



Weekly Update

September 26, 2021

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Health & Safety Information

With Covid-19 numbers increasing due to the Delta variant we want to remind everyone of our health and safety practices in place. We will continue to monitor and adjust to state, local, and Diocesan level health directives.

- Masks are **strongly** encouraged. Staff will be masking during Mass.
- Those who are **not** fully vaccinated **should** continue to wear a face covering in our indoor and outdoor spaces. Those who are fully vaccinated can attend Mass or be in any parish building without a face covering.
- Face coverings are *always* welcome for anyone, even if you are fully vaccinated.
- During Mass, the choir loft will be reserved for those wearing face coverings. You are always welcome to wear a mask in the church.

Helping Our Neighbors in Need

Below are organizations to support those recently affected by major natural disasters. We'll also have collection boxes near the back of church for each of these organizations.

Help our neighbors in **Haiti** impacted by the devastating Earthquake <https://crosscatholic.org/earthquake-relief/> Cross Catholic Outreach has nearly two decades of experience working alongside Catholic ministry partners in Haiti. They coordinated millions of dollars in aid after Haiti's 2010 earthquake, so they understand today's needs.

Help our neighbors in **Louisiana** rebuild after the extensive damage rendered by Hurricane Ida <https://www.ccano.org/> by donating to the Hurricane Ida Recovery and Relief Fund created and overseen by the Catholic Community Foundation and the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Stay tuned for more opportunities to support the **Afghani** refugees who will be relocated to the Appleton area. We will be working with World Relief and we'll have more information soon.

Coffee & Donut Update

We **do not** have volunteers this weekend for coffee & donuts. We'll only be able to hold Coffee & Donuts on the weekends we have hosts. Looking ahead to next weekend, we need two more people to host.

Would you or your family consider taking a shift this Fall to help serve our Parish Family? **Sign up here**. Contact Emily with questions - ejenks@stmaryparish.org

Hand Bell Choir Members Wanted

The Bells of St. Mary Handbell Choir is looking for people interested in ministering through music. If you'd like to learn more about the handbells and how to join the choir, contact Martha Paalman (mpaalman@stmaryparish.org or 920-420-6481) or visit our Facebook page. Members of the choir will be available after Mass this weekend to answer questions.

College Care Packages

Thank you to everyone who has submitted addresses of our college and military aged students. You still have time to submit them! Please include the information below and email it to Mary Ann Otto (motto@stmaryparish.org)

- Name
- College or Military Base
- Address (at college or military base - be sure to include correct zip code)
- List any food allergies

Nursing Home Communion Ministry

Would you like to be part of a team that brings communion to our brothers and sisters who are in nursing homes? We are looking to form new teams and will be training those who are interested in early October. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Nadine at nduncan@stmaryparish.org, or 920-659-1337.

Boy Scout Popcorn Sales

Wyatt Roumba & Isaac Schraufnagel are young parish family members who are part of Boy Scout Pack 3095. They will be selling popcorn **next weekend** after the 4:30, 7:45 & 9:45 Masses.

Beacon Child & Youth Ministry Registration & Catechist Needs

Beacon, our ministry for children and youth formation, will be starting on **October 6!** You still have time to register your children.

Do you love Jesus and want to share him with our youngest family members? We could also use **two** more catechist to help with our Elementary Children. They meet from 4:45 - 6:00 pm on Wednesday's.

Calendars and more information can be found **here**. Register using this **link**

St. Joseph Food Collection

The St. Joseph Food Program is next weekend. For October our specially collected items will be baking items. Items such as flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, salt, spices, chocolate chips or other flavors, corn oil, Crisco, pudding, Splenda Blend. What do you use when you bake? Please no glass containers and no expired by used dates. Monetary donations will be sent to St. Joseph Food Program. Thank you for your generosity.

Need a Name Tag?

We'll be bringing our name tag board back out soon! If you didn't previously have a nametag or misplaced yours, please let us know and we'll order you a new one. Just reply to this note with the first and last names of those requesting one or call the Parish Office 920.739.5119.

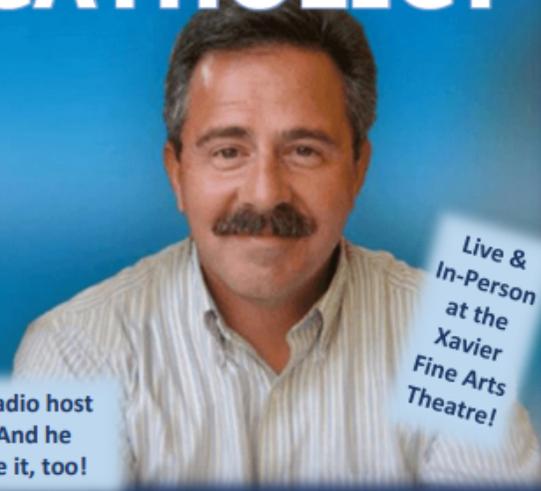


Irish Fest Fox Cities

Thank you to everyone who helped make the inaugural Fox Cities Irish Fest a success! A special thank you to Cindy Clark, Carol Frahm, Mary Ellen Julien, and Tom Long who helped curate the wonderful St. Mary's historical piece focused on our Irish history and ancestors. It will remain on display through this weekend in the Marian Way.

CIA-Faith Mission Operatives

WHY BE CATHOLIC?



Live & In-Person at the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre!

Popular blogger, author and Relevant Radio host Patrick Madrid LOVES being Catholic. And he wants you to know why you should love it, too!

AUDIENCE FEEDBACK:

Listening to him got my spiritual batteries all charged up!

He's a great inspiration for being a Catholic.

It's like he gave me a toolbox for how to be a gracious yet confident witness for my faith. Thank you, Patrick.

MONDAY, SEPT. 27, 2021, 7 P.M.

WHY BE CATHOLIC? offers a deeply personal, fact-based and compelling case for God, Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. Drawing heavily on his own experience growing up during a time of great social and theological upheaval, Patrick knows the arguments for and against the faith and tells it like it is. He uses humor, logic and evidence to show how the Church--its history, customs and teachings--is not what the haters say it is.

Xavier Fine Arts Theatre

1600 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton, WI



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

Live & In-Person

CIA-Faith Mission Operatives

Masks may be required per school guidelines

Encourages YOU to investigate your faith!

CIA-FMO is an all-volunteer, non-profit ministry supported solely through your generosity & prayers.

A Grateful & Blessed Family

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

St. Mary Parish Support			
September 2021	Budget	Received	Variance
received 9/13 - 9/17/2021		9,649	
September- month to date:	62,000	47,400	-14,600
7/1/21-9/30/21			
Fiscal Year To Date :	189,000	190,311	1,311



Mass Times Intention

Mon., September 27, 8:00am	No Mass - Fr Bill on vacation
Tue., September 28, 8:00am	No Mass - Fr Bill on vacation
Wed., September 29, 12:05pm	Parishioners of St Mary
Thur., September 30, 12:05pm	Harry & Irva Ricker
Sat., October 2, 4:30pm	Vernon & Lorraine Collar
Sun., October 3, 7:45am	Parishioners of St Mary
9:45am	Bill Hoffman
6:30pm	Ed & Mary Holtz

We have openings for intentions for weekday and weekend Masses. Keep in mind that we can not schedule Masses more than one year in advance. Please stop by the parish office or call us at 920-739-5119 to schedule a Mass in memory of a loved one. We are happy to take Mass intentions over the phone. The \$10 stipend can be sent via the mail or dropped in the weekend collection in an envelope with a note to apply it to your Mass intention.

Events Calendar

Monday, September 27

7:00pm Boy Scouts/St. Anne Room

8:00pm AA Meeting/L1&L3

Tuesday, September 28

2:00pm Rosary Group/Church

6:15pm Confessions/Chapel

Wednesday, September 29

9:00am Connect, Pray, Reflect on the Sunday Scriptures/L7

7:00pm Beacon Parent's Meeting for First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Thursday, September 30

No Meetings scheduled

Friday, October 1

Parish Office closed!

Saturday, October 2

Discipleship Weekend

St Joe's Food Program Collection

Bell Choir Demonstration after all Masses/Marian Way

9:00am Confessions/Chapel

Sunday, October 3

Discipleship Weekend

St Joe's Food Program Collection

Bell Choir Demonstration after all Masses/Marian Way

Coffee & Donuts after 7:45am & 9:45am Masses

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 (322)

Sunday, 7:45 am (71), 9:45 am (174), 6:30 pm (63)

In Loving Memory

Please pray for the family and friends of Joseph Kurer. 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 Laurie Richter (lauriejrichter@gmail.com) or Ann Walkowski (920-428-0969) if you have a prayer need. Please remember the requests in our prayer baskets.

St. Mary Parish Office

[312 S. State Street](#)

[Appleton, WI 54911](#)

920-739-5119

stmaryparish.org

Hours

Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm

closed Fridays

Contact us:

stmary@stmaryparish.org

MINISTERS & SUPPORT STAFF

Fr. Bill Swichtenberg, Pastor

wdswitz@stmaryparish.org

cell 920-422-4316

Dcn. Gerry Schraufnagel

Deacon

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Nadine Duncan

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Tom Walter

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Theresa Rohm

Business Administrator

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Chip Acker

Cemetery & Facilities Management

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Parish Trustees

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

Mary Ann Otto

Missionary Discipleship

motto@stmaryparish.org

Tracy Turba

Minister of Young Disciples

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Emily Jenks

Neighborhood Outreach & Parish

Vitality, ejenks@stmaryparish.org

Chris Higgins

Director of Information Technology

chiggins@stmaryparish.org

Pam Acker

Bookkeeper

packer@stmaryparish.org

Julie Morse

Administrative Assistant

stmary@stmaryparish.org

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 Tues. of the month)



Sent by Emily Jenks

In Joy & Sorrow with Father Bill +

On Monday at Lambeau Field, I had the opportunity to meet up with some dear friends, who I met nearly forty years ago, as a brand new, and very green, baby priest in Marinette, WI. This family and I went on many camping vacations throughout the nation, including Alaska, and even to Ireland, as well. I remember my younger self, hiking some pretty steep hills, and sleeping like strategically-arranged sardines placed in a tent, on the ground, three adults and three kids.

Another family member hosted the tailgate party. I have to check out the Andouille sausage at Maplewood Meats in Pulaski. Very tasty grilled, I can attest to that fact! The football game between the Packers and the Lions started off with a clear reminder of that debacle in Game 1 against Tampa at Jacksonville, FL. But the Packers, with the help of Aaron Jones and Aaron Rodgers, and their four touchdowns, rose to the challenge in the second half of the game. The announcer on talk radio after the game, while happy to take the win in a division game, would have really been concerned if we couldn't beat the Lions. Of course, everything about being in person at Lambeau Field was electrifying. All 77,000 plus fans in attendance knew why they were there and cheered loudly.

Yes, there was a bit of rain, and then there was a lot of rain. Leaving the stadium was a challenge for me. With my unsteadiness of foot, walking in the dark is even more difficult for me. Tom, my friend, walked alongside me, as I proceeded to walk smack dab into one of those pedestrian orange

towers that direct walkers. All of a sudden, I was straddling that darn thing and on my way down to the pavement. Tom grabbed me and kept me from falling. Then, further down the sidewalk on S. Ridge Road on my way to my car, which was parked at Cormier Road and S. Ridge, I dropped my glass case, with glasses included. Now, I could have reached down to retrieve them, not very gracefully, admittedly, but Tom was Johnny on the spot to scoop them up for me. He had every intention of walking me all the way to my car, which was not in the direction of his car, and I was able to convince him that I would be just fine.

The image of the risen Jesus accompanying Cleopas and his companion, very likely his wife, on the road to Emmaus, came to mind. Even though they were walking away from Jerusalem, which was in the wrong direction, Jesus walked with them and simply listened to them as they broke open their hearts concerning Jesus, their friend, and his horrible death. They had pinned all of their hopes on him. Jesus finally revealed himself to them in Emmaus around the kitchen table as he broke bread with them.

Jesus always walks close to us. He listens. He is tender and compassionate. He picks us up when we fall down. I thought of my walk in the rain last Monday evening and of Tom's gentle support. I am sure that Mary, his wife, and the others, had to wait for him to arrive at their car!

Still near the stadium, one of Mary's nephews, wanted to get into a serious conversation about deep things.

In Joy & Sorrow with Father Bill +

I think he was undaunted in trying to ruffle the feathers of this old priest. Just finished with a law degree somewhere in LA, waiting for the results from his bar exam, and on board to join the Navy as a JAG lawyer, he lambasted all religion as a form of manipulation and control. You will get no argument from me that throughout history human beings have corrupted the true meaning of religion. Remember the Crusades and a Pope, in armor, with sword and cross raised high, leading the charge against the Muslims. Remember the Spanish Inquisition when Christians were put to death for holding supposed heresies. Remember the Muslim extremists of 9/11.

All of that really isn't the point when talking with young people today. This young man did talk about how he feels close to something(one) sacred when he is surfing. How he feels blessed when confronting a dangerous swell and coming out on the other side okay. He talked about his love of nature. And I encouraged him, along the lines of Saint Thomas Aquinas, who talked up the Book of the Scriptures and the Book of Nature as both being revelatory of the Lord's magnificent love for us.

The crux of the matter for this young man and all of us is not getting into a debate about the ins and outs of religion. What is important is to be reminded of God's unconditional love for everyone, Jesus' witness to that love on the tree of the Cross, our sharing in His glorious resurrection, which frees us from everything that enslaves us and tries to knock us down, receiving Jesus into our hearts, and going forth, inspired by his Holy Spirit, to share Jesus with others. That is the Good News in a beautiful nutshell! In Greek, we call this the *kerygma*, which means the proclamation (of the Good News).

Chris, my young lawyer, was ready to hear that Good News, but his family was headed in the opposite direction, and I really couldn't keep up with him, stumbling around in the dark. I pray that someone else will encounter him and finish the story of Jesus' love for him.

By the way, the drive back to Appleton was painstakingly slow and incredibly stressful, as the rain continued to fall. I hate to say this but probably no more Monday night games for me. Now Sunday afternoon is another matter! Go Pack!

Fr. Bill +