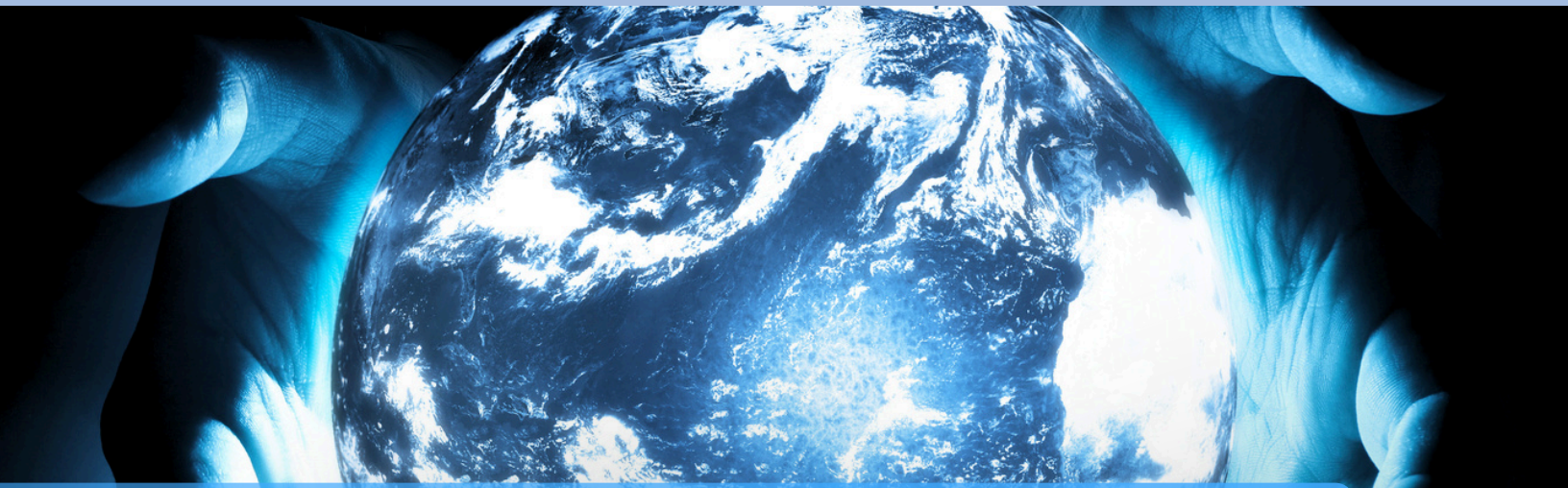


33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, NOVEMBER 16, 2025

# ST. MARY PARISH

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

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



“The Lord will rule the earth with justice and the peoples with equity. Psalm 98:9

# 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](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, Thurs, 9am-4pm

Wed, 9am-6:30pm

Friday-Office Closed

## **Sacrament of Matrimony**

Getting Married?

Congratulations! Contact Fr. Bill at least six months before your planned wedding date.

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

Contact Lori Lavallo

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

## **Confession times:**

Saturdays 9-10am or by appointment

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

Wednesdays 4:30-8pm

Sign up for a time to sit with Jesus.

We must have one person with the Eucharist at all times.

Or scan with your phone.



SCAN ME

# Anointing of the Sick

NOV 15-16,  
DURING ALL MASSES



## Prayer Shawl GIVE AWAY

Give a shawl to someone in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual comfort. Shawls will be given away after all the Masses on the weekend of **Nov. 15 & 16th.**

Sponsored by the St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Prayer Shawl ministry.

Shouldn't we go

# DIRECTLY TO GOD

with our prayers?

WHAT CATHOLICS

believe



## formed™

Forming Catholics for *Life.*

### What Catholics Believe About Mary: Immaculate Conception, Virginity

Join Dr. Edward Sri as he answers some of the internet's most asked questions about Mary. Who is Mary? Why do Catholics pray to Mary? How could she be a virgin if Jesus had brothers and sisters according to the Bible? Find out answers to these and more questions in this episode of What Catholics Believe.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

# Let us pray

Evening worship experiences at St. Mary, Appleton

## DISCOVER IMAGINATIVE PRAYER WITH FR. JIM FLAHERTY, SJ

November 24 | 6:30-8:00 PM

Experience Imaginative Prayer, learn about Discernment of Spirits, and how to practice the Examen. Come with an open heart, leave with a renewed spirit with Fr. Jim Flaherty (SJ, Retreat Director) at the Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh.



# PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR JESUS THIS ADVENT

Hallow is an app that has radically improved the way I pray. For the last couple years I have used the app daily and find it quite rewarding. Now that I'm retired and have more time, I have been concentrating more on my spiritual life and have found Hallow to be a wonderful source of meaningful prayers, inspiration, and encouragement.

Most of my interaction with Hallow is in the morning, but I also use it for bedtime prayers. I usually start out with Daily Reflection with Jeff Cavins and the Daily Exegesis. I then join Jonathan Roumie for a daily scriptural rosary. This version of the rosary has opened my heart to a daily rosary! The app has so many different options that I love, but many I haven't explored!

*Nancy Lindo-Drusch, St. Mary parishioner*



## Pray with us on Hallow this Advent

### You're invited!

Starting December 1st, St. Mary Parish will journey together through Hallow's Pray25 Challenge, preparing our hearts for Christmas through daily prayer and reflection.

### Already using Hallow?

Simply open the app, tap the **Community** tab at the bottom of your screen, visit our **parish page**, and join the Advent prayer challenge.

### New to Hallow?

Visit [hallow.com/parish](https://hallow.com/parish), search for our parish (54911 zip code works best), and follow the prompts. You'll receive a special trial with full access to Hallow's premium content. If you'd prefer to stay on the free version, just tap "**Skip**" — you'll still have access to our parish page and the Advent prayer challenge.

### About Hallow

Hallow is the world's #1 prayer app, designed to help you **find peace** and **grow closer to God**. You can pray alongside Fr. Mike, Sr. Miriam, Jonathan Roumie, Bishop Barron, Mark Wahlberg, and many others. The app also includes mental health content, sleep stories, audiobooks, and sacred music.

### Need help getting started?

Email: [parishsupport@hallow.app](mailto:parishsupport@hallow.app)

We look forward to praying with you!

### Advent Pray25: Be Still

Hallow is thrilled to announce the theme for this Advent Pray25 challenge as Be Still. This Advent, we invite you to discover deeper stillness amidst the chaos of the holiday season, just as Mary did that first Christmas. Join millions around the world as we dive into the story of the Nativity through reflections on the infancy narratives, powerful excerpts from *The Reed of God* by Caryll Houselander and *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry* by John Mark Comer, and moments of silence and contemplative prayer. Join us in this 25-day journey, starting Monday, December 1!

### About Kids Advent: Finding Fiat

# WE NEED COOKIES

**For the Appleton Christmas Parade  
Open House on Tuesday, November 25**

Drop cookies off on the cart outside the Parish Office now through the afternoon of Tuesday, November 25th.

If you'd like to volunteer at the event, contact Lori Lavallo at [llavallo@stmaryparish.org](mailto:llavallo@stmaryparish.org). This is a great service hour opportunity!



***Support Our Seminarians: Give a gift card!***

Please consider donating a gift card to any major store, restaurant, or gas station. Any amount is greatly appreciated!

Gift cards can be dropped off at the parish office. Please label them "K of C Council 607" or mail them to: **PO Box 1492, Appleton, WI 54912** by **November 23**.

Thank you for your generosity and prayers for our future priests!

# 5th Annual

## APPLETON CHRISTMAS PARADE OPEN HOUSE

*St. Mary Community Room  
Tuesday, Nov. 25 | 6-9pm  
All are Welcome!*



Enjoy Cookies and Cocoa as you watch the parade on the big screen!



# Gratitude & Giving Month Activities!

In the past week we've held two seminars on financial planning.

Catholic Charities was here on Monday November 3rd to help parishioners look into and ask questions about estate planning. There were about 17 people at the event. It was a lively presentation covering wills, trusts, beneficiary planning and foundation giving.

Ron Altenburg sat down with parishioners after Masses on November 9th to talk about charitable giving and taxes. He covered topics about Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD), donor specified funds, stock transfers, and IRS and state charitable giving guidelines. It was a great interaction with stories, questions and examples.



## HELP US FEED LOCAL FAMILIES



TOGETHER, WE CAN PUT FOOD ON THE TABLE

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Purchase a \$25, \$50 or \$100 grocery store gift card at our scrip table after weekend Masses, or in our parish office during the week
- Cash donations accepted! (scrip table after weekend Masses or parish office during the week)
- Drop non-perishable food items on the cart in the Marian Way (no glass please)
- Donate directly to St. Joe's Food Program

SPONSORED BY THE ST. MARY HUMAN CONCERNS COMMITTEE

## ENDS NOVEMBER 17TH



### ONGOING FOOD DRIVE WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

With St. Joe's Food Program, we're stepping up our efforts to help our neighbors who are no longer receiving SNAP and food benefits or paychecks.

Let's not allow our friends and neighbors to go hungry!



## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported our mission to feed local families. We will continue our collection efforts until November 17. Our first week of collecting has been incredibly successful, and we have already met the current need.



What are the two colors of the Papal flag?



Please join us in welcoming  
**Pat Sinn** to the St. Mary's  
Community!



**Kickoff-November 22nd and 23rd**

Trees with tags will be in the church and the Marian Way

**GIFTS DUE - DEC 6/7**

If possible, return gifts in a reusable, cloth or vinyl shopping bag.

Most gift card requests are available at the scrip table.

Donations may be made through Parish Soft.



November is  
**Gratitude**  
& Giving Month

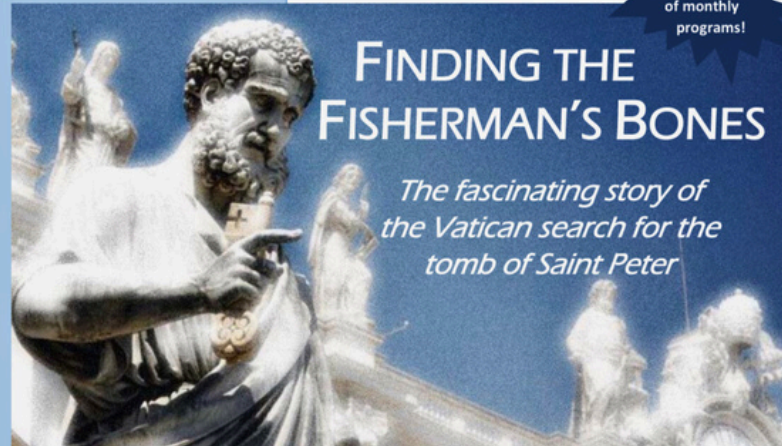
As part of Gratitude & Giving Month we are bringing back a couple pre-covid practices.

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.

Baskets for financial gift giving will be brought to the altar during offertory.

CIA-Faith Mission Operatives presents

2025-26  
Our 10th SEASON  
of monthly  
programs!



With  
Fr. James  
Jugenheimer  
St. Pius X  
Parish,  
Appleton



Pope Leo XIV is the 266<sup>th</sup> successor of Saint Peter! As we continue to celebrate the May 8, 2025, election of the first American pope, join us for one of the Catholic Church's most intriguing "Pope stories"!

**MONDAY | NOV 17 | 7 PM**

**Xavier Fine Arts Theatre**

1600 Prospect Ave, Appleton, WI

No tickets needed / Theatre doors open at 6:15 p.m.  
> Seats available on a first come basis <

Free will offering encouraged

For details, google CIAFMO, email [ciafmo@gmail.com](mailto:ciafmo@gmail.com), or call 920-450-3025

CIA-Faith Mission Operatives encourages YOU to  
*Investigate Your faith!*

Hidden for centuries, the tomb of Saint Peter lies in an ancient Roman burial ground deep beneath the main altar of the Vatican basilica bearing his name.

*Why is he buried there?*

*How, by whom, and when was his grave finally discovered?*

*How do we know it's really St. Peter?*

*Can the site be visited?*

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Week of Nov 15- Nov 22

### Saturday, Nov 15 (Anointing of the Sick)

9:00am Confessions/Chapel  
3:00pm-6:00pm Prayer Shawl Giveaway  
4:30pm Mass

### Sunday, Nov 16 (Anointing of the Sick)

**Coffee & Donuts after each mass**  
**Prayer Shawl Giveaway after each mass**  
7:45am Mass/Maxine Knuth Baptism  
9:45am Mass/Livestreamed  
11:00am Baptism Preparation Course/LL7

### Monday, Nov 17

12:05pm Mass  
6:30 pm THEO/Community Rm  
6:30 pm Let Us Pray w/ Fr.Bill/Chapel  
6:30pm The Bells of St Mary/Choir loft

### Tuesday, Nov 18

9:00am Connect Group/LL7  
1:00pm St Mary & St Joe's Prayer Shawl Group  
1:00pm St Mary & St Joe Book Club/LL7  
2:00pm Rosary Prayer group/Chapel  
6:30pm Matthew 25/Lg Conf Rm

### Wednesday, Nov 19

8:00am Quilting  
9:30am Connect Group/LL7  
4:30pm Adoration  
4:45pm-8:00pm Beacon Faith Formation,1st-12<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Thursday, Nov 20

9:30am CIAFMO/LL7  
10:00am St. Mary Young Families Small Group/BSR  
12:05pm Mass  
1:00pm Hooks & Needles/Community Rm  
6:00pm Adult Choir/Music Rm  
6:00pm Women's Ministry/LL7

### Friday, Nov 21

**Parish Office Closed**  
9:00am Bible Study/LL7

### Saturday, Nov 22

9:00am Confessions/Chapel  
10:00am NEC Support group luncheon/Community Rm  
4:30pm Mass

## Mass Intentions

Sat. Nov 15	4:30pm	Donna & John Francek Family
Sun. Nov 16	7:45am 9:45am	Rudolph Lawrence Konz Marcella Morse
Mon. Nov 17	12:05pm	Members of St. Mary Parish
Thur. Nov 20	12:05pm	Dan & Roseann Rodwell
Sat. Nov 22	4:30pm	Frank Olson
Sun. Nov 23	7:45am 9:45am	Ivy Peters Mary Ann Hanson



## Generosity CORNER

It is Gratitude and Giving Month. As always thank you for your support of the parish and the programs we do.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
Nov. (week 2)	\$16,998.76	\$75,083.33	-\$58,084.57

### Your giving at work in the parish:

- We've had two programs on financial help for parishioners including Estate Planning and Tax Savvy Giving. We had good turnouts and great interaction.
- We are lucky to have our Bell Choir preparing for the Christmas Season. They practice Monday evenings. If you are interested in learning more or joining the choir, please contact Martha Paalman at [mld\\_82@hotmail.com](mailto:mld_82@hotmail.com).



Yellow and white



# in Joy & SORROW

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 11.16.2025

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



Two anniversaries that may inspire our prayer in the month of November are the anniversary of the death of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago, on November 14, 1996 and the anniversary of the deaths of the Holy Martyrs of El Salvador on November 16, 1989.

Throughout my priestly ministry, I have tried to imbibe the teaching and example of Cardinal Bernardin. When he was appointed the new Archbishop of Chicago in 1982, he introduced himself so humbly to his new flock, "I am Joseph, your brother."

One of the most poignant stories in the history of our Jewish ancestors in the faith is the story of Joseph and his eleven brothers. How jealous the ten were of Joseph's close relationship with their father, Jacob! (The youngest brother, Benjamin, had not yet been born.) So envious were they that, convinced by their oldest brother, Reuben,

*Throughout my priestly ministry, I have tried to imbibe the teaching and example of Cardinal Bernardin.*

that murdering Joseph would be going too far, they sold Joseph into slavery, creating a false story that Joseph was killed by vicious animals, casting their dear father into inconsolable grief.

Rescued from the pit of an empty well by wandering nomads, Joseph went on to become the second most powerful person in Egypt. During a worldwide famine, he was in charge of the equal distribution of grain to the hungry of Egypt and throughout the world. His brothers came seeking aid; Joseph listened to them, under the disguise of needing a translator; and finally, heartbreakingly, revealed himself, "I am Joseph, your brother." Cue: No dry eyes anywhere in the palace! (Genesis chapters 37, 42-45)

I often refer back to the Cardinal's insight that all of the life issues are interwoven, like the crucified Jesus' seamless outer garment which could not be torn into tiny mementos for the Roman soldiers to take home from Calvary.

Beginning in the womb and all the way to natural death, the human person has great dignity and nothing must be allowed to strip away that dignity. Without diminishing the evil of abortion in any way, the life issues of capital punishment, nuclear armament, gun violence, climate change, racism, homophobia and transphobia, poverty, adequate health care for all, a broken immigration system, and discrimination against those of different religions need our prayer and courageous commitment to address. This consistent approach is what is meant by being pro-life.

Pope Leo recently said, "Someone who says, 'I'm against abortion but says I'm in favor of the death penalty' is not really pro-life. So someone who says that 'I'm against abortion, but I'm in agreement with the inhumane treatment of immigrants who are in the United States,' I don't know if that's pro-life." (10/7/2025, in an interview outside Castel Gandolfo)

Cardinal Bernardin would have given his assent to these comments from Pope Leo. The notion of a consistent ethic of life, introduced by Bernardin in 1983, received a lot of push back from his fellow US Cardinals at the time. It is still resisted today by Church leaders and people who believe that abortion is the only pro-life issue that has weight. I respectfully disagree.

A gem on my bookshelf is Cardinal Bernardin's last will and testament, his little book titled The Gift of Peace. It is the story of this good Shepherd's struggles because of a false accusation of sexual abuse against him as well as a terminal diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. A willingness to carry the cross of suffering always makes one holy. This little book is an unrefutable testimony to that.

Bearing the cross of giving witness to what is right and just, in the midst of an oppressive government, led to the martyrdom of Father Ignacio Ellacuria and his five Jesuit priest companions, as well as their housekeeper and the housekeeper's daughter. The government of El Salvador, where all power was concentrated, refused to allow the poor people of that land to live in joy, treated with the sacred dignity that God had given them. These courageous priests spoke out on their behalf as more and more of the precious land was monopolized by the rich and powerful.

Beautiful in Catholic Social Teaching is the preferential option for the poor. The Lord has a special love for our sisters and brothers who are marginalized and find themselves tossed to the curb as if their lives are garbage. Jesus reminded us that our poor brothers and sisters are blessed. Their trust in the Lord in the midst of unimaginable hardships is almost incomprehensible to many of us. The poor are truly holy.

Imagine what it must be like for our immigrant sisters and brothers to be held in a detention center, separated from a spouse and family, the future uncertain, certain though that you have committed no crime, while living here for decades, other than being undocumented, living in difficult circumstances where the quality of food is questionable and basic hygiene is difficult, denied even visits from your family and your faith community. Between 50% and 60% of immigrants in the US are Catholic.

There is a soul sickness in our nation that somehow sees this treatment of human beings as justified.

Father Ellacuria and his companions would be quick to speak out today against this inhumane sin! Let us ask them to pray for our immigrant sisters and brothers, those who are officials of ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement), and our nation. May we embrace again our better angels of compassion and justice for all.

*Fr. Bill +*