St. Mary Churches-Omro & Winneconne www.stmarychurches.org

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time January 21, 2024

Winter Mingle

Saturday, January 27 4:00pm Mass then....

<u>Adults</u>- Kaudy Hall 5-8:00pm <u>Children</u>- Lower Level of church

(Call the office with how many children & ages)

* After Mass come and enjoy a social hour with hors d'oeuvres, beverages and desserts in Kaudy Hall!

* Children will gather in lower level of the church for pizza, a movie and lots of fun and activities.

* All New this Year

Caricatures will be done

Don't miss this special evening for EVERYONE in the parish

If possible: RSVP sue.kuhn@stmarychurches.org 582-7712. Drop ins are welcomed!

This event is sponsored by your Parish Council!

Pastoral Coordinator: Deacon Paul Vidmar

920-379-8068 Paul.vidmar@stmarychurches.org

Priest Celebrants:

Fr. Tom Long Fr. Quinn Mann

Sacraments/Membership

To arrange for baptisms, weddings or to join call

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

St. Mary, Omro: 920-685-2258 or stmaryomro@stmarychurches.org

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

On December 29^{th,} the Blessed Sacrament was unlawfully taken from the Adoration Chapel in Oshkosh. For Roman Catholics this was an egregious act because the foundation of our Catholic belief is the understanding that a consecrated host is the actual Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Also distressing, is that the action was done by someone who was an "insider." There was no forced entry. The person knew the security codes for two different doors as well as the location of the tabernacle key. This was not an impulsive action, rather one that took planning and preparation.



At first, I was under the assumption that the Host and the vessel it was contained within were taken. That made some sense. Someone did this to get cash. The gold vessels would have sizeable street value in some Milwaukee pawn shop. However, that was not the case. Only the Blessed Sacrament was removed. Nothing else was taken.

One possibility that could be entertained is a link to a satanic cult. Secondly, we can consider the action done by a person with mental and emotional issues, or thirdly, that someone took on an ultimate challenge for recognition on a social media platform. An ongoing investigation might someday prove one of these theories correct.

Headlines in the news led with "Jesus is Stolen" I do not believe that. Jesus, in the appearance of a host was taken. No one of us, <u>nor the power of all that is evil</u> can steal away the Body, Soul and Divinity that is our Lord Jesus Christ. God simply is too big for that.

As we so often say, "Why did God let this happen?" Can we even imagine all the other times in history when God allowed the direction of an action to be turned on end to further God's plan? We've read about Eucharistic Miracles that occur in our world today. That Friday evening, Jesus could have appeared in actual human flesh causing the person to flee the Chapel in terror, but Jesus didn't. Yet, with the Body and Blood of Jesus being reserved in countless Tabernacles in our world there must have been other instances where people tried to violate the Eucharist, and "something" stopped them.

According to articles I've been reading online this week, the violation of our Holy Eucharist or church vessels is a more common occurrence than we think. This indicates, that while we seriously take on the obligation to honor and respect all that is holy by making sure security measures are in place, we can't "protect" Jesus even if we tried. Let's face it, most of us have trouble protecting ourselves, or those in our world who are most vulnerable.

Because I believe in the real presence of Jesus, I have found myself praying about this incident with gratitude! I am choosing to believe that Jesus, already knowing the person who entered the Chapel was filled with despair, anger and confusion allowed the unthinkable to happen. Jesus allowed someone, when they were at the very lowest and worst place in their life, the intimate privilege of taking Him into their hands. Through that touch of Holy Eucharist upon human hand, I believe Jesus is drawing the person back into a redeemed and loving relationship with God. The first time Jesus gave Himself into the hands of others, he was crucified. It was an abomination. However, Jesus transformed that act with His rising from the dead. To reach out and touch Jesus, whether we will it or not, opens us to His transformation.

The Catholic Community of this area are prayerfully moving through our anger and grief at what occurred that Friday evening. Steps are being taken at all our Parishes to make sure we are up to date with the security measures needed for keeping holy places and holy things safe.

This is also a suitable time then, to acknowledge Jesus in the human tabernacle. Each of us is a tabernacle, given the privilege to carry Jesus within. For many of us the sanctuary lamp of our heart burns steadily, for others there are moments when it flickers hesitantly before regaining it's light, and then, there are those whose tabernacle light has gone out entirely, but in each instance, Jesus has this. Our God is an Awesome God, Immense, Omnipotent and unconquerable. Amen.

Lyn Zahorik

Director for Spiritual Engagement

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Faith Formation Registration ~ Winter 2024

Bible Studies/Speakers/January—April

Use the following link to register:

https://forms.gle/aJFH3tAi8tHaH8G4A

Call the church office SMO 920-685-2258 or SMW 920-582-7712 OR Fill out postcard at church



The Chosen

ormat: Refreshments – Video – Discussion

The Chosen is a television drama based on the life of

Jesus Christ. This video series portrays Jesus "through the eyes of those who met him." See Scripture come to life in a new way!

> Regardless of where you are on your faith journey, this series is for you!

Season One—Winneconne (continued from fall)

Day: Wednesdays Time: 6:30—8:00 PM Location: Lower Level of Church

Facilitator: PMP Members

Episode 7: Feb. 7/ Episode 8: Feb. 21

Season One—Omro

Day: Wednesdays Time: 6:30—8:00 PM Location: Marian Hall

Dates: Jan. 24 Episode 2 and 3

Feb. 7 Episode 4 Feb. 21 Episode 5

Mar. 6 Episode 6 Mar. 20 NO CLASS (Family Night) Mar. 27 NO CLASS (Spring break) April 3 Episode 7 and 8

Facilitators:

Jen Welhoefer, Tina Wickham, Courtney Stachura, Bethany Schoonover

Spanish—Omro

Day: Weds Dates: Jan. 10, 17, 24, Feb. 7, 21, 28, Mar. 6 Time: 4:45PM Location: Lower Level Facilitators: Nelly Lopez, Lupita Montoya



Date: Mon, Jan. 29 Time: 6:00—7:30pm Location: Kaudy Hall, SMW

Jesus Christ, on the night before He died, celebrated the Last Supper

with His disciples. It is that same sacrificial gift of the Eucharist that has nourished the Church for centuries. Come and reflect on the power of the Eucharist and how the Trinity is present to us whenever we share in the Body and Blood of the

Reflections on the Mass (Part 1)

Date: Feb. 22

Time: 1:00 -2:30 PM or 6:00—7:30 PM

Location: Omro

Reflections on the Mass (Part 2)

Date: Feb. 29

Time: 1:00-2:30 PM or 6:00 -7:30 PM Location: Kaudy Hall, Winneconne



Movie Night With the Saints

Day: Mondays

Time: 6:00 to 7:30pm **Location:** Kaudy Hall, SMW Facilitators: Rick/Roxanne Lee

and Linda Dorsett

Jan. 22 -God's Doorkeeper—

St. André Bessette

Feb. 12—St. Maria Goretti

Feb. 26 —St. Francis of Assisi:

Sign of Contradiction

Refreshments - Video -







Jesus and Eucharistic Povival the Eucharist

Day: Tuesdays

Dates: Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13,

20, 27, Mar. 5, 12

Time: 1:30 to 3:00pm 6:00 to 7:30pm

Facilitator: Heather Sleeman

Mary McDonald

Location: Kaudy Hall,

St. Mary, Winneconne

Format: Refreshments -**Video - Discussion** All are welcome!

WINNECONNE NEWS

St. Mary, Winneconne Calendar

Mon. Jan. 22 7:30am LOW* w/Communion

6:00pm Movie with the Saints

Tues. Jan. 23 Office Closed-Staff Retreat Wed. Jan. 24 7:30am LOW* w/Communion

3:05pm Elementary FF 6:30pm HS Classes

Thurs. Jan. 25 2:00pm Rosary

Sat. Jan. 27 3:30pm Confession 4:00pm Mass

5:00pm Winter Mingle

Sun. Jan. 28 10:30am Mass

Sat./Sun. 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*LOW: Liturgy of the Word Stewardship Speaker

STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING-

Winneconne

Given Week ending 1/14/2024 = \$4,887

WEEKLY GOAL: \$6,550

The tradition continues....

St Mary Winneconne Fish and Smelt Fry

When: February 16, 2024

March 1, 2024 March 15, 2024



Time: 4:00 - 7:00pm

Where: St Mary Winneconne Kaudy Hall

244 S 3rd Ave Winneconne

What: Fried or baked haddock, shrimp,

all-you-can-eat smelt, fish and shrimp

combo or seafood platter

Served with potato salad or fries, coleslaw, rye bread, dessert and milk or water.

Soda and beer available for purchase.

Carry out orders starting at noon by calling 920-582-7712 for pick up from 4:30-6:30pm.



New this year – deep fried cheese curds!



Come enjoy great food and fellowship!

Volunteers can sign up for the first fish fry, Feb. 16 by going to:

St. Mary Winneconne: Fish Fry 2-16-2024 (signupgenius.com)

Faith Formation News

Wednesday January 24

Elementary Classes —3:05-4:30

Refreshments in the lower level after Mass in honor of our Students of the Month!

This weekend at our Sunday Mass, Students of the Month and their families are joining us. They are recipients of one of the two awards given each week in our elementary Faith

Formation classes.

Congratulations Students!

Each month, classroom catechists will select students to receive recognition for demonstrating what it means to be

Christ-like in the classroom.

A Light to Others Award

Awarded to a helpful student in the class. This student shows kindness and compassion during class. This student puts others first, by helping classmates and the catechist. They strive to give assistance to whoever needs it.

Enlighten and Engage Award

Awarded to the student that goes above and beyond to engage and participate in class discussions. This student while eager remembers to follow classroom rules to ensure a respectful and peaceful classroom.

St. Mary Winneconne and Omro Confirmation Retreat is coming up. Held in Winneconne

February 3rd from 1pm-8pm. Please keep our Confirmation students in your prayers.



OMRO NEWS

St. Mary, Omro Calendar

Mon. Jan. 22 6:00pm Parish Council Mtg. Tues. Jan. 23 Office Closed-Staff Retreat

Wed. Jan. 24 4:30pm FF Gr. 1, 3-6 4:30pm Confession

4:45pm Latino Bible Study

5:00pm 2nd Grade—Student/Parent

Presentation

6:30pm The Chosen 6:30pm FF Gr. 7-8

Sun. Jan. 28 8:30am Mass w/CLOW*

Sat./Sun. 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time*CLOW: Children's Liturgy of the Word
Stewardship Speaker

STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING-Omro

Given Week ending 1/14/2024 \$3,115 WEEKLY GOAL: \$3,941

Call the office to buy your tickets for An Enchanted Evening at St. Mary, Omro on February 10 from 6:30-8:30pm



A magical evening under the stars is planned, including: a delicious dinner catered by The Roxy, home made desserts, live music, door prizes worth \$350, babysitting, drinks and lively conversation.

Come by yourself, with your spouse or bring a friend. Tickets are only \$25, but there are a limited numbers of spaces available, so call or email now: 920-685-2258 or stmaryomro@stmarychurches.org.



Wednesday, January 24th
Grades 1-6 4:30pm
Grades 7 & 8 6:30pm



2nd Grade Families

Parent/Student Liturgy Talk
Wednesday, January 24th at 5:00pm

January 31st

No Faith Formation Classes



Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, February 3rd 1:30pm at St. Mary Church, Winneconne

Please keep our Candidates in your prayers as they continue on their journey towards Confirmation.



Lucia and Luigi came all the way from Venice to invite us for this wonderful opportunity at St. Mary, Omro on Saturday, February 10. You don't want to miss this enchanted evening!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Readings for the Week of January 22

2 Sm 5:1-7,10/Mk 3:22-30 Monday: Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15,17-19/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Mk 4:1-20

St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Religious

Founder & Doctor

Thursday: Acts 22:3-16/Mk 16:15-18

The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8/Mk 4:26-34

St. Timothy & St. Titus, Bishops y: 2 Sm 12:1-7a,10-17/Mk 4:35-41 Saturday:

Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/1 Cor 7:32-35/

Mk 1:21-28

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time

If you would like a statement of your donations for 2023, please contact the office to let us know whether to send them electronically, via snail mail or you will pick up.

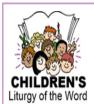
To save on postage, we will not automatically be sending letters this year.

Winneconne: 920-582-7712

Omro 920-685-2258

Our offices will be closed on Tuesday, January 23 so that the entire staff can attend our retreat together.





Omro

During the 8:30am Mass January 28, February 11 & 25

Winneconne

During the 10:30am Mass January 21, February 4 & 18

JOURNEY THROUGH THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH AT 6:00PM ST. MOTHER TERESA CENTER-FR. CARR'S PLACE 2B

Join us for Brian Keliher's presentation of the "Stations of the Cross." Brian will share some of his story how God has been at work in his life and the life of his family.

As he has came to recognize God's presence in the midst of suffering, he invites us to reflect on our own lives, and how God is with us, even through moments of pain and loss. After listening to Brian share some of his



own story, we will enter into praying the Stations of the Cross. Brian's artwork will invite us to reflect on our journey with Christ through suffering to the resurrection.



We had a great turnout for Ladies Night on Monday. Fr. Quinn had many wonderful stories of how he was accepted into Seminary and working with Mother Mary Catherine at CYE. Bingo with a "twist" was a blast, with lots of good prizes!

Contemplating Eternity

A trillion years from now, your children's souls will still exist. This will only be the beginning of eternity. How can we help prepare their souls (and our own) to spend eternity in God's love and grace?

Videos (10—15 minutes each) +Delivered weekly via e-mail to view on your own time. Format:

Audience: Parents, Grandparents, Godparents, Aunts & Uncles

Dates: Every Monday - Now - 3/25/2024

Facilitator: Lisa Lynch

The Sacrament of Reconciliation + The Sacrament of the Eucharist and Adoration **Topics:**

+ Prayer and Sacred Scripture + One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic Church

+ Devotion to Mary and the Saints

+ Understanding the Constant Battle between Good and Evil

+ Engaging in Spiritual Warfare + Calvary: The Necessity of the Cross

+ Cultivating Virtue + Connecting with the Church Community



Deadline for the Bulletin NOON on Tuesday

E-mail bulletin announcements to:

Sue Kuhn: sue.kuhn@stmarychurches.org Peggy Wilms: peggy.wilms@stmarychurches.org

Like us on Facebook:

St. Mary Catholic Church Omro St. Mary Catholic Church Winneconne



stmarychurchomro st.marychurchwinneconne

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY: January 27

4:00pm (SMW) Bernice & Norm Flanigan

SUNDAY: January 28

Thomas Lee & Dolores Martin 8:30am (SMO) 10:30am (SMW) Matt & Ethel Neuman

Check us out on the web:

stmarychurches.org

Stewardship of Serving-Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Saturday & Sunday January 27 & 28

SMO—St. Mary, Omro

SMW—St. Mary, Winneconne

<u> Altar Servers:</u>

4:00pm (SMW) Stella Verich, **Volunteer** 8:30am (SMO) Aubree Krier, Sydney Kirsch 10:30am (SMW) Anna Lynch, Rose Unser

Lectors:

4:00pm (SMW) Mike Jordan 8:30am (SMO) Sue Martin 10:30am (SMW) Vicky Holt

Ushers:

4:00pm (SMW) Deb & Jack Woelfel, 2 Volunteers

8:30am (SMO) Jill Pernaski, Eric Wrage 10:30am (SMW) JoAnn Winnekens, Deb Kolasinski Steve Kuenster, Ken Geurts

Sacristans:

4:00pm (SMW) Rose Unser 8:30am (SMO) Tina Wickham 10:30am (SMW) Lisa Lynch

Communion Ministers:

4:00pm (SMW) Mike Jordan, Jill Verich 10:30am (SMW) Vicky Holt, Lisa Lynch

4:00pm (SMW) Kathy Meinen, Blanche Fiegel, Linda Dorsett, Mary Materna 8:30am (SMO) Ron & Lawanda Jungwirth 10:30am (SMW) Jennifer & Olivia Flora, JoAnn Winnekens, Sherrie Johnson

Intercessory Prayers:

8:30am (SMO) Volunteer

10:30am (SMW) Rose Unser, Tim Johnson

Musicians:

4:00pm (SMW) Annemarie Birschbach, Paige Woelfel 8:30am (SMO) Ron Hayes, Rose Luebke 10:30am (SMW) Kristin Day, Emily Makovec

St. Mary, Omro

730 Madison Ave. Omro WI 54963

stmaryomro@stmarychurches.org

Parish Office: 920-685-2258

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8am-Noon 12:30-4:00pm

Fridays: Closed

Administrative Assistant: Peggy Wilms

Bookkeeper: Pat Samolinski Custodian: Janet Wegner

Faith Formation Coordinator: Heidi Seaman

Pastoral Associate: Rose Unser

Adult Faith Formation Coordinator: Mary McDonald Director for Spiritual Engagement: Lyn Zahorik

St. Mary, Winneconne

210 Pleasant Dr. P.O. Box 487

Parish Office: 205 Pleasant Dr.

Winneconne, WI 54986-0487 stmarywinn@stmarychurches.org

Parish Office: 920-582-7712

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:00am-Noon 12:30-5:00pm

Fridays: Closed

Administrative Assistant: Sue Kuhn Bookkeeper: Pat Samolinski

Custodian: Annemarie Birschbach Faith Formation Coordinator: Andy Krueger

Pastoral Associate: Rose Unser

Adult Faith Formation Coordinator: Mary McDonald Director for Spiritual Engagement: Lyn Zahorik



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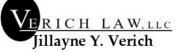
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Need prayer contact the parish office to be put on the prayer chain. Omro-920-685-2258 Winn-920-582-7712



Call 920.426.6421 for a tour or visit www.lourdes.today.



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