

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) 445-4564
Religious Education Facilitator: Carolyn Lemanski
Carolyn’s Phone: (715) 528-3008
Email: lemanski_mom@hotmail.com

Weekday Masses and Intentions

Monday 12/08 8:30 a.m. For the Canonization
of Frederic Ozanam
Offered by St. Vincent de Paul Society

Tuesday 12/09 5:30 p.m. +Sharon Dougoveto
Offered by Mark and Carla Kramer

Thursday 12/11 4:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 12/12 8:30 a.m. +Janet Kelley
Offered by Bob, Mary and Tommy Podnar

Weekend Masses and Intentions

Saturday 12/13 6:00 p.m. +Carol Zaleskie
Offered by Matt McCarthy

Sunday 12/14 8:30 a.m. +Corky Miller
Offered by Joe and Jean Fornetti

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

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 13

Sacristan - Tanya Parker
Eucharistic Minister - Derek Parker
Lector - Evan Parker
Lead Usher - Skip Bilsky

Sunday, December 14

Sacristan - Kathy Fabry
Eucharistic Minister - Kathy Fabry
Lector - Kathy Jazinski
Lead Usher - Jay Glime
Money Counters - Jay & Lori Glime

11/29 Sat. Coll.	Loose.....\$115.00	Envelope.....\$265.00	Total.....\$380.00
11/30 Sun. Coll.	Loose.....\$237.00	Envelope.....\$235.00	Total.....\$472.00
	Christmas Flowers..\$25.00	Electronic..\$1,040.00	Total....\$1,065.00
Total Collections			\$1,917.00
Budget:	\$1,800.00	2024: \$10,028.47	

2025 Christmas and Holy Day Mass Times

Monday, December 8 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Florence 8:30 a.m.
Armstrong Creek 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

Armstrong Creek 4:00 p.m.
Florence 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 25 – Christmas Day

Florence 8:30 a.m.
Goodman 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 31 – New Year’s Eve

Florence 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 1 - New Year’s Day

Armstrong Creek 9:00 a.m.
Florence 5:30 p.m.

(The Office will have limited hours from Dec.23-Jan. 2 but
will reopen with regular business hours on Tues., Jan. 6th.)

Fr. Soja visits the Florence Health Services (Nursing Home)
each Friday at 10 a.m. Mass is held the first Friday of the
Month with Communion given on each Friday.

ST. MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO THE SECOND
SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND THE FEAST OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Giving Tree: Please return all gifts to the
parish unwrapped with the paper ornament at-
tached this weekend. Please remember to pray for
the child and his/her family. Thank you for your
generosity, prayers and showing “**Jesus is the
Reason for the Season!**”



Snow Shoveling: We need volunteers for snow
shoveling this winter! Please contact the parish of-
fice if you are willing and able! Your help would
be GREATLY appreciated!!!

Share in the Care Retirement Collection: Next weekend, our
parish will take part in the Retirement Collection, a heartfelt
opportunity to support those who have spent their lives serving
God and our communities. This special collection benefits two
groups:

* The **National Retirement Fund for Religious**, which sup-
ports retired sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

* The **Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund**, which helps care
for our senior priests right here in the Diocese of Green Bay.

Since these faithful servants have given so much, it is our turn to
give back. You may choose to support one or both funds using
the envelope found in the pews. Thank you for your generosity
to ensure they receive the care and dignity they deserve.

Parish Volunteer Opportunities: We are in urgent need of
volunteers to help with our lay ministries especially on the fol-
lowing days:

Sacristan: Wed.,12/31 (5:30 p.m.), Thurs., 01/01 (5:30).

Eucharistic Minister: Wed.,12/31 (5:30 p.m.), Thurs., 01/01
(5:30).

Lector: Mon, 12/8 (8:30 a.m.), Wed., 12/31 (5:30 p.m.), &
Thurs., 01/01 (5:30 p.m.).

Please contact the parish office if you are interested. Your help
would be *greatly* appreciated!

Gold Slips: Please return any gold slips as soon as possible.
Thank You!



Friends, this Sunday, John the Baptist appears
with his never-subtle message, "REPENT!"
He's broadcasting a call to assume a new men-
tality. John called the preparation "metanoia,"
or repentance. Metanoia has little to do with
saying "I'm sorry" or making a confession. It's
far more demanding than that, a change of
heart.

John wanted to clear the way for the Messiah. To do that, he did-
n't demand worship, prayer or fasting. No, John cuts to the
quick: "Produce good fruit! You think you're part of the chosen
people? God can raise up children for Abraham from stones —
and right now you do resemble those rocks!" John called for a
mindset that relied completely on Isaiah's promises, a
metanoia perspective in which people believe so firmly that they
act from the certainty that God's future is already present. They
see God's reign emerging now; they sense that humanity and all
of creation are on the way to becoming all God created us to be.

John is the perfect messenger to prepare us for the Nativity. He
readies us for One to come, the One whose passion for God and
creation is so contagious that it can only be described as the fire
of the Holy Spirit. He maintains that the kingdom of heaven is at
hand and that we can discern the Spirit at work among us. The
Baptist echoes what Moses taught: that the reign of God is not
far away in the heavens or across the sea, "No, it is very near ...
in your mouth, and it's in your heart to do it."

On 8th December, we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Con-
ception. Mary’s yes to God is an integral part of the reign of
God among us. Mary’s yes brought torrential blessings to
us. She allowed God to break into her thoughts, plans, hopes,
and dreams. Her response was emphatic and strong. Behold, I
am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to
your word. She responded that she would serve, help, and part-
ner with God to be the mother of this precious baby. Mary is not
alone. God is always trying to break into our lives. We are free
and at the same time, supported by a God who wishes to be an
integral part of our life journey. Fr. Soja

Prayer for our Catholic Community:

God our Father, you never cease to seek out your children—the lonely, the
frightened, the hurt and the lost. We pray for all our parishioners who are
missing from our parish community and Eucharistic celebrations. Through
the intercession of Mary, our patron Saint, please pave the way for conver-
sations and invitations that welcome them back to the Catholic Church and
our Parish Community. We trust in your love and mercy for every one of
your children. Amen.

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FAITH AT HOME

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

Jay Glime
gnglumber@gmail.com

**G & G
LUMBER, INC.**

906-458-3452
PO Box 587
5971 Sawmill Road
Florence, WI 54121-0587


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

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