

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: 920-445-4560  
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 7/29 No Mass

Thursday 7/31 No Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 8/1 No Mass

Weekend Masses and Intentions

Saturday 8/2 6:00 p.m. Intentions of the SVdP Society

Offered by St. Vincent de Paul

Sunday 8/3 8:30 a.m. + Janet Kelley

Offered by Bob, Mary and Tommy Podnar

+ Deceased, Tg Thanksgiving

Confession available 30 minutes before all masses

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, August 2

Sacristan - Dan Throm

Eucharistic Minister - Dan Throm

Lector - Missy Roberts

Lead Usher - Skip Bilsky

Sunday, August 3

Sacristan - Kathy Fabry

Eucharistic Minister - Bill DeGroot

Lector - Bill DeGroot

Lead Usher - Jay Glime

Money Counters - Jay & Lori Glime

7/19 Sat. Coll.	Loose...\$173.00	Envelope....\$215.00	Total.....\$388.00
7/20 Sun. Coll.	Loose...\$383.00	Envelope..\$1,495.00	Total....\$1,878.00
Electronic & Other.....\$40.00			Total.....\$40.00
Total Collections			\$2,306.00

Budget:	\$2,028.00	2024: \$1,455.00
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Fr. Soja’s Schedule

Fr. Soja is currently in India and will return on August 21st. There will be no weekday masses or Eucharistic Adoration while he is away except for **Friday, Aug. 15th @ 8:30 a.m.** which is a Holy Day of Obligation, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Fr. James Dillenburg will celebrate mass at St. Mary’s on August 2-3 and August 9-10.

Fr. Peter Fosu will be at St. Mary’s Aug. 15-17.



Traveling Rosary for Vocations:

Thursday, August 14; 1:00 – 2:30 PM at **St. Michael’s Parish White-law**; 110 West Menasha Avenue 54247. The agenda includes songs, Rosary, speakers from Holy Family Convent in Manitowoc, and closing reception. [For more info call](http://www.gbdcw.org) 920-323-3243 or visit [www.gbdcw.org](http://www.gbdcw.org).

Jay Glime  
[gnglumber@gmail.com](mailto:gnglumber@gmail.com)

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



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

**Raising Vocations Collection 2025:** On August 2-3, the Diocese of Green Bay will kick off the Raising Vocations Collection. This collection will support ministries that help young people discover Christ and accompany them on their vocation journey. Please watch your mailboxes for a letter from Bishop Ricken that should arrive this week with more information.

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to request a Mass Intention, please contact one of the Parish Secretaries. The suggested donation for a Mass Intention is \$10 and is a meaningful way to remember, celebrate and/or honor a loved one or event. All proceeds from Mass Intentions help to support our Parish.

**Lectors:** We are in urgent need of lectors especially for Saturday’s mass. If you are interested, please contact the Parish office.



St. Mary’s has raised \$7,630.00 towards our goal of \$9,274.00.

There are pledge cards available in the entryway if you need one.  
Thank you for your support!



Lead with faith ~ Protect your family ~ Serve others ~ Defend your values

Knights of Columbus

Local Council #2847 meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at St. Anthony’s Parish Hall in Niagara.  
For more information contact:



Dear Friends, We hear the teaching of Jesus’ Parable of the Persistent Neighbor in today’s Gospel. Modern people might look at that story in amazement. That man sure had a lot of nerve to be knocking on his neighbor’s door in the middle of the night to ask for some bread. Was he over-

stepping the boundaries of friendship? It helps our understanding if we know that in the biblical world, hospitality was of utmost importance. An unexpected guest visited the man after midnight and he had no food to share, so he confidently went to his neighbor for bread. We might sympathize with the friend who was rudely awakened but, in the culture of the time, he is the one who was behaving badly by telling his neighbor to go away. The ability of his friend to provide hospitality was at stake. The sleepy-eyed neighbor would incur dishonor if he failed to assist his persistent friend in his time of need.

This parable is part of Jesus’ teaching on prayer. We need to pray because everything good comes from God. Prayer helps us to accept God’s will as Jesus did. The disciples often saw Jesus in prayer, and they had no doubt that he was in deep communion with his Father. No wonder they asked him to teach them how to pray. The simplicity of the Lord’s Prayer stems from the trust and intimacy that Jesus shared with his Father. We get another glimpse of that kind of intimacy in the First Reading’s amusing story of Abraham’s persistent request to God to spare the people of Sodom and Gomorrah from divine retribution. Only someone who was a close intimate friend would dare to speak to God with such familiarity.

When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, he used the intimate word “abba” as a form of address to God. This was a radical idea at the time of Jesus for “abba” is the familiar address of a child to his or her dad. Devout Jews at the time would shrink from addressing God in such an intimate and informal way, but that was Jesus’ point. He IS intimate with his Father and confident in that relationship. So must we be when we turn to God in prayer. The ‘Our Father’ is Jesus’ gift to us, a way for us to enter more deeply into our relationship with God.

~ Fr. Soja

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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.

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