

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • JULY 19, 2026

# ST. MARY PARISH

PHONE: (920) 739-5119 • EMAIL: [STMARY@STMARYPARISH.ORG](mailto:STMARY@STMARYPARISH.ORG)

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



"Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, 'First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Matthew 13:5, 8

## Regular Mass Times

**Saturday** 4:30pm

**Sunday** 7:45am, 9:45am

**Monday** 12:05pm

**Tuesday** No mass

**Wednesday** No mass

**Thursday** 12:05pm

**Friday** No Mass

## **Pastor - Fr. Bill Swichtenberg**

[wdswitz@stmaryparish.org](mailto:wdswitz@stmaryparish.org)  
cell 920-422-4316

## **Deacon - Gerry Schraufnagel**

[dcngerry@stmaryparish.org](mailto:dcngerry@stmaryparish.org)  
cell 920-540-9594

## **Cemetery Info - Chip Acker**

[cacker@stmaryparish.org](mailto:cacker@stmaryparish.org)  
cell 920-882-4158

## **Parish Office Hours:**

920-739-5119  
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, 9am-4pm  
Friday-Office Closed

## **Sacrament of Matrimony**

Getting Married?  
Congratulations! Call Fr. Bill  
at least six months before your  
planned wedding date.

## **Interested in joining the Parish?**

Contact Lori Lavalley  
[llavalle@stmaryparish.org](mailto:llavalle@stmaryparish.org)

## **Confession times:**

Saturday 9-10am or by  
appointment



## **Eucharistic Adoration**

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 4:30-8pm  
We must have one person  
with the Eucharist at all times.  
Register online  
<https://bit.ly/49Wm3k5>

JOIN US FOR A

# Pilgrimage

TO

## OUR LADY OF CHAMPION SHRINE

*A day of faith, fellowship,  
and devotion as we honor  
Our Blessed Mother.*



**TUESDAY, AUGUST 25**

*Come as you are.*

**LEAVE  RENEWED.**



Departing  
St. Joe's  
**8:30 AM**



Returning  
**3:30 PM**

**SIGN UP BY  
AUGUST 17**

*Spots are limited!*

**RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!**



Scan QR or  
click the link  
to sign up!  
[bit.ly/4p4r1sy](https://bit.ly/4p4r1sy)



**OR CONTACT THE  
PARISH OFFICE  
920-739-5119**



**\$50  
PER PASSENGER**

*Box lunch  
included!*



*Don't miss this  
opportunity to grow in  
faith and community!*

# WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH



## TOTUS TUUS 2026

*Help Bring Faith to Life This Summer!*

Totus Tuus is a week-long Catholic summer program where missionaries inspire children and teens through faith, prayer, learning, and fun. Your time and hospitality help make this ministry possible!



**JULY 26-31, 2026**



**DAY PROGRAM**

**GRADES 1-6**

9:00 AM – 2:30 PM  
July 27-31



**EVENING PROGRAM**

**GRADES 7-12**

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM  
July 26-30



**TEEN VOLUNTEERS**

Help Clean Up from the Week  
With many helpers this will go quickly!  
We need help outside cleaning up from the ice cream sundae activity and water fight as well as inside resetting the spaces so they are back to normal for regular use.



**CLICK TO SIGN UP**



**ADULT VOLUNTEERS**

Assist with registration, hospitality, classroom support, activities, and creating a welcoming environment. You are welcome to bring something to do during downtime.



**CLICK TO SIGN UP**

St. Mary Parish  
Appleton

St. Thomas More Parish  
Appleton

St. Bernadette Parish  
Appleton

St. Therese Parish  
Appleton



# Volunteers Needed

## Point In Time Count

July 22, 11 pm -  
July 23, until 3 am



This count happens nationally twice a year. You will go out into the community with a leader and a small group and engage with individuals currently living in places not meant for human habitation.

This data is used to secure federal funds to assist those in need with housing.

Please scan the QR code to volunteer or [click here](#). If you have questions, contact Liz Crowley at [Liz.Crowley@appletonwi.gov](mailto:Liz.Crowley@appletonwi.gov)

## ST. JOSEPH MINISTRIES TO NEIGHBORS IN NEED

### July Needs List

Please drop off/or send in your items (from Amazon or Walmart) to the parish office marked Grab & Go! Thank you!

[Click here to view list and sign up](#)

### Morning Coffee

Help serve and have coffee with our neighbors on weekday mornings from 7 am - 9 am.

[Click here to sign up](#)

### Sunday Sandwiches

Take an hour on Sunday from 5 pm - 6 pm to sit near Jones Park and give sandwiches to our neighbors who frequent that area.

[Click here to sign up](#)

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY + COFFEE & DONUTS

happens on the same day



### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

During Mass, children hear the Gospel and learn about God in a way they can understand.



### COFFEE & DONUTS

Stay after Mass to enjoy coffee, donuts, and great fellowship!



## JOIN US SUNDAYS

JULY 26

AUGUST 9, 16, 30



### SCAN OR CLICK HERE

to help with  
coffee and  
donuts!

Faith, Friends, Fellowship!

## Little Lambs Playgroup (Previously "Mom's Group")

Connect with other  
parents while the  
children play.

For ages NB-5 years  
old (Older siblings  
welcome!)

Every Thursday  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Babysitting Room  
Lower Level

### CONTACT

Lori Lavalle

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

(920) 739-5119 x121



You know Cain and Abel.  
What was the name of  
Adam and Eve's **THIRD** son?



# Bus Trip to See the Milwaukee Brewers! vs. the Texas Rangers

Sunday, August 30 Game Time: 1:10 PM \$90 per person

Scan here for more details and to purchase tickets!

St. Joseph Parish Event



*Difference.*

*Be Recognized.*

*Interested in applying for the  
Michael Hurley Volunteer Scholarship?*



*+ Michael Hurley*

**VOLUNTEER**

*Scholarship*

*Your  
Faith in action  
can open doors  
for your future!*

*Who Can Apply?*

★ Any parishioner entering  
their *junior year* of high  
school (public or parochial)

A college tuition scholarship for a high school junior  
who goes *above and beyond* in volunteering in the  
Church their Junior and Senior year.

*Faith.  
Service.  
Future.*



PLEASE STOP BY THE PARISH  
OFFICE FOR AN APPLICATION!

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Mass Intentions

### Week of July 19-July 26

#### Sunday, July 19

7:45 am Mass

9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

#### Monday, July 20

12:05 pm Mass

6:30 pm THEO/CR

7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

#### Tuesday, July 21

9:00 am Connect Group/LL7

1:00 pm SMP & SJP Prayer Shawl Group/SJ LL112

1:00 pm SMP & STJ Book Club/LL7

#### Wednesday, July 22

9:30 am Connect Group/LL7

1:00 pm Summer Bible Study/LL7

#### Thursday, July 23

10:00 am Little Lambs Playgroup - Babysitting Rm

12:05 pm Mass

#### Friday, July 24

Parish Office Closed

#### Saturday, July 25

9:00 am Confessions

4:30 pm Mass

#### Sunday, July 26

**Totus Tuus Begins**

**Coffee & Donuts**

7:45 am Mass

9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed/Children's Liturgy

Sun., July 19

7:45 am Peter Jochman

9:45 am Therese Noskowiak

Mon., July 20

12:05 pm Men & Women in the Military

Thu., July 23

12:05 pm Jean Bradley

Sat., July 25

4:30 pm Living & Deceased members of SMP

Sun., July 26

7:45 am Margie Hopfensperger

9:45 am Steven Moore



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.

## Generosity CORNER

First, thank you for your continued support of the parish. We would not be able to do what we do without you.

We are kicking off our new fiscal year. One change in the Generosity Corner that you will see is that the monthly budget will be different each month based on our historical giving in that month. This will give a more accurate view of where we are with our budget each month. Contact me, Chris Higgins, at the parish office.

| MONTH | INCOME     | BUDGET      | VARIANCE     |
|-------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| July  | \$8,077.25 | \$76,083.34 | -\$68,006.09 |

### Your giving at work in the parish:

- As you know we had a vacancy in our maintenance position. This week we hired a new Church Custodian and Maintenance Supervisor, Tim Metnik. A more formal welcome will be in the next bulletin but if you see him around please welcome him.



**Seth**

# *in Joy &* **SORROW**

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 7.19.2026  
WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



“When we allow ourselves to rest in silence, setting aside the distractions and noise in which God will not be found, we then create the condition for recognizing the divine presence in *the quiet whisper that God speaks to humanity.*”

- DANIEL HORAN

“BE STILL, AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD.” | PSALM 46:10

In the spiritual life, practicing the art of attentiveness is everything. Daniel Horan, a member of the theology faculty at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana, and an opinion writer for [National Catholic Reporter](#), suggests that there is something called an attention economy. Given that our supply of attention is limited over the course of a single day, the demand out there for our attention is great and highly competitive. Mr Horan writes, “What we choose to do with that time is generally left up to us to decide. And more people are opting to use their limited time on social-media, scrolling, online shopping or ... on-line betting, spending not only money but also their attention in record amounts.”

I like the parable of the guru and his student, who is practicing the art of paying constant, close attention. Checking in with the Master, maybe once a month or so, the student shares how it's going. One afternoon, in a torrential downpour, the student arrived at the Master's cottage, took off her galoshes and upended her open umbrella outside of the door, before entering. The Master immediately quizzed his student, “Did you leave your umbrella to the right or to the left of your boots?” The student was flabbergasted because she didn't remember. The Master announced, “You still have a long way to go in learning the practice of attentiveness.”

How attentive are you and I to the “comings” of the Lord into our lives? How do you experience the Lord’s closeness to you during the course of a day? Can you describe a recent experience? Do you make time at the end of your day for an examen that begins with recalling with gratitude those moments of the Lord’s tenderness towards you?

The great prophet Elijah was in a bit of a funk as the wicked Queen Jezebel, the wife of the wicked King Ahab, was on a personal vendetta, tracking him down for the sole purpose of ending his life. Elijah finds himself hiding out in a cave. The author of I Kings records this: “Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.” (19:11-13)

Saint Mother Teresa of Kolkata, India, the founder of the Missionary Sisters of Charity, often said, “God is the friend of silence.” It follows that if you and I are friends of the Lord, we must also be friends of silence.

Mr. Horan suggests to us who are seeking God:

“The first step is that we have to position ourselves in the right place, spatially but also mentally, to recognize the presence of God in our midst. [Elijah positions himself at the entrance of the cave.] Second, we have to focus our attention as Elijah did, not just to register the most fantastic or loudest display around us, but also to discern what is and is not important as we attune ourselves in the quest for God. Third, when we allow ourselves to rest in silence, setting aside the distractions and noise in which God will not be found, we then create the condition for recognizing the divine presence in the quiet whisper that God speaks to humanity.”

In their Kairos year, our young men, who are discerning whether or not the Lord is calling them to be priests, live in community, make a pledge to live attentive to the Lord’s presence, commit themselves to prayer and silence, and detach themselves completely from their smartphones and all social media. This kind of discipline practiced by these young men inspires awe in me. Beginning this fall, I believe that there will be six young men from our Green Bay Diocese who will be participating in a gap year for discernment, one of them being from our Spiritual Family of St Mary Parish! Please pray for them all!

It does us good to finish this little reflection with Mary Oliver’s poem, *Such Silence*.

As deep as I ever went into the forest  
I came upon an old stone bench, very, very old,  
and around it a clearing, and beyond that  
trees taller and older than I had ever seen.

Such silence!

It really wasn't so far from a town, but it seemed  
all the clocks in the world had stopped counting.  
So it was hard to suppose the usual rules applied.

Sometimes there's only a hint, a possibility.  
What's magical, sometimes, has deeper roots  
than reason.

I hope everyone knows that.

I sat on the bench, waiting for something.

An angel, perhaps.

Or dancers with the legs of goats.

No, I didn't see either. But only, I think, because  
I didn't stay long enough.

Far be it from me to suggest something to this great poet, Mary Oliver! But maybe the  
word mystical would work as well as magical in her poem! We are all called to be mystics,  
that is seekers of the Lord who long for experiences of tender intimacy with Him. Mystics  
yearn to have their hearts pierced through and through with the Lord's magnificent love.

Here is the link for Daniel Horan's piece if you'd like to have a closer read:

<https://www.ncronline.org/opinion/ncr-voices/how-can-god-who-whispers-compete-attention-economy>

*Fr. Bill +*