

St. Mary Churches-Omro & Winneconne

www.stmarychurches.org

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent



This Season of Advent

Let Us:

Receive Jesus

Renew in Jesus

Rejoice in Jesus

Prepare your heart to receive Jesus

Opportunities for Reconciliation:

Wed.	Dec 13	4:30pm	St. Mary, Omro
Thurs	Dec 14	6:30pm	MBS, St. Peter Site City Wide Reconciliation
Sat	Dec 16	3:30pm	St. Mary, Winneconne
Tues	Dec 19	2:00pm	St. Raphael City Wide Reconciliation
Wed	Dec 20	4:30pm	St. Mary, Winneconne
Sat	Dec 23	3:30pm	St. Mary, Winneconne

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

Christmas is full of symbols, many of which have lost their Christian meaning in our secular world. Here are some examples of the real Christian meaning of these well-known symbols.

We celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas, which means Christ's Mass (the Mass of Christ.) Christ means the anointed one. Jesus was God made flesh, come to earth so that we could understand how much God loves us so that we would not be afraid to approach him. Who could be afraid of an infant? The infant Christ is a living symbol of the humility of God who left the glory of heaven to come to earth in poverty and obscurity, showing us that we too are to be little and simple and to give our life for others.



God created Mary with a mission to be the mother of our Lord and intercessor of all graces for us. She typifies both of these roles at the crib in Bethlehem. Here she can't take her eyes off the infant Christ, her son. Yet she does not keep Jesus to herself even in those first moments after his birth. Instead, she welcomes all visitors to see and adore Christ. Mary welcomes us into Jesus' presence too. May we imitate Mary's devotion and obedience so that we, too, may show Christ to others by our words and actions.

Joseph is the silent protector, the husband of faith, who knows how to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit. God has given Joseph the grace of courage which enables him to follow God's directions no matter how incredible, unbelievable, or difficult they are. St. Joseph, pray for us that we may listen more closely to the Holy Spirit so that we will follow God's will for our life no matter where it may lead us.

When people thought of a stable, they thought of cows, donkeys, and hay. Only after the gospel was proclaimed around the world did the term "stable" evoke an image of the infant Christ. Our perception changed because God entered the picture. In our lives, we encounter countless familiar people, situations, and objects. Our perception of them is often stereotyped. What would happen if we would allow God to enter the picture? How would our perception change? Lord, we ask you to open our spiritual eyes to see your presence in every person and situation in our life.

Christians traditionally think of a donkey as the beast who carried the Blessed Mother and our unborn Lord to Bethlehem. Donkeys are slow, methodical, and strong animals. Sometimes strength of character and slow persistence are just the traits needed to bring Christ to someone who is not particularly interested in knowing him. May we have the strength of spirit and the proper pace so that we may be an effective instrument in bringing God's message to others.

A manger holds feed for animals. The Manger in Bethlehem held the bread of life, the food of our souls. After Mary's womb, the manger was the first tabernacle. It held the body of our Lord. The shepherds came to adore our Lord in this tabernacle of the manger. The manger was probably roughly made. Lord, take away our rough edges, our imperfections, our human preoccupation with ourselves. Grant us the grace to adore your presence in our souls and then open our eyes to find that presence in the soul of every other human being.



During the 15th century, the faithful began to erect trees in their homes on December 24th, the feast day of Adam and Eve. By the 18th century the custom of decorating a Christmas tree was well established in Europe. Thus, the Christmas tree represents the original Tree of Paradise, the burning bush which spoke to Moses, the branch of Jesse from which Jesus was born, and the life-giving tree of the cross of Christ. Because it is green year-round, the evergreen tree represents hope and because the tree is cut down and then erected again, it's a symbol of Christ's resurrection. The Christmas tree is a sign of hope and a reminder of the many trees that are part of salvation history. Thank you, Lord, for turning the tree of Adam and Eve's sin into the tree of life through the cross of Christ. Because of the tree on which Christ died, we have been given the promise of eternal life.

CONTINUE PG. 2

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

CONTINUED

For many people, gifts define Christmas. They focus on the giving and receiving of gifts instead of on our greatest gift of Jesus who gave himself to us at Christmas. God also gives us the gifts of the Holy Spirit which help us to follow God's direction in our lives. The gift of great wisdom, correct understanding, sure counsel, fuller knowledge, fervent piety, unshakable fortitude, and the awe of God's greatness and power. This Christmas let us ask God to revive in us the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

God bless you and your family!
Deacon Paul Vidmar



PARISH HAPPENINGS

Help bring a star to someone's eye!!



This December we are assisting in making someone's day a little brighter. Corporal Works of Mercy is in need of help for December in the following areas:

- Dec. 11: 2pm Omro Care, make cards, decorate cookies, carols (**2 needed**)
- Dec. 11: 2:30pm Country Villa, make cards, decorate cookies, carols (**1 needed**)
- Dec. 12: 3:30pm Meal prep Kaudy Hall (**2 needed**)
- Dec. 12: 5:30pm Day by Day serving (**1 needed**)
- Dec. 16: 8:30am Fr. Carr's Christmas Party (6 needed)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E45A4AC2BABFEC70-44874907-corporal> or call St. Mary: Winneconne office at 920-582-7712 or Omro office at 920-685-2258 to sign up.

CAM CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN



St. Mary, Winneconne, Christian Action Ministry, CAM, is collecting children's books to be delivered to children in need in our community and beyond. We believe every child should have their own books and want to help make that idea a

reality so we are collecting new books for children from ages newborn through teen. Please place your **NEW** books in the boxes located at the church entrances this weekend. Help make Christmas brighter for our children by giving the gift of reading to them this year! Books open the world for everyone and help dreams become reality!

Mark your calendar

4th Sunday of Advent Mass Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 23 4:00pm Mass Winneconne

Sunday, Dec. 24 8:30am Mass Omro

NO 10:30am Mass

Christmas Eve 4:00pm Mass Winneconne

6:00pm Mass Omro

Christmas Day 8:30am Mass Omro

10:30am Mass Winneconne

NOTE

Parish Offices **CLOSED** for Christmas

Dec. 26-January 1, 2024. **Returning Jan. 2nd**

Christmas Environment/ Decorations Donation

Name _____

In Memory Of:

Amount \$ _____

St. Mary Winneconne or Omro



WINNECONNE NEWS

Calendar

St. Mary, Winneconne

Mon. Dec. 11	7:30am LOW* w/Communion 11:00am Musician Meeting 5:30pm Environment Meeting
Tues. Dec. 12	9:30am Staff Meeting 7:00pm KC Meeting
Wed. Dec. 13	7:30am LOW* w/Communion 3:05pm FF Classes 6:30pm HS
Thurs. Dec. 14	2:00pm Rosary
Sat. Dec. 16	3:30pm Confession 4:00pm Mass 5:15pm Choir Practice
Sun. Dec. 17	10:00am Lourdes Madrigal Singers 10:30am Mass w/CLOW** 11:30am Enviro Changes

Third Sunday of Advent
*LOW: Liturgy of the Word
**CLOW: Children's Liturgy of the Word



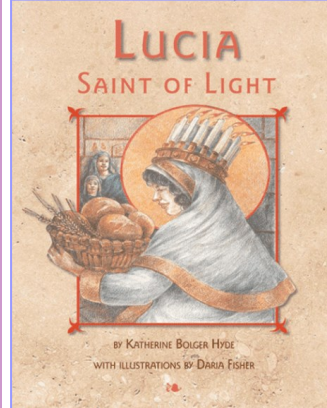
Faith Formation News

Elementary Classes

3:05-4:30pm December 13th

9th & 10th Grade Class

6:30-8:00pm December 13th



St. Lucia or Lucy's feast day is celebrated on December 13th.

← Book Recommendation

Some of my favorite saints are celebrated with great food. What is one thing we can do to celebrate St. Lucy's Feast Day? Any student who can tell me something on Wednesday will earn a prize! Good luck! Have fun learning together. I pray you have a sweet start to your day.

STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING- Winneconne

Given Week ending 12/3/2023 = \$9,781

WEEKLY GOAL: \$6,550



Calling All Singers!!!

St. Mary, Winneconne will have a Choir at the 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass.



Practices will be on:

Sunday, December 10 at 11:45am

Saturday, December 16 & 23 at 5:15pm



FYI-For this winter REMEMBER

No school = no faith formation classes.

No after school events = no faith formation classes.

ALL CHURCH EVENTS ARE CANCELLED IF SCHOOL OR AFTER SCHOOL EVENTS ARE CANCELLED !

Winneconne Wish List

Carpet Cleaner Head	\$ 100
Mobile Utility Cart	Thank you!!
Faith Formation Computer	\$1,000
Adult Faith Formation Computer	\$1,000

Winneconne

During the 10:30am Mass
December 17



CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY: WAAC DECORATING



OMRO NEWS

Calendar St. Mary, Omro

- Mon. Dec. 11 Noon Latino Support Group
- Tues. Dec. 12 9:30am Staff Meeting at SMW
7:00pm KC Meeting at SMW
- Wed. Dec. 13 4:30pm FF Gr. 1-6
6:30pm FF Gr. 7-8
4:30pm Adoration & Confession
- Sun. Dec. 17 8:00am Lourdes Madrigal Singers
8:30am Mass w/ CLOW** and Refreshments

Third Sunday of Advent

**CLOW: Children's Liturgy of the Word

STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING-Omro

Given Week ending 12/3/2023 = \$3,701

WEEKLY GOAL: \$3,941



You are invited to

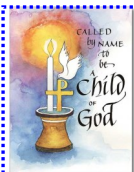
St. Mary Church,
Omro

Holy Hour with Adoration
Wednesday, December 13,
2023

4:30 to 5:30pm

"Come, Let Us Adore Him"

Confession will also be offered during this hour with Fr. Bill.



*Congratulations
To the parents and godparents of
Broden Nickel Henry*

*Who was Baptized into Christ's Family
this weekend!
Bring the Little Children onto Him!*



Wednesday, December 13

Grades 1-6 4:30pm

Grades 7 & 8 6:30pm



Parade

Best of Theme

Candyland
Christmas
Parade

Omro



Thank you to all who helped with the parade float this year!
St. Mary Omro won the Best of Theme Award.



CLOW is back in Omro!

During the 8:30am Mass
December 17



COMMUNITY NEWS

Readings for the Week of December 11

- Monday:** Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** Zec 2:14-17/Lk 1:26-38
Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30
St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr
- Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church
- Friday:** Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4,9-11/Mt 17:9a,10-13
- Sunday:** Is 61:1-2a,10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/
Jn 1:6-8,19-28

**Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday**

**ST. MARY OMRO PRESENTS:
AN ENCHANTED EVENING
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024
6:30PM-8:30PM**

**Limited number of tickets available.



Enjoy a magical night under the stars:

- Dinner catered by The Roxy
- Live entertainment
- Door prizes worth \$350
- Babysitting available
- Sponsored by:

- The Roxy Supper Club
- Jeff's on Rugby
- Leo Rivera's Mexican Grill
- Off the Wolf Supper Club
- Jimmie's White House Inn
- Fox River Brewing Co.
- 'F'n n' Feather

St. Mary's Catholic Church Ladies Night Out Group



Join the fun!



When: Monday, January 15, 2024 at 6:30pm

What: Get to know Father Quinn
Bingo with a twist – Great prizes!

Where: Kaudy Hall

Cost: Free; donations appreciated

*Come join us for a special night to get to know
Father Quinn.*

Followed by Bingo with great prizes and extra fun.



To register, use the QR Code to the right or
Sign up Genius link below or email Tanya at
jonya830@gmail.com.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050545ADAA2AA7F58-46557457-stmary>

CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY: Father Carr's & Day by Day Prep



**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

Check us out on the web:
stmarychurches.org

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY:
4:00pm (SMW)

December 16
Carol Brennand



SUNDAY:
8:30am (SMO)
10:30am (SMW)

December 17
Lawrence Crowley
Robert Botello

Stewardship of Serving-Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Saturday & Sunday December 16 & 17

SMO—St. Mary, Omro
SMW—St. Mary, Winneconne

Altar Servers

4:00pm (SMW) **2 Volunteers**
8:30am (SMO) Wyatt Miller, **Volunteer**
10:30am (SMW) Anna Lynch, **Volunteer**

Lectors:

4:00pm (SMW) Hugh Sleeman
8:30am (SMO) Heidi Seaman
10:30am (SMW) Mike Jordan

Ushers:

4:00pm (SMW) Steve & Irma Christian
Kathy Hartzheim, Jerry Cegielski
8:30am (SMO) Seaman Family
10:30am (SMW) Peggy Benjamin, Jeff Jandrin
Pauline & Paul Jandrin

Sacristans:

4:00pm (SMW) Tracey & Mike Losse
8:30am (SMO) Jodi Hess
10:30am (SMW) Lisa Lynch

Communion Ministers:

4:00pm (SMW) Tracey Losse, Chelsy Cegielski
10:30am (SMW) Mike Jordan, Jackie Saunders

Greeters:

4:00pm (SMW) Chelsy Cegielski, Kathy Meinen,
2 Volunteers
8:30am (SMO) Blake Stachura, **Volunteer**
10:30am (SMW) Kristin Kasuboski,
Broc, Wade & Jann Berglund

Musicians:

4:00pm (SMW) Annemarie Birschbach/
Kim Berndt
8:30am (SMO) Ron Hayes/Rose Luebke
10:30am (SMW) Kristin Day/Julie Mueller &
Bonnie Plummer

Intercessory Prayers:

8:30am (SMO) **Volunteer**
10:30am (SMW) Patty Volp, Julie Servais

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
Adult Faith Formation Assistant: Jolene Johnson
Director for Spiritual Engagement: Lyn Zahorik

St. Mary, Winneconne

210 Pleasant Dr. P.O. Box 487
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
Adult Faith Formation Assistant: Jolene Johnson
Director for Spiritual Engagement: Lyn Zahorik

The Dowling Group LLC
Teri Dowling, Broker
 (920) 420-0773 Cell
 Oshkosh, WI
 teri@dowlinggroupllc.com
 COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL

Holiday Florist
 Full Service Florist
 217 W. Main St. Winneconne
 Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00
 920-582-3939
 www.holidayfloristwinneconne.com

OMRO PHARMACY
 328 E. Main Street, Omro
 920-685-5041

BJ's Nursery
 6992 Lakeshore Rd, Winneconne
 920-582-9773
 Trees, Shrubs, Annuals, Perennials
 and more Landscaping Services

Advertise Here
 Email:
Stmarywinn
@stmarychurches.org

Mike & Cathy Miller Realtor
 (920) 716-0959 (920) 475-0840
 mike.miller@c21ace.com SMW
 cathy.miller@c21ace.com Parishioners
CENTURY 21 Realty
 303 S. BLUEMOUND DR. APPLETON, WI 54914
 OFFICE: (920)739-2121 FAX: (920)739-1103

WISCONSIN CUSTOM BUILT HOMES
DOWLING CONSTRUCTION INC.
 Dan Dowling - President
 Oshkosh, WI ~ Phone (920) 235-8021
 www.DowlingConstructionInc.com

SCHERER FAMILY
Chiropractic, S.C.
 Dr. Cindy Scherer, Dr. Tom Scherer
 884 Airport Road, Menasha
 (920) 725-6933

VERICH LAW, LLC
Jillayne Y. Verich
 (920) 810-7480
 jverich@verichlaw.com

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 Omro-Winneconne Council 8810
 Come Join Us
www.KofC.org/JoinUs
 Call Steve Christian 920.376.1053

LEO'S SERVICE, LLC
 302 W. Main, Winneconne
 Complete Auto Repairs
 Mini-Mart · 24 Hour Towing
 (920)582-7717 days
 (920)420-9523 nights

MUELLER FUNERAL HOME
 Complete Funeral & Cremation Services
 Kelly Angell
 904 E. Main St. Winneconne
 920-582-4242 • www.muellerfh.net

LOURDES ACADEMY
 Prepared for College Prepared for Good.[™]
 Faith-filled PreK-12 education
 Call 920.426.6421 for a tour or visit www.lourdes.today.

Off the Well
 Supper Club
 204 W. Main Street, Winneconne, WI 54986
 920.582.4422
 Owners: Jeff & Jennifer Schmitz

DEX PLUS
 Construction Remodeling
 JOHN R. VANDE HEI Siding
 Owner Additions
 (O)920-685-3004 Decks
 (C)920-420-1636 New Homes

thrivent
 Focused on your financial goals.
 40 W 6th Ave. Oshkosh, WI 54902
 Greg J Herlihy, FIC Associate Financial Advisor 920-230-2553 greg.herlihy@thrivent.com
 Jason W Lowe, FIC Financial Associate 920-886-3963 jason.lowe@thrivent.com
 Insurance products, securities and investment advisory services are provided by appropriately appointed and licensed financial advisors and professionals. Only individuals who are financial advisors are credited to provide investment advisory services. Visit Thrivent.com or FINRA's BrokerCheck for more information about our financial advisors. 27193 1/4-23

Kwiatkowski Funeral Home
 425 Jefferson Ave, Omro
 920-685-2207

D&S PLUMBING
 Shawn Zagrodnik
 920-850-2919

THRIFT AND GIFT
 TU 9-12; W/F 10-3 TH 10-7; Sat 10-2
 Phone #: 920-582-3932
 Web: winneconnethriftgift.org
 Like us on FACEBOOK
 Charity, Sustainability, Fellowship

Edward Jones
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
 Eric J. Lang
 Financial Advisor
 119 W Main St, Winneconne
 Phone: 920-582-4268
 Cell: 920-379-1154
 eric.lang@edwardjones.com

Jorgie's
 N3084 County Rd. XX Berlin, WI 54923
 920-987-5800
 John & Jodi Hess, Owners
OUTDOOR DINING
 Serving Food Daily at 11:30 a.m. (Closed Mondays)
 Large Parking Lot for Motorcycle Groups
GREAT FRIDAY FISH FRY!
 Outdoor Steak Fry once a month from April-November

SCP EverGreen
 SKIDS, CRATES & PALLETS

Beth LeeFranzen
 Independent Sales Consultant
 920-279-1233
 elizabethlee@norwex.norwex.biz
Norwex
 The Norwegian Experience

Fortifi Bank
 Growin' Wisconsin
 FortifiBank.com | 855.876.1500
 Omro | Winneconne

MAIN TIRE and MAINTENANCE
 Repair on all Foreign & Domestic Cars
 1121 E. Main St. Omro WI 54963
 920-685-5553

Compliments of
Jim & Margaret Potratz
 Parish Members
 920-420-2501

Your ad will reach over 500 households each week!!
Advertise today: Information
stmarywinn
@stmarychurches.org

PoppyFamilyFarms@gmail.com
 Poppyfamilyfarms.com
 Facebook.com/PoppyFamilyFarms
Rebecca
 920-312-0970
Brian
 920-295-9000
 Great Quality Beef
 For affordable prices!

On This Rock
 216 W South Park Ave
 Oshkosh
 Phone #: 920-966-0007

Chris Seaman Carpentry Services LLC
 Chris Seaman
 Owner
 carpentryservices3143@gmail.com
 920-312-3058
 3143 Morrow Rd, Omro

Marsh Family Eyecare
 Family Eyecare · Quality Eyewear
 Contact Lenses · Laser Care
 Winneconne Oshkosh
 Healthy Vision: One of God's Most Precious Gifts

Riverfront
 Cabinetry & Design
Jeff Noffke LLC
 920-252-5501

Tipler Insurance
George A. Tipler-Agent
 920-836-2000
Erin Siegmann-Agent
 920-410-8309
 8299 Hickory Ave, Larsen

bella SPECIALIZING IN SAVING LIVES OF THE UNBORN
 920.231.6006
 BELLAMEDICALCLINIC.COM
 1484 W. SOUTH PARK AVE. • OSHKOSH