



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.

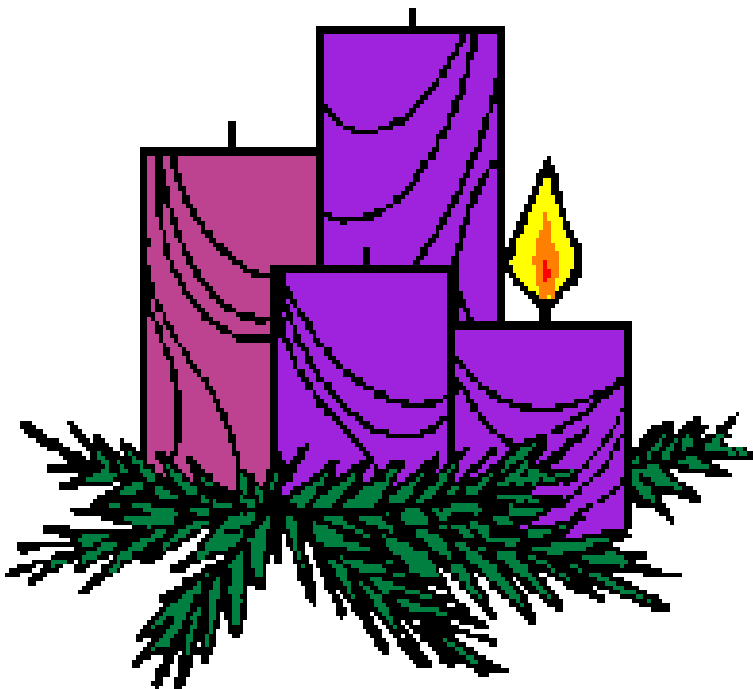
First Sunday of Advent November 27, 2011

Advent Wreath Blessing

Lord God,
Your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.

Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever.

Amen.



Parish Director: Sr. Pamela Biehl — directorstmary@sbcglobal.net
Sacramental Ministers: Fr. Doug LeCaptain & Fr. Luke Ferris

Parish Director's Ponderings.....

CHANGES IN THE MASS BEGIN THIS WEEKEND!!!

On this 27th day of November, 2011, we arrive at many new beginnings. Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new church year, and the arrival of the New Roman Missal. For the past six months we have been preparing for this day by learning about the changes, practicing new music and reading explanations of what the new texts mean. Today we will HEAR that new translation for the first time at Mass.

Our prayer may seem a bit awkward or even difficult today because we will have to rely on a printed card to help us remember what to say and when to say it. But hopefully this new beginning will lead us to a deeper and more profound encounter with God in our prayer. Remember this is only the FIRST day and the FIRST time we are praying these new words and prayers. Every time we gather for Mass we will become more comfortable and more confident in praying this new translation.

As we begin to pray the Mass anew, remember that our preparation was not just for today. We can see today as the first day of many days in years to come that will nourish us as a faith community eager to go out and share the Good News of Jesus.

Remember that Advent only lasts four weeks! Don't let this season pass by without taking time to prepare yourself and your family to enter into the mystery of Christmas. Pick up a Little Blue Book at church, buy an Advent calendar, get an Advent wreath for your home, reach out and help others by giving to the food pantry or helping a family in need.
MAKE A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS TODAY!

Sr. Pam



Christmas Flower Offering

Help beautify our Church for the Christmas Season!

In Memory Of: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Amount: _____

___ St. Mary Church Omro

___ St. Mary Church Winneconne

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY: December 3

4:00PM Dr. Bill Keller, Nick Leitl

SUNDAY: December 4

10:30AM Marilyn & Norman Farrell



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:

kochmary@charter.net

Website: www.stmarywinneconne.org

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Monday & Wednesday: 7:30AM

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY & SUNDAY December 3 & 4

ALTAR SERVERS:

4:00PM Markus Fahrney, Noah Kuenster

10:30AM Aaron Messer, Jacob LaMarche

LECTORS:

4:00PM Andy Krueger

10:30AM Mary O'Malley

USHERS:

4:00PM Eric, Jane, Sydney, & Donna Krueger

10:30AM Paul, Pauline, Dan, & Jeff Jandrin

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

4:00PM Sr. Pam, Lola LeMere, Andy Krueger

Tom & Paula Snider, Sue Kuhn

10:30AM Sr. Pam, Linda Messer, Jeanne Furman

Sharon & Paul Baker, Michelle LaMarche

GREETERS:

4:00PM Jason, Jenny, & Anna Fahrney

10:30AM Bernice Flanigan, Vicki Krueger

Donna Stratton

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY: December 3

6:00PM For our Parishioners

SUNDAY: December 4

8:30AM Ralph Frank



LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY & SUNDAY December 3 & 4

ALTAR SERVERS:

6:00PM Ciera Tucker

8:30AM Joelle Berger, Sadie Huth

LECTORS:

6:00PM Ann Condon

8:30AM Steve Volkert, Tammy Wright

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

6:00PM Janet Bunker, Audrey Rolph

8:30AM Alice Dwyer, Fran Gilbride

Ted Gumz, Holly Huth

USHERS:

6:00PM Bob Breu, Gwenn Jessen

8:30AM Eric & Reid Wrage

GREETERS:

6:00PM Lila Ellis

8:30AM Pat Mason

MUSICIANS:

6:00PM Marshall Potter w/Gail Breu

8:30AM Jodi Bohn

VIDEO: Jim Wellens

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

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

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

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:

kochmary@charter.net

Website: www.stmaryomro.org

✓ CHECK IT OUT... ST. MARY, OMRO

Mon. Nov. 28 6:15 PM Parish Council Meeting
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Tue. Nov. 29 8:00 AM LOW w/Communion

Wed. Nov. 30 7:00 PM Youth Confirmation Session

Sat. Dec. 3 5:30 PM Confession
6:00 PM Mass

Sun. Dec. 4 8:30 AM Mass

Sat. & Sun Omro Area Non-Perishable Food Collection

Sun. 2nd Sunday of Advent

*LOW: Liturgy of the Word

*Lifelong Faith Formation
Cruisin' the Creed*

*December 7th & 14th
Jesus, Our Compass*

*Meet Jesus showing
us direction as teacher, servant,
savior & prophet. An Advent
Evening filled with reasons for
the season.*

Meal: Scalloped Potatoes & Ham



Please Note

Christmas Day Mass will be at
10:30 AM and not 8:30 AM.

Junior Confirmation
Wed. Nov. 30th @ 7:00pm.
Please bring **Homily Notes!**
We'll meet in the Triple Room.

Gospel Question of the Week
(God's Faithfulness)

Adults: How do you know when you're following Christ and living his teachings faithfully?

Children/Youth: What good thing might God be asking you to do right now?

2011 Wish List

New Server Albs - \$75

150 - New Folding Chairs for Dining Hall
\$15.50 each

5 - Round Tables for Triple Room
\$168.45 each
(Purchased 5 with money from Soup Cook-Off)

Processional Cross - \$2,000

Projector for Laptop Computer - \$800

22 Ft. Ladder System - \$300
(Similar to Little Giant)

Contoured Changing Table Pad—\$25

4 Small Children's Chairs—\$15 each

Small Refrigerator for Children's Room—\$65

3—Safety 1st Booster Seats—\$20 each

STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING
Week Ending 11/20/2011
Given: \$3,098.35
YTD (July 1 – Nov. 20, 2011)

Budgeted Offertory Collection :	\$76,596.25
(Envelopes & Loose)	
Actual Offertory Collection :	<u>\$77,228.58</u>
Surplus	\$ 632.33

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS

If you are going to be in town for **New Year's weekend** and can help out at one of the Masses, please contact the office ASAP by phone 685-2258 or email kochmary@charter.net. We need help in all ministry areas.

WINNECONNE

✓ CHECK IT OUT **ST. MARY, WINNECONNE**

Mon. Nov. 28 7:30 AM LOW* with Communion
6:00 PM RCIA
Wed. Nov. 30 7:30 AM LOW* with Communion
6:30 PM Catechists In-Service
Sat. Dec. 3 3:30 PM Confession
4:00 PM Mass
Sun. Dec. 4 10:30 AM Mass
Sun. 2nd Sunday of Advent
*LOW: Liturgy of the Word

STEWARDSHIP OF SHARING

Week Ending 11/20/2011

Given: \$3,468.85

YTD (July 1 – Nov. 20, 2011)

Budgeted Offertory Collection : \$100,070.00
(Envelopes & Loose)

Actual Offertory Collection : \$ 93,185.55

Deficit (\$6,884.45)

2011 Wish List
Color Printer--\$100.00
2-100 Cup Coffee Pots--\$130.00 each
2-30 Cup Coffee Pots--\$45.00 each
1-Floor Scrubber & Buffer--\$600.00
2-Lightweight Round Tables--\$75.00 each
1-Wood Cabinet with Doors--\$300.00
2-Sony Boomboxes- \$50.00 each.

Father Carr's Help on Wheels November is Baby Items

This month our parish is collecting Baby Items for Fr. Carr's Place 2B. We are looking for diapers, wipes, diaper cream, shampoo, lotion, etc...) You may place your donation in the white basket on wheels in the entrance (parking lot side). They were very thankful for all the boxes of cereal they received last month.

WINNECONNE



Cookie Sale

Thank you to all of you who have supported our Youth Christmas Cookie Sale in the past. Due to a variety of circumstances we will not be having the cookie sale this year. We apologize for the inconvenience. Watch for us in the future.

Wednesday, November 30

there will be no Faith Formation Classes. Catechists will be gathering for an in-service. Catechists will be discussing methods and strategies to help continue to bring the faith to your children in a fun and engaging way.

Third Grade Faith Formation Season of Giving Out-Reach Project

The third grade Faith Formation classes are collecting non-perishable food items to take to WAAC, (Winneconne's Food Pantry). If you would like to help them in this effort, baskets will be at the Church entrances until December 7th. This is a great way for the children to see how they can make a big difference to members in the community who are in need.



Thank you to our third graders!

St. Mary Church, Winneconne
Christian Action Ministry Christmas Outreach 2011
Help make Christmas brighter for local families in need by donating Christmas trees and all of the fixings! In the main gathering area of church there is a tree with various tags on it representing all of the items needed to have a beautiful Christmas tree in the home: tree, tree stand, lights, tree topper and garland. Please select a tag(s), purchase the item(s) and deliver it to church (either before or after mass) on Saturday, Dec. 3 or Sunday, Dec. 4. Families will be picking up their trees and fixings on Sunday, Dec. 4 between noon and 3pm. Or if you do not wish to shop for these items, cash donations for the purchase of trees are also accepted and appreciated. Call the church office at 582-7712 with questions or to volunteer to help with this project.

**FOCUS GROUP FOR WOMEN
AGES 18-28**

Would you be interested in participating in a communications Focus Group for the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity? General questions about your Catholic Faith, media habits (such as how you discover new music), and using the internet. No in-depth theological questions, and no right or wrong answers. We just want to derive some anecdotal but representative insights into the perceptions of young Catholic women. It would be held on Sunday, Dec. 4th from 6:00 to 7:15 PM at St. Raphael Parish, 830 S. Westhaven Dr. Oshkosh, WI (Rooms 107-108). Each participant will be paid \$25.00 cash. Please respond to Sister Anne Marie Lom, (920-237-2344) by November 28. You may also want to check out a free song download, a great song for the liturgical cycle concluding and Advent beginning: <http://www.fsc-calledtobe.org/living/>

LOURDES MADRIGAL DINNER

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Announcing the 13th Annual Madrigal Feast at Lourdes High School! Come join us, Lords & Ladies, for an evening of Festivities. Oh, the Pageantry, the wondrous music and delectable cuisine. Performances on **Fri. 12/2 and Sat. 12/3** in the Bill Behring Commons at Lourdes High School at **6:30 PM. Cost is \$25.00/person.** Reserve without delay to assure your place with our cheery troupe. Seating is limited! Mind Ye! **Ticket Reservations must be received by Monday, November 28, 2011.** Tickets are going fast so please get your reservations in early. **Call Sue Jaeke 920-229-9099 or contact the Lourdes High School Office at 920-235-5670 and reserve your tickets! Checks: Make Payable to LAMP**

Monte Alverno
Retreat & Spirituality Center 

Season of Advent Day of Reflection:

**Tuesday, Dec. 6
9:30 am - 3:00 pm**

To Register:

**Monte Alverno Retreat & Spirituality Center
1000 N Ballard Road
Appleton WI 54911-5198
(920) 733-8526
Email: montealverno@juno.com**

Come Celebrate!

The Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy
December 3 @ 7:00 PM
St. Pius X Parish
500 W. Marquette Street, Appleton
All are welcome! For more information, contact
Dr. Joseph A. Bound at jbound@gbdioc.org.

Women's Advent Retreat

**Thurs Dec 8, 7:00pm to Sun Dec 11, Noon
Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago**

Come to a weekend of Peace and Prayer. A time to speak with God in silence, to listen to God speak to us, and a time to care for ourselves.

Sr. Elise Cholewinski OSF, as retreat director, will help us evaluate how God is working in our lives, and what our real treasures are in today's materialistic society. Come find the quiet and the peace. For reservations call: 920-231-9060 or 800-962-7330. For questions on the retreat or on scholarship funding to help defray costs call Marcie @ 920-923-2446 or Jane @ 414-962-2443.

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

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

**MUELLER**
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904 E. Main St. Winneconne
Ph. (920) 582-4242
www.muellerfuneralhomeinc.com

Readings for the Week of Nov. 27

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8 5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sun.: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/
Mk 13:33-37



SAVE THE DATE

Grace Lutheran Drama Ministry presents

Two from Galilee - a Broadway Musical

at Winchester School—5270 Ann Street

Dec. 2, 7pm - Dec. 3, 2 & 7pm - Dec. 4, 2pm

Free Will Offering at the door

Only X More Days to Christmas

By: Kristina M. DeNeve

Evangelization and Welcoming Director

Diocese of Green Bay

It wasn't even Halloween when a sign inside Wal-Mart greeted me, "Only 70 days to Christmas." How are we supposed to enjoy this "most wonderful season of all" when we are bombarded with messages meant to stress us months in advance?

Ironically, experiences like this can help us make the most of Advent. We are a people keenly aware of what is missing in our lives. From crossing everyone off our shopping list to wishing we could spend more time with our loved ones, we are virtually always aware of how incomplete our lives are. (Even when we feel perfectly content, we can't help but yearn for the moment to last!)

Advent invites us to more fully make peace with the fact that we humans are always longing for more meaning in life. In today's Gospel, Jesus invites us to be watchful and alert. This doesn't mean defensive vigilance. It means opening up to our own incompleteness, creating space within ourselves where God can be born. Our hearts are restless until they rest in you Lord!

The History of the Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is part of our long-standing Catholic tradition. However, the actual origins are uncertain. There is evidence of pre-Christian German peoples using wreathes with lit candles during the cold and dark December days as a sign of hope for the future warmth and extended sunlight days of Spring. In Scandinavia during Winter, lighted candles were placed around a wheel, and prayers were offered to the god of light to turn "the wheel of the earth" back toward the sun to lengthen the days and restore warmth.

The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. Even these evergreens have a traditional meaning which can be adapted to our faith: The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering; pine, holly, and yew, immortality; and cedar, strength and healing. Holly also has a special Christian symbolism: The prickly leaves remind us of the crown of thorns, and one English legend tells of how the cross was made of holly. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ. Any pine cones, nuts, or seedpods used to decorate the wreath also symbolize life and resurrection. All together, the wreath of evergreens depicts the immortality of our soul and the new, everlasting life promised to us through Christ, the eternal Word of the Father, who entered our world becoming true man, who was victorious over sin and death through His own passion, death, and resurrection.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. A tradition is that each week represents one thousand years, to sum the 4,000 years from Adam and Eve until the Birth of the Savior. Three candles are purple and one is rose. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.