



# ST. MARY CHURCH OMRO & WINNECONNE



## Mission Statement

We, the parish of St. Mary Omro, proudly proclaim the message of Jesus Christ through word and action. We joyfully celebrate the Eucharist, reach out to all with generosity & hospitality, and continue to grow as a community of love, compassion and faith.

## Mission Statement

We, the caring community of St. Mary's Parish, inspired by the Holy Spirit, welcome everyone to celebrate the Eucharist, share our Catholic faith through education and example, and reach out to others with a generous spirit.

## The Epiphany of the Lord January 8, 2012

### EPIPHANY BLESSING OF THE HOME- 2012

A special Epiphany tradition is the blessing of the home. You may use the prayer below as your mealtime grace or you can make the blessing a great procession through the house.

1. Begin by praying the **Our Father**.
2. A member of the family then writes with chalk over the front door of your home:

**20 + C + M + B + 12**

The **numerals** are those of the new year.

The **crosses** stand for the four seasons.

**C-M-B** stand for the legendary names of the Magi:

Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

**C-M-B** also stands for the Latin words

CHRISTUS, MANSIONEM BENEDICAT which means, "Christ, bless the house."

3. Then pray the following blessing:

**God of all time and space,  
may this home be filled with kindness**

**to one another,**

**with hospitality to guests,**

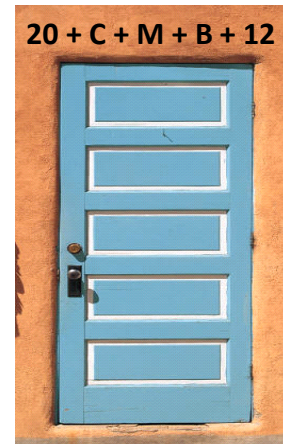
**and with abundant care for every stranger.**

**By the gentle light of a star,**

**guide home all who seek you on paths of wonder, peace and charity where we will join the angels in proclaiming your praise:**

**Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth now and forever. Amen.**

4. Share a greeting of peace with everyone present.



#### **Sacraments/ Membership**

To arrange for baptisms, weddings or to join call  
St. Mary, Winneconne- 582-7712  
Or St. Mary, Omro-685-2258

#### **Parish Director:** Sr. Pamela Biehl —

directorstmary@sbcglobal.net  
Sacramental Ministers: Fr. Doug LeCaptain &  
Fr. Luke Ferris

## Parish Director's Ponderings.....

### TODAY IS THE FEAST OF EPIPHANY!

On this day we celebrate the news of Christmas "getting out" – everyone in the world learns about the birth of Jesus. How have you shared the story of Christmas with others this past week? Take time to read that story again and share it with your children and grandchildren. This year let the statistics be wrong that say only 28% of the people read or tell the Christmas story.

By the time you read this 2012 will have already begun. What resolutions have you made for this **New Year**? Let's make sure one of them is to continue to say "yes" to the mystery of God that dwells within us and among us. Theologian Howard Thurman gives us an idea of how we can do that when he says,

*When the song of the angels is stilled;  
When the star in the sky is gone;  
When the kings have returned home;  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
**The work of Christmas begins:***

*To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among others,  
To make music in the heart.*

**P.S. Your generosity during the Advent season helped to start the "work of Christmas" early this year.**

In OMRO almost 100% of the 75 tags on the Giving Tree were returned. That meant you provided Christmas gifts for six families in need along with supplies needed for the Oshkosh Warming Shelter and the Bella Pregnancy Center.

In WINNECONNE you provided nine families with a Christmas Tree and all the tree trimmings for their home along with purchasing Christmas gifts for five families in need.

Thanks to all of you who made Christmas "happen" for so many people. Your generous spirit is such a great witness to what God calls us to be as Catholic Christians.

*It was such a joy to see so many families who were home together this week come to church and pray with our parish family during these days of Christmas. Know we are always happy to see you and hear what you have been doing during the past year.*

*Sr. Pam*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY: January 14**

4:00PM Jeanne Fay for Healing

**SUNDAY: January 15**

10:30AM Joseph Stefanik & Harold Hansen



**ST. Mary Parish, 210 Pleasant Dr.  
P.O. Box 487, Winneconne, WI 54986**

**Parish Office:** 920-582-7712/582-4601

**Fax:** 920-582-0181

**After hours personal/family emergencies, call the  
Parish Director at 920-379-1674.**

**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday**

8:00AM-Noon 12:30- 5:00PM

**Fridays-Closed**

Pastoral Associate: Sharon Baker

sharonstmary@sbcglobal.net

Coordinator of Faith Formation 1-12: Andy Krueger

andystmary@sbcglobal.net

Bookkeeper/Adult Choir Director: Joni Volkert

jonistmary@sbcglobal.net

Administrative Assistant: Sue Kuhn

suestmary@sbcglobal.net

Custodian: Marilyn Bradley

Deadline for bulletin: Noon on Tuesday

E-mail bulletin announcements to:

suestmary@sbcglobal.net

**Website: www.stmarywinneconne.org**

**Liturgy of the Word with Communion:**

Monday & Wednesday: 7:30AM

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 3:30PM

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY January 14 & 15**

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

4:00PM Molly Kerrigan, Volunteer

10:30AM Kelcie Fuhrman, Jodee Lee

**LECTORS:**

4:00PM Barb Lenz

10:30AM Eric Bauer

**USHERS:**

4:00PM Bob Pollack, Lester Brennand, Jim LaDue  
Patty Kossow

10:30AM Rick Lee, Dave Geurden, Gary Fritz,  
Pete Kasuboski

**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

4:00PM Gail Korn, Barb Lenz, Lola LeMere, 2 Vol.

10:30AM Linda Messer, Jackie Saunders,  
Steve & Irma Christian, 1 Volunteer

**GREETERS:**

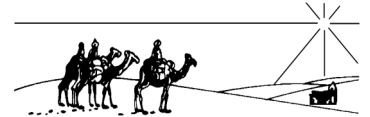
4:00PM Becky & Libby LaDue, Bill & Diane Benedict

10:30AM Terri & Kolton Fuhrman, Bernice Flanigan,  
Kristin Kasuboski

**MUSICIANS:**

4:00PM Bonnie Plummer

10:30AM Kathy Alan



**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY: January 14**

6:00PM Don Schuster

**SUNDAY: January 15**

8:30AM Carol Young & Family



**LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY January 14 & 15**

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

6:00PM Louis Clark

8:30AM Bill Miller, Volunteer

**LECTORS:**

6:00PM Amy Karn

8:30AM Kathy Hayes, Steve Volkert

**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

6:00PM Bob Breu, Kim Anderson

8:30AM Kathy Hayes, Alice Dwyer,  
Pat & Phil Belongie

**USHERS:**

6:00PM Gwenn Jessen, Laura Heried

8:30AM Kay Biebl, Mona Freund

**GREETERS:**

6:00PM Deb Clark

8:30AM Emma & Ruth Weber

**MUSICIANS:**

6:00PM Marshall Potter w/Joni Volkert

8:30AM Ron Hayes

**VIDEO:** Jenny Volkert



**Liturgy of the Word with Communion:**

1st & 3rd Tuesday: 8:00AM at St. Mary, Omro

2nd & 4th Wednesday: 10:30AM at Omro Care Center

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 5:30PM

**ST. Mary Parish, 730 Madison Ave.  
Omro, WI 54963**

**Parish Office:** 920-685-2258

**Fax:** 920-685-7343

**After hours personal/family emergencies, call the  
Parish Director at 920-379-1674.**

**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday**

8:00AM-Noon 12:30- 4:00PM

**Fridays-Closed**

Faith Formation Coordinator: Janet Abalan

abalanj@charter.net

Bookkeeper/Music Coordinator: Joni Volkert

volkertj@charter.net

Administrative Assistant: Mary Koch

kochmary@charter.net

Hispanic Ministry Coordinator: Marycarmen Fabian

Intern Pastoral Associate: Laura Knaapen

Special Project Coordinator: Pam Vanden Heuvel

Custodian: Katelyn Hess

Deadline for bulletin: Noon on Tuesday

E-mail bulletin announcements to:

suestmary@sbcglobal.net

**Website: www.stmaryomro.org**

**✓ CHECK IT OUT... ST. MARY, OMRO**

Mon. Jan. 9 7:00PM Choir Practice  
 Wed. Jan. 11 10:30AM LOW w/Communion  
 @ Omro Care  
 5:30PM Lifelong Faith-God the  
 Upper Deck  
 Thurs. Jan. 12 5 & 7PM 1st Reconciliation  
 @ St. Mary, Omro  
 Sat. Jan. 14 5:30PM Confession  
 6:00 PM Mass  
 Sun. Jan. 15 8:30 AM Mass  
 1:00PM Mass in Spanish

\*LOW: Liturgy of the Word

### First Reconciliations



will be celebrated this Thursday at St. Mary Omro at 5:00 & 7:00 pm. There will be a short reception following each service. We welcome the priests, religious education coordinators, catechists and families as they participate in this healing sacrament.

### STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING

Week Ending 1/01/2012

Given: \$4,192.00

YTD (July 1 – Jan 1, 2012)

Budgeted Offertory Collection: \$103,119.35  
 (Envelopes & Loose)

Actual Offertory Collection: \$103,217.61  
 \$ 98.26

Bldg. Maint, Fund Balance: \$ 1,139.20

*Thank you for your continued support!*

### *Lifelong Faith Formation Cruisin' the Creed*

### *God the Upper Deck January 11, 2012*

*Our focus is God the Creator.  
 What does the love of  
 God mean to us?  
 What is our  
 understanding of the  
 presence of God? All are welcome to  
 learn and deepen their faith with us!*



### **Gospel Question of the Week (The Visit of the Magi)**

**Adults:** When have you found the presence of Christ in an unexpected place?

**Children/Youth:** Where and in whom will you look for Jesus this week?



### **Attention Parents of**

**Preschoolers:** Our first sessions of C-Pop (Catholic Parents of Preschoolers) have been a blast and we have room for more as we begin the New Year.

### **Our next gathering is January, 16 @ 4:45.**

Parents will be taking the Myers Briggs assessment to learn about their parenting style while the preschoolers learn about Epiphany (3 Kings) and play together. We will then share a soup and salad dinner with a fun surprise treat (yes, sometimes we play with our food)! Come and join us for some fun, support and prayer with preschoolers and their parents. Call the office (685-2258) or e-mail (stmaryomro@charter.net) with the number in your family and let us know if you need babysitting for siblings 2 years old or under.

**Kwiatkowski  
 Funeral Home**  
 425 Jefferson Ave, Omro  
 685-2207  
 Parish Member

 **Schoonover  
 Pheasant Farm**  
**Call: 920-685-2628**

 **MUELLER  
 Funeral Home** EST 1944  
*Complete Funeral & Cremation Services*  
 KELLY J. ANGELL RONALD R. MUELLER  
 904 E. Main St. Winneconne  
 Ph. (920) 582-4242  
 www.muellerfuneralhomeinc.com

# WINNECONNE

## ✓ CHECK IT OUT ST. MARY, WINNECONNE

Mon. Jan. 9 7:30AM LOW\* w/ Communion  
6:00PM RCIA

Tue. Jan. 10 7:00PM K.C Meeting

Wed. Jan. 11 7:30AM LOW\* w/Communion  
Faith Formation  
3:00-4:30PM Gr. 1-5  
5:15PM HS Youth Group  
6:30-8:00PM HS Class

Fri. Jan 13 6:00-8:30PM MS Movie Night

Sat. Jan. 14 1-5:00PM Gr. 9 & 10 Retreat  
3:30PM Confession  
4:00PM Mass

Sun. Jan. 15 10:30AM Mass  
11:30AM Friends of St. Thomas Mtg.

Sat. & Sun. Jan. 14 & 15 SVDP Non-Perishable  
Food Collection

\*LOW-Liturgy of the Word

## STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING

Week ending 1/01/2012

Given \$3,917.10

*Thank you for your support!*

July 1 - January 1, 2012

Budgeted Offertory Collection (envelopes & loose)	\$137,203.22
Actual Offertory Collection	\$132,689.45
Deficit	(\$4,082.92)

Bldg Maintenance Fund Balance	\$2,991.31
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## Father Carr's Help on Wheels January is Canned Vegetables



*Thank you!*

Thank you! Thank you from Fr. Carr's for all the love and prayers and paper goods we received from your parishioners. We are so grateful for all the support you have given to us.

**Thank you for your continued support!!**

# WINNECONNE

## FAITH FORMATION

### Classes for January 11<sup>th</sup>.

- Elementary School meets this Wednesday Jan. 11th at 3:00PM
- Wednesday is High School Youth Group from 5:15-6:15PM  
Topic for this month is Prayer Beads. What are they? How are they used? Why would you want to use them? Join us for some fun and games and great discussion. Meal provided. Please RSVP to [andystmary@sbcglobal.net](mailto:andystmary@sbcglobal.net) so that I can prepare enough food. I can't wait to see you there!
- Wednesday High School Classes 6:30PM



### Middle School Movie Night

**January 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:30 PM** in front of the big screen, lower level of church. **All middle school youth are invited** to gather together to watch **Soul Surfer**.

*Soul Surfer* is the inspiring true story of teen surfer Bethany Hamilton, who lost her arm in a shark attack and courageously overcame all odds to become a champion again through her sheer determination and unwavering faith.

We hope you will join us for a fun night of games and a movie planned just for you. Invite your friends to join us too, all are welcome!



### ATTENTION 9th & 10th Gr. Retreat

This upcoming **Saturday, January 14th** part of the **requirements** of your class this year **is to attend** this Retreat.

Spiritus group will be here from **1 to 4PM** with the retreat **ending with the 4:00PM Mass**. We hope parents will attend the 4:00PM Mass with their child. ←

## WINNECONNE CONT.

# WINNECONNE

## St. Vincent de Paul Non-Perishable Food Collection



Next weekend, January 14 & 15, we will be collecting food for St. Vincent De Paul. Food donations are needed and appreciated! Food baskets are located at all the church entrances. All donations are delivered to and distributed from the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry located in the St. Vincent De Paul Thrift & Furniture Store, 2551

Jackson St. Oshkosh. You may contact them at [www.svdposhkosh.org](http://www.svdposhkosh.org) or 920-235-9368.



Thank you for your continued support.



## *In Loving Memory*

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Susan Sonnen, Fidel Castillo & Eleanor Schwaller. The Lord has called all of them back home. Please remember Susan, Fidel & Eleanor and their family and friends in your prayers.

Keep our 2nd Graders in your prayers as they join other 2nd Graders from Omro and Oshkosh in receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Reconciliation will be celebrated at St. Raphael at 5 & 7PM on Tuesday January 10 & Thursday January 12 at St. Mary, Omro at 5 & 7PM and Saturday January 14 at Most Blessed Sacrament at 9 & 11AM. Our prayers are with all those who are making their 1st Reconciliation.

### **Check us out.....**

\*our website [www.stmarywinneconne.org](http://www.stmarywinneconne.org)  
\*like us on facebook: St. Mary Catholic Church Winneconne. Parents it is a great way to get first hand news about Faith Formation events.

# Odds N Ends

## Readings for the Week of Jan. 8, 2012

Monday: Baptism of the Lord

Is 55:1-11, 1Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10,19-20/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7,10-22a/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4,17-19;10:1/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sun: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b-10,19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

## Faith. Academics. Service. Catholic Schools

Unified Catholic Schools will celebrate Catholic Schools Week January 29 through February 4, 2012. Many exciting events and activities are planned for that week. So mark your calendars and plan on checking out our Catholic Schools in Oshkosh. You may contact Karen Boehm at 267-4307 ext. 246 or [kboehm@ucs.k12.wi.us](mailto:kboehm@ucs.k12.wi.us) if you have any questions.

### **Prayer: The Path to Life**

"There are so many paths ahead of me, God.  
Simple, complex, branched, straight, crooked.  
Which path to take? Which one leads me to you?  
Do you have a plan for me and my life?  
Help me uncover this plan, God.  
Help me to understand,  
open my ears and heart to hear you.

"We do not exist for ourselves," a monk wrote.  
God, I find you best when I look for you in others.  
You show yourself to me  
when I serve, when I seek,  
when I support, when I stop striving.  
Show yourself to me God. Help me to be patient and  
to see you in all that I do and all that I am.

That is the path you've laid out for me:  
to give myself in service so I can be filled with you.  
Give me the strength to run that path with all I have.  
Amen"

*Written by members of the young adult team,  
Department of Education, Diocese of Green Bay*

# Odds N Ends

## Marriage Encounter Weekend

Looking for a weekend away, just for the two of you?

A Marriage Encounter Weekend offers you this experience. It's a time to renew your relationship, away from the everyday distraction of life. It's an opportunity to strengthen your communication and promote greater intimacy in your life together. You don't need a Marriage Encounter Weekend, but you DESERVE one. "Discover Each Other Again", more deeply, honestly and warmly. The upcoming schedule consists of February 10-12 or March 10-11 at the Norbertine Center for Spirituality in DePere. For more information contact Sue & Dennis Amtmann 920-544-5166 or [www.gbme.org](http://www.gbme.org).

## The Northeast Passion Play

The Northeast Passion Play invites singers and actors of high school age or older to audition for this year's production of The Northeast Wisconsin Play. Sunday evening rehearsals begin Sunday, January 29th with the performances March 28th – April 1st. For more details, visit [www.newpassionplay.org](http://www.newpassionplay.org) and click the "Join Our Cast" button to register. Applicants will be contacted to schedule an audition time. Rehearsals and performances will be at the Fine Arts Center of Xavier High School, 1600 W. Prospect Avenue, Appleton.

## Transforming the World through Reverence

Consider coming to Monte Alverno Retreat & Spirituality Center, 1000 N. Ballard Rd. Appleton: a sacred place where people find God in a quiet and prayerful atmosphere. Weekend, mid-week and one day retreats are offered on the 2012 theme of "Transforming the World through Reverence: Meeting Life with a Franciscan Outlook" as well as other special retreats. Private times for reflection can also be scheduled.

Contact Monte Alverno, 920-733-8526 or email [montealverno@juno.com](mailto:montealverno@juno.com) for dates. Information also on website, [www.montealverno.org](http://www.montealverno.org).

God is always here for you.

## Imagine Us!

Get a head start on Valentine's Day

**WHAT:** A daylong, fun and life-giving opportunity for couples of all ages that helps to explore each person's uniqueness and God-given talents using Gallup's internationally respected Strength Finder survey.

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 9:00am-4:00pm

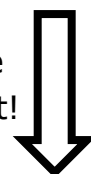
**WHERE:** St. Thomas More Parish, Appleton

**WHY:** When we understand more about ourselves and our mates, we are able to return more of our best selves to our God, our spouse, our family and even our parish.

Facilitated by Mary Ann Otto, Stewardship and Special Projects Director, Diocese of Green Bay. Contact her at [motto@gbdioc.org](mailto:motto@gbdioc.org) or (877) 500-3580 ext. 8301 or Anita Revord, Stewardship Director, St. Thomas More Parish, or [Anita@stmccath.org](mailto:Anita@stmccath.org) or (920) 739-8172.



Both Programs being offered by the Green Bay Diocese!! Check them out!



## Once You Say "I Believe!"

You did say you believed, correct?

**WHAT:** Gather with friends and family for a wonderful, prayerful and interactive retreat that will help participants assess their progress as disciples of Jesus and offer affirmation and inspiration for growing as a Christian steward of prayer, service and sharing.

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 9:00am-2:00pm

**WHERE:** Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Hortonville

**WHY:** We are encouraged to grow in faith, understanding and practice throughout our lives. Plus, getting together with each other is always a great idea!

Facilitated by Mary Ann Otto, Stewardship and Special Projects Director, Diocese of Green Bay. Contact her at [motto@gbdioc.org](mailto:motto@gbdioc.org) or (877) 500-3580 ext. 8301 or Monica Janssen, Director of Faith Formation, Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Hortonville (920) 779-6133.