



Weekly Update | July 4, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Happy Fourth of July

Have a safe and wonderful Independence Day! The parish office will be closed on Monday, July 5 in observance of the holiday.

St. Joseph Food Program Collection - July 3/4

This time, we're looking for canned or packaged tuna, chicken, salmon or any meat or protein products. Nothing perishable, in glass, or past its expiration date please. Thank you for helping to feed those who are in need.

Health & Safety Information

- Those who are fully vaccinated should feel confident to attend Mass or be in any parish building without a face covering.
- Those who are not fully vaccinated should continue to wear a face covering in our indoor and outdoor spaces.
- Face coverings are always welcome for anyone, even if you are fully vaccinated.
- During Mass, the chapel and choir loft will be reserved for those wearing face coverings. You are also welcome to wear a face covering in the church.

A Grateful & Blessed Family

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

St. Mary Parish Support			
June 2021	Budget	Received	Variance
received 6/21- 6/25/2021		8,303	
June - month to date:	60,000	53,549	-6,451
7/1/20-6/30/2021			
Fiscal Year To Date :	880,000	814,464	-65,536



Mass Times

Mon., July 5, 5:30pm
Tue., July 6, 5:30pm
Wed., July 7, 12:05pm
Thur., July 8, 12:05pm
Sat., July 10, 4:30pm
Sun., July 11, 7:45am
9:45am
6:30pm

Intentions

Marie Powers
Parishioners of St. Mary
Gary Malchow Family
Erica Lynn Baumgart
Ed & Dorothy Frahm
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Ed & Mary Holtz

Mass Attendance

As we have plenty of socially distanced capacity at all weekday Masses, we will no longer be tracking and publishing weekday Mass counts. Please join us! Our weekday Masses offer a very safe worship environment.

Saturday, 4:30 pm (110) | Sunday, 7:45 am (94), 9:45 am (147), 6:30 pm (29)

In Loving Memory

Please pray for those who have lost a loved one. 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 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.

Events Calendar

Monday, July 5

Parish Office Closed for holiday

6:30 THEO/Community Room
7:00pm Boy Scouts/St. Anne Room
8:00pm Al-Anon Meeting/L1&L3

Tuesday, July 6

1:00pm St. Mary & St. Joseph Prayer Shawl Group
@ St. Joseph L12&L14
2:00pm Rosary Group/Chapel
6:00pm Quilting Group
6:00pm Book Club/L4
7:00pm Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 7

12:35pm Holy Hour/Church

Thursday, July 8

no events

Friday, July 9

parish office closed

Saturday, July 10

9:00am Confessions/Chapel

Sunday, July 11

no events

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 Nadine Duncan 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

In Joy & Sorrow with Father Bill +

Six months after Pope Francis' election as the 266th Successor of Saint Peter and the Universal Pastor of the Roman Catholic Church, an interview conducted by a fellow Jesuit, Fr Antonio Spadaro, was published in the Jesuit magazine, *America*. (September 2013) Admitting that he is a sinner, Pope Francis called attention to his episcopal motto, which is *Miserando atque Eligendo [By Having Mercy and Choosing Him]*. Recalling his devotion to the painting by the Italian Carravaggio, titled *The Call of Matthew*, Pope Francis spoke humbly, "I am a sinner whom the Lord looked upon...That finger of Jesus, pointing to Matthew. That's me. I feel like him. Like Matthew. It is the gesture of Matthew that strikes me: he holds on to his money as if to say, *No, not me! No, this money is mine.*"

The encounter between Jesus and the tax collector, Matthew, concludes with Jesus' response to the Pharisees' harsh judgments of Matthew, and of Jesus, for accepting Matthew's invitation to supper, at which many other tax collectors and sinners were present. "Go and learn the meaning of the words, *I desire mercy, not sacrifice. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.*" (Matthew 9:13)

Jesus is God's Face of Mercy. Our word *mercy* is from the Hebrew *ra-cham-min*, which is translated as compassion. And the root word for *ra-cha-min* is *re-chem*, which is translated as womb. Jesus is God's compassion made visible. His compassion or mercy is likened to being embraced in the

womb of God. There was great peace, security, and affirmation for you and me while we were being nourished in the womb of the Lord long before the day of our conception in our mother's womb.

Jesus always leads with mercy, which is his response to people who often feel miserable or left out or pushed to the side. Jesus embraces people with his unconditional love. Jesus never says, "I will love you only if..." You might fill in the blank. It is Jesus' love that can change hearts. And how hearts need to change may be more in the purview of the Lord than it is in my purview or yours. Some things are best left between the Lord and the individual. Again, who are we to judge?

Pope Francis is known for his compassion. He often calls people on the phone, after learning of their personal sufferings and difficulties. He often sends handwritten letters as well. I like this personal touch of the Holy Father. He truly wants to embrace people and share with them the mercy of the Lord.

Pope Francis recently sent a personal letter to Father James Martin, a fellow Jesuit. Father Jim is well-known throughout our nation and the world for his many books. I have recommended to you Fr. Jim's latest book, *Learning How to Pray*. On September 30, 2019, Fr Jim had a personal audience with Pope Francis in Rome during which they discussed for thirty minutes the priest's ministry of compassion, sensitivity and respect to the members of the LGBTQ+

community. Anticipating last Saturday's Outreach 2021 LGBTQ Webinar Conference (6.26), Pope Francis sent a letter to Father Jim. Father Jim checked with persons close to Pope Francis who reassured him that the Pope would be fine with making his letter public. Here is that letter, translated from the original Spanish:

"Dear brother,

Thank you for your mail and for the photos. Please thank your nephew for his kindness to me and for having chosen the name Francisco (for his Confirmation). And congratulate him on the socks. He made me laugh. Tell him that I pray for him and ask him to do so for me.

Regarding your P.S. (about Outreach 2021), I want to thank you for your pastoral zeal and your ability to be close to people, with that closeness that Jesus had and that reflects the closeness of God. Our Heavenly Father approaches with love every one of his children, each and everyone. His heart is open to each and everyone. He is Father. God's *style* has three aspects: closeness, compassion and tenderness. This is how He draws closer to each one of us.

Thinking about your pastoral work, I see that you are continuously looking to imitate this style of God. You are a priest for all men and women, just as God is Father of all men and women. I pray for you to continue in this way, being close, compassionate, and with great tenderness.

And I pray for your faithful, your *parishioners* (*flock*), and anyone who the Lord places in your care, so that you protect them, and make them grow in the love of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Please don't forget to pray for me. May Jesus bless you and may the Holy Virgin protect you.

Fraternally,

Francisco"

Blessed are the merciful for they shall be shown mercy. (Matthew 5:9)

Blessings on your Fourth of July celebrations on the 245th anniversary of our nation's independence. Enjoy with family and friends with post-pandemic gusto!!!

Fr. Bill +

