

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 & Heather Roberts
 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: 920-445-4560
 Religious Education Facilitator: Carolyn Lemanski
 Carolyn’s Phone: (715) 528-3008
 Email: lemanski_mom@hotmail.com

Weekday Masses and Intentions

Tues. 2/11 5:30pm For the People
 Thurs. 2/13 4:30pm Eucharistic Adoration
 Fri. 2/14 8:30am +Pablo & Salud Eugenio
Offered by Paulita Trudell

Weekend Masses and Intentions

Sat. 2/15 6:00pm +Janet Carney
Offered by Cindy & Brant Brolin
 Sun. 2/16 8:30am +Janet Kelley
Offered by Bob, Mary & Tommy Podnar
 + Deceased, Tg Thanksgiving
 Confession available 30 minutes before all Masses

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, February 15th

Sacristan - Dan Throm
 Eucharistic Minister - Dan Throm
 Lector - Evan Parker
 Lead Usher - Skip Bilsky

Sunday, February 16th

Sacristan - Clara McLain
 Eucharistic Ministers - Bill DeGroot
 Lector - Bill DeGroot
 Lead Usher - Jerry Divine
 Money Counters - Jerry Divine & Dorothy Vayda

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

- ♦ **Wed. 3/5 @ 3:30pm - Goodman, St. Joan’s**
- ♦ **Wed. 3/5 @ 5:30pm - Florence, St. Mary’s**

02/01 Sat. Coll.	Loose.....\$50.00	Envelope.....\$355.00	Total.....\$405.00
02/02 Sun. Coll.	Loose.....\$186.00	Envelope....\$375.00	Total...\$561.00
	Electronic.....\$40.00	Misc....\$145.00	Total...\$185.00
		Total Collection:	\$1,151.00
Budget:	\$2,028.00	2024: \$1,539.00	



"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them. They came and filled both boats so that the boats were in danger of sinking. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him. ..." *Luke 5:1-11*

ST MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO THE FIFTH

SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME!

- ♦ **A special thank you** to Sue Mills for cleaning the parish for the month of February!

Our 2025 Bishop’s Appeal Goal: **\$9,274.00**

FAQ: Does the Bishop’s Appeal Pay the Bishop’s Salary or Any Legal Settlements?

The Bishop’s Appeal is an annual campaign that supports the ministries of the Diocese. It does not pay the Bishop’s salary and has never been used to pay any legal settlements. The Bishop’s Appeal provides support to diocesan ministries reaching out to thousands of people each year. These ministries include Catholic Charities, Catholic schools, and On Mission, to name a few. It is our continuing pledge to you to use all the funds received during the Bishop’s Appeal to provide these services and meet the needs described on our website @ www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give. Thank you for your generous support.

Notes & Reminders

- ♦ **Mass Intentions:** Mass is a beautiful prayer offering; one of the most powerful prayers we have. On behalf of loved ones; in thanksgiving for the living and in repose of the souls of the deceased. Please contact the office to schedule them.
- ♦ **Eucharistic Adoration is held on Thursdays @ 4:30pm:** With St. Valentine’s Day coming up, when was the last time we came to God’s House to visit our Lord, to talk with Him or to tell Him that we *love* Him? Jesus wants to know what’s going on in our lives, to share what we’re feeling in our hearts...because He loves us! So much that he *died* for us. He waits for us to come to Him. Our Catholic faith teaches us that in the Consecrated Host, Christ Himself is fully present—Body, Blood, Soul, & Divinity. He is present in the Tabernacle, the Blessed Sacrament, 24/7, 365 days a year. We have the freedom and the opportunity to come and adore Him. The same Jesus that died for us all, 2000+ plus years ago, is the same one we worship every week at Mass. **Jesus Christ** today, right here, right now **is truly ALIVE!** Come and join us, letting Jesus gaze upon you with His infinite love and mercy. He is waiting for YOU! Thursdays @ 4:30pm for Eucharistic Adoration.



Friends, the word of God this week teaches us about holiness and discipleship. Peter, a fisherman, listens to Jesus and experiences a miraculous catch of fish. This reminds us that obedience to God’s word can lead to amazing blessings. Despite feeling unworthy, Peter follows Jesus, leaving everything behind. Growing in

holiness requires saying yes to Jesus, working hard, and trusting God despite our imperfections. Reflect on how we can be more open to God’s invitations in our daily lives. When we feel unworthy, we should remember that God still calls us. Isaiah and Peter were both chosen despite their feelings of inadequacy. God does not call the perfect; He perfects the "called". Our response to God’s holiness should be one of humility, repentance, and readiness to serve, just like Isaiah and Peter.

The disciples left their nets, which symbolized their livelihood and security, we are called to let go of things that hinder our spiritual growth. These “nets” can be habits, possessions, or relationships that keep us from a closer relationship with Jesus. This act of leaving behind their livelihood and security demonstrates their trust and commitment. It teaches us that following Jesus often requires sacrifice and a willingness to let go of our own plans. Jesus invites us to trust Him and follow Him wholeheartedly. By answering this call, we embark on a journey of faith, trusting that Jesus will guide and equip us. The secret to a joyful, stable and courageous Christian living is to unite ourselves constantly to Jesus Christ who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Both Isaiah and Peter experience God’s overwhelming presence, feel their unworthiness, and are then faced with God’s holiness and respond with humility for the missions. Humility is crucial in our relationship with God. Recognizing our unworthiness helps us understand the need for God’s forgiveness and mercy. Our spiritual life begins with God’s grace breaking through, leading to an awareness of sin and a call to mission. Just like Paul, anyone can serve God by His grace. Jesus makes us worthy to stand before God. Through the stories of Isaiah, Paul, and Peter, we explore God’s holiness, human unworthiness, witnessing to faith, and the call to follow Jesus.

~ Fr. Soja



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Knights of Columbus

Local Council #2847 meets the 2nd 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

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