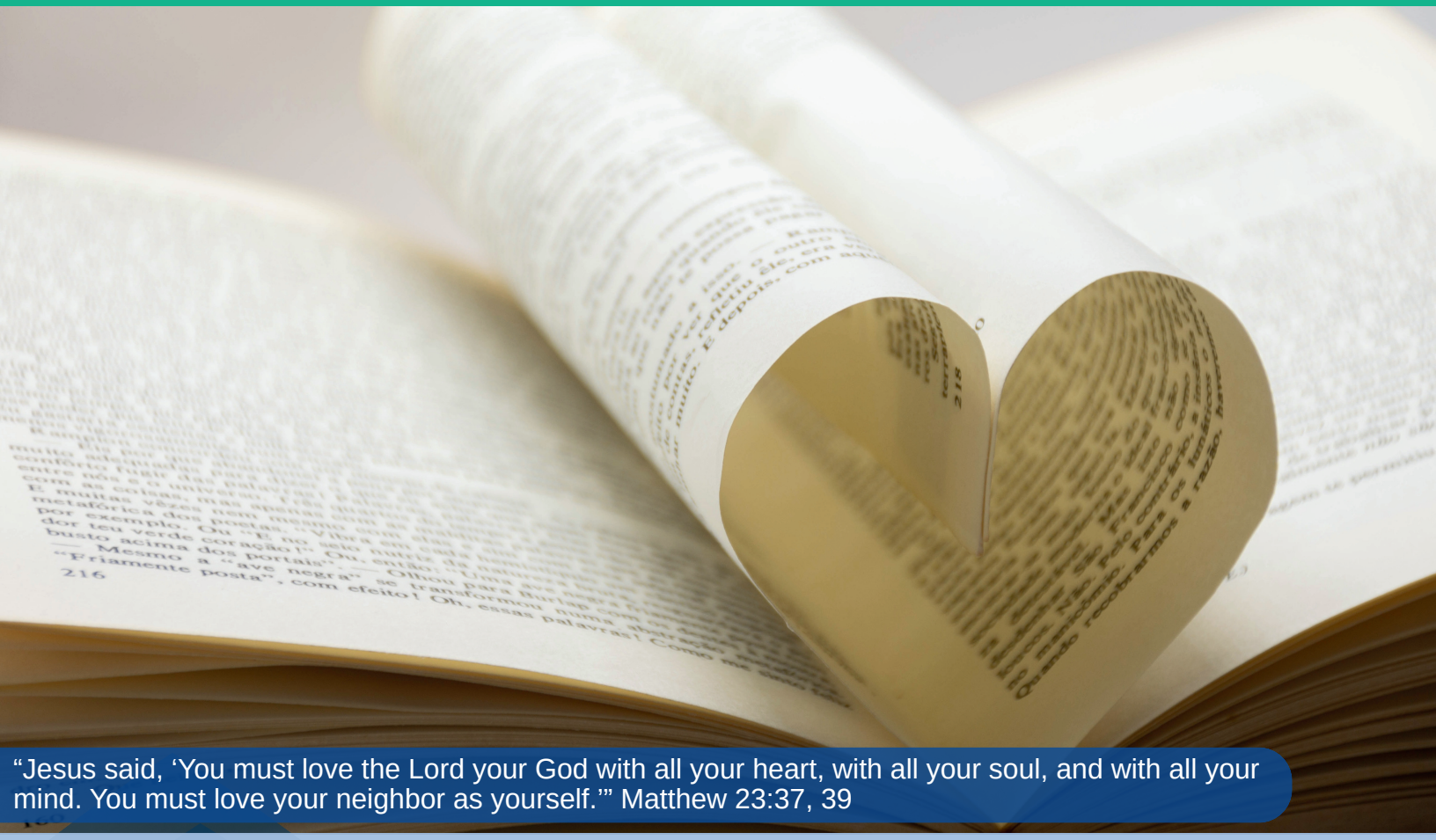
30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • OCT 25, 2026

ST. MARY PARISH

PHONE: (920) 739-5119 • EMAIL: STMARY@STMARYPARISH.ORG
312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



"Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. You must love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 23:37, 39

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
cell 920-422-4316

Deacon - Gerry Schraufnagel
dcngerry@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-540-9594

Cemetery Info - Chip Acker
cacker@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-882-4158

Eucharistic Adoration
Every 3rd Wednesday, 4:30-8pm
We must have one person with the Eucharist at all times.
Register online
https://bit.ly/49Wm3k5
or scan with your phone.

Parish Office Hours:
920-739-5119
Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9am-4pm
Wed, 9am-6:30pm
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 Lavalle
llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Confession times:
Saturday 9-10am or by appointment

FLEECE TIE
Blanket Time



Tie fleece blankets for the Foster Care Program of Outagamie County and for the Veteran Village here in Appleton.

Thursday, October 29 and Nov. 5 & 19

1:00 to 3:00 PM in the Community Room

Contact Barb Rowland at **rbsafari@sbcglobal.net.**

Transitus *of* St. Francis

let us pray
Evening worship experiences at St. Mary, Appleton

Tuesday, October 27 at 6:00 PM



St. Mary is honored to host the Capuchin Friars for a special candlelit Transitus service to commemorate the holy passing of St. Francis of Assisi from this life into eternal glory.

Please join us for an evening of Franciscan prayer, Scripture, and sacred song.

All are welcome.

Honor the memory of your loved ones with a memorial candle.

Leave their names in the Marian Way or at the back of church.

The candles will be lit during Masses in November and may be picked up the weekend of the 21 & 22.





COFFEE & DONUTS

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

JOIN US!
SIGN UP FOR
FALL
COFFEE & DONUTS
SUNDAYS
SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER • NOVEMBER

SCAN OR CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!

Faith, Friends, Fellowship!

HOLY TRIVIA question

What does the anchor symbolize in Christian art?

TRUNK OR TREAT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

ST. JOSEPH PARISH
WEST PARKING LOT & GREAT HALL

Get ready for some spooky fun! Wear your costume and come trick-or-treat in the West Parking Lot (Corner of Lawrence and Walnut Sts), then come inside for caramel apples, cider, and hot cocoa!

Families from St. Joe's, St. Mary's, and Bridges are all invited!

Want to decorate your car and pass out candy?

REGISTER YOUR CAR AT THE QR CODE!



Saint Joseph Catholic Community | bridges Child Enrichment Center | St Mary Catholic Community



LIVE

I'M CATHOLIC & I VOTE!

1 WEEK BEFORE ELECTION DAY

TUES., OCT. 27 | 7 P.M.

Join us for a conversation on faithful citizenship & Catholics' responsibility to participate thoughtfully in public life.
LIVE on diocesan social media and at dioc.io/ivote.

I'M CATHOLIC
MY VOTE MATTERS
Diocese of Green Bay

Scan to learn more
dioc.io/myvote

B.A.G Weekend

October 24th and 25th



List of items needed:

- Toilet Paper
- Bath and Dish Soap
- Laundry Soap
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste

Return it the following weekend
October 31st and November 1st

These items go to the St. Joseph Food Program to help others.

Blessed Are Givers.

Thank you for caring about those in need.

BRUNCH BUNCH

AGE 55+

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1
11:30 AM

STONE TOAD BAR AND GRILL
1109 S. Oneida St.
Menasha

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
Please RSVP by
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

CALL OR TEXT
SUE ROGERS
920-810-1545
Please leave your name and the number of people attending



Providence Promise Ministries at St. Joseph Church

October Current Needs List

Please drop off/or send in your items (from Amazon or Walmart) to St. Joseph Parish (404 W Lawrence St., Appleton, WI 54911) marked Grab & Go! They are in desperate need of men's shoes (size 9-12) and old backpacks. Thank you!

Click here to view list and sign up



Calling all men—

a presentation just for you!



Join us for an engaging presentation by Deacon Kevin DeCleene from Resurrection Parish in Allouez.

His topic is "Resurrection: A Personal Story of Prayer, Death, and Return to Life".

Saturday, November 7, 2026

St. Mary Parish Community Room

Light meal at 5:30pm
(after 4:30pm Mass)
Talk to follow

Deacon Kevin combines the perspectives of a career in business, service in ministry, and family life to his witness of faith. Kevin's tagline, 'The best is yet to come' is inspired by I Corinthians 2:9.

The presentation is *free*, but we ask that you register ahead of time by scanning the QR code or calling the parish office at (920) 739-5119.

ST MARY
Appleton, WI

Fr. Bill's Vatican II presentations now available on our website!



Home
Tornado 2026 Assistance
Hallow Help
Seasonal Small Groups

From our home page, go to "Seasonal Small Groups," then select the episode to watch.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Week of Oct 25 - NOV 1

Sunday, Oct 25
B.A.G Weekend Pick up
Coffee & Donuts
7:45 am Mass
9:45 am Mass/LS/Childrens's Liturgy
11:00am New Parishioner Brunch/St Anne Room
11:00 am OCIA Catechumens/LCR
12:30 pm OCIA Candidates/LCR

Monday, Oct 26
Hallow Challenge Begins
12:05 pm Mass
5:00 pm Reach More/LL7
6:00 pm SMP Grief Support Group Cemetery Chapel
6:30 pm New Horizons Band Practice/MR
6:30 pm Handbell Choir Practice
7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

Tuesday, Oct 27
9:00 am Connect/LL7
9:00 am Jean Consie Visitation
11:00 am Jean Consie Funeral
12:00 pm Jean Consie Luncheon
11:00 am Weekly Bldg & Grounds Meeting/LCR
6:00 pm Let Us Pray Series #1 Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi
6:30 pm Men's Ministry/LL7

Wednesday, Oct 28
9:30 am Connect Group/LL7
4:30 pm - 8:00 pm Beacon Faith Formation

Thursday, Oct 29
10:00 am Little Lambs Playgroup - Babysitting Rm
12:05 pm Mass
1:00 pm Fleece Tie Blanket Making/ CR
6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR
6:00 pm Vatican II with Father Bill/LL7
6:00 pm Women's Small Group/ LL3

Friday, Oct 30
Parish Office Closed
9:00 am Bible Study/LL7

Saturday, Oct 31
Trunk or Treat at St. Joe's 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
B.A.G Weekend Return
9:00 am Confessions
1:00 pm Tania Hernandez/Elijah Noworatzky Wedding
4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, Nov 1
All Saints Day
B.A.G Weekend Return
Coffee & Donuts
7:45 am Mass
9:45 am Mass/LS/Children's Liturgy
11:30 am Brunch Bunch
11:00 am OCIA Catechumens/LCR
12:30 pm OCIA Candidates/LCR



Hope

Mass Intentions

Sun., Oct 25	7:45 am	Living and Deceased Members of SMP
	9:45 am	William Moede
Mon., Oct 26	12:05 pm	Dan & Roseann Rodwell
Thur., Oct 29	12:05 pm	Men & Women in the military
Sat., Oct 31	4:30 pm	Barbara Snow
Sun., Nov 1	7:45 am	Robert Vanderheiden
	9:45 am	Ed Sabish



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

Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated. Without your generosity we could not do what we are able to do. The first quarter of this fiscal year we were right on target for our budget goals. This month we are at about 60% of our monthly budget. If we can get a little push at the end of the month to meet our goal, that would be great.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
October	$46,927.62	$76,800.00	-$29,872.38

Your giving at work in the parish:

- Trunk or Treat is coming up on the 31st. This is a collaboration with St. Mary, the CELC and St. Joe's. You can participate in a couple ways. First, they are still looking for people to decorate their trunks and be a place for the kids to visit. You can contact Lori Lavalle (llavalle@stmaryparish.org) or call the office to participate. Second, bring your young kids for the event. It is a funs and safe environment for your kids to celebrate Halloween and show off their costumes.

- - All Saints day this year is on Sunday November 1st. As we do each year, we will recognize those in our community who have died in the past year. To honor your deceased loved ones you can request a candle burn in their honor. There is a sign up sheet in the Marian Way.

in Joy & SORROW

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 10.25.2026
WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG

ST MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



> *Saint Francis loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, and his openheartedness.*
>
> POPE FRANCIS
> *Laudato si'*
> *(Paragraph 10)*

For a number of years now, when October 3rd rolls around, my intention has been to join the Capuchins of the Order of Friars Minor, for the celebration of "Transitus" in the night. Sadly, I have never made it.

What is "transitus?" From the Latin meaning "passage", each year the Franciscans recall with great devotion that moment when the "Poverello" ["the Little Poor One"], a humble servant leader, and their holy founder, Francis of Assisi, passed over from this life into eternal life. He directed his friars to take him out and place him on the ground so Francis could await the coming of his "Sister Death", being so close to his Mother Earth. This "transitus" happened eight hundred years ago on the night of October 3, 1226.

Of all the saints who fill the halls of heaven, Francis of Assisi is one of the most well-known and well-loved in the hearts of all Catholics, Christians, and people of good will. He preached the Gospel with his actions maybe more than with his words. His heart was folded into the Lord's heart when he reached out to minister to a leprous person. Francis rebuilt the Lord's church, not with bricks and mortars, but by redirecting believers back to Jesus and His Gospel. He became another Christ so exactly that his hands, feet, and side were marked with Jesus' wounds of crucifixion.

Some cardinals thought that when the new Pope, being a member of the Society of Jesus (a Jesuit), chose Francis as his name in March of 2013, it was a tribute to the great Jesuit missionary priest, Saint Francis Xavier. Pope Francis had to correct them.

No, he would be called Francis, after the great "Poverello." Pope Francis took to heart the words of the great Cardinal Hummes of Brazil, who leaned over and whispered to the new Pope in the Sistine Chapel, as the conclave concluded, "Don't forget the poor."

Pope Francis never forgot the poor, pleading often, "I desire a poor Church for the poor!"

Pope Francis dedicated his Encyclical Letter "*Laudato si*" (2015) to Saint Francis of Assisi, our first saint of the environment. In the introduction to *Laudato si*, Pope Francis wrote:

Saint Francis loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, and his openheartedness. He was a mystic and a pilgrim who lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature and with himself. He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace…Francis helps us to see that an integral ecology calls for openness to categories which transcend the language of mathematics and biology, and takes us to the heart of what it is to be human. Just as happens when we fall in love with someone, whenever he would gaze at the sun, the moon or the smallest of animals, he burst into song, drawing all other creatures into his praise. He communed with all creation, even preaching to the flowers, inviting them "to praise the Lord, just as if they were endowed with reason". His response to the world around him was so much more than intellectual appreciation or economic calculus, for to him each and every creature was a sister united to him by bonds of affection…[His] conviction [to care for all that exists] cannot be written off as naive romanticism, for it affects the choices which determine our behaviour. If we approach nature and the environment without this openness to awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs. By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously. The poverty and austerity of Saint Francis were no mere veneer of asceticism, but something much more radical: a refusal to turn reality into an object simply to be used and controlled. What is more, Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. "Through the greatness and the beauty of creatures one comes to know by analogy their maker" (Wisdom 13:5). (Paragraphs 10–12)

If you have never read Holy Father Francis's Encyclical Letter on Care for our Common Home, I would strongly encourage you to do so. It is a meditation that will inspire you! Here is the link for you:

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

Our dear Capuchins of Appleton have offered to share their service of Saint Francis's "Transitus" with us this Tuesday evening. We will gather in Church at 6 PM to give praise and thanks to the Lord for the gift of Saint Francis of Assisi. And let us not forget to hold Saint Clare of Assisi in our hearts as well. Francis and Clare were great friends and holy mystics.

Let's finish this IN JOY AND SORROW with this sonnet for Saint Francis [and the new Pope Francis] composed by Reverend Malcolm Guite in 2013.

‘Francis, rebuild my church which, as you see
Is falling into ruin.’ From the cross
Your saviour spoke to you and speaks to us
Again through you. Undoing set you free,
Loosened the traps of trappings, cast away
The trammelling of all that costly cloth
We wind our saviour in. At break of day
He set aside his grave-clothes. Your new birth
Came like a daybreak too, naked and true
To poverty and to the gospel call,
You woke to Christ and Christ awoke in you
And set to work through all your love and skill
To make our ruin good, to bless and heal
To wake the Christ in us and make us whole.

Fr. Bill +

Gratitude AND Giving Month IS COMING



Your generosity is amazing and very much appreciated.

Over the past 5 years since the pandemic, sacrificial giving or parish support has been pretty consistent and we are blessed for that.

The pandemic brought about a significant change in how people give. More moved to online giving. For our parish that meant through Faith Direct and ParishSoft Giving.

PERCENT OF PARISH SUPPORT FROM EGIVING

'22/23	'23/24	'24/25	'25/26 (last year)
45%	45%	35%	32%

Using online giving or eGiving is a convenience that provides more regular giving.

While giving has been pretty consistent, costs for utilities, services, supplies, technology, and personnel continue to rise. We have been looking for ways to cut costs to be better stewards of the funds you contribute to the parish. Even with our giving options there are ways to save.

Starting in November, Gratitude and Giving Month, we will begin transitioning to a new eGiving platform,

Moving to the eCatholic Giving platform will save the parish up to **$7,000 per year.** This along with our changes with giving envelope distribution will be an annual savings of up to **$10,000.**

In the next few weeks we will be reaching out to those who give via our current platform, ParishSoft Giving, to help them move to eCatholic. We will also be talking more about the benefits of giving online.

Be on the lookout for more information about this change

AND THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

