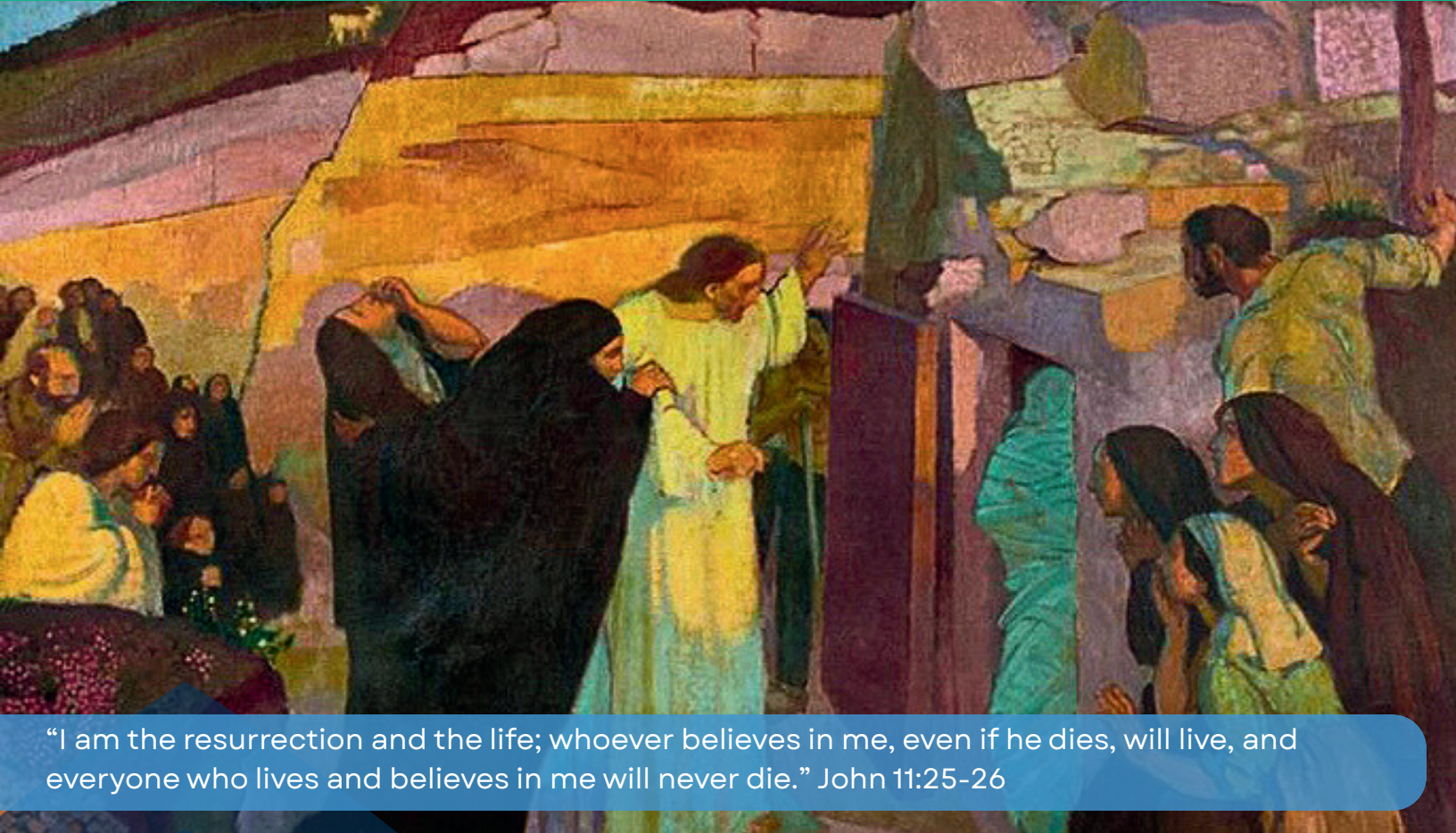


5TH SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 22, 2026

ST. MARY PARISH

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

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911



“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.” John 11:25-26

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

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 Lavallo

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.

(No Adoration on Wednesdays during Lent)



SCAN ME



Let us pray

Evening worship experiences at St. Mary, Appleton

SCRIPTURAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN ART March 23, Monday | 6:00pm

Join Fr. Jim Neilson, O. Praem., for a prayerful, biblical reflection on Christ's Passion through the Stations of the Cross, introduced by St. John Paul II in 1991 and experienced through sacred art.

"Walking Together"

The Vision of Pope Francis in Appleton

Pope Francis invited 200 priests from around the world to Rome...
One of them was from Appleton



Fr. Bill Swichtenberg (St. Mary Catholic Church) shares his experience at this global gathering and what it means for communities like Appleton

March 26, 6-7pm @ Appleton Public Library

Appleton Lyceum

*Talks and Discussions for
Everyone with Curiosity*

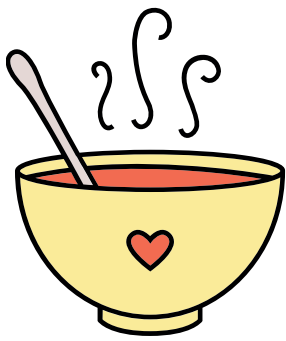
LENTEN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays 9 am-9 pm; Saturdays 8 am to noon, March 20-21 & March 27-28
(Sit with Jesus, find peace and escape the noise.)

Consider signing up so we can make sure we have two people/time slot. Scan the QR code, use the link, or sign up in the Marian Way.

Adoration change: Adoration will resume after Lent on the third Wednesday of the month beginning April 15th from 4:30-8:00pm.

[sign-up link](#)



LENTEN STATIONS & SOUP

THURSDAY

March 26 — St. Joseph

**Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm
with soup supper to follow.**

Lenten Alms Project 2026

SCAN TO DONATE



HEADSUP



Help young people aging out of foster care step into a hopeful future—surrounded by safe housing, meaningful mentorship, and a community that believes in them.

Place donations in the box in the back of church or the parish center. Make checks payable to “St. Mary Parish” and “alms” in the memo line. Sponsored by St. Mary Matthew 25 Committee.



Help our parish make an impact on Earth Day!

ASH WEDNESDAY (Feb 18) - EARTH DAY (Apr 22)

Bring in these hard-to-get-rid of items:

- Christmas lights
- Compact fluorescent lightbulbs
- Batteries (rechargeable and non)
- Printer cartridges
- CDs/DVDs/Blue Ray discs/albums
- Books/magazines
- Egg cartons
- Reuseable fiber, paper and plastic bags (Clean and dry)



Items will be reused or properly recycled by:

- Outagamie County Resource Recovery Park
- St. Joe's Food Pantry
- Office Depot
- Half Price Books
- Home Depot

Any proceeds go to St. Joseph Food Program

Sponsored by the St. Mary Care for Creation Ministry

Be the LIGHT

through your support of our Catholic educators



Did you know within our diocese, more than 25,000 children participate in Catholic schools or faith formation classes? Through different education programs, children learn to know and love Jesus.

Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal provides training and support for Catholic educators. Help them inspire disciples in our school.



Please give generously at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give

2026 BISHOP APPEAL

GOAL \$74,729

60,000

55,900

40,000

30,000

20,000

10,000



HOLY



Who was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot as the 12th apostle?

The Palm Sunday Path



Multi Church & Interfaith Rally

Sunday, March 29, 1:00-3:00 pm

Jesus instructed us in Matthew 25, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

On Palm Sunday, **March 29th**, we will meet at **12:50 pm** in the St. Joseph East parking lot and walk over to the Houdini Plaza from 1:00-3:00 pm to lift our voices to speak for our brothers and sisters who are struggling and seem to be forgotten by many in our society right now.

PALM BRAIDING

**March 28 & 29 Community
Rm. After 4:30pm, 7:45am and
9:45am Masses**

- Learn the History
- Watch a demo
- try it for yourself

Palm Sunday BAKE SALE

You may drop treats off any time after 10am on Friday (**March 27**) or Saturday (**March 28**) or before 7:45am Mass on Sunday (**March 29**)



Keeping the Lights On

**Confession with Fr. Bill
March 30 • 6pm-9pm**



Easter Flowers

Donations for Easter flowers can be dropped off at the parish office, mailed in, or put in the collection basket. Please include your name and if you want the flowers to be in memory of a loved one, please include the name. Donations need to be in by Palm Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!

Your name: _____

Amount: _____

Please circle one: Cash or Check #

In Memory of:

Holy Week Schedule

**3/28-
29/2026**
**Palm
Sunday
Masses**

**Saturday
4:30 pm**

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

4/2/2026
**Holy
Thursday
Pot Luck
5:30 pm**

4/2/2026
**Holy
Thursday
Mass
7 pm**

4/3/2026
**Good
Friday
Service
12:15 pm**

**Tenebrae
Service
6:30 pm**

4/4/2026
**Easter
Vigil
8 pm**

4/5/2026
**Easter
Sunday
Masses
7:45 am
9:45 am**



ALTAR SERVERS ARE NEEDED...

to assist Father at Mass. Training provided for anyone age 10 and over. Adults are welcome.

Please contact Deacon Gerry at 920-540-9594 or dcngerry@stmaryparish.org if interested.

POTLUCK DINNER

Save the Date!

The Holy Thursday Potluck Dinner is scheduled for April 2nd at 5:30 PM.

If you are able to contribute a dish, we welcome any item you would like to share! Do you have a specialty that you enjoy making? We would love to sample it! If cooking isn't feasible, feel free to pick something up from a drive-through on your way. Please ensure you bring enough to serve approximately 10 people.

We will provide water, wine, grape juice, and milk. Additionally, this year we will be offering ham and rolls.

Please sign up below if you are willing to volunteer.

Sign-up to help!



<https://bit.ly/3P4YSgP>



EGG HUNT



For kids ages 1-10!

**SAT
APRIL
4TH**

CELG/SCHOOL PLAYGROUND*
(FORMERLY CATHOLIC CENTRAL)

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

HUNT BEGINS AT 10:00 AM

GAMES | ACTIVITIES | COOKIES & MILK

ALL RISE!

THE NORTHEAST WISCONSIN
PASSION PLAY 2026

7:00 pm March 26, 27, 28

1:00 pm March 28, 29

An original, uplifting, dramatic musical based on the ministry, teachings, Passion and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Xavier Fine Arts Theatre
1600 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton

www.newpassionplay.org • (920) 733-8840



Thank you! FOR SUPPORTING Shamrock Shenanigans

Sponsors

Jameson Level Sponsors

EDCI/Electroline
Orthopedic & Sports Medicine
Specialists (Joe & Keri McCormick)
Annie Van Stralen
Glenn & Anne Higgins

Smithwick Level Sponsors

Abbie & Andrew Goodman
Dean & Cindy Boyer
Bobbi and Jeff Mullen
Dave and Mary Ellen Julien
Gerard & Jennifer Schraufnagel
Jeff & Carol Johnson
Kate & Mark Schuh

Guinness Level Sponsors

Gary & Kathie Shadick
Fox Cities Irish Fest
McMahon Engineers and Architects
Nicolet Bank
Ann & Walt Pretzel
Ciel Temmer
Dan & Margi Voissem
In Memory of Mary Mauthe
Joe Drusch and Nancy Lindo-Drusch

Blarney Level Sponsors

Brian and Catherine Wallace
Dennis & Nancie Chuchel
Richard & Barb Hillman
Tom & Kim Nelson
Jeanne & Dennis Kray
Alice & Duane Boeckers



Donors

10th frame
Appleton Beer Factory
Buzz's
Chick-fil-A
Festival Foods
Five Guys
Freddy's
Glass Nickel Pizza
Hank and Karen's
Jersey Mikes
Jimmy Johns
Mark's Eastside
Milwaukee Burger
Olive Garden
PF Changs
Pizza King
Sal's
Topsy Taco/Sangrias
Carol Frahm
Dennis & Alicia Di Pietro
Judy Colling

Mike & Jackie Lingg
Mike & Julie Morse
Nacy Lindo-Drusch
Robert & Kristine Loderbauer
Theresa Carroll
ATW Airport Authority
Avenue Jeweler
Badger Family Fun Center
Bread Smith
Buffalo Wild Wings
Butte des Mortes
Culver's
Fox Cities Irish Fest
Fox Valley Golf Club
Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra
Foxfire Golf Course at Par 4
Resort
Great Harvest
Jacob's Meat Market
Lake Park Swim & Fitness
Massage Factory
Olive Cellar
Payne Point Liquor

Potter & Clay (Neenah)
Skyline Comedy Club
Stretch Zone
Tanners
Tennies Jewelry
Texas Roadhouse
The Bar
The History Museum at the
Castle
The Timber Rattlers
Victoria's Italian Restaurant
Angela Carney
Annie and Kevin Geurts
Annie Van Stralen
Casey Hurley Photography
Casey Johnson
Gary and Kathie Shadick
Helen Kobussen
Hooks and Needles group
In memory of Margaret Higgins
Jeff DelPonte
Joe Drusch
Judilynn McDermott

Keith & Kathy Barth
Lil Del Ponte
Lisa Hill
Marge Vertin
Mary Ellen Fisher
Mary Higgins
Patti Roovers
Sara Rezin
Sarah Higgins
St. Mary Parish
St. Mary Parish Quilt Group
Sue Rogers
Xavier Athletics
Xavier Catholic Schools
Xavier Fine Arts

EVENTS CALENDAR

Mass Intentions

Week of Mar 22-Mar 29

Sunday, Mar 22

Coffee & Donuts after Masses

7:45 am Mass
9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed
1:00 pm Lenten Small Group/LL7

Monday, Mar 23

12:05 pm Mass
6:00 pm Let Us Pray w/ Fr. Jim Nielson, O. Praem
7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

Tuesday, Mar 24

9:00 am Connect Group/LL7
6:30 pm Men's Group/ LL7

Wednesday, Mar 25

9:30 am Connect Group/LL7
10:00am Quilter's Group Meeting/LL1
4:45 pm-7:45 pm Beacon Faith Formation
6:30 pm Lenten Small Group/LL7

Thursday, Mar 26

Community room reserved all day for bake sale prep

10:00 am Mom's Group - Babysitting Rm
12:05 pm Mass
6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR
6:00 pm-7:00 pm Walking Together W/Fr. Bill/Library

Friday, Mar 27

Parish Office Closed

Community room reserved all day for bake sale prep

9:00 am Small Group/LL7
9:00 am-9:00 pm Lenten Adoration/Chapel

Saturday, Mar 28

Bake Sale & Palm Braiding

8:00 am-12:00 pm Lenten Adoration/Chapel
9:00 am Confessions
4:30 pm Palm Sunday Mass

Sunday, Mar 29

Bake Sale & Palm Braiding

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

Sun., Mar 22	7:45am 9:45am	Deceased Memebers of St.Mary Available
Mon., Mar 23	12:05pm	Jean Bradley
Thur., Mar 26	12:05pm	Jeanette Mineau
Sat., Mar 28	4:30pm	Ed Sabish
Sun., Mar 29	7:45am 9:45am	Available Marge Schnese



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

I hope you had a great St. Patrick's Day. The more than 27 inches of snow wreaked a little havoc with masses and our schedule at the parish this weekend. We have not yet been able to do a full count of offertory giving this past week. It will be reflected in next week's Generosity Corner. Thank you for your support of the parish.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
March	\$39,291.00	\$75,083.33	-\$35,792.33

Your giving at work in the parish:

- The snow started late Saturday. So, it allowed Shamrock Shenanigans to continue unhindered. It was a great night with many of us dressed in our finest Irish attire. A huge thank you to all of you who attended that night, sponsored the event, and donated items. Not only were we able to celebrate the Irish heritage of the parish but we also raised funds to support our programs and operations.



Matthias, Acts of the Apostles 1:23-26

in Joy & **SORROW**

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 3.22.2026

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



It does us good to anticipate the Holiest of Weeks, which begins next Sunday, March 29th, with the celebration of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord!

BETWEEN PARADES by Ann Weems, [Kneeling in Jerusalem](#)

We're good at planning!

Give us a task force

and a project and we're off and running!

No trouble at all!

Going to the village and finding the colt,

even negotiating with the owners is right down our alley.

And how we love a parade!

In a frenzy of celebration,

we kindly focus on Jesus and generously throw our coats and palms in his path.

And we can shout praise loudly enough to make the Pharisees complain.

It's all so good!

It's between parades that we don't do so well.

From Sunday to Sunday we forget our hosannas.

Between parades the stones will have to shout because we don't.

*From Sunday
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Between
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stones will
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because we
don't.*

Ms Weems seems to be suggesting that something significant is transpiring between the two parades of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, which we just may be missing. The Church invites us to enter spiritually into the observance of the Holiest of Weeks in the Liturgical Calendar.

Holy Week is not like every other week of the year. Holy Week is not business as usual. The Church invites us to gather with our Spiritual Family at sunset on Holy Thursday evening for the Mass of the Lord's Supper. Lent ends at that very moment and we enter into the holy days of the Sacred Triduum. From the Latin, *Triduum* is translated as *the Three Days*, which are measured in the fashion of our Jewish sisters and brothers who note a day as spanning 24 hours from sunset to sunset. The Sacred Triduum then looks like this:

Day I from sunset Holy Thursday to sunset Good Friday.

Day II from sunset Good Friday to sunset Holy Saturday.

Day III from sunset Holy Saturday to sunset Easter Sunday.

The Triduum is more than recalling history; it is more importantly about celebrating mystery. What does this mean? History is about looking back and remembering something that happened a long time ago. Mystery looks to history and, in the remembering, the events are happening again now. Jesus' saving ministry, centered in his dying and rising for us, is never completed and reaches into the now.

The sacrificial love of Jesus on Holy Thursday is memorialized in Jesus' gift of sharing his Precious Body and Blood with us again and again, reaching all the way into eternity. Jesus is God-with-us at every moment.

Jesus' Power is not in lording it over others, or in winning at all costs, or in oppressing those who are least among us to hang on to that Power. Jesus' Power is in loving service, kneeling down in front of you and me and every person, to tenderly wash our feet, to free us from what holds us captive, and to wash us in the waters of Baptism, which incorporates us into His Body, the People of God, the Church.

It does us good to imagine ourselves now present in that Upper Room, with Jesus gazing with love upon us. It does us good to open our Bibles to the Gospel of John to pray over Jesus' farewell words to His closest friends. Those words can be found in Chapters 14 through 17. Like the Beloved Disciple, we lean into Jesus, placing our hearts close to His Sacred Heart.

Looking back to Ms Weems, realizing that there are holy moments between the parades on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, will you be present at the Eucharistic Meal on Holy Thursday commemorating the Lord's Supper? Jesus is hoping that you will be there!

At the end of the meal, Jesus invites his closest companions to share in His Passion and Death. Heartbreakingly, all of them, except the Beloved Disciple, chose to absent themselves from being there for Jesus, hanging on His Cross, on Calvary. From the Garden of Gethsemane, where did the disciples disappear to? Maybe they went back to that Upper Room to hide out and stayed there until the first Easter morning.

At a Prayer Vigil and Rosary for Peace, on Saturday, October 11, 2025, in Saint Peter's Square, Rome, Pope Leo reminded us:

"Let us look to the Mother of Jesus and the small group of courageous women at the foot of the cross. May we learn from them to stand beside the countless crosses of the world, where Christ is still crucified in his brothers and sisters, in order to bring them comfort, communion and help. We can identify with Mary as a member of the human family, and borrowing the words of a poet, we say to her:

Mother, you are every woman who loves;
Mother, you are every mother who weeps
for a child killed, a child betrayed.

The children who are never fully killed" (D. M. Turollo)."

Will you be present on Good Friday to stand before the Lord, at the Foot of His Holy Cross, a Cross that makes visible Jesus' Love, that sets us free from sin, selfishness, and even death itself? Jesus is hoping that you will be there!

The Easter Liturgy begins at sunset on Holy Saturday with a Vigil, which in the early Church, reached its high point with the celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, as the first rays of the dawn gleamed into the eastern horizon on Easter Sunday morning. Preceding that Liturgy of the Eucharist are the Liturgy of the Blessing of the New Easter Fire and the Lighting of the Easter Candle at the beginning of the Vigil, followed by the Liturgy of the Word, which tells the story of God's wonderful love for humanity since the beginning of time, followed by the Liturgy of Initiation, which welcomes newcomers to the Catholic Faith throughout the world, through the waters of Baptism, the anointing with the Chrism of Confirmation, and, joining for the first time, around the Lord's Table to receive His Most Precious Body and Blood.

Will you be present at the Easter Vigil at sunset on Holy Saturday evening (or on Easter Sunday morning) to recommit yourself to the promises of your Baptism, which are expressed in your love for the Lord God with all your heart, with all your mind, and with all your strength and in your love for your neighbor as yourself? Jesus is hoping that you will be there!

Indeed so much that is holy and life-transforming happens between the two parades on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday!

Fr. Bill +