St. Mary Churches-Omro & Winneconne www.stmarychurches.org August 30, 2020 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please welcome these newest members of St. Mary's parish who journeyed through the RCIA program and will be received into the Catholic Church on Saturday, August 29th.



Andres Hernandez Casey Jay Lappen Joseph Francis Enders

Congratulations to all of you!

Pastoral Leader: Sr. Pamela Biehl

920-379-1674

pam.biehl@stmarychurches.org

Priest Celebrants:

Fr. Tom Long Fr. Kevin Ripley

Sacraments/Membership

To arrange for baptisms, weddings or to join call

St. Mary Winneconne: 920-582-7712 or stmarywinneconne@stmarychurches.org

St. Mary, Omro: 920-685-2258 or

stmaryomro@stmarychurches.org

Dear Parishioners,

As you know one weekend every year during the summer the diocese assigns us a missionary to preside at our Masses and speak to us about his community's missionary work as part of the Annual Missionary Appeal. Because of COVID restrictions Fr. Anthony Kitema from the Catholic Diocese of Malindi, Kenya, was unable to be with us to share his story but he did send us a letter about his work in Kenya which you will find below. **Please take the time to read his message.**

"Let me begin by explaining a little bit about the Catholic Diocese of Malindi. It was created in the year 2000 and at the time of its erection as a diocese we only had 7 parishes. There was only 1 diocesan priest and about 17,000 Catholics. Twenty years later, we now have 21 parishes, 15 diocesan priests, 13 seminarians and more than 55,000 baptized Catholics. Our diocese is still missionary in nature and in some parishes we are engaged in first evangelization.

When the late Bishop Emanuel Barbara was consecrated in 2013, he saw the need of constructing a rescue home for sexually abused children. Malindi town is on the coastal strip of Kenya with beautiful beaches on the coastline of the Indian Ocean. However only a few miles away from the town there is a totally different reality. The majority of the people are very poor and this reality contributes to minors being vulnerable to child labor and sexual exploitation. Because of this unfortunate reality of poverty, some parents will encourage their young daughters to engage in prostitution in order to earn a livelihood for the family. Some of the minors are also abused by their close family relatives.

The dream of Bishop Emanuel was realized in 2015 when Pope Francis Rescue Home opened its doors to the first minors who were sexually abused and left traumatized. This Home offers a safe haven and a counseling support to our children. The abused minors remain at the Rescue Home for a period ranging from 4 – 6 months and then they are re-integrated back to their families. Some of the girls come to the Rescue Home when they are already pregnant. We take them to the hospital and after delivery they remain at the Rescue Home with their babies for one year. The Rescue Home can accommodate 45 minors.

To make sure that our children are safe when they go back to their homes, we teach parents how to protect and keep their children safe. We work with child protection officers who make sure that those who abuse children are held accountable. In one of the many court cases, a man was sentenced to 17 years in prison for abusing one of our girls. **This year's mission appeal is to help us sustain this Rescue Home**. We need to provide for the basic needs of these children including food, clothing, accommodation, professional counselling expenses, utility bills amongst others. Our total budget for the year is \$150,000.

One of our success stories is a baby named Emanuel who was born on Christmas day in 2016. Faced with the harsh challenge of extreme poverty, Emanuel's mom decided to abandon her baby in a pit latrine. The following morning, families going to church heard the cries of the little Emanuel and informed the rest of the families in the village. The village rescued Emanuel and brought him to the Pope Francis Rescue Home. Once at the Rescue Home, Emanuel was admitted to the hospital for six months. As I write to you, Emanuel is now a handsome young boy who was later adopted by a Kenyan family. The story of this boy is a testimony that challenges in life, even those rooted in poverty can be changed by the power of compassion and generosity.

Jesus says "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters that you do unto me." We do that today by praying for all those who are going through challenges, those within our parish families here and those in the missions. We understand these are tough moments for you too given the pandemic and its affects. So, we ask first and for most, for your PRAYERS. Secondly, if you are able to, please support the Pope Francis Rescue Home by donating to this year's Missionary Appeal. Please know of my prayers for you. May God bless and keep you and your loved ones holy and safe."

Fr. Anthony Kitema,

Catholic Diocese of Malindi, Kenya.

How will you respond to this year's Missionary Appeal? There will be baskets at the church entrances next week for your donation or you can drop it off at the church office. Thank you for your constant generous spirit.

Winneconne/Omro

Mass Intentions

Saturday: September 5
4:00pm (SMO) George Genal
6:00pm (SMW) Jeffrey Mente
Sunday: September 6

8:30am (SMW) Deceased Members of the

David Voss Family

10:30am (SMO) Mel Wirth

Readings for the Week of August 31

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Lk 4:16-30 Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Lk 4:31-37 Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Lk 4:38-44 Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Lk 5:1-11

St. Gregory the Great, Pope & Dr of the Church

Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Lk 5:33-39 **Saturday:** 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Lk 6:1-5

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/

Mt 18:15-20

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewardship of Sharing – Winneconne

Given week ending 8/23/2020 = \$9,534

WEEKLY GOAL: \$5,576

MASS ATTENDANCE

	WINN	OMRO
8/15 Sat.	35	43
8/16 Sun.	85	43
8/22 Sat.	55	41
8/23 Sun.	87	54

RETURN YOUR TICKETS for St. Mary's, Winneconne raffle!

Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be picked up in the office or you can request a form which you can return with the money, name and phone number for each ticket and the raffle committee will fill out the tickets for you.

The drawing will be held after Mass on Sunday, September 20.



Stewardship of Sharing - Omro

Given week ending 8/23/2020 = \$2,330

Fiscal Year to Date through 8/23/20

Budgeted Offertory Collection: \$28,912

Actual Offertory Collection: \$26,058

- \$2,854 Short

Stewardship of Serving-September 5 & 6 Liturgical Ministry Schedule

(SMO) St Mary, Omro

(SMW) St Mary, Winneconne

Lectors:

4:00pm (SMO) Volunteer
6:00pm (SMW) Mike Jordan
8:30am (SMW) Barb Lenz
10:30am (SMO) Volunteer

Ushers:

4:00pm (SMO)
6:00pm (SMW)
2 Volunteers
8:30am (SMW)
2 Volunteers
2 Volunteers
2 Volunteers

Sacristan:

4:00pm (SMO) Volunteer 8:30am (SMW) Anne Baldwin 10:30am (SMO) Volunteer

Greeters:

4:00pm (SMO) 2 Volunteers

6:00pm (SMW) Donna Stratton, 2 Volunteers 8:30am (SMW) Gerry Arens, Dave Geurden,

Volunteer

10:30am (SMO) 2 Volunteers

Faith Formation Update

Faith formation information & schedules have been shared with families & on our Facebook page. If you did not receive information, & have a child in 1st -11th grade, please contact Andy: andy.krueger@stmarychurches.org or stop in the office to pick up a form & information about our program. Modified, in person classes will be held so that we follow Diocesan guidelines. We are excited to work with our families again & can't wait to see you in October!

Volunteer Opportunities

Have you ever wanted to help with Faith Formation? Felt a tug pulling you to working with the youth of St Mary's? Felt a desire to share your love of Jesus? If yes, please contact Andy today! Training, materials & all the support you could ask for are provided.

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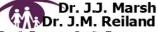
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