

# 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](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 & Heather Roberts  
 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: 920-445-4560  
 Religious Education Facilitator: Carolyn Lemanski  
 Carolyn’s Phone: (715) 528-3008  
 Email: [lemanski\\_mom@hotmail.com](mailto:lemanski_mom@hotmail.com)

There will be *no weekday masses or Eucharistic adoration* Monday Aug. 5 - Thursday Aug. 29, except for **August 15th @ 5:30pm**; the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is a Holy Day of Obligation.

### Weekend Masses and Intentions

Thursday 8/15 5:30pm +Gary Steber  
*Offered by Scott & Jeanne Waitrovich*

Saturday 8/17 6:00 p.m. For the People

Sunday 8/18 8:30 a.m. +Pete Podnar  
*Offered by Bob, Mary, & Tommy Podnar*

+ Deceased, Tg Thanksgiving  
 Confession available 30 minutes before all Masses  
**Ministry Schedule**

### Thursday, August 15th

Sacristan - Heather Roberts  
 Eucharistic Ministers - Bill Degroot  
 Lector - Bill Degroot  
 Lead Usher - \*Volunteer Needed  
 Money Counters - \*Volunteer(s) Needed

### Saturday, August 17th

Sacristan - Dan Throm  
 Eucharistic Ministers - Dan Throm  
 Lector - Debbie Zelten  
 Lead Usher - Skip Bilsky

### Sunday, August 18th

Sacristan - Kathy Fabry  
 Eucharistic Ministers - Clara McLain  
 Lector - Carolyn Lemanski  
 Lead Usher - Jerry Divine  
 Money Counters - Jerry Divine & Dorothy Vayda

<b>8/3 Sat. Coll.</b>	Loose....\$137.00	Envelope....\$550.00	Total.....\$687.00
<b>8/4 Sun. Coll.</b>	Loose...\$409.00	Envelope....\$550.00	Total.....\$959.00
	<b>Electronic...</b> \$40.00	<b>Other/Misc....</b> \$1,182.41	Total....\$1,222.41
		<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$2,868.41</b>
Budget:	\$2,028.00	2023: \$ 2,409.00	

Raising Vocations raised **\$188.00!** Thank you for your generosity!

Fr. Soja will be away **Monday Aug. 5 - Thursday Aug. 29.**

*Our guest priests and schedule are found below:*

**Saturday Evening @ 6pm**, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24 - Fr. Dan Dapaah

**\*Thursday Evening @ 5:30pm**, 8/15 - Fr. Mark McQueston

**Sunday Morning @ 8:30am**, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25 - Fr. Peter Fosu

While Fr. Soja is on vacation, we will hold **Vespers** (Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer) on **Tuesday and Thursday evenings @ 6:30pm**. Please join us for this liturgical prayer of the Church and a chaplet of Divine Mercy. Prayers and instructions will be provided.

**Dates:** Tuesdays: 6,13, 20 & 27. Thursday: 8, 22 & 29

Come out to Pro-Life Wisconsin’s 2024 Love for Life Gala at the Brookfield Conference Center on Saturday September 14th we raise the funds to protect all human life! The gala will feature keynote speaker Seth Dillon, CEO of the Babylon Bee. Doors open at 5:00pm, cocktail hour with open bar, games, and raffle from 5:30-6:30pm, and 6:30pm dinner program followed by live auction and keynote. **Register by Monday August 26th at [ProLifeWI.org/gala](http://ProLifeWI.org/gala) or call our office at 262-796-1111.**



## ST MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Please pick up any funeral food dishes in the parish hall.

We are updating our funeral ministry’s list. If you’d be willing to help out with funerals, please call the parish office.

**Bishop’s Appeal:** We will participate in the \$25 on August 25 Campaign. More information can be found below.

### \$25 on the 25th of August

The objective is to have parishioners donate \$25 on the 25th. This will occur on the weekend of Aug 24-25 to help us reach our Bishop’s Appeal goal.

**The Catholic Foundation must receive ALL gifts before Friday, September 30, 2024. Gifts will be applied toward your 2024 goal. The Foundation will send thank you letters to those who contribute to this effort.**

**Raising Vocations Is Counting on You:** The Raising Vocations is underway, and we are already seeing your gifts at work in this campaign. Today we have 25 seminarians in formation! We are so close to reaching our Diocesan goal of 30 men in seminary by 2025. To reach this goal, we invite you to fill out your Called By Name card you received in your Raising Vocations mailing. Please share the name of a young person whom you believe would make an excellent priest or religious sister. This young person will receive a letter from Bishop as well as resources to help them on their vocation journey. Thank you for your help and prayers!

As you pray for an increase in vocations, please also consider making a gift to the Raising Vocations Collection. Because of your gift, the Collection supports college campus ministry, youth ministry, conferences, and more to help young people discover Jesus and hear God’s call. You can help these young people say “yes” and increase vocations! We need you!

Please return the pledge card through the mail or donate online at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give) or call Tammy Danz at 920-272-8123. Whatever you are able to give is greatly appreciated.

We are in need of:

- **Volunteer Church Cleaners**
- **Weed Pullers** for the flower beds outside of the church.



Friends, I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world. (John 6:51) In John 6, Jesus declares that He is the bread of life and that whoever eats His flesh and drinks His blood will have eternal life. This teaching

was hard for some of Jesus’ followers to accept but remains a core belief in the Catholic Church. The Bread of Life discourse highlights Jesus’ true identity and the meaning of His ministry, linking closely to Catholic Eucharistic theology. We need to feed our souls with prayer, spiritual reading, works of mercy, and most importantly, the Eucharist, which sustains us for eternal life.

This passage encourages us to recognize and trust in Jesus’ authority, especially in the Eucharist. Elijah was exhausted and wanted to die. An angel gave him food and water, showing God’s care and support. Elijah’s journey to Horeb needed God’s help. God provides what we need for our spiritual journey, Eucharist is that need in God’s wisdom. Paul tells us to avoid actions that grieve the Holy Spirit. Instead, we should be kind and forgiving, live with love, and receive eternal life through Jesus.

Jesus says no one comes to Him unless drawn by the Father. This shows God’s active role in our faith journey. Jesus presents Himself as food, not just an idea. By partaking in the Eucharist, we allow this divine sustenance to transform us, making us more like Christ and reminding us that others also share in this same spiritual nourishment. Like Elijah and the Israelites in the desert, we may feel tempted to despair and murmur against God. But Jesus, the Bread of Life, fulfills God’s prophecies and offers us sustenance we need to have life. By believing in Him and seeking His help, we receive the grace to continue our spiritual journey.

~ Fr. Soja

## Prayer is Powerful!

Our prayer line for the month of August has been updated and is available for your continued prayers and support!

**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

**Knights of Columbus**  
 Local Council #2847 meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:30 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

**El Capitan**  
 —SUPPER CLUB—  
 Italian cuisine—steaks—seafood  
 699 US Hwy 2, Spread Eagle, WI  
 P 715-696-3493  
[www.elcapitansupperclub.com](http://www.elcapitansupperclub.com)

**Jacobs-Lundholm**  
**Funeral Home & Crematory**  
 Perry J. Jacobs  
 715-528-3241