

# WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – ST. MARY’S

Parish Office hours: Tuesday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Visit us on the web at [www.stmaryflorence.org](http://www.stmaryflorence.org)

*Live the Gospel! Whatever it Takes...*

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 166, Florence, WI 54121  
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 Parish Office Telephone: (715) 528-3310  
 Parish Secretaries: Jean Fornetti & Heather Roberts  
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 St Vincent DePaul: (715) 528-2030

St. Mary’s Pastor: Fr. Soja Joseph  
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 Fr. Soja’s Phone: 920-445-4560  
 Religious Education Facilitator: Carolyn Lemanski  
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 Email: [lemanski\\_mom@hotmail.com](mailto:lemanski_mom@hotmail.com)

## Weekday Masses and Intentions

Monday 12/9 8:30am Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Tuesday 12/10 5:30pm For the People

Thursday 12/12 4:30pm Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 12/13 8:30am For the People

## Weekend Masses and Intentions

Sat. 12/14 6:00pm +Carolyn Parker

*Offered by Derek, Tanya, Evan, Emmett Parker*

Sun. 12/15 8:30am +Rhonda VanPembrook

*Offered by Bob, Mary & Tommy Podnar*

+ Deceased, Tg Thanksgiving

Confession available 30 minutes before all Masses

## Ministry Schedule

**Saturday, December 14th**

Sacristan - Tanya Parker

Eucharistic Ministers - Clara McLain

Lector - Evan Parker

Lead Usher - Skip Bilsky

**Sunday, December 15th**

Sacristan - Kathy Fabry

Eucharistic Ministers - Dan Jazinski

Lector - Kathy Jazinski

Lead Usher—Jerry Divine

Money Counters—Dorothy Vayda, Jerry Divine

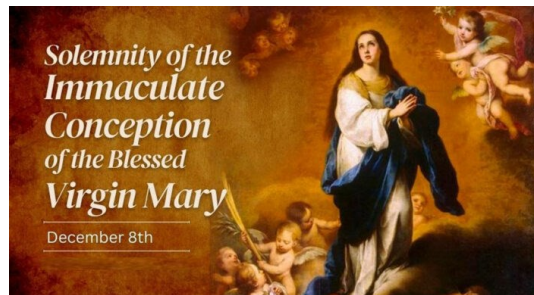
11/30 Sat. Coll.	Loose.....\$121.00	Envelope.....\$200.00	Total..\$321.00
12/01 Sun. Coll.	Loose.....\$656.00	Envelope....\$725.00	Total..\$1,381.00
<b>Building Fund:</b>	<b>Electronic...\$1,015.00</b>	<b>Misc.....\$7,096.47</b>	<b>Total..\$8,326.47</b>
\$10.00	<b>Christmas Flowers:</b>		
	\$205.00		
		<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$10,028.47</b>
Budget:	\$2,028.00	2023: \$1,543.00	



**Vincentian Meditation:** “God speaks to us in all sorts of ways: through Scriptures, through his Church, but also through all the events, great and small, that happen to us. Since most of our lives are made up of very ordinary tasks which we must do each day, it is in these especially that the voice of the Lord is to be heard. We make the mistake so often of expecting God to

speak to us through some great event or happening when, in fact, all the time He is speaking to us in all the small events of each day. Sometimes in life we don’t know what to do. God lead us even when our path changes radically, ends abruptly or is surrounded in darkness. By sitting patiently and trustingly in prayer, we gradually see or feel his presence and guidance. It is also true that God often uses the people and the happenings in our daily life to teach us and lead us on the way we should go. Advent tells us to be attentive, to listen in patience and peace.

For more about the reflection visit: <https://svdp-rva.org/vincentian-spirituality>  
**Gospel Reading:** Luke 3:1-6



## ST MARY’S WELCOMES YOU TO THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

◆ **Thank you** to all who donated to and prayed for the Giving Tree this year, so far! There are still dove/angel tags to take, pray about and help someone in need this Christmas!

### Notes & Reminders

- ◆ **Candles of the Deceased from All Souls Day** are set up in the back of the church for family members to pick up.
- ◆ We need volunteers for snow shoveling this winter! Please contact the parish office if you’re available and/or willing.
- ◆ **Sign Up in the entryway** for the *Here We Come A-Caroling* Event on **Sunday 12/15 from 2-3:30pm!** Meet @ St. Mary’s Parish Hall parking lot ready to *sing!* Holiday/Christmas attire is *encouraged; dress warm.* Meet for 3:30pm @ Parish Hall for hot chocolate/snacks!
- ◆ **Gold Slips** are due by **December 10th.**
- ◆ St. Mary’s will have a Reconciliation Service on **Wednesday December 11<sup>th</sup> from 3:30pm-7:00pm.** Grades 2-8 @ 3:30pm, high school students at 6:30pm, and parishioners are welcome to attend.
- ◆ **Advent Candle Lighting** We are still in need of families to help during Saturday evening and Sunday morning masses. Sign up is in the entryway.
- ◆ **We will be having a second collection next weekend 12/14—12/15 for the Retirement Collection for the Religious** at our masses. Please prayerfully consider donating. Thank you!
- ◆ **33 Days to Eucharistic Glory** books are in the entryway!
- ◆ Please see our lost and found basket in the back of church, under the table for any missing items!

### Looking Ahead...

- ◆ Feast of the Immaculate Conception @ **Florence**, Mon. 12/9, 8:30am, @ **Goodman**, Mon. 12/9, 5:30pm
- ◆ Wreath Laying Ceremony @ **Long Lake Cemetery**, Sat. 12/14, 11:00am.
- ◆ Here We Come A-Caroling **Florence**, Sun. 12/15, 2:00pm-3:30pm

### Christmas Mass Schedules:

- ◆ Christmas Eve Mass @ **Goodman**, Tues 12/24, 4:00pm
- ◆ Christmas Eve Mass @ **Florence**, Tues. 12/24, 6:00pm
- ◆ Christmas Day Mass @ **Florence**, Wed. 12/25, 8:30am
- ◆ Christmas Day Mass @ **Armstrong/Creek**, Wed. 12/25, 10:30am



Friends, one of the hallmarks of the Christmas story is when the angels appear to the shepherds and proclaim, “Peace on earth”. Jesus brings us peace in several ways. First, he gives us inner peace. Because of his work on the cross, we have a chance to receive salvation and be reconciled with God. We also have the peace of mind knowing God will heal this broken world. Second, we have peace with others. We put aside our differences, because we belong to the same family and have the same purpose: to let others know about the peace of Christ. The Hebrew word for peace: *Shalom* is, in essence, how things are meant to be: a slice of heaven. Peace from God, allows us to trust God despite the dark, scary world around us.

We know that between the historical coming of Jesus and the majestic coming of Jesus in his second coming, there is a mystical third coming of Jesus. This intermediate coming is a hidden one, it is in spirit and in power. In the first he was our redemption, in the last He is our life, and, in the middle, he is our rest and consolation. It is not a sheer invention; Jesus said, “if anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.” So, if you keep the word, it will keep you. The Prophet says, “thy word is kept in the Heart, so that I may not sin against you.” Let the word enter your very being and feed on goodness and your soul will delight in its richness.

The coming of Jesus makes a new world order. He brings peace and everlasting life. What prevents us from being transformed by Jesus is our anxieties and worries of daily life. Jesus appreciated childlikeness, it is the receptivity like a child that enables a person to experience Christ as he comes in spirit and power. Jesus became the sinless child of his Father and received all power and authority in heaven and earth from the father. Jesus entered the human family through the virgin’s womb to destroy death and to bring us the joy of salvation. Mary’s maternal intercession can help us persevere in our struggles with the devil, sinful desires and the world. Happy feast of the Immaculate Conception, the patroness of the USA and of our parish.

~ Fr. Soja

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Check out what FORMED online has available.

To register, simply go to [stmaryflorence.formed.org](http://stmaryflorence.formed.org) and choose **Immaculate Conception, Florence** to open your account.

Jay Glime  
[gnglumber@gmail.com](mailto:gnglumber@gmail.com)  
  
 906-458-3452  
 PO Box 587  
 5971 Sawmill Road  
 Florence, WI 54121-0587

**Knights of Columbus**  
 Local Council #2847 meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at St. Anthony’s Parish Hall in Niagara.  
 For more information contact:  
 Larry Neuens at 715-589-3379  
 Lead with faith ~ Protect your family ~ Serve others ~ Defend your values

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