

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, OCTOBER 19, 2025

ST. MARY PARISH

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

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth? Luke 18:8

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



SCAN ME

Pastor - Fr. Bill Swichtenberg

wdswitz@stmaryparish.org

cell 920-422-4316

Deacon- Gerry Schraufnagel

dcngerry@stmaryparish.org

cell 920-450-9594

Cemetery Info - Chip Acker

cacker@stmaryparish.org

cell 920-882-4158

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.

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!

Contact Fr. Bill at least 6 months before your planned wedding date.

Interested in joining the Parish?

Contact Lori Lavallo

llavalle@stmaryparish.org

Confession times:

Saturdays 9-10am or by appointment



CORRECTION

During the BEACON school year, Kristina, our Administrative Assistant, will be available until 6:30 PM on Wednesdays, through April 29, for any business that needs to be conducted outside of our regular Parish Office hours.



Let us pray

Evening worship experiences at St. Mary, Appleton

Discover Imaginative Prayer with Fr. Jim Shea, SJ

October 27 | 6:30-8:00 PM

What would it be like to encounter Jesus face to face?
To be with Mary and Joseph at the manger?
To hear Jesus call Peter to come and follow him?



Imaginative prayer steps you
into the Gospel.

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

Fr. Jim Shea, SJ, Assistant
Director of the Jesuit Retreat
House in Oshkosh



Light a candle
in memory of a loved one.



Candles will be lit during all weekend Masses in November.

A sign-up sheet is available in the Marian Way.

CHILI DINNER



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25
JOIN US AFTER THE 4:30 MASS IN
THE COMMUNITY ROOM.
FREE WILL OFFERING



Love to Bake or Cook?
Join our Parish Bakers & Cooks list!

Email **Lori Lavalle** at llavalle@stmaryparish.org and she will contact you when we need baked items or a meal prepared for an event.



St. Mary's Celebrates

Sr. Joanne

Goessel's Jubilee!

ON OCTOBER 26
AFTER THE 9:45 AM MASS
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM!

A gift table and card box will be available

Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

Oct 25

Paint and Stain, Prepare a Meal

For meals contact Sarah Fraley
sfraley@new.rr.com

To build contact Ray Fuchs
rfuchs1944@gmail.com



Can you find this closeup image in the church?

I have a mother's grace
and a savior's power,
And under my foot, evil
meets its final hour.





Diocese of Green Bay

Reporting Sexual Abuse

If you know of an incident of sexual abuse of a person who is **now under the age of 18** by a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer,

PLEASE IMMEDIATELY CALL THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES AND THEN THE DIOCESE.

If the person was abused as a minor but is now an adult

please contact:

Office of Safe Environment

Diocese of Green Bay

920-272-8174 or

1-877-270-8174 (toll free)

We always encourage you to report the incident to civil authorities

YOU MATTER TO US - THERE IS HOPE!

MONDAY, OCT. 20, 7 PM

ENCOUNTERING GOD

on Death's Doorstep

Crushed and trapped for hours after a car accident, Ed Jozsa experienced both terror and a glimpse of Heaven.

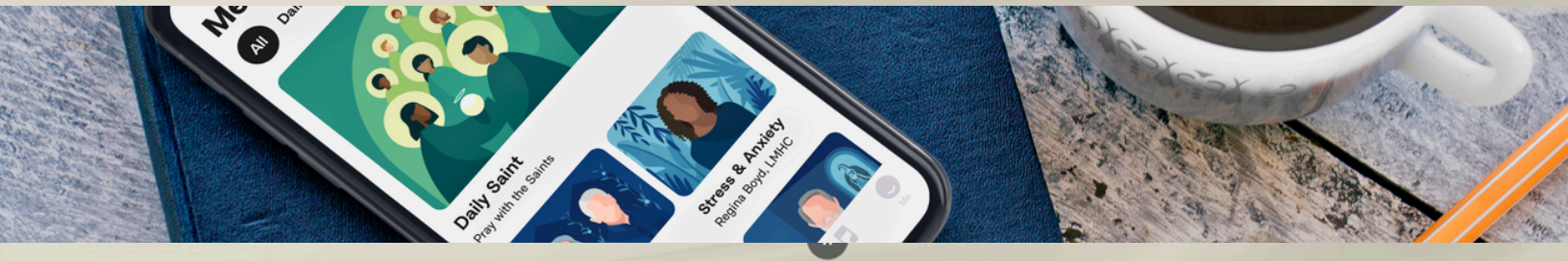
Xavier Fine Arts Theatre


1600 Prospect Ave, Appleton, WI

No tickets needed / Free will offering encouraged

Hallow

JOIN OUR PRAYER CHALLENGE HOW TO PRAY



- Sign up to join our Parish Community. Use the QR code or go to hallow.com/parish
- For questions or more information, go to www.stmaryparish.org, click on the  and then **Hallow Help**



For an update of upcoming events at Xavier pick up a letter from Terry Tyrrell, President of Xavier located in the back of the church.



World Mission

Sunday October 19, 2025

A Call to Hope

On World Mission Sunday, every parish across the globe joins together for the only worldwide collection.

Your generosity supports the Pope's missions in more than 1,124 territories where the Church is young or struggling. Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Annual Meeting

Join us to review the 2024-2025 Annual Report in the community room on **Oct 21, 6 PM**





B.A.G.

(BLESSSED ARE GIVERS)

Please take a bag on October 25th or 26th with the attached list of items people need but cannot buy with any government assistance. The items are toilet paper, toothpaste, deodorant, bath soap, dish soap, laundry detergent, and shampoo.

Please purchase as many items as possible and return them in the bag on November 1st and 2nd. St. Joseph Food Program truck will be in front of the church Sunday morning November 2nd. Thank you for helping with this collection for the past 41 years.



Stewardship & Generosity SERIES

As part of our Stewardship Month, we invite you to join us for a series of engaging seminars designed to help parishioners discover practical and spiritual ways to be faithful stewards of the many gifts God has entrusted to us.

Estate Planning Seminar

November 3, 6:30 PM

Tax Planning Seminar

November 9, after Masses



Who was the oldest person mentioned in the bible?

Join a Stewardship Team

Team up with other parish members to verify and deposit the stewardship donations given to St. Mary. This involves counting the cash, opening and verifying the contents of the various envelopes, and preparing the bank deposit. No special skills are needed, but computer or adding machine skills are beneficial. Teams generally count once per month on a Monday or Sunday morning giving one to two hours depending on the stewardship collected.

Interested parish members can call the parish office.

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November is Gratitude & Giving Month!

We are kicking off Gratitude & Giving Month on October 26th.

As part of the kickoff we are bringing back a couple pre-covid practices.

Offertory Baskets: We will begin passing baskets through the pews during the offertory collection.

Children's Envelopes: In the pews we will have envelopes for kids to contribute their offering. Every child can participate by either contributing part of their allowance or writing a message telling Fr. Bill what they did for Jesus that week.

TRUNK or TREAT

CANDY • CARAMEL APPLES • DONUTS • GAMES • MORE CANDY



ST. MARY PARISH SCHOOL PARKING LOT
OCTOBER 26
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

Please register at
<https://bit.ly/trunkortreatstmary>
or use the QR code by
Monday, October 20.





Stewardship of God's Gifts

ST. MARY PARISH



Together, we'll explore how to faithfully manage our finances, practice generosity, and grow as disciples.



Estate Planning Seminar: Monday, November 3, 6:30-8:00 PM

What legacy will you leave? Learn about critical issues in estate planning and legacy giving, like wills vs. trusts, charitable giving, beneficiary designations, and more! The seminar will feature Attorney Reg Wydeven and Janet Wagner, Assistant Director at The Catholic Foundation.



Please join us in the St. Mary Community Room for our seminar. We will serve light refreshments. Please RSVP by calling the Parish Office at (920) 739-5119 or emailing Kate at kminczeski@stmaryparish.org by Thursday, October 20th.



Catholic Foundation
for the Diocese of Green Bay, Inc.


**This seminar is brought to you by the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay and St. Mary Parish.



Tax Planning: Sunday, November 9 after each Mass

Strategies to minimize tax liabilities and maximize your savings.

Contact Us

 (920) 739-5119

 kminczeski@stmaryparish.org

*Manage with Faith.
Give with Joy.*

EVENTS CALENDAR

Week of Oct 18- Oct 26

Saturday, Oct 18

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

Sunday, Oct 19

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Coffee & Donuts after mass

7:45am Mass
9:45am Mass/LS/Avery Hoppes Baptism
11:00am Baptism Preparation Course/LL7
11:00am Flock of Sparrows/LL5
11:30am Brunch Bunch/Good Company

Monday, Oct 20

12:05pm Mass
6:00pm New Horizons/Music Rm
6:30pm Bells Of St Mary/Choir loft
6:30pm THEO/Community Rm
6:30 pm Let Us Pray w/ Fr. Bill/Chapel

Tuesday, Oct 21

9:00am Connect Group/LL7
1:00pm Prayer Shawl Group at St Joe's/LL112
1:00pm SMP & STJ Book Club/LL7
2:00pm Rosary Prayer group/Chapel
6:00pm Annual meeting/Community Rm
6:30pm Matthew 25/LCR

Wednesday, Oct 22

9:30am Connect Group/LL7
4:30pm Adoration/Church
4:45pm Beacon Faith Formation 1st -5th grade
6:30pm Beacon Faith Formation 6th -8th grade
6:30pm Beacon Faith Formation 9th -12th grade

Thursday, Oct 23

10:00am St. Mary Young Families Small Group/BSR
12:05pm Mass
6:00pm Choir/Music room

Friday, Oct 24

Parish Office Closed

9:00am Bible Study/LL7

Saturday, Oct 25 (B.A.G Weekend)

Habitat for Humanity

9:00am Confessions/Chapel
4:30pm Mass
5:30pm Chili Social/Community Rm

Sunday, Oct 26 (B.A.G Weekend)

Coffee & Donuts after mass

7:45am Stewardship Sunday/St. Anne Rm
7:45am Mass
9:45am Mass/Livestreamed/Sr. Joanne's Jubilee
11:00am Flock of Sparrows/LL5
11:00am Trunk-or-Treat

Mass Intentions

Sat. Oct 18	4:30pm	Ruth Carew
Sun. Oct 19	7:45am 9:45am	Richard & Patricia Pechotta Mike O'Connell
Mon. Oct 20	12:05pm	Bill & Marge Garvey
Thur. Oct 23	12:05pm	Margaret Higgins
Sat. Oct 25	4:30pm	Men & Women in the Military
Sun. Oct 26	7:45am 9:45am	Members Of St. Mary Parish Dan & Roseann Rodwell

Generosity CORNER

Your gifts to the parish are greatly appreciated. Our annual budget has been split into 12 equal amounts for the months of our fiscal year. The monthly budget is fairly in line with the historical average for October.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
Oct. (week 1)	\$41,731.25	\$75,083.33	-\$33,352.08

Your funds at work in the parish:

- This past weekend we hosted an Entrust Retreat for Parish Leadership. It is designed to guide us through a process from discipleship to missionary discipleship. This is a topic we have been exploring with the Reach More program as well.
- We are in preparation for late Fall and Winter weather buying supplies for snow and ice removal. As we look to Spring, we are creating a Landscaping Taskforce to explore options for improving the outdoor aesthetic of the church and administration building. If you are interested in being part of this, please contact Chris Higgins - chiggins@stmaryparish.org.



Methuselah, grandfather of Noah. He was 969 years old.

in Joy & SORROW

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 10.19.2025

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



A pig and a cow were conversing in a barnyard. The pig confessed that he was feeling depressed about his lack of popularity. He complained that people were always talking in complimentary terms about the cow's gentleness but never had anything particularly kind to say about him. He admitted that cows give milk and cream, but he was sure that pigs give more.

"Why, we give bacon and ham and pork chops, and people even pickle our feet," he grumbled. "I don't see why you cows are held in such high esteem!"

The cow thought for a moment, then replied gently. "Perhaps it's because we cows are giving while we're living!"

As a way of living, giving or stewardship is integral in the life of a friend and follower of Jesus. You and I cannot be Gospel people if we do not imitate Jesus' unselfish love.

The cow thought for a moment, then replied gently. "Perhaps it's because we cows are giving while we're living!"

Jesus gave everything of Himself, even to the point of spilling the last drop of His Blood from the Tree of the Cross, for love of you and me. All his time and talent, and even the little treasure Jesus had, was given back to His Father from a Heart filled with gratitude. Jesus' joy was to do only what the Father asked of Him.

You and I are gifted with so much. The Lord pours His bountiful blessings over us, again, and again, and again. Sometimes we admit that it is easy to take for granted those blessings or to think that somehow I earned or deserved them. We forget to acknowledge the Lord as the Giver of all Gifts. We can easily forget to offer a prayer of gratitude and a promise to be generous with the gifts received.

How can I repay the LORD for all the great good done for me? (Psalm 116:12)

I like Bishop Robert Morneau's reflection:

Stewardship is about four things: 1) receiving God's gifts gratefully, 2) nurturing and tending those gifts responsibly, 3) sharing those gifts justly and charitably, and 4) returning those gifts to God in abundance.

Might we do some soul-searching? Am I grateful to the Lord? Do I tend responsibly the gifts I have received? Am I careful in how I spend my money or am I frivolous or easily swayed by advertisements? Am I a charitable and just person? Do I make a generous return to the Lord of His gifts to me?

Let me now speak specifically about my treasure, because here is where the rubber meets the road, so to speak, for us followers of Jesus.

In restaurants, my practice is to leave a tip of 20% for the wait staff, realizing that they work so hard for not the biggest of salaries.

Sadly, Catholics contribute about 2% of their annual wages, before taxes, to the Church. Our Protestant sisters and brothers double that for their sacrificial giving.

Abraham, with a heart overflowing with gratitude, came before the priest Melchizedik, bearing a tithe, that is a tenth, of his bountiful harvest.

It does me good to do the math every once in a while in terms of my financial gift to my parish. What is the percentage of my annual sacrificial giving to my parish and other charities when compared to my total annual salary?

When I first started ministry as a priest back in 1983, I believed that I had offered my whole life to the Lord, so I could forgo sacrificial giving. My first Pastor, Father Jack, told me that I thought wrong. So I thought I could lock in a gift of twenty dollars a week for the rest of my life. Again, Fr Jack told me that I thought wrong!

Today, I give my age, \$70, every week to Saint Mary Parish. When the calendar switches over to the New Year, I will give \$71 every week to my parish. I think Fr Jack would be pleased with me!

As we review all things stewardship on these autumn days, I would encourage you to do some soul searching and genuine praying about your sacrificial giving to your LORD and and to your spiritual family of Saint Mary.

Commenting on the rich young man's unwillingness to let go of his treasure, thereby entrusting that treasure to Jesus in order to follow the Lord more closely, Saint Augustine writes in the person of Jesus Himself: *"I received the earth, I will give heaven; I received temporal goods, I will give back eternal goods; I received bread, I will give life... I have been given hospitality, but I will give a home; I was visited when I was sick, but I will give health; I was visited in prison, but I will give freedom. The bread you have given to my poor has been consumed, but the bread I will give will not only refresh you, but will never end."* (Pope Leo XIV, Apostolic Exhortation "Dilexite [I have loved you]," Paragraph 45, 10.4.25)

Thank you for all you are and do for Saint Mary Parish! Let us continue to be ripples of the Lord's love wherever we are!

Let us revisit our Stewardship Prayer which I composed in the Fall of 2020.

Loving Lord God, always with us, you fill us with your Holy Spirit of Love and make us Your Holy partners in the noble and glorious work of building up Your Kingdom on this earth.

Shape our hearts, that we may always give You praise and thanks through our constant awareness of your closeness to us, our gentle service of you in our neighbors near and far, and our generous sharing of our treasure.

May the holy gifts You shower upon us enliven our partnership with You and inspire our better angels of gratitude and generosity wherever we go in Your Name.

Amen.

Fr. Bill +