

WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – ST. MARY’S

Parish Office hours: Tuesday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Visit us on the web at **www.stmaryflorence.org**

Live the Gospel! Whatever it Takes...

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 166, Florence, WI 54121
Street Address: 308 Florence Ave., Florence, WI
Parish Office Telephone: (715) 528-3310
Parish Secretaries: Jean Fornetti & Donna Phillips
Parish e-mail: stmary@borderlandnet.net
St Vincent DePaul: (715) 528-2030

St. Mary’s Pastor: Fr. Soja Joseph
E-mail: frsojan@gmail.com
Fr. Soja’s Phone: 920-445-4560
Religious Education Facilitator: Carolyn Lemanski
Carolyn’s Phone: (715) 528-3008
Email: lemanski_mom@hotmail.com

Weekday Masses and Intentions

Tuesday 9/30 No Daily Mass

Thursday 10/02 No Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 10/03 No Daily Mass

Weekend Masses and Intentions

Saturday 10/04 6:00 p.m. +Richard Hendrick
Offered by Joe and Sue Mills

Sunday 10/05 8:30 a.m. +Janet Kelley
Offered by Bob, Mary and Tommy Podnar

+ Deceased, Tg. Thanksgiving
Confession available 30 minutes before all masses.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, October 4

Sacristan - Kathy Fabry
Eucharistic Minister - Kathy Fabry
Lector - Missy Roberts
Lead Usher - Skip Bilsky

Sunday, October 5

Sacristan - Al & MaryKay Williams
Eucharistic Minister - Al Williams
Lector - Kathy Jazinski
Lead Usher - Dan Jazinski
Money Counters - Dan and Kathy Jazinski

9/20 Sat. Coll.	Loose.....\$37.00	Envelope.....\$265.00	Total.....\$302.00
9/21 Sun. Coll.	Loose....\$423.00	Envelope.....\$530.00	Total.....\$953.00
		Electronic.....\$40.00	Total.....\$40.00
		Total Collections	\$1,295.00
Budget:	\$2,028.00	2024:	\$1,595.00

Fr. Soja’s Schedule, Visiting Priests and Office Hours

Fr. Soja remains in India working through his Visa renewal process. We continue to pray for his safe return as he misses all the Parishioners at St. Mary’s and the beauty of our Wisconsin Fall weather.

Fr. Eric Olsen will be celebrating mass with us this weekend. Fr. Pete Auer will be at St. Mary’s for next weekend’s masses, 10/4-10/5.

There will be limited office hours on Tues./Wed. of this week but will be open from 8:30-2:30 on Thursday and Friday.

Priesthood Sunday: Today is Priesthood Sunday, and we will honor Fr. Soja as soon as he returns from India. **Thank you, Fr. Soja, for your dedication to our community, your faithful service, and the joy you bring to our spiritual journey!**

Thank You from St. Vincent de Paul Society: We want to express our sincere gratitude to all who donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Drive. With your generosity, we received approximately 1,800 lbs. of food and \$2,645.00 in donations. This will greatly help our neighbors in our community feed their families during the winter. Your support helps us continue our mission to help those in need. The generous support of individuals like you makes the existence of our organization possible and makes our community a GREAT place to live! THANK YOU again for your support! Sincerely, St. Vincent de Paul Society



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has available.

To register, simply go to stmaryflorence.formed.org and choose **Immaculate Conception, Florence** to open your account.

Jay Glime
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ST. MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO THE
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2025 AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE

Our nation needs public prayer, repentance and conversion. We ask God to save America through the Rosary of His Most Holy Mother. Please join us in praying for our nation on Saturday, Oct.11, at noon.

Locations and contacts:

QUINNESEC: Corner of Lake St. and Lincoln St.
Contact Marybeth Leslie at (906)774-1562

IRON MOUNTAIN: Outside of Fornetti Dental Center
100 South Stephenson Avenue
Contact Kelly LeMire at (906)221-0343

NORWAY: Viking Park, corner of US 2 and Main St.
Contact Michelle Richard (906)221-0012

Dr. Patrick Richardson: Join Dr. Patrick Richardson on Oct. 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of St. Mary & St. Joseph Parish, Iron Mountain, for his talk titled STOP TRYING TO BE HAPPY: The Psychology of Putting First Things First. Dr. Richardson is a Catholic psychologist who values authenticity, critical thinking, and the study of the human person. His talk will challenge you to set better goals for your life.

KOINONIA.... A Greek word for Community. A question for us to consider....is my life too busy? What is the most important thing in my daily life? Do I take time, and how important is God in my life? These are a few questions that we need to ponder. We may have just the answer you're looking for. There is a Koinonia Retreat on October 10-12, 2025, at St. Mary's Parish in Norway, Mi. Mark your calendar, take moment to pray on it and consider this notice as just a seed. For additional information, please contact: Larry or Barb Neuens at 715-589-3379.

NEW! Living Faith Booklets: Please feel free to take a Living Faith Booklet found on the entryway tables for the Daily Catholic Devotions for the months of October-December, 2025.

St. Mary’s has raised \$7,630.00

towards our goal of \$9,274.00 for the Bishop’s Appeal which wraps up on Sept. 30th. Thank you for your generosity!



Lead with faith ~ Protect your family ~ Serve others ~ Defend your values

Knights of Columbus

Local Council#2847 meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at St. Anthony’s Parish Hall in Niagara.
For more information contact:
Larry Neuens at 715-589-3379.



Friends, there are two basic interpretations of the parable of the rich man and Lazarus that we hear in today’s gospel. The most obvious is Jesus’s concern for the poor. The other is the limit of divine revelation to induce repentance and conversion. But what creates the conditions for sinful indifference? It can be attributed to one main flaw: that he feels he

has “arrived,” that he can step out of the flow of life, of becoming, and ensconce himself in a world of his own devising. In the words of one biblical commentator, the resurrection “will have no effect on those who are determined not to believe.” There is nothing wrong, per se, with a well-prepared meal or a finely woven garment. Indeed, these things might even express the genius of the chef or the designer who created them, and in their way lend glory to God who communicates through our senses and wants us to share our gifts. The problem is that the rich man feels these things exist for his benefit alone. How ironic, then, that in the afterlife, it is he who must “raise his eyes” to Lazarus as he actuates a verse from the book of Proverbs: “He who shuts his ear to the poor man’s cry shall himself plead and not be heard”(21:13).

Friends, material success can be misinterpreted as a means of freedom, entitlement, and social mobility when in reality it has paralyzed the part of themselves that will outlive their temporary prosperity: their soul, and its openness to sharing both trials and blessings with others. The material success has made the rich man numb to the pinch of holy fear and with it the need for repentance. The gospel would have us witness against such calcification, maintaining a nimbleness of spirit that finds us willing to drop our defenses, soften our hearts, and amend our lives while there is still time to revise self-preservation into self-gift.

- Fr. Soja

Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

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