

# ***St. Mary Churches-Omro & Winneconne***

www.stmarychurches.org

**December 3, 2023**

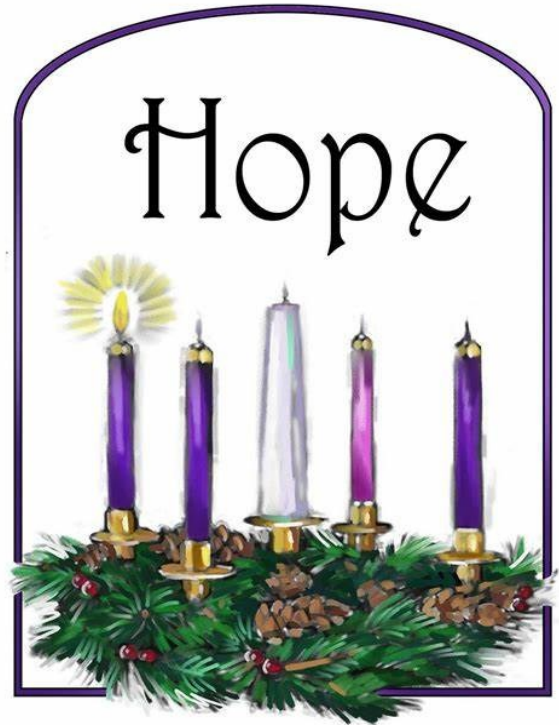
## ***First Sunday of Advent***

Lord God,  
let your blessing come upon us  
as we light the candles of this  
wreath.

May the wreath and it's light  
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring  
us salvation.

May he come quickly and not delay.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.



### **Our Parishes Feast Day**

This year we will have

a **VIGIL Mass** on

**Thursday, Dec.7**

6:00pm Mass St. Mary, Omro

&

**Friday, Dec. 8**

7:30am Mass St. Mary, Winneconne

**Immaculate  
Conception**



***This Season of Advent***

***Let Us:***

***Receive Jesus***

***Renew in Jesus***

***Rejoice in Jesus***

**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

As we are entering Advent, we look to Mary as a model of how we should be living the days of this season. Advent is a time to prepare our hearts and minds so that we will be ready to RECEIVE, be RENEWED, and REJOICE as we anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ through Mary!



Over the past few months I have had several encounters with pregnant women. Two girlfriends have daughters that are expecting. My niece just gave birth to her second son, Nolan Rex. Bodour and Ahmad, the refugee couple from Jordan, have received the gift of their first child, a beautiful little girl, Massa!

The unknowns and new experiences of pregnancy are beautiful; the first flutters in the belly, the baby kicks, the deep desire to protect and comfort, the hopes and dreams for the life within. Most likely there is a bit of fear about the unknown too.

In the Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38 see below) we see how Mary experienced all of this as Christ bearer! Take a few minutes to ponder this reading. What word or words capture your attention?

*"Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God."*  
Then Mary said,

*"Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.*

As you read this passage a second time, consider placing yourself in the scene. Reflect on how Mary received the message and accepted the mission without hesitation. Her circumstances were far from perfect, yet her faith in God unwavering. Reflect on the faith and courage it must have taken her to embrace her calling to be the mother of Jesus. Do you sense the peace and confidence in Mary's response? Consider praying for that same faith and courage today and to receive peace through the "yes" or "new life" you are being called to.

As you read it a third time, rest in how God is rejoicing in you! Experience a renewed heart as you receive Jesus through His Word. Rejoice in God who is faithful, who works within us as we sit in the classroom of silence and respond to him with faith. As you conclude your prayer, consider journaling about your prayer experience.

As we look to Mary as a model on how to live Advent, remember two great ways to receive, renew and rejoice are spending time in God's Word and receiving Jesus in the Eucharist!

Wishing you Jesus through Mary,

Rose Unser - Pastoral Associate

*The more your faith becomes intrinsic, the more you will be able to put aside your anxiety, sit at the feet of the Lord, and let your heart be still, knowing that He is God. —Dr. Gregory Popcak*

# PARISH HAPPENINGS

## The Star of Bethlehem

You are invited to join us for an evening of awe and wonder.

The **STAR OF BETHLEHEM** FASCINATES. For millennia, believers, scoffers and the curious have wondered at the Biblical account of the Star. The Bible recounts unusual, or even impossible astronomical events at Christ's birth. For many believers, it's a mystery accepted on faith. But what happens if we combine current historical study, astronomical fact and an open mind?

**Judge for yourself.....**

**DECEMBER 9TH from 5:00-6:30PM**

**Join us for Mass at 4:00pm at St. Mary Winneconne  
Followed by supper and The STAR in Kaudy Hall.**



**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. 4: 6:30pm Fr. Carr's decorating cookies, refreshments with the women & children.

Dec. 6: 6:30pm Caroling in Omro

Dec. 7: 5:00pm Oshkosh Area Pantry- restock

Dec. 11: Casserole/hotdish 1 needed; 8#'s grapes, 6#'s sliced ham

Dec. 11: 1pm Highlands, make Christmas cards, decorate cookies (4 needed)

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. 11: 6pm Webster Manor, cookie decorating, (6 needed)

Dec. 12: 3:30pm Meal prep (2 needed)

Dec. 12: 5:30pm Day by Day serving (1 needed)

Dec. 16: 8:30am Fr. Carr's Christmas Party (9 needed)

Dec. 16: Noon Fr. Carr's Clean up (2 needed)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COE45A4AC2BABFEC70-44874907-corporal> or sign up on the boards at church or call offices to sign up.



## BAKE SALE

Next weekend, Dec 9 & 10, the Knights of Columbus will be having their annual December Bake Sale following all Masses. Come ready to select from some of their best goodies.



## Are you looking for a stocking stuffer?

Next weekend, the Knights of Columbus will be selling Kwik Trip 5-count Ultimate Car Wash cards for \$36 after each mass. This fundraiser allows the Knights of Columbus to provide support to those in need in our community. If you would like to purchase 10 or more cards, please contact John Michalski at 262-441-0673.

## CAM CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

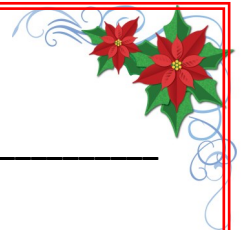
## BOOKS FOR CHILDREN



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 book(s) 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 the **weekends of 12/3 and 12/10**. 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!

## Christmas Environment/ Decorations Donation



Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**St. Mary Winneconne or Omro**

# WINNECONNE NEWS

## Calendar

### St. Mary, Winneconne

Mon.	Dec. 4	7:30am LOW* w/Communion
Wed.	Dec. 6	7:30am LOW* w/Communion
		3:05pm FF Classes
		3:35pm Decade of Rosary
		3:45pm Mass
		4:30pm Confession
		6:30pm MS
		6:30pm Chosen
Thurs.	Dec. 7	2:00pm Rosary
Fri.	Dec. 8	7:30am Mass
		Youth in Action Day
Sat.	Dec. 9	3:30pm Confession
		4:00pm Mass
		5:00pm Star of Bethlehem
Sun.	Dec. 10	10:30am Mass
		11:45am Choir Practice

### Second Sunday of Advent

\*LOW: Liturgy of the Word  
Fr. Carr's Non Perishable Food Collection  
KC Bake Sale/Car Wash  
Speaker



### Winneconne Wish List

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

If you removed a tag off the Christmas Giving tree, we ask that you have your gift wrapped with the tag attached. Return it to church or the office by **THIS Monday Dec. 4**. If you did not receive a tag you may still help by purchasing a gift card from Walmart, Kohl's, Target, Kwik Trip etc... We will use it for the families on the tree. Let's give those less fortunate a Merry Christmas. Thank you!

### Congratulations

To the parents and godparents of

**Lainey Lee Williams  
& Ruby Caroline Jacques**



Who were Baptized into Christ's Family this weekend!



## Faith Formation News

### Confirmation Class

9:30am-12:30pm Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>

### Elementary Classes

3:05-4:30pm December 6<sup>th</sup>

You are invited to join us for Mass on

**December 6<sup>th</sup>,**

**3:45-4:30pm.**

All are invited. St. Mary young Catholics will help lead parts of the Mass.

### See you at Mass!

We will have a special guest.

Hint... it is his feast day

Join us for a decade of the rosary at 3:35pm.

Mother Mary, Pray for us!



### Middle School Class

6:30-8:00pm December 6<sup>th</sup>

### Service Opportunities for Middle School and High School

**Faith in Action** activities coming up in December. Check out this link to get involved. These opportunities provide experiential learning for your child and are fun and make you feel good!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F4FADA92EA2FB6-45931020-faith>

These events are on December 8th (no school) and December 9th. Please consider helping out! It will be a good time!

### STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING- Winneconne

Given Week ending 11/26/2023 = \$8,008

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 3 & 10 at 11:45am

**Saturday**, December 16 & 23 at 5:15pm



# OMRO NEWS

## Calendar St. Mary, Omro

Wed. Dec. 6 4:30pm FF Gr. 1-6  
6:30pm FF Gr. 7-10 Caroling  
CWOM

Thurs. Dec. 7 6:00pm Immaculate Mary Vigil Mass

Sun. Dec. 10 8:30am Mass w/Baptism

**Second Sunday of Advent**  
KC Bake Sale/Car Wash

### STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING-Omro

Given Week ending 11/26/2023 = \$2,299

WEEKLY GOAL: \$3,941



Just a reminder: **NO ONE** from the church office will text or email you for a favor or for money. We have received calls because people were getting fake texts from someone claiming to be Deacon Paul. If in doubt, please call the office.

### **WINNECONNE NEWS CONTINUED..**



**Thank you for your generous donations** to our Cheat Collection! Because of you, the children of Roatan, Honduras will have athletic equipment to play with soon. **Thanks to Kim and Cyndi Jansen** who gave us this opportunity to help and who have coordinated with multiple people and organizations to get a garage full of items, to the children and families of Roatan. It warms my heart to know the joy this will bring to them.



Wednesday, December 6

Grades 1-6 4:30pm

Grades 7 & 8 6:30pm

### Grades 9-11

Caroling

Wednesday, Dec. 6th

at 6:30pm

as part of the Corporal Works  
of Mercy.

Join us as we spread some holiday cheer to Omro residents. Sign up boards are in Marian Hall.

This evening is counted as class for students. Please contact the Faith Formation office if your youth is unable to attend.



### Winneconne

During the 10:30am Mass

December 3 & 17



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Readings for the Week of December 4

**Monday:** Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11  
**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24  
**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37  
 St. Nicholas, Bishop  
**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21,24-27  
 St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church  
**Friday:** Gn 3:9-15,20/Eph 1:3-6,11-12/  
 Lk 1:26-38  
 The Immaculate Conception  
 of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21,23-26/  
 Mt 9:35—10:1,5a,6-8  
**Sunday:** Is 40:1-5,9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/  
 Mk 1:1-8

### Second Sunday of Advent

## Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin

St. Mary, Omro Thursday, Dec. 7 at 6:00pm

Mass Intention: Dorothy Neuwirth

Altar Servers: 2 Volunteers

Lector: Kathy Hayes

Ushers: Mona Freund, MaryJo Hinderman

Greeters: Ron & Lawanda Jungwirth

Sacristan: Peggy Wilms

St. Mary, Winneconne Friday, Dec. 8 at 7:30am

Mass Intention: George Kuhn & Dick Ruedinger

Altar Servers: Volunteer

Lector: Phil Johnson

Ushers: Frank & Kaye Rogers

Communion Minister: Molly Johnson

Sacristan: Volunteer



Instagram

**Check It Out!!!**  
 Both Parishes have an  
 Instagram account!



St. Mary Catholic Church Omro  
 stmarychurchomro · Instagram



### Widow/Widowers

You are always invited to share, eat & laugh & pray  
 with others walking the same path as you.

They meet in **Kaudy Hall on the 3rd Thursday of the  
 odd months in the year. (January, March, May, July,  
 September, November) at 11:00am in Kaudy Hall.**

You can come whenever you like. It is potluck and  
 open to all.



### Day by Day Prep & Serving Crew

Brought smiles  
 to all they  
 served!



St. Mary Catholic Church Winneconne  
 st.marychurchwinneconne · Instagram

**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  
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**Check us out on the web:**  
stmarychurches.org

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY:**  
4:00pm (SMW)

**December 9**  
Minnie Rutten



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

**December 10**  
Robert & Dorothy Egan  
Vernon Steffes

**Stewardship of Serving-Liturgical Ministry Schedule**

**Saturday & Sunday December 9 & 10**

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

**Altar Servers**

4:00pm (SMW) **2 Volunteers**  
8:30am (SMO) Macy & Weston Morse  
10:30am (SMW) Evelyn Steffes, Colton Luedtke

**Lectors:**

4:00pm (SMW) **Volunteer**  
8:30am (SMO) Ken Bressers  
10:30am (SMW) Connie Kostichka

**Ushers:**

4:00pm (SMW) Frank & Kaye Rogers  
Kathy Hartzheim, Donna Krueger  
8:30am (SMO) Jill Pernaski, Mike Glodowski  
10:30am (SMW) JoAnn Winnekens, Peggy Benjamin  
Deb Kolasinski, Tammy Davis

**Sacristans:**

4:00pm (SMW) **Volunteer**  
8:30am (SMO) Tina Wickham  
10:30am (SMW) Tim & Sherrie Johnson

**Communion Ministers:**

4:00pm (SMW) Judy Reetz, **Volunteer**  
10:30am (SMW) Sherrie Johnson, Connie Kostichka

**Greeters:**

4:00pm (SMW) Joanne Perry, Linda Dorsett  
Sherry & Roger Rozek  
8:30am (SMO) Sierra Potratz, Lila Ellis  
10:30am (SMW) Amy Goltz, Shannon Goltz  
Chelsy Cegielski, Deb Kolasinski

**Musicians:**

4:00pm (SMW) Ted Kreuzer/Paul Kamikawa  
8:30am (SMO) Annemarie Birschbach/Amy Karn  
10:30am (SMW) Ted Kreuzer/Paul Kamikawa

**Intercessory Prayers:**

8:30am (SMO) **Volunteer**  
10:30am (SMW) Tim & Sherrie Johnson/  
JoAnn Winnekens

**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  
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**Need prayer contact the parish office to be put on the prayer chain.**  
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