

# WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – ST. MARY’S

Parish Office hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Friday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Visit us on the web at [www.stmaryflorence.org](http://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](mailto:stmary@borderlandnet.net)  
 St Vincent DePaul: (715) 528-2030

St. Mary’s Pastor: Fr. Soja Joseph  
 E-mail: [frsojan@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:lemanski_mom@hotmail.com)

## Weekday Masses and Intentions

Tuesday 04/28 5:30 p.m. +Ellamae “Sis” Herman  
*Offered by Mark and Carla Kramer*

Thursday 04/30 4:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 05/01 +Gloria Merhalski  
*Offered by Mark and Carla Kramer*

## Weekend Masses and Intentions

Saturday 05/02 +Edwin “Ed” Kelley  
*Offered by Tim and Jeanette Bomberg*

Sunday 05/03 8:30 +Sandra Lanser  
*Offered by the Children of Sandra Lanser*

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

## Weekend Ministry Schedule

### Saturday, 05/02

Sacristan - Kathy Fabry  
 Eucharistic Minister - Kathy Fabry  
 Lector - Missy Roberts  
 Lead Usher - *Volunteer Needed*

### Sunday, 05/03

Sacristan - Clara McLain  
 Eucharistic Minister - Clara McLain  
 Lector - Carolyn Lemanski  
 Lead Usher - Mike Lemanski  
 Money Counters - Kathy Jazinski and Dorothy Vayda

04/18 Sat. Coll.	Loose....\$80.00	Envelope.....\$400.00	Total.....\$480.00
04/19 Sun. Coll.	Loose...\$131.00	Envelope.....\$165.00	Total.....\$296.00
	Misc.\$4,250.00	Electronic.....\$40.00	Total....\$4,290.00
<b>Total Collections</b>			<b>\$5,066.00</b>
Budget:	\$1,800.00	2025:	\$1,312.00

### St. Mary’s Updates...



**St. Mary’s Pizza Sale!!!** St. Mary’s will be conducting a Dina Mia pizza sale fundraiser to benefit the needs of our church. Order forms will be distributed next week at masses on May 2nd and 3rd. We hope you will consider supporting St. Mary’s by ordering some delicious pizza!

**Bishop’s Appeal:** Thank you to all who have donated to the 2026 Bishop’s Appeal. St. Mary’s has donated \$5010.00 towards our goal of \$8,880.00. An April mailing will be arriving in homes early next week for families who have made a gift in the past five years but have not made a gift to the 2026 Appeal. Please prayerfully consider donating to the 2026 Bishop’s Appeal. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

**Children’s Activity Bags:** Activity bags are available at the back of church to help keep little hands busy and hearts engaged during Mass. Feel free to borrow an activity bag and return it to the rack after Mass to help make worship a family-friendly experience!

## ST. MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER/ GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY



**Good Shepherd Sunday:** On this Good Shepherd Sunday, Jesus describes us as sheep. We are reminded the goal of faith is not perfection, but relationship. May we learn, day by day, to recognize the voice of Jesus that leads us toward life and discover what sheep have always known: the safest place to be is right behind the Shepherd who knows our name.

**Walk to Mary:** The Walk to Mary is scheduled on May 2, 2026. The pilgrimage starts from the National Shrine of St. Joseph at Old St. Joe’s Church on the campus of St. Norbert College in De Pere and goes to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion in Champion. For more information go to <http://walktomary.com/marketing-resources>.



**Women’s Day of Reflection:** St. Joseph Parish in Crandon is having a Women’s Day of Reflection on Sat., May 9th, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The guest speaker is Sue Ristau, co-founder of My Heavenly Son Foundation. Registration forms can be found in St. Mary’s Parish office or email St. Joseph Catholic Church at [stjosephcrandon@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephcrandon@gmail.com) or call their Parish office at 715-478-3396.

**Tax Advantage:** Did you know if you take a distribution from your IRA and donate directly to a charity (like our church or the Bishop’s Appeal) you avoid the tax on the amount of the distribution? Taking a minimum required distribution from a traditional IRA is a great way to support a charity and enjoy a tax benefit as well.

### Knights of Columbus

Local Council#2847 meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, guided and protected by the Risen Lord, this weekend we celebrate the 63<sup>rd</sup> World Day of Prayer for vocations. "The Lord is my shepherd; I can want for nothing." If I really believed this, how different my life would be! I would never willingly jib at what happens to me since it is permitted by Him, knowing He

will make everything turn to my good I would stop trying to run my own life, preventing this or that. I would cease to care for the judgements of others, whether they like me or not, whether they think well or ill of me. I would cease wanting to feel sure about everything, above all about my spiritual life: anxious, fearful, discouraged, plagued by guilt feelings. If my faith in the unfailing tender care of my Shepherd is real, how could I allow such self-occupation?

The Shepherd psalm is one Jesus must have prayed a thousand and more times to His Father. "The Lord carried you, as a man carries his child, all along the road you travelled"...at this hour you were led to the cross. Where are the nice green pastures in that stony and painful way? Were the still waters in His burning thirst? Did He feel His head and body were being washed and anointed with oil when the crown of thorns was pressing against His temples? However, Jesus warns us His followers; "whoever wishes to follow me, take up your cross and follow me". We too will have a fair share of our suffering in union with Jesus the innocent lamb.

"He leads me along the right path: he is true to his name... Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life." Had Jesus not held firmly to this certainty, then we would not have been redeemed. His faith would have failed. But as it proved, His faith remained steadfast and triumphed. The Good Shepherd is risen. He who laid down His life for the sheep, and who died for His flock, is risen. Alleluia! Let us affirm our participation and belongingness to whose flock we belong, making sure we are attuned to his voice and guidance each day. Let us also pray, pray and pray for vocations from our family and our parish!

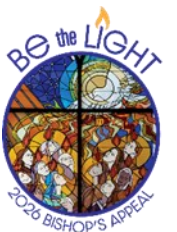
Fr. Soja

### Our Current Bishop’s Appeal Total

\$5,010.00

### Our 2026 Bishop’s Appeal Goal:

\$8,880.00



**G & G FOREST PRODUCTS**  
**Lance Glime**  
 5274 Turtle Creek Rd  
 Florence, WI 54121  
 (906) 250-6642  
 e-mail: [GGForestProducts@gmail.com](mailto:GGForestProducts@gmail.com)



Check out what FORMED online has available.

To register, simply go to [stmaryflorence.formed.org](http://stmaryflorence.formed.org) and choose **Immaculate Conception, Florence** to open your account.

Jay Glime  
[gnglumber@gmail.com](mailto:gnglumber@gmail.com)  
  
 906-458-3452  
 PO Box 587  
 5971 Sawmill Road  
 Florence, WI 54121-0587

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