

AUGUST 31- SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

ST. MARY PARISH

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



Invite those who cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection”-Luke 14:14

BULLETIN

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

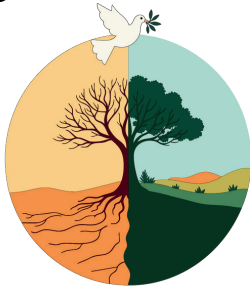
cell 920-422-4316

Cemetery Info - Chip Acker

cacker@stmaryparish.org

cell 920-882-4158

Celebrate



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

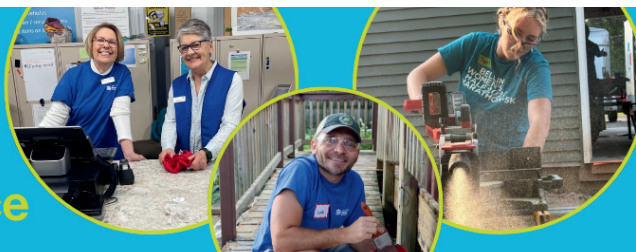
September 1 - October 4

“Future generations will never forgive us if we miss the opportunity to protect our common home. We have inherited a garden; we must not leave a desert for our children.”

Joint statement from Pope Francis, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury.

Volunteer

every hand makes a difference



Join Us on the Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

Oct 2 Wall Rock, Prepare a Meal

Oct 25 Paint and Stain, Prepare a Meal

Contact Ray Fuchs rfuchs1944@gmail.com to build.

Contact Sarah Fraley sfraley@new.rr.com for meals.

BEACON



Elementary School Aides

- Share our faith with youth grades 1-5
- Materials and support provided
- Wednesdays, Sept-April, 4:00-6:15pm

Interested?
Contact Tracy
@ tturba@stmaryparish.org

Minister of Young Disciples, Grades 1-5, Children's Liturgy

Join Our Pastoral Team

Tracy is going part-time and will minister to our middle and high school students. We are hiring someone to minister to our students in grades 1-5 and our youngsters who attend Children's Liturgy of the Word.

Contact Nadine or Tracy for more information.

High School Gatechist/Core Team

- Share our faith with youth grades 9-12
- Build community & prayer life
- Wednesdays Sept-April, 6:15-8:15pm



PARENTS!

IT'S REGISTRATION TIME

FAITH FORMATION



ALL youth are welcome to join Beacon Faith Formation on Wednesday nights to grow in faith and community.

Classes will begin 9/17

Grades 1-5 | 4:45-6:00pm

Grades 6-8 | 6:30-7:45pm

Grades 9-12 | 6:30-8:00pm



<https://bit.ly/4mf0vUY>

Questions about Beacon or sacrament prep?

Contact Tracy in the parish office (tturbaestmaryparish.org or 920-739-5119).

SACRAMENT PREP

Do you have a child of the age for First Communion or Confirmation? It's time to register them for our sacramental prep programs.

FYI: Catholic day school students prepare for and receive sacraments through their home parish (St. Mary Parish).

2nd GRADE STUDENTS:
First Reconciliation & First Communion
prep begins in September

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS*:

Confirmation
prep begins in the winter

*Public school students still participate in Beacon on Wednesdays and can register for sacraments through the Beacon sign-up.



<https://bit.ly/3UVICyf>





DISCIPLESHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

NEW SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

Men's Ministry:

- A laid-back space for guys to share how faith shows up in their daily lives—no homework, just bring whatever's on your heart.
- Meets on every **2nd and 4th Tuesday from 6:30-8:00 PM** in LL7, starting Tuesday, **August 26**
- Contact: Jim Richter at jimrichtermd@gmail.com

Women's Ministry:

- Come join us for lively fellowship and meaningful Scripture reflection as we connect, encourage, and grow in faith together!
- Meets on every **1st and 3rd Thursday from 6:00-7:30 PM** in LL7, starting Thursday, **September 18**
- Contact: Jane Leveille at leveille.jat@gmail.com

MORE INFORMATION

If you are interested in joining a small group but don't know where to start, reach out to Kate in the Parish Office – she'd love to help you find a perfect fit!



kminczeski@stmaryparish.org



(920) 739-5119 x 110



SABBATH GUIDE

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR YOUR PRAYER COMPANION



SEPT 6 & 7

Explore five simple ways to honor the Sabbath for rest and renewal, promoting Sunday as a sacred time of joy, peace, and connection.

Brunch BUNCH

All parishioners 55 and older, are invited to join us for brunch on Sunday, September 28th at 11:30 am, at Pullman's Restaurant, 619 S. Olde Oneida St. We will order off of the menu and it is self pay. Reservations required. Please call Sue Rogers with reservations or questions. 920-810-1545

Book Clubs

St Mary/St Joseph book club meets Tuesday, September 16, from 1 to 2:30 pm, at St. Mary on State Street in Room LL7. The selected book is *The Frozen River*, by Ariel Lawhon. Please reach out to Mary Schulz, 920-809-4474, with questions or to request the list of books scheduled through 2025.

Come Celebrate **ST. MARY** **FEAST DAY WEEKEND**

After all the Masses

13 & 14 September 2025

SPECIAL FEATURES



Exhibition Booths

Learn more about upcoming events after each Mass!



Refreshments

After all Masses that weekend!



Fun & Games

Scavenger Hunt for the Kids and a chance at a raffle prize!!



Annual Report

Take home a copy of the 2024-2025 Annual Report

Hallow LAUNCH!

We are thrilled to announce that we'll be partnering with Hallow this year, the #1 prayer app! Through prayer and meditation rooted in the Catholic faith, Hallow helps people grow closer to God and find peace. All parishioners are invited to be a part of our St. Mary Community in the app. There, you're able to create a profile, share prayer requests, and take part in prayer challenges together.



SEPTEMBER 20 AND 21
30 MINUTES AFTER EACH MASS



ST. MARY PARISH
312 S. STATE ST.
APPLETON, WI



Fr. Mike Schmitz

Mark Wahlberg

Jonathan Roumie

Jeff Cavins

← Pray with these guys!

After each Mass, join a representative from Hallow to learn more about the app, get technical help on setting up the app on your phone, and learning more about building a culture of prayer!

JOIN ST. MARY IN PRAYER ON HALLOW

With over 10,000 guided prayers, meditations, and sessions, Hallow puts over 2,000 years of Catholic tradition at your fingertips, helping you grow in faith, build a habit of daily prayer, and discover different types of prayer.



Hallow is the #1 Catholic prayer and meditation platform in the world and is home to the largest digital community of Catholics online!



New to Hallow??

Scan the QR code or visit hallow.com/parish to get started! All parishioners – subscribers and free users alike – are invited to join. To forgo the special offer and remain on the free version, simply hit "Skip" when prompted, and you'll have access to our parish page.

Already on Hallow? Join the Parish!

1. Log into **Hallow**
2. On the bottom right, tap **Community**
3. Enter our zip code: **54911**
4. When you see St. Mary's, tap **Join Parish**

Let us pray

Evening worship experiences at St. Mary, Appleton

Discover the Power of Lectio Divina with Fr. Bill

September 29 | 6:30-8:00 PM



Are you hungry for a deeper relationship with Jesus? Are you feeling stagnant in your prayer life? Are you longing to hear from God, but don't know how?

Take a start-of-the-week pause to rest in God's word. Join Fr. Bill in the Chapel to experience *lectio divina* – an ancient form of prayer that draws us into a deeper relationship with Christ through Scripture. Together, we will read, reflect, and listen to the Lord's voice speaking personally to our hearts. Whether you are experienced in this type of prayer experience or trying it for the first time, you are warmly welcome.

Come with an open heart. Leave with a renewed spirit!



St. Mary's Youth Ministry Intern

Marinella Redulla



"I am so happy to be back at St. Mary's this year!"

From Houston, TX

B.A. in Theology and minor in Communications from Ave Maria University

2nd year SPIRITUS missionary

Contact me: marinella@stmaryparish.org

THERE IS STILL TIME



ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

HELP THE KIDS OF THE APPLETON AREA SCHOOLS

Adult size scissors
Dry erase markers
Large glue sticks
Lined note cards
Post-it Notes
Graph paper

Colored pencils/crayons
Black Sharpie markers
Fabric pencil cases
Plastic pencil boxes
1-inch binders
Binder dividers
Headphones
Earbuds

Plastic pocket folders
Folders with prongs
Scientific calculators
Full size backpacks (gender-neutral colors)
Wide-ruled composition notebooks
Highlighters in colors other than yellow
Pencil sharpeners with cover
10 count classic color washable markers



HELP US FUND OUR SHOE DRIVE



If you're looking to support us in another manner, the St. Mary Human Concerns Committee has established a fund specifically for new shoes for children in the Appleton Area Schools. If you decide to buy new shoes, you can find a collection bin in the Marian Way. We gladly accept monetary donations, or you can contribute through Faith Direct.

Sponsored by the St. Mary Human Concerns Committee



CALL FOR SINGERS AND RINGERS!

The Adult Choir and Bell Choir will resume singing and ringing for Masses after Labor Day! Come join these fun, talented, and totally committed musicians and make music for the Lord! Contact Tom Walter or Martha Paalman or the parish office for information.

Why Is The Holy Land Not At Peace?

Sunday, September 7

A virtual presentation with Fr. David Neuhaus

12:15—1:45 PM



Fr. David Neuhaus, S.J., is a Jesuit priest who teaches Scripture in Israel and Palestine. He has been a long-term member of the Holy Land Catholic Church's Justice and Peace Commission. Born in South Africa during the apartheid era, he has lived most of his life in Israel and is an Israeli citizen.



Art by Kelly Lattimore

Fr. Neuhaus will be joining us virtually from South Africa. All are invited to attend our in-person gathering and listening session at the Neenah Public Library (Shattuck Community Room).

Refreshments will be provided.

You are also invited to join virtually via Zoom. Additionally, the session will be recorded.

Scan for registration and more information, or visit <https://shorturl.at/JiM6i>

For questions, contact Paul List
paullist175@gmail.com.



Father Carr's Place 2B Annual Appeal

We are excited to announce a new initiative, Father Carr's Annual Appeal. This annual appeal will focus on upgrading our infrastructure and facilities over forthcoming years.

- Facilities renovations
- Grounds improvements
- HVAC replacements
- Technology infrastructure upgrades
- Other special projects as needed

Please consider a one-time gift, a monthly or annual pledge to support our facilities and infrastructure needs to maintain Father Carr's for generations to come. For your convenience, below is a QR code that you can use to donate.



For more information on our Life Enrichment Center and how to support the ministry through this Annual Appeal, please contact Jim Boehm, Father Carr's Executive Director at (920) 231- 2378 or at jimboehm@fathercarrs.org.

Father Carr's Place 2B Life Enrichment Center receives no public/government funding.

Mass Intentions

Sat. Aug 30	4:30pm	Fr. Anthony Scannell
Sun. Aug 31	7:45am 9:45am	Bill & Florence Polly Ben Ruh
Mon. Sept 1	12:05pm	Members of St. Mary Parish
Thur. Sept 4	12:05pm	Marge Schnese
Sat. Sept 6	4:30pm	Mary Tetting
Sun. Sept 7	7:45am 9:45am	Sally Thomson Jacob Family
Mon. Sept 8	12:05pm	Robert Mullen
Thur. Sept 11	12:05pm	Members of St. Mary Parish
Sat. Sept 13	4:30pm	Morry DeBruin
Sun. Sept 14	7:45am 9:45am	Curt Bengel John Rutten



IN LOVING MEMORY

Please pray for the family and friends of those who have recently passed. May your memories comfort you at this time.

St Mary PRAYER TREE

LEAVE A PRAYER, TAKE A PRAYER. LOOK FOR OUR PRAYER TREE IN BACK OF CHURCH.



EVENTS CALENDAR

Week of Aug 30-Sept 7

Saturday, Aug 30

9:00 am Confessions/Chapel
4:30pm Mass

Sunday, Aug 31

7:45 am Mass
9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

Monday, Sept 1

8:00am Mass-Early Mass for Labor Day
6:30pm THEO/Community Rm

Tuesday, Sept 2

9:00am Connect Group/LL7
1:00pm Prayer Shawl Group at St Joe's LL112
2:00 pm Rosary Prayer group/Chapel

Wednesday, Sept 3

9:30 am Connect Group/LL7
4:30 pm Adoration/Chapel
6:30pm Night of Reflection

Thursday, Sept 4

8:00am Quilt Retreat/CR
10:00 am St. Mary Young Families Small Group/BSR
12:05 pm Mass
1:00pm Hooks & Needles/LL1
6:00pm Choir/Music room

Friday, Sept 5

Parish Office Closed

8:00am Quilt Retreat/CR

Saturday, Sept 6

8:00am 8:00am Quilt Retreat/CR
9:00 am Confessions/Chapel
4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, Sept 7

Coffee & Donuts

7:45 am Mass
9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

Week of Sept 8 - Sept 14

Monday, Sept 8

12:05 pm Mass

Tuesday, Sept 9

9:00 am Connect Group/CR
2:00 pm Rosary Prayer/Chapel
6:30pm Men's Ministry/LL7

Wednesday, Sept 10

9:00 am Connect Group/LL7
4:30 pm Adoration/Chapel

Thursday, Sept 11

10:00 am St. Mary Young Families Small Group/BSR
12:05 pm Mass

Friday, Sept 12

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, Sept 13

9:00 am Confessions/Chapel
4:30 pm Mass-Patrolal Feast Day Celebration

Sunday, Sept 14

7:45 am Mass-Patrolal Feast Day Celebration
9:45 am Mass/Livestream-Patrolal Feast Day Celebration
10:00am Neuro Endocrine Cancer Support Group/LL7

Which pope served the
shortest term?



Clergy

Pastor, Fr. Bill Swichtenberg
wdswitz@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-422-4316

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

Pastoral Team

Nadine Duncan (Ext. 116)
Director of Pastoral
Administration
nduncan@stmaryparish.org
cell 920-659-1337

Lori Lavalle (Ext. 121)
Minister of Parish Vitality
llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Kate Minczeski (Ext. 110)
Minister of Adult Disciples
kminczeski@stmaryparish.org

Tracy Turba (Ext. 119)
Minister of Young Disciples
tturba@stmaryparish.org

Tom Walter (Ext. 114)
Minister of Liturgy and Music
twalter@stmaryparish.org
cell (920)-422-8669



Pope Urban VIII died in 1590 of malaria -
13 days after his election

Parish Leadership

Tim Schraufnagel
Pastoral Leadership
Council Chair
plc@stmaryparish.org

Sarah Higgins
Finance Council Chair
fcchair@stmaryparish.org

Business Office

Chris Higgins (Ext. 102)
Director of Business
Administration
chiggins@stmaryparish.org

**Kristina Resterhouse
(Ext. 101)**
Administrative Assistant
stmary@stmaryparish.org

Mary Ellen Fisher (Ext. 103)
Bookkeeping Assistant
mefisher@stmaryparish.org

Michael Kozoroz (Ext 100)
Communication Coordinator
mkozoroz@stmaryparish.org

Facilities & Cemetery

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

Chad Tisdell
ctisdell@stmaryparish.org

Prayer Requests

Contact Laurie Richter
lauriejrichter@gmail.com

Mary Jo Zilisch
(920-734-1182) or

Ann Walkowski
(920-428-0969)

Important Contacts

Parish Office Hours:
920-739-5119
Mon through Thurs, 9am-4pm
Office Closed on Fridays

Sacrament of Matrimony
Getting Married? Congratulations!
Contact Fr. Bill at least 6 months
before your planned wedding date.

Funeral Information

Contact Tom Walter
cell (920)-422-8669

Interested in joining the Parish?

Contact Lori Lavalle
llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Mass Intentions

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

Confession times:

Saturdays 9-10am, or by
appointment

Parish Website:

stmaryparish.org

Cemetery Website:

stmaryparishcemetery.org

Eucharistic Adoration Wednesdays

4:30-8pm

Sign up for a slot to sit with Jesus.
We must have one person
with the Eucharist at all times.



SCAN ME

in Joy & SORROW

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 8.31.2025

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



Do you feel it? Hints of the holy season of autumn are getting our attention. The harvest of tomatoes and pumpkins, and cucumbers and corn-on-the-cob is near its peak, or even a bit past that. Soon the strawberries, raspberries, plums, grapes, and peaches will disappear from our grocery stores. We wonder when the first day of the frost will occur? Hopefully, that is not for a while. There is a coolness in the air though. Time to get out the comforter, whose theme is The Packers, like mine! Where did I put my flannel pajamas and flannel bedsheets? Just checking, so I will be ready when I need to get them out!

Our hearts are overwhelmed by the beauty of creation as we anticipate the season of autumn. The Christian world observes the days on the calendar marked from September 1, the Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to October 4, the Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, the Catholic Church's first saint of the environment, as the Season of Creation.

*Our hearts are
overwhelmed by the
beauty of creation
as we anticipate the
season of autumn.*

Here is my favorite Anglican priest, Rev Malcolm Guite, with a sonnet to get us in the mood.

Everything holds together

*Everything holds together, everything,
From stars that pierce the dark like living sparks,
To secret seeds that open every spring,
From spanning galaxies to spinning quarks,
Everything holds together and coheres,
Unfolding from the centre whence it came.
And now that hidden heart of things appears,
The first-born of creation takes a name.
And shall I see the one through whom I am?
Shall I behold the one for whom I'm made,
The light in light, the flame within the flame,
Eikon tou theou*, image of my God?
He comes, a little child, to bless my sight,
That I might come to him for life and light.*

*Greek for the image of God

During this Holy Season of Creation, let us hold firm in our hearts the reality that all of life is interconnected. How we impact creation's climate for good or not, has irrevocable repercussions on the future of succeeding generations, especially our sisters and brothers who are poor.

In an address by then Bishop Cardinal Robert McElroy* of San Diego at the University of San Diego, on February 6, 2020, Bishop courageously invited deeper reflection around the notion of a consistent ethic of life.

Recall the seamless robe of Jesus, stripped from him at his crucifixion and unable to be torn by the soldiers so that each could claim a piece. All of the life issues, beginning with the child in the womb, so sacred, and ending at the time of natural death, so sacred, are interconnected. We stumble when we try to prioritize these issues or declare one or the other as preeminent. Without a doubt, the child in the womb must be protected and abortion remains a crime against him or her that cries out to the Lord. We cannot grow tired in our defense of the dignity of those precious little ones.

Bishop McElroy also invited his audience to consider climate change as an existential threat to the future of humankind. This is what he said:

...There is a clear international scientific consensus that climate change caused by the use of fossil fuels and other human activities poses 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. Existing trajectories of pollutants being placed in the atmosphere by human activity, if unchecked, will raise the temperature of the earth in the coming decades, generating catastrophic rises in human exposure to deadly heat, devastating rises in water levels and massive exposure to a series of perilous viruses. In addition, there will be severe widespread famines, draughts and massive dislocations of peoples that will cause untold deaths, human suffering and violent conflict. The devastating fires in Australia are a sign of what lies before us, and a testimony that, on so many levels, our current pollution of the earth is stealing the future from coming generations. Because the trajectory of danger unleashed by fossil fuels is increasing so rapidly, the next ten years are critical to staunching the threat to our planet. The United States, which was once a leader in this effort, has in the current Administration become the leader in resisting efforts to combat climate change and in denying its existence. As a consequence, the survival of the planet, which is the prerequisite for all human life, is at risk.

*Robert McElroy is now Cardinal McElroy, Archbishop of Washington DC.

My friends, do not ask me to choose a preeminent life issue. I am convinced of the importance of finding a way to hold each one of these issues side by side, certainly abortion and global warming, but also including mass shootings, nuclear armament, racism, hatred towards people of non-Christian religions, homophobia and transphobia, lack of health care, and others, addressing the threat that each one of them poses to human dignity.

In this Season of Creation, let us pray for a united effort to preserve and protect the gifts of creation, especially our land, air and water. With our sisters and brothers of Native American origin, let us pray that together we may step lightly and tenderly, gently and respectfully upon Mother Earth!

If you have not read Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter Laudato Si: On Care for our Common Home, this month of September might be a good time to do so.

Here is the link for you: https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

Here is the link to Cardinal McElroy 's address: <https://www.ncronline.org/opinion/bishop-mcelroy-voting-faith-and-conscience>

This address, given five years ago, is still one of the best in regard to faithful citizenship in the light of Jesus and His Gospel.

Fr. Bill +