

WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – ST MARY

Visit us on the web at www.stmaryflorence.org

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 166, Florence, WI 54121
 Street Address: 308 Florence Ave., Florence, WI
 Parish Office Telephone: (715) 528-3310
 Parish Secretary: Julie Zelten
 Parish e-mail: stmary@borderlandnet.net

St. Mary's Pastor: Father Albert Balderas
 e-mail: albert.balderas67@yahoo.com
 cell phone: (920) 604-1260
 Religious Education Facilitator: Carolyn Lemanski
 (715) 528-3008 or lemanski_mom@hotmail.com

Live the Gospel! Whatever it takes.

- ◆ If you are interested in joining our parish, becoming Catholic, marriage prep, baptism prep, confirmation, funerals, returning to the Church, spiritual direction, inquiring about an annulment or have other concerns, contact Father Albert at 920-604-1260.
- ◆ Questions regarding religious education and registration can be addressed to Carolyn Lemanski: (715) 528-3008
- ◆ Call St. Vincent de Paul Conference for assistance with basic needs: (715) 528-2030
- ◆ To schedule a Mass intention, volunteer for a parish ministry, rent the parish hall, request a prayer shawl, request prayers, have communion brought to your home or for information on grief support, call the parish office.
- ◆ Office hours: Tuesday.- Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Weekend Masses

Saturday - 6:00 p.m.
 Sunday - 8:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - 5:30 p.m.
 Thursday - 4:30 p.m. 1st TH Holy Hour
Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and Benediction
 following THs – Reconciliation and private prayer
 Friday - 8:30 a.m.
 1st FRI 10:00 a.m.
 Florence Health Services

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, Nov. 30 - + Max Gardner
 Fri. Dec. 3 - + Living & deceased members of the Gardner and Kramer Families
 Saturday, Dec. 4 - + Dick & Sue Steber
 Sunday, Dec. 5 - + Janet Kelley

Ministry Schedule Dec. 4/5

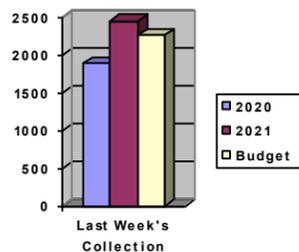
Saturday

Sacristan - Roy Rietz
 Eucharistic Minister - Roy Rietz
 Lector - Carla Kramer
 Servers - open
 Ushers—Andy Kelley & William Kelley

Sunday

Sacristan - Jessica Frost
 Eucharistic Minister - Jessica Frost
 Lector - Bill DeGroot
 Servers - open
 Ushers - Jerry Divine, Jay Glime
 Money counters - Jay & Lori Glime

 Church/Office Cleaning - Beanie Leffler & Rosie Peters



Sat. General Collection	Loose...\$538.00	Envelope...\$80.00	Total...\$618.00
Sun. General Collection	Loose...\$355.00	Envelope...\$629.00	Total...\$984.00
Electronic Transfer	General...\$425.00		Total...\$425.00
Total General Collections		\$2,027.00	

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The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day Mass will be on Wednesday, Dec. 8 at 6:00 PM in Florence at St. Mary's, 9:00 AM at St. Stanislaus Kostka in Armstrong Creek and 10:30 AM at St. Joan of Arc in Goodman.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL REFLECTION:

As we begin Advent we are called to "wait" in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your door bell.

The Giving Tree . . . The spirit of Christmas comes to us by sharing our blessings with those in need. Bring joy to a child's heart this Christmas season by taking a gift tag off of the tree displayed in the church entryway, and by kindly returning your **unwrapped** gift with the tag attached by **Sunday, December 5th**. "Angel" tags are for toys, and "dove" tags are for clothing. As always, thank you for your generous support of this program!!

Happy Thanksgiving Thanks be to God !

Bulletin Connection - Advent begins at the end – the promised return of Christ at the end of time. For the faithful disciple, history is a moving forward, a journey to the fulfillment of God's reign when God's Christ will return as Lord of all. We therefore live in a permanent state of Advent: watchfulness, preparation and perseverance as we await the return of the Holy One who has already come. In his Gospel, Luke depicts our final judgment very simply: "to stand before the Son of Man." Luke infers that our "judgment" before Christ will be a moment of illuminating truth, when all artifice will melt away, when our rationalizations will fail us, when we will see our holiness and face our failures. But rather than make us tremble, the prospect of standing before Jesus should fill us with hope: that the "shoot of Jesse" comes to redeem us despite ourselves, that, in him, God loves us in our holiest moments and our most glaring sinfulness. -Deacon Jerry Cross

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"True Kingship" Homily Excerpt by Rev. Albert Balderas

Today is the Solemnity of Christ The King. Jesus is a different kind of king. A king as we know from history, rules a kingdom, has a throne, a scepter of power, and lives in a castle. He is protected and defended by his subjects. They bow him, submit themselves to him, and fight to death for him. A king is known to be rich, powerful, and has authority of life and death over his subjects.

But Jesus is not like that kind of king. His throne is his cross. He rules by serving us. His power is his redeeming love. His will is the one who protects us, defends us, and even dies for us. His will is to give us eternal life and so he gives up his life for our salvation. Jesus is Rich in mercy. He is powerful over sin and death. His authority is to forgive us and to lead us back to the loving arms of the Father. No one has a greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. True kingship is service. True kingship is to save those under our care. It is true kingship to bring them to safety and to life everlasting.

During Advent Fr. Albert will be leading an Advent Recollection on Tuesday December 7th and December 14th in the parish hall after Mass from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

****Please notify the parish office or Fr. Albert if a member of your family is shut in or hospitalized. ****

Flowers are always a welcome part of our Christmas decorations. *A special collection will be taking place the weekend of December 4th and 5th, for Christmas flowers.* If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one, simply place an envelope or check marked "FLOWERS" in the collection basket in the church entryway or kindly use the designated envelope in your offertory box.

FOCCUS training for parish facilitators..... St Mary's is looking for couples interested in working with engaged couples. All that is required is to be trained in the FOCCUS pre-marital inventory. There are two opportunities for the one day in-person workshops.

*Saturday, December 4, 2021 @ 9:00AM-2:30PM

*Saturday, April 2, 2022 @ 9:00AM-2:30PM

All workshops will take place at the Diocese of Green Bay. Lunch will be provided. Cost for the workshop is \$80.00. Pre-registration is required. Please call the Office of Marriage, Family Life and Pro Life at 920-8315 for registration and the parish office 715-528-3310 to coordinate who is attending and St. Mary's will pay the workshop cost.