

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY), APRIL 12, 2026

# ST. MARY PARISH

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

312 SOUTH STATE STREET • APPLETON, WI 54911

*Jesus,  
I trust in you*



For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

## 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! Call Fr. Bill at least six months before your planned wedding date.

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

Contact Lori Lavalle

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

## **Confession times:**

Saturdays 9-10am or by appointment

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

# Thank You



The Liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday Vigil, and Easter Sunday are the *pièce de résistance* of our Catholic worship. All the stops need to be pulled out to give somber and jubilant praise to the Lord on these holiest days of the liturgical year. Bottom line: a whole lot of people are involved! Kudos and more Kudos to ...

- our lectors, communion ministers, hospitality ministers (ushers), and altar servers, notably our adult servers who step up every year: Ron, Tim, Jerry, Jim, and Ted
- Tom, our Minister of Liturgy and Music, head liturgist, choir director, piano/organ accompanist, and cantor, notably of the Exsultet at the Easter Vigil, Kieran on horn on Easter morning, and our dedicated choir members
- our tenders of the Easter Vigil fire
- our PowerPoint preparers (Annie, Tom, Michael) and operators during the liturgy
- our sacristan, Margie, who is indispensable
- our capable live-streamers, technical team and Chris our roving camera man on Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday evening
- our Art & Environment crew, Dee, Denise, and Dave's crew, who are so faithful to the creation of a beautiful environment in the Church, the Marian Way, and the Community Room
- All those involved in the Palm Sunday bake sale, overseen by Dave and Sue, and our palm braiding instructors, Carol and Becky
- those hosts and hostesses of the Holy Thursday Supper, graciously led by Marge V.
- Chad, Ceil, Mike, and Megan, who keep our spaces clean and welcoming
- the office support, especially Kristina and our wonderful receptionists
- our Deacon Gerry, who points me in the right direction
- and Nadine, who checks again and again to make sure that all the many bases are covered.

They say it takes a village to raise a child. I can tell you it takes a whole lot of dedicated and faithful people to oversee sacred liturgy, especially during Holy Week!

Thank you!

All of you who were members of the assembly, I know, you are deeply appreciative, too! And thank you for showing up, which is the key to Spirit-filled liturgy!

A shout-out, too, to those worker bees who offered the wax to make our New Easter Candle, whose details are in blue this year as a reminder of Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows!

Fr Bill +





# ST. JOSEPH FOOD PROGRAM

Fighting Hunger  Sustaining Hope



## Collection: April 11 & 12

The St. Joseph Food Program collection is April 11th and 12th. Please donate any boxed meal such as macaroni and cheese, instant potatoes, rice, hamburger helper or anything for a casserole. Thank you for your generosity.

*Thank you for helping those who are in need.*

## ADORATION CHANGE

**April 15th from 4:30-8pm**

Adoration will resume after Lent on a once a month basis on the third Wednesday of the month beginning



## ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

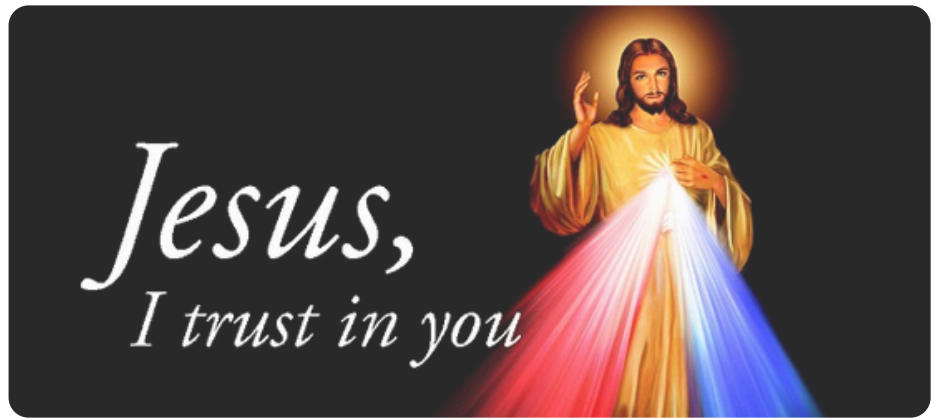


**Monday, April 20th at 6:15 pm**

Deacon Gerry will be holding an adult server training for those interested in becoming an altar server.

This will take place in church.

# Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration



**Sunday, April 12, 2026 • St. Pius X, Appleton**

Join others for a beautiful celebration of God's boundless mercy as we gather on Divine Mercy Sunday. This feast, given to the Church through St. Faustina, invites us to rest in the Heart of Jesus and receive the graces He longs to pour out upon the world.

Opportunities for prayer, healing, and quiet encounter with the Lord are available. Whether you come for a few minutes or stay for the entire celebration, you are welcome.

#### SCHEDULE OF THE DAY

- 12:00-2:45 PM – Confessions
- 12:00-2:45 PM – Healing Ministry Teams
- 12:00-3:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration
- 12:00-3:00 PM – Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image and a 1st Class Relic of St. Faustina
- 3:00 PM – Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 3:30 PM – Holy Mass

# Bingo Night!

## Save the date



**Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:45-7:00 PM**

Join us for bingo fun and fellowship in the Community Room  
after the 4:30 pm Mass.

A light meal will be served during the event.



# SPIRITUS



## JANSSEN FORUM

TEAM 17 SPIRITUS MISSIONARIES

**THURSDAY, APRIL 16**  
**MOUNT TABOR CENTER**

**11:15 AM Mass**  
**12:00 PM Lunch**  
**12:10 PM Speaker**

Cost: \$10 per person

Come hear the missionaries of SPIRITUS Team 17 reflect on their year of ministry, sharing stories about the impact it has had on Catholic youth—as well as on their own lives.

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."

Register now • call 920-722-8918 x0



Choose your session  
at 9 a.m. or 10 a.m

April 17th  
Marquette St. Campus

May 8th  
McDonald St. Campus

Open to children ages 2-5 with their parents/grandparents. Younger siblings are welcome to join in on the fun!

Call, email or scan the QR code to register



Marquette St. Campus | 500 W. Marquette St. | 920.733.4918 | [Marquette@xaviercatholicschools.org](mailto:Marquette@xaviercatholicschools.org)  
McDonald St. Campus | 1810 N. McDonald St. | 920.739.7826 | [McDonald@xaviercatholicschools.org](mailto:McDonald@xaviercatholicschools.org)

# TOTUS TUUS



Save  
THE  
Date

**July 26-31, 2026**

**Grades 1-12**

Totus Tuus is a summer Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic Faith through evangelization, catechesis, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship.

"Vacation Bible School"

# 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. Joseph 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



## Coffee & Donuts

We are seeking volunteers to serve in 2026. If you're interested in lending a hand, please sign up using the link or QR code.

Thank you for considering this opportunity. Your time and talent play a vital role in building our community.

Scan here



# Volunteers Needed

BE the LIGHT  
Youth Ministry



Helping children discover Jesus is one of the most important things we do as Catholics. This happens every day in our parishes and in our Catholic schools.

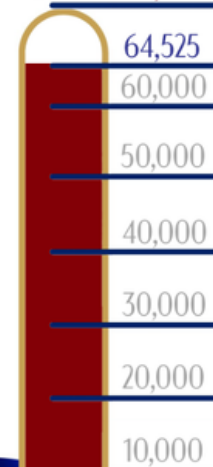
Your support of the Bishop's Appeal funds the tools and training for youth ministers and faith formation leaders across northeastern Wisconsin.

Please give generously at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give)

Due to holy week, the numbers will not be updated until next week

### 2026 BISHOP APPEAL

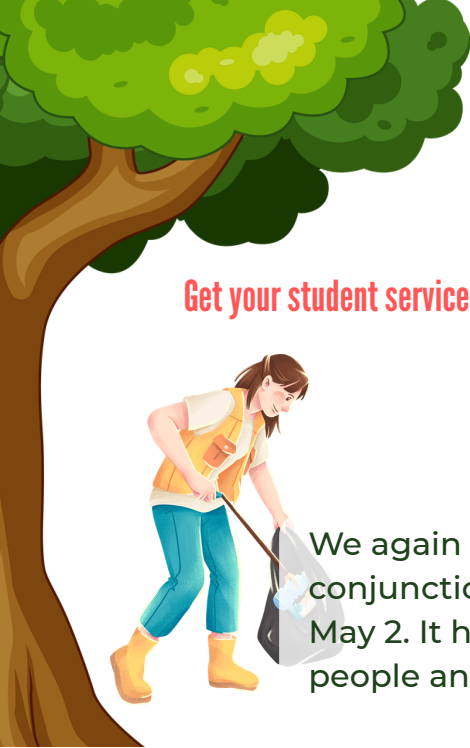
GOAL \$74,729



86%



What is the artistic style of our stained glass church windows?




# Cemetery Clean Up Day

May 2, 2026 | 9am | @ St. Mary Cemetery

Get your student service hours!

- Wear weather-appropriate clothing
- Bring work gloves & rakes
- Meet at the St. Mary Cemetery office (2121 W. Prospect Avenue)
- Questions? Contact Chip Acker at 920-882-4158.

We again plan to have a cemetery and Fox River cleanup day. It will be held in conjunction with the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance cleanup on the morning of May 2. It has been great to have both youth and adults joining in to meet new people and complete the work so quickly. Please mark your calendars!



## Open HOUSE

MAY 2ND, 1-6 PM



Join us for the St. Mary Cemetery Open House on May 2 from 1-6 pm.

2121 West Prospect Avenue

- See the newly Renovated chapel
- Ask questions
- Take a tour
- Explore pre-planning



# Young Adult Listening Sessions

REGISTER  
TODAY!

[diaco.io/listen](https://diaco.io/listen)

SPRING 2026



Join fellow young adults for a listening session to share your hopes, concerns, and dreams for the Church and our diocese. This is your opportunity to speak directly about how the diocese can better shepherd, support, and walk with young adults in our Catholic community.

APRIL  
**9**  
**St. Peter the Fisherman**  
3201 Mishicot Rd  
Two Rivers, WI 54241  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

APRIL  
**14**  
**St. Joseph**  
110 N. 5th Avenue  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

APRIL  
**21**  
**St. Pius X Parish**  
500 W MarquetteSt  
Appleton WI, 54911  
6:00pm - 8:30pm

MAY  
**5**  
**St. Peter & St. Paul**  
710 N Baird St  
Green Bay, WI 54302  
6:00pm - 8:30pm

MAY  
**19**  
**St. John the Baptist**  
2597 Glendale Ave  
Green Bay, WI 54313  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Young adults ages 18-35. Catholic parishioners and non-parishioners are welcome! Food and refreshments will be provided.

OFFICE OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



[CGehl@gbdioc.org](mailto:CGehl@gbdioc.org)



920-272-8229



Diocese of  
Green Bay

## Reporting Sexual Abuse



Diocese of Green Bay

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!**

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Mass Intentions

### Week of Apr 12-Apr 19

#### Sunday, Apr 12

**St. Joe's Food Collection**

**Coffee & Donuts**

7:45 am Mass

9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

#### Monday, Apr 13

12:05 pm Mass

6:00 pm New Horizons Band Practice/CR

7:00 pm AA Meeting/LL1

#### Tuesday, Apr 14

9:00 am Connect Group/LL7

4:00 pm Server Training

4:30 pm Safety Committee/CR

6:00 pm Facilities Committee/LCR

6:30 pm Men's Ministry/LL7

#### Wednesday, Apr 15

8:00 am Quilting/CR

9:30 am Connect Group/LL7

4:30 pm Adoration/Church

4:45 pm-7:45 pm Beacon Faith Formation

6:30 pm Confirmation Classes

#### Thursday, Apr 16

9:30 am CIAFMO/LL7

10:00 am Mom's Group - Babysitting Rm

12:05 pm Mass

1:00 pm Hooks & Needles/CR

6:00 pm Adult Choir/MR

6:00 pm Women's Ministry/LL7

#### Friday, Apr 17

**Parish Office Closed**

9:00 am Small Group/LL7

#### Saturday, Apr 18

9:00 am Confessions

1:00 pm Catherine Reid - Robert Cox Wedding

4:30 pm Mass

#### Sunday, Apr 19

**Coffee & Donuts**

7:45 am Mass

9:00 am First Eucharist Retreat/Chapel, SAR

9:45 am Mass/Livestreamed

Sun., Apr 12 7:45am Nancy Paters  
9:45am Amy & Harry Boardman

Mon., Apr 13 12:05pm Cassie Garvey Backus

Thur., Apr 16 12:05pm Margaret Higgins

Sat., Apr 18 4:30pm Available

Sun., Apr 19 7:45am Sis & Bob Balliet  
9:45am Nicholas & Sedella Jacob



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

Alleluia! Happy Easter! As we come to Divine Mercy Sunday, I want to thank you for your generous support throughout the lenten season and this first week of Easter.

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	VARIANCE
April	\$9,941.25	\$75,083.33	-\$65,142.08

### Your giving at work in the parish:

- What a blessed Easter Triduum with more than 1,100 people attending from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday! So much goes into preparing for and conducting the services, your generosity supports all of this.



Our stained glass windows are strongly influenced by the 16th century European Renaissance

# *in Joy &* **SORROW**

ST MARY PARISH - APPLETON // 4.12.2026

WITH FR. BILL SWICHTENBERG



In his first celebration of the Sacred Triduum, Pope Leo showed the world that he is a man who still has great stamina at the age of 70.

The Holy Father decided that he would return to the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Rome, for the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening. You might recall that for thirteen years, Pope Francis travelled outside of the Vatican for this Mass. He often chose a prison to visit on Holy Thursday evening. I am guessing that Pope Leo wanted for this Mass to be more public; he wanted to gather the priests of Rome around him; and to highlight the link between the Eucharist and the Priesthood, he desired to wash the feet of 12 priests, ten of whom he had ordained when he was Cardinal Prevost. All fine with me. I am sensing more and more that Pope Leo is his own person. His leadership style is different from Pope Francis'. This observation should not surprise anyone. The uniqueness of each of our 266 Successors to Saint Peter is a gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church!

As a preacher, Pope Leo is precise and deliberate. He rarely goes off of the script of his prepared homily. I find his messages to be poignant and his "turn of phrase" to be engaging. Here is just a bit of his Holy Thursday homily:

*"Let us, then, learn from Jesus this reciprocal service. He does not ask us to repay him, but to share his gift among ourselves: You also ought to wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).*

“Let us, then, learn from Jesus this reciprocal service. He does not ask us to repay him, but to share his gift among ourselves: *You also ought to wash one another’s feet*” (John 13:14). As Pope Francis once remarked: *this is a duty which comes from my heart: I love it. I love this and I love to do it because that is what the Lord has taught me to do* (**Homily at Mass of the Lord’s Supper, 28 March 2013**). He was not speaking of an abstract imperative, nor of a formal and empty command, but expressing his heartfelt obedience to the charity of Christ, which is both the source and the model of our own charity. Indeed, the example given by Jesus cannot be imitated out of convenience, reluctance or hypocrisy, but only out of love.”

“Allowing ourselves to be served by the Lord is therefore the necessary condition for serving as he did. *Unless I wash you*, Jesus said to Peter, *you have no share in me* (John 13:8): unless you accept me as your servant, you cannot truly believe in me or follow me as Lord. By washing our bodies, Jesus purifies our souls. In him, God has given us an example — not of how to dominate, but of how to liberate; not of how to destroy life, but of how to give it.”

At the Commemoration of the Passion and Death of the Lord on Good Friday at Saint Peter’s Basilica, it is the custom that the Pope does not preach. Rather this holy task fell to the Papal Preacher, Father Robert Pasolini, OFM Cap. I have only read summaries of Father’s homily. He chose to call attention to the Prophet Isaiah’s Four Suffering Servant Songs. Father suggested, “Jesus is the man of sorrows who knows suffering well — no violence, no resort to force, no temptation to destroy everything and start over from scratch. We know how difficult it is to embrace such a mission. We are tempted to use aggression and violence, thinking that without them nothing can ever be resolved. But only meekness is the true strength for confronting the darkness of evil.”

On Good Friday evening, Pope Leo led the Stations of the Cross at the Roman Colosseum. You and I probably do not remember the names of the brutal Roman Emperors who decreed the horrible torture and deaths of the first Christians in that amphitheater. But since 1964, the Church has lifted high the Cross of Jesus in that place of brutality and murder to say, “O Death, where is your sting?” Pope Leo lifted the Cross high, carrying it throughout the stadium, stopping at each of the stations. He carried within his heart the suffering of too many of our sisters and brothers throughout the world. The last time a Pope carried the cross like Leo was during the ministry of Saint Pope John Paul II in the 1980’s.

The meditations for the Stations of the Cross were written by another Franciscan friar, Father Francesco Patton, who served for a number of years in the Holy Land. The Franciscans for many years have overseen the Christian Holy Places in Jerusalem and beyond. These meditations are powerful. Here is the link if you would like to pray with them. <https://bit.ly/4duqLZV>

The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening at Saint Peter's Basilica was over three hours long. Pope Leo welcomed ten people into the Catholic Church from different parts of the world through the Waters of Baptism, the Chrism of Confirmation, and the Precious Body and Blood of Jesus at the Eucharistic Table.

Here is just a snippet of his homily:

"As humanity is brought to its knees by so many acts of brutality, let us too kneel down as brothers and sisters alongside the oppressed. In this way, we seek to follow the Lord's example, fulfilling what we have heard from the book of Exodus: *This day shall be a day of remembrance for you (12:14)*. Indeed, the whole of biblical history converges in Jesus, the true Passover lamb. In him, the ancient figures find their fulfillment, for Christ the Savior accomplishes the Passover of humanity, opening for all the passage from sin to forgiveness, from death to eternal life: *This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me (1 Corinthians 11:24)*."

"Sisters and brothers, even today there are tombs to be opened, and often the stones sealing them are so heavy and so closely guarded that they seem to be immovable. Some weigh heavily on the human heart, such as mistrust, fear, selfishness and resentment; others, stemming from these inner struggles, sever the bonds between us through war, injustice and the isolation of peoples and nations. Let us not allow ourselves to be paralyzed by them! Over the centuries, many men and women, with God's help, have rolled them away — perhaps with great effort, sometimes at the cost of their lives — but with good fruits that we still benefit from today. They are not unattainable figures, but people like us who, strengthened by the grace of the Risen One, in charity and truth, had the courage to speak, as the Apostle Peter says, the *very words of God (1 Peter 4:11)* and to act with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified (1 Peter 4:11)."

"Let us be inspired by their example, and on this Holy Night let us make their commitment our own, so that the Easter gifts of harmony and peace may grow and flourish everywhere and always throughout the world. From without, death is always lurking. We see it present in injustices, in partisan selfishness, in the oppression of the poor, in the lack of attention given to the most vulnerable. We see it in violence, in the wounds of the world, in the cry of pain that rises from every corner because of the abuses that crush the weakest among us, because of the idolatry of profit that plunders the earth's resources, because of the violence of war that kills and destroys."

"In this reality, the Passover of the Lord invites us to lift our gaze and open our hearts. It continues to nourish the seed of the promised victory within our spirit and throughout the course of history. It sets us in motion, like Mary Magdalene and the Apostles, so that we may discover that Jesus' tomb is empty, and therefore in every death we experience

there is also room for new life to arise. The Lord is alive and remains with us. Through the cracks of resurrection that open up in the darkness, he entrusts our hearts to the hope that sustains us: the power of death is not the final destiny of our lives. We are all directed, once and for all, on the path to fulfillment, because in Christ we also have risen.”

“With heartfelt words, Pope Francis reminded us of this in his first Apostolic Exhortation, **Evangelii Gaudium**, affirming that the resurrection of Christ *is not an event of the past; it contains a vital power which has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. It is an irresistible force. Often it seems that God does not exist: all around us we see persistent injustice, evil, indifference and cruelty. But it is also true that in the midst of darkness something new always springs to life and sooner or later produces fruit (no. 276).*”

On Easter Sunday morning, Pope Leo presided over a morning outdoor Mass in St Peter’s Square for about 50,000 people. He also delivered his Easter Message to the City of Rome and the World (Urbi et Orbi Blessing).

Here are the respective links:

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

<https://bit.ly/4bYTc0Q>

I am a huge believer that Catholics everywhere should keep abreast of the ministry of the Pope. Right now, in this messed-up world of ours, Pope Leo is the most revered of all world leaders. His messages speak truth to power and challenge us to let Jesus and His Gospel shape all of our thoughts, words and actions.

Please keep Pope Leo in your prayers as he leaves on Monday (4/13) for a ten-day Pastoral Visit to Algeria, Cameroon, Angola, and Equatorial Guinea in Northern Africa. In Algeria, the Pope will retrace some of the steps of the 5th century Bishop of Hippo, Saint Augustine. Remember that Pope Leo is a member of the Order of Saint Augustine, a religious community of men founded in 1244.

Saint Augustine and all you holy women, men, and children, pray for Pope Leo!

*Fr. Bill +*