

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...

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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: 920-445-4560
Religious Education Facilitator: Carolyn Lemanski
Carolyn’s Phone: (715) 528-3008
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Weekday Masses and Intentions

Tuesday 9/02 No Daily Mass

Thursday 9/04 No Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 9/05 No Daily Mass

Weekend Masses and Intentions

Saturday 9/06 6:00 p.m. Tg. Healing for Carla
Kramer & All Families
Offered by Anonymous

Sunday 9/07 8:30 a.m. Tg. In Celebration of
the 70th Wedding Anniversary of Norbert
& Kay Zelten
Offered by Dan and Kathy Jazinski

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

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, September 6

Sacristan - Kathy Fabry
Eucharistic Minister - Kathy Fabry
Lector - Missy Roberts
Lead Usher - Skip Bilsky

Sunday, September 7

Sacristan - Al & MaryKay Williams
Eucharistic Minister - Sally Neuens
Lector - Carolyn Lemanski
Lead Usher - Mike Lemanski
Money Counters - Jerry Divine/Dorothy Vayda

8/23 Sat. Coll.	Loose....\$87.00	Envelope....\$265.00	Total.....\$352.00
8/24 Sun. Coll.	Loose...\$460.00	Envelope....\$290.00	Total.....\$750.00
Bishop’s Appeal \$395.00	Building Fund \$25.00	Electronic.....\$40.00	Total.....\$460.00
Total Collections			\$1,562.00
Budget:	\$2,028.00	2024: \$2,046.00	

Fr. Soja’s Schedule and Change in Office Hours

Fr. Soja remains in India working through his Visa renewal process. We will keep you updated regarding his return and who will be our visiting priests. Pray for Fr. Soja’s safe return!

There are no daily masses, Eucharistic Adoration, or meetings scheduled while Fr. Soja is away.

Office hours this week are Tues. & Wed. from 8:30-2:30 and Fri. from 8:30-1:00. The office will be closed on Mon. & Thursday of this week..



Bishop Ricken was installed as the 12th bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay on August 28, 2008, at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Green Bay. We wish him a Happy Anniversary of becoming our shepherd.

Pictured above on the day of his installation, he is seen taking part in the tradition of knocking on the cathedral doors, symbolizing the petitioning for entry and acceptance by the faithful of their new shepherd.

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ST. MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO
THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME

Raising Vocations Collection 2025: The 2025 Raising Vocations Collection will be completed soon. If you have made a gift for this year’s Collection, thank you. If you have not had a chance to make your gift yet, please prayerfully consider making a gift today. There are some blank cards available at the back of church if you need one. So far this year, our parish has raised \$1,120.00. Make your gift today by mailing in your pledge card, visit www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give or call Tammy Danz at 920-272-8123. Thank you for your prayers and support!

Building/Maintenance Fund Collection: There will be a second collection at the masses next weekend for St. Mary’s Building and Maintenance Fund. You may use the envelope in your offertory box or place your donation in the collection basket. Thank you for your generosity!

Prayer Shawls: Yvonne Podner, a previous member of St. Mary’s, made many beautiful prayer shawls which still remain here. If you are seeking comfort for someone you know or for yourself, please stop at the Parish Office to choose one.

Volunteers Needed: We are in **urgent** need of lectors especially for Saturday evening mass and substitute sacristans. Training will be provided. We also need someone to drive to Niagara on Wednesdays between 10:00-4:00 to drop off bookkeeping work as needed. Please contact the Parish office if you can help out. Thank You!

St. Mary’s has raised \$7,630.00

towards our goal of \$9,274.00. Thank you for your generosity with our \$25 on the 25th collection last weekend raising an additional \$395.00.



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

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.



Friends, we’re heading into September and a scenario that is a familiar rite of passage. It’s lunch time on the first day of high school. You’re a freshman or an older transfer from another school. You don’t know anybody! With a bit of trepidation, you hold your tray of cafeteria food and look around the large dining room.

Where will you sit? If you sit with the football jocks, they’ll laugh you away. You would feel so out of place with the talkative girls. The nerds and the skaters would give you dirty looks and maybe toss some insulting zingers at you. You wouldn’t feel comfortable with any group.

That brings us to today’s Gospel. Jesus teaches a parable about the social dimension of the Kingdom of God. He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table. “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honor. . . For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

At first glance, this sounds like practical etiquette advice, but Luke gives us reason to believe that he does not want us to read the text in this way. Then he said to the host who invited him, “When you hold a lunch or dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment. Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.” Luke is railing against those particularly in leadership who, in their ambition to rise in stature, step over or step on those less fortunate. This is a not-so-veiled attempt on Luke’s part to criticize the social structures of his day that abuse power and authority at the expense of the forgotten and the oppressed. In this Gospel, Jesus gives us a challenge: Who do we invite to the table of the Lord?

The message today is for us to humbly see others and ourselves as God sees us. Our systems of worldly standing don’t matter to God, who calls us to break out of them. The Eucharist is a foretaste of the heavenly Kingdom where everyone is invited to sit together at God’s table: The rich and the poor. The powerful and the powerless. The famous and the forgotten. The football jocks, the trendy girls, the nerds, the skaters and you.

~ Fr. Soja

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