

# WEEKLY UPDATE

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 4, 2022



*Happy  
Labor  
Day!*

**There will not be any Scrip sales this weekend.  
You can pick up scrip in the parish office  
during business hours!**



## LABOR DAY

**The parish office will be closed  
on September 5th for the  
Labor Day holiday!**

***Coffee & Donuts***  
begins Labor Day Weekend

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
STUDENTS | get service hours

For details or to sign up:

- scan the code
- visit [stmaryparish.org](http://stmaryparish.org)
- contact Nadine in the parish office



# Beacon Registration

## FAITH FORMATION & SACRAMENT PREP

2022-23



SCAN TO REGISTER

### Weekly Dates/Times

Elementary: 4:45-6pm

Middle & High School: 6:30-7:45pm

Wednesdays, beginning 9/14

### Sacrament Prep

1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist:

Begins this fall and continues through Spring

Confirmation: Begins in January '23

### Contact

Tracy Turba

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

(920) 739-5119

Live as children of *light*

# Join Us For The Fall Young Adult Retreat

SEPTEMBER : CAMP  
23-25 : TEKAWITHA  
: SHAWANO, WI

Registration Now Open



Register Here

Visit [www.viayoungadults.org](http://www.viayoungadults.org)  
for more information





**The Burning Bush**  
Ex 3:1-12

## Listen to the Voice of Creation

**SEASON OF CREATION 2022**

*World Day of Prayer on  
September 1 through  
October 4, the feast of  
St. Francis of Assisi*

Join the St. Mary Care for Creation Committee this month through prayer, sustainability projects, tips, and advocacy. Watch the bulletin for more information.

### **A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH**

All powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

- Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*

# EVER THINK OF BECOMING CATHOLIC?



Do you, or someone know,  
have questions about the  
Catholic faith?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (**RCIA**)  
is a program for anyone considering joining the  
Catholic Church.

**CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION**

**WE'D LOVE TO JOURNEY WITH YOU!**

## Senior Connections

Join us on Thursday, September 15th in the St. Anne room from 1:00 to 3:00pm for chair yoga with Beth Powers and "topped off" with an ice cream social and visiting. Hope to see you there!



## Ice Cream Social

## Video Operators

Help St. Mary Parish spread the Good News of the Lord! Learn how to operate the videos and livestream Mass, giving access to the homebound, sick, or those just out of town! Shadow us to learn what it is all about. We'll be happy to assist you until you tell us you are comfortable enough to do it on your own! Call Chris Higgins at 920-739-5119 or email him for details at [chiggins@stmaryparish.org](mailto:chiggins@stmaryparish.org)!



## SCRIP Sellers Needed!



*Funny Name. Easy Fundraising.*

This ministry is growing at St Mary's and we are in need of sellers at all the Masses during the weekend. There is a minimal time commitment as most Scrip is sold within the first 15 minutes after Mass is over. This would be a great ministry for families with children but we welcome anyone who would like to volunteer. If you would like to know more about it, call the parish office at 920-739-5119 and ask to speak with Julie Morse. You can also sit with one of the current volunteers and watch how it's done before making a commitment.

## Mark Your Calendars!

Tickets are on sale for Irish Fest at <https://www.irishfestfoxcities.com/tickets>

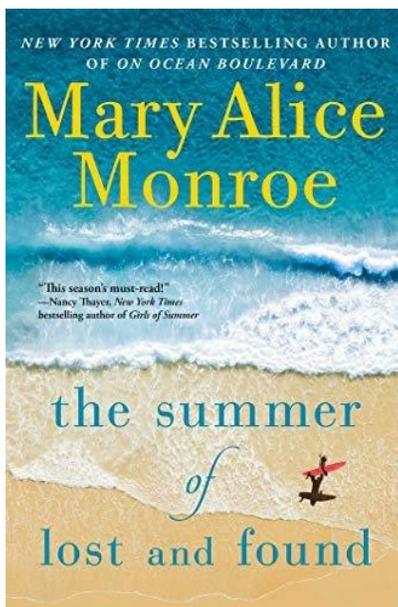
Two-day advanced Ticket is \$20.

One-day advanced Ticket is  
\$10 (Fri), \$15 (Sat).

VIP Two-day Pass is \$100 - you can meet the bands, VIP areas with food and half-priced drinks.

Irish Fest takes place on  
September 16 - 17, 2022

St Mary will be hosting a  
Celtic Mass on  
Saturday, September 17 at 4:30 p.m.



## St. Mary's Book Club

The September 13 selection is *The Summer of Lost and Found* by Mary Alice Monroe. Poignant and moving, this is "a novel of growing up, saying goodbye to the past, and learning to ask yourself the hard questions, including one of the most vital of all: Who do you really want to be." Our October 11 selection is *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church* by Rachel Held Evans. November's book selection is *The Orphan Keeper* by Camron Wright.

For more information, please contact Mary Schulz, 920-809-4474. New members are welcome to join anytime.

## In Loving Memory

Please pray for the family and friends of Tim Fisher. 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 920-739-5119.

## 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, September 5***

7:00pm Boy Scouts/St. Anne Room  
8:00pm Al-Anon Meeting/ Lower Level Room 6

## ***Tuesday, September 6***

1:00pm St Mary & St Joe's Prayer Shawl Group/St Joe's  
2:00pm Rosary Group/Church  
6:15pm Confessions/Chapel  
7:00pm Pastoral Council/Community Room

## ***Wednesday, September 7***

9:00am Mom's Group/Lower Level Babysitting Room  
9:30am Connect, Pray, Reflect on the Sunday Scriptures/Lower Level Room 7

## ***Thursday, September 8***

No events scheduled

## ***Friday, September 9***

**Parish Office closed!**

## ***Saturday, September 10***

9:00am Confessions/Chapel  
10:00am Neuro Endocrine Cancer Support Group/Lower Level Room 7  
1:00pm Rachel Ries & Drew Hoppes Wedding

## **Mass Times Intention**

Mon., September 5, 12:05pm	Sally Thomson
<b>Tue., September 6, 8:00am</b>	<b>Mass at St. Bernard Parish</b>
<b>Wed., September 7, 8:00am</b>	<b>Mass at St. Bernard Parish</b>
Thur., September 8, 12:05 pm	Jack Burr
Sat., September 10, 4:30pm	Jim Long
Sun., September 11, 7:45am	Curt Bengel
9:45am	Bill Hoffman
6:30pm	Parishioners of St Mary

# IN JOY & SORROW

WITH FR. BILL  
SWICHTENBERG

09.04.2022

In an address delivered in February of 2020 at San Diego University, then Bishop Robert McElroy of San Diego, now Cardinal McElroy, called attention to a number of life issues confronting our nation. Leading his list of heartfelt concerns was abortion. The direct killing of 750,000 children each year across our land is a heinous crime against God and our belief in the sacred dignity of every human person, born and unborn. With the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, we, as a church and a nation, still have much work to do to decrease the number of abortions across our land. We can change laws but, at the same time, we need to change hearts and provide a more solid safety net for women unexpectedly pregnant. Addressing more adequate health care and readily available health insurance, providing affordable housing and daycare, as well as offering temporary paid family leave for mothers and fathers will move us forward in lessening abortions.

Cardinal McElroy also called attention to the frightening reality of climate change “caused by the use of fossil fuels and other human activities [which] pose an existential threat to the very future of humanity and that air pollution resulting from fossil fuels is already a major cause of premature death on our planet.”

The Cardinal maintains we, as Catholic Christians, well formed by the social teaching of our Church, need to keep our focus fixed sharply on both of these critical life issues. “The death toll from abortion is more immediate, but the long-term death toll from unchecked climate change is larger and threatens the very future of humanity. Both abortion and [care for] the environment are core life issues in Catholic teaching.”

Cardinal McElroy concluded his address with a discussion of the “culture of exclusion”, directing his remarks to racial injustice and the plight of our immigrant and refugee sisters and brothers.

For many years, the ecumenical community of believers throughout the world has designated the month of September as the Season of Creation. Shortly after Pope Francis’ promulgation of his encyclical letter, “*Laudato Si’*, On Care for our Common Home” in 2015, the Holy Father named September 1st as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and got on board with his support of the Season of Creation, which is observed for 34 days, and concludes on October 4, the Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, the first environmentalist who is also a saint.

I just recently read that environmentalists are calling the world’s attention to the reality of rising sea levels. Global warming is raising the temperature of the oceans, causing them to expand, and melting the glaciers and ice caps at a rate that is alarming. What if by 2100, the seas rise one foot! This would have horrific consequences for people living on coasts in our country and throughout the world.

Together, we are called to give our support to efforts to address climate change. May the leaders of the world's nations continue to make commitments that will lessen the existential threat of climate change!

Let me conclude with the Wyoming Eucharistic Prayer, which is prayed (you guessed it!) by our Episcopalian sisters and brothers in Wyoming at Mass.

We thank you, Creator God, that we live in a place where the glorious revelation of you is all around us. The prairie bursts with song from wind and birds and waving grasses. The abundance of animals roaming freely reminds us of our own freedom and the many ways you produce sustenance in your kingdom. From the depths of the ocean floor you lifted your massive mountains and pointed them toward the heavens. We, like your Son, are called to these high places to get away and rest in communion with you. We marvel as we wander through stately pines and twirling aspens along the creeks, where trout dance on their tails above the rocks, and deer and elk sip from the water's edge. And we remember that you have given us the Living Water to quench our thirst. Our spirit is refreshed and our strength renewed. We welcome the passing of seasons in broad circles of time, with anticipation of new things to come, and we recognize that same feeling of hope that encircles our faith. Our lives are lived between sunrises and sunsets with brilliant colors. But at night, the limitless stars have a way of pushing back the boundaries of our lives and we dream of heaven and your wonder. And with all these blessings of your creation around us, O God, we come together in communities on the prairies, by rivers and streams, on mountain tops, and in their shadows in the valley, to receive your Word, which has been sown in rich soil and grown into a fruitful crop in the Body of Christ. And so we join with saints and angels in proclaiming your glory.

During this Season of Creation, may Saint Francis of Assisi join his prayers to ours pleading for the preservation of our common home, our Holy Mother Earth! May we each do our part to care for the environment!

*Fr. Bill +*

**St. Mary Parish Office**

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920-739-5119

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***Chip Acker***

Cemetery & Facilities Management

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

**Parish Trustees**

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Carol Frahm 920-733-0207

**Pastoral Leadership Council Chair**

Beth Power 703-819-4829

**Finance Council Chair**

Larry Bonneville 920-419-3097

**Business Hours:**

Mon - Thurs, 9am-4pm

closed Fridays

Contact us:

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**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

**St. Mary Cemetery**

920-882-4158

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

Website: [stmaryparishcemetery.org](http://stmaryparishcemetery.org)

**Xavier Catholic School System**

920-735-9380