

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 & 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 01/06 5:30 p.m. +Kevin Richtig  
*Offered by Bob and Mary Podnar*

Thursday 01/08 4:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 01/09 8:30 a.m. +Susan Clark  
*Offered by Stephen Clark*

Weekend Masses and Intentions

Saturday 01/10 6:00 p.m. +Patricia Sarbacker  
*Offered by Joe and Sue Mills*

Sunday 01/11 8:30 a.m. For the People

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

Weekend Ministry Schedule

Saturday, January 10

Sacristan - Clara McLain  
Eucharistic Minister - Clara McLain  
Lector - Heather Roberts  
Lead Usher - Skip Bilsky

Sunday, January 11

Sacristan - Al & MaryKay Williams  
Eucharistic Minister - Bill DeGroot  
Lector - Bill DeGroot  
Lead Usher - Jay Glime  
Money Counters - Jay and Lori Glime

12/24 Wed. Coll.	Loose...\$270.00	Envelope.....\$230.00	Total.....\$500.00
12/25 Thurs. Coll.	Loose...\$157.00	Envelope.....\$535.00	Total.....\$692.00
12/27 Sat. Coll.	Loose....\$25.00	Envelope.....\$150.00	Total.....\$175.00
12/28 Sun. Coll.	Loose....\$342.00	Envelope.....\$295.00	Total.....\$637.00

Total Collections \$2,004.00

Budget: \$1,800.00 2024: \$8,975.25

St. Vincent DePaul Activities for October-December

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Families served through the			
Pantry/Commodities	72	64	67
Adults	102	102	93
Children	11	22	11
People Helped with Rent	2	0	0
People Helped with Utilities	2	1	0
Helped with Gas Vouchers	0	0	0
Helped with Prescriptions	0	0	0
Helped with Other Items	1	0	2

Giving Tree: 33 families and 80 children received toys, clothing and food.

Thank you for your generosity to help those less fortunate!

The Store is always in need of help! If interested, please call 715-528-4720 to volunteer. Thank You!

ST. MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO THE  
SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The beautiful Christmas Flowers that adorn our worship space were donated in Memory of the following loved ones:

Dan Bauer, Cora Bauer, Steve Bauer, Ginny Ehrenreich, Mary Jo Bomberg, Paul Bomberg, Bob & Claire Landry, Bob & Jan Dallapiazza, Deceased Members of the Donaldson and Steber Families, Mike & Heddy Fornetti, Glenn & Janet Sundquist, Corky Miller, Jule & Cleo Glime, Jack & Elaine Rochon, Francis Samz, Jim Cominsky, Deceased Members of the Lemanski Family, Caryl Novara, Deceased Members of the Podnar and Weber Families, and Ed & Marie Vanden Heuvel.

Living Faith Daily Catholic Devotion booklets for Jan.-March, 2026, are available on the entryway tables. Take one as you leave today.

Volunteers Needed: Due to the number of parishioners going south for the winter and personal reasons, we are in need of Lectors, Sacristans, and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are interested in any of these ministries, please contact the parish office. Even volunteering once a month would be very helpful. Your prayerful consideration is truly appreciated.

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

Office Hours: The office will now be open from 8:30-2:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. The office will be closed on Wednesdays. Thank you for your support!

We hope all of you enjoyed time with your families and had a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!



Friends, The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates a beautiful truth at the heart of our faith: Jesus is revealed as Savior not only to Israel, but to the whole world. The Magi, who came from distant lands, represent all nations and people seeking light in the darkness.

Saint Matthew tells us that they followed a star, trusting that God was guiding their journey (Matthew 2:1 –2). The journey of the Magi was not easy. They traveled far, faced uncertainty, and even encountered resistance from King Herod. Yet they did not turn back. Scripture tells us, “They rejoiced exceedingly with great joy” when they found the child Jesus (Matthew 2:10). True joy is always found when we encounter Christ, even after a long and difficult journey.

The First Reading proclaims, “Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come” (Isaiah 60:1). This light is not meant to be hidden. Just as the star led the Magi to Jesus, our faith is meant to lead others to Christ. Through our words, actions, kindness, and faithfulness, we become signs that point toward Him. Saint Paul reminds us that this mystery—that all nations are coheirs in Christ—has now been revealed (Ephesians 3:6). Epiphany challenges us to look beyond boundaries, prejudices, and comfort zones. The Church is called to be open, welcoming, and missionary, reflecting the universal love of God.

The first day of the year is devoted to the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, emphasizing Mary’s role in salvation history and providing an opportunity to share in her joy at welcoming Christ to the world. Mary, as His mother, was privileged to receive Jesus in such a unique way. Especially on this Solemnity, the faithful are invited to celebrate Mary’s divine Maternity and share in her joy by embracing Jesus with love. This week, ask yourself: What star is God using to guide me closer to Him? And how can my life become a light for someone else? When we sincerely seek the Lord, He always reveals Himself. The prayer to Mary, star of the sea, is a cherished devotion that turns to the motherly care of Mary, asking for guidance, protection, and hope in life’s storms. Happy New Year!!!

Fr. Soja

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**FORMED**  
FAITH AT HOME

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> 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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