe is long, and it bends toward justice. We shall overcome because William Cullen Bryant was right - "Truth, crushed to the earth, will rise again."*

Long before the American Revolutionary War, there was another revolution that changed the course of human history. That revolution was the Resurrection of Jesus. Saint Paul reminds us that if Jesus had not been raised from the dead, none of us would be here in this church this morning.

This arc of resurrection is long and it reaches into our own time. Jesus' resurrection always bends toward hope. Nothing can get in the way of the Lord's love for us. Not anger or hatred, not violence or terror, not prejudice or discrimination, not selfishness or sin, not guilt or shame, not addiction, depression, or grief - nothing can stop Jesus from loving us. His resurrection is proof certain that Jesus is stronger than any virus or darkness or fear that may try to pull us down.

We are invited this morning to awaken to this promise of hope that is ours in Jesus, raised from the dead. We are invited to wake from a sleep that might keep us indifferent to the goodness and closeness of the Lord to us. We may find ourselves in our own self-made tombs of sorts. With Jesus, we can break free from whatever imprisons our hearts and spirits and minds.

The arc of Jesus' resurrection is long and it bends towards compassion for the entire global human family, every member of that family, precious and sacred, created in the very image and likeness of the Lord. We are challenged to give our lives to Jesus, so to see and hear and speak in his name in our own families, at our places of work, in our civic communities and in our faith community. With Jesus' Spirit truly in our hearts, we can bring about a revolution of

peace and justice, forgiveness and love, and truth and joy.

Jesus is counting on you and me to carry forth his holy mission and vision. And he promises to be with us always until the end of time. Come Risen Lord Jesus! Come Holy Spirit!

I hope you can continue to journey with us throughout the Easter Season, which is fifty days long. We will be reflecting on *Our Easter Fire Then and Now*. You are encouraged to join a Homily Connect Group, which will meet during the following week to continue praying over and discussing the Sunday Scriptures and Homily. We are praying to become a holy leaven in our parish family and beyond. We are asking the Holy Spirit to renew us all through a deepened commitment to our parish's mission and vision. We are preparing for a Parish Synod which will convene on the Eve of Pentecost, Saturday, May 23, after praying together a Novena to the Holy Spirit, from May 12 to May 22. We are asking Jesus' Holy Spirit to bring about a revolution of holiness right here in the center of our City of Appleton and far beyond!

Father Bill +