

WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – ST. MARY’S

Parish Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & 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) 445-4564

Religious Education Facilitator: Carolyn Lemanski

Carolyn’s Phone: (715) 528-3008

Email: lemanski_mom@hotmail.com

Weekday Masses and Intentions

Tuesday, 09/22, 5:30 p.m. **No Daily Mass**

Thursday, 09/24, **No Eucharistic Adoration**

Friday, 09/25, 8:30 a.m. **No Daily Mass**

Weekend Masses and Intentions

Saturday, 09/26, 6:00 p.m. +Frank “Skip” Bilsky
Offered by St. Mary’s Parishioners

Sunday, 09/27 8:30 a.m. +Deceased Members of St. Vincent de Paul and the Deceased Poor
Offered by St. Vincent de Paul Society

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

Weekend Ministry Schedule

Saturday, 09/26
Sacristan – Dan Throm
Eucharistic Minister – Bill DeGroot
Lector – Bill DeGroot
Lead Usher - ***Volunteer Needed***

Sunday, 09/27
Sacristan – Al and MaryKay Williams
Eucharistic Minister – Al Williams
Lector – Al Williams
Lead Usher – Jerry Divine
Money Counters – Jerry Divine and Dorothy Vayda

09/12 Sat. Coll.	Loose.....\$100.00	Envelope.....\$305.00	Total.....\$405.00
09/13 Sun. Coll.	Loose.....\$148.00	Envelope.....\$380.00	Total.....\$528.00
Building Fund.....	Rel. Ed.....\$400.00	Electronic.....\$40.00	Total.....\$520.00
		Total Collections	\$1,453.00
Budget:	\$1,800.00	2025:	\$1,422.00

Fr. Soja’s Upcoming Schedule and Visiting Priests:

Fr. Soja will be away on his Holiday until October 1st. ***There will be no Daily Masses or Eucharistic Adoration held until he returns.***

Thank you to Fr. Mike Betley who was the Celebrant this weekend at all three parishes. Fr. Mike will celebrate Masses at all three parishes next weekend, too.

Cleaning Position Available: St. Mary’s *needs* someone to clean the Rectory twice per month. ***This is a paid position.*** If interested, please contact the Parish Office at 715-528-3310.

Religious Education: Religious Education classes began on Wednesday, September 16th. Please return your registration forms if you have not done so already. ***We also need additional Catechists!*** Please contact the Parish Office if you can help with this important Ministry. Thank you!

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 2026.

St. Vincent de Paul Sunday: Come and celebrate St. Vincent de Paul Sunday by joining us for a ***free*** breakfast at St. Mary’s Catholic Church Hall on Sunday, September 27, 2026, from 9:30 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.

**ST. MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO
THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Marriage Congratulations: St. Mary’s extends a warm congratulations on the marriage of Logan Doll and Hope Gerend who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage at St. Mary’s on Saturday, September 19, 2026. ***“May God bless their life together with love, joy, and faith.”***

Special Thank You: September 20th is Catechetical Sunday. St. Mary’s offers sincere and heartfelt gratitude to our catechist, Carolyn Lemanski, and substitute catechist, Tanya Parker, who are willing to share their time, talent and faith with our children and teens this year. Your generosity and love for the Lord are a true blessing to our Parish Family! Thank You!

Arts & Environment: Thank you to all who decorated and created the beautiful fall decorations inside and outside of St. Mary’s. Your hard work and creativity add so much warmth and beauty to our Parish. Your efforts provide a welcoming reflection of the season’s splendor while filling our hearts with gratitude and joy!

Koinonia Retreat: Please join us at St. Anne Catholic Church, 221 E Main St., Lena, WI, for an encounter with Christ in community (Koinonia) with thought provoking talks, reflection, Reconciliation and faith-filled Masses. The weekend begins at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 2nd and finishes at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 4th. A \$60 donation per person or \$100 per couple is requested, but we do have scholarships available for those who need it. For more information and to register, please contact Jeane Blunck at 715-587-4608 or email at blunck.jeane@gmail.com.

The Gift of Counsel endows the soul with supernatural prudence, enabling it to judge promptly and rightly what must be done, especially in difficult circumstances. Counsel applies the principles furnished by Knowledge and Understanding to the innumerable situations that confront us during our daily lives. Counsel is supernatural common sense.

“Come, O Blessed Spirit of Counsel and help and guide me that I may always do your Holy Will. Come, Holy Spirit, Come.” Amen

Raising Vocations Collection: Thank you to all who donated to the 2026 Raising Vocations Collection. St. Mary’s generously donated \$1,250 to help young men and women discover Jesus and hear His call.



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.

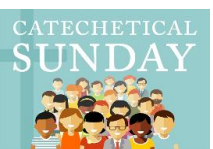
Lead with faith ~ Protect your family ~ Serve others ~ Defend your values



Friends, our Scripture readings today invite us to step into God’s way of thinking – a way that unsettles our assumptions about fairness, reward, and success. What makes sense to us does not always make sense to God, and that is precisely the point. The prophet Isaiah calls out urgently: “Seek the Lord while he may be found.” He urges people to turn away from limited, self-centered ways of thinking and return to the Lord, who is rich in mercy. This prepares us for the Gospel, where Jesus challenges one of our most deeply held instincts, the need to measure and compare.

As St. Paul writes to the Philippians, urges the community to live lives worthy of the Gospel, united and focused, not competing or divided. Paul embodies the freedom that comes when life is no longer about what we get, but about who we serve. In the Gospel today Jesus is not giving a lesson in industrial relations. He is revealing something of the nature of God’s kingdom. The landowner has not acted unjustly; he has fulfilled his promise. What offends the early workers is not injustice, but generosity. The real question is piercing: “Are you envious because I am generous?” The kingdom of God is not a system of merit but a gift of grace. The parable reminds us that none of us has a claim on God. Whether someone has followed Christ since childhood or turned towards God at the end of life, salvation remains a gift, not a wage. This does not make faith meaningless; it makes it freeing. The early workers did exactly what was asked of them yet, joy drained away the moment they began to compare themselves to others. The vineyard owner’s generosity reflects God’s freedom to love beyond our expectations.

Living this message today means resisting the urge to keep score, in families, workplaces, parishes, and communities. It means celebrating goodness wherever it appears, even when it disrupts our sense of order. It means receiving and sharing God’s generosity. Ultimately, the parable asks each of us a quiet but searching question: do we want God to be fair, or do we want God to be generous? The readings we hear today assure us that in God’s kingdom, generosity is not a mistake. It is the very heart of the Gospel.



Fr. Soja

Current Bishop’s Appeal Total: \$9,480.00

Our 2026 Bishop’s Appeal Goal: \$8,880.00

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!!!



G & G FOREST PRODUCTS

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Check out what **FORMED** online has available. To register, simply go to stmaryflorence.formed.org and choose **Immaculate Conception, Florence** to open your account.

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