

The Church of St. Mary

420 Irving Street (PO Box 669)
Alexandria, MN 56308

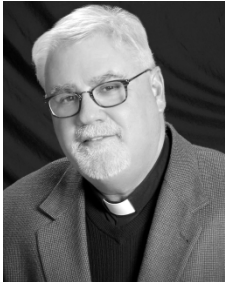
Parish Office: 320-763-5781
School Office: 320-763-5861
Rel Ed. Office: 320-763-9202

Website: www.stmaryalexandria.org
Email: stmary@stmaryalexandria.org
Diocese website: www.stclouddiocese.org

Office Hours: 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM Monday – Thursday
7:30 AM - 1:00 PM Friday

June 25, 2017

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Fr. Steve
Binsfeld

**“Our Mission is
to know, love,
and serve God
by living the
Eucharist.”**

*Promulgated on
Pentecost Sunday 2013*

Greetings to you on the 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time!

Remember the appreciation open house for Jim Boyle, our parish business administrator of 17 years, at the Carlos Creek Winery from 1 to 4 PM with a program at 2:30 PM.

Look ahead: Mass on Tuesday, July 4, will be at 8:30 AM, not at 5 PM.

Look ahead: On Sunday, July 23, I will show the movie I made of the recent tour of Northern Ireland and Scotland at coffee and rolls after both Masses on Sunday. On Wednesday evening, July 26 at 7 PM I am holding an informational gathering about next year's tour I am organizing to Sicily and the Island of Malta. It will be either in the great hall or the commons area.

A great opportunity: World Wide Marriage Encounter will be holding a weekend retreat for couples over the **September 17 weekend at Mount Carmel Ministries** here in Alexandria. I used to give weekends for Marriage Encounter with 3 other team couples. It was a GREAT experience. A ME weekend is *not* for marriages in trouble (there are other things for that), but for good marriages that want to be even better. It focuses on good communication skills so that a couple can more readily share themselves with each other. So often couples (and priests) can get into routines where we take others for granted. It is not mean-spirited, but we all drift in focus within our vocations. So often couples focus on “the kids”....but the reality is—your relationship is the foundation of your home. So...why not give it a great booster shot? If you have been married 3-50+ years, this is for you. Parents, are you looking for a good Christmas gift for your married son or daughter? This would be a good gift. And it is held locally---there are enough rooms in that wonderful facility. I would love to see our parish fill that weekend up. In early July you will hear more of it. There will be brochures at the Hospitality desk or you can go on line, visiting: WWME.org or call 1-800-795-5683 (LOVE). We have a number of encountered couples in our parish: Bill & Barb Flaig, Ken and Jeanne Howell, Michaela and Steve Niblett, Glen and Dorothy Reiner (I used to give weekends with them) among others. Feel free to call them and talk to them about it. On July 16 weekend, Steve and Michaela Niblett will share their experience with us.

Fr. Steve

Readings for the Week of June 26th

Monday: Gn 12:1-9; Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday: Gn 13:2, 5-18; Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18; Mt 7:15-20
Thursday: Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
Friday: Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Mt 8:1-4
Saturday: Gn 18:1-15; Mt 8:5-17
Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

Weekly Mass Schedule

Daily Mass Server: Tues., Wed., Thur., Fri., **Tom Kretschmer**
Monday No daily mass
Tuesday 5:00 PM +Gordy Vipond
Wednesday 8:30 AM Int. of Leyla Gruber
Thursday 7:00 AM +Jean Reinking
Friday 8:30 AM +Ollie Grossman
Saturday 5:00 PM For the Parish
Sunday 8:00 AM +Rita Pansch
10:00 AM +George Murphy

Sacraments

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday at 4 PM in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (room behind presider's chair; also has a separate entry)

Celebration of Baptism: All parents must take the Baptism Preparation Course before their child's baptism. Sign up by calling the Parish Office. The next course will be offered on July 11th at 7 PM.

Baptism Dates: July 2nd & 16th, Aug. 6th, 12th & 20th. To schedule a baptism on one of these dates, please call the Parish Office.

Preparation for Marriage: Members of the parish (or children of members) must arrange for marriage at least 6 months in advance. Information can be received from the Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick: is held on the first Sunday of the month, immediately following the 8 AM Mass. Those who wish to be anointed are asked to come to the front of the church.

New members - to register please stop by our hospitality desk located in the Commons Area of the church or visit our website to complete the registration online.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

July 1st & 2nd

SATURDAY 5 PM MASS

Greeters Team 1 – Cheryl Wille, Grace Lambert, Reenie Elkington, Brenda Struck, Pat Polesak

Ushers Team 1- Bradley Olson, Joseph Struck, Gail Feriancek, Vicki Lorentz, Joyce & Dave Essler, Ed Dummer

Extraordinary Ministers Team 1

Lector 1 Lauren Russell

Lector 2 Velma Yatskis

Servers Bryce Kraker, Julia Wilmesmeier

SUNDAY 8 AM MASS

Greeters Team 5B – Larry & Mary Lou Simpson, Pat & Paul Johnson, John & Janet Stone

Ushers Team 5 – Bernie Wambeke, Jim Walz, Brad Brejcha, Dan Zimny, Kevin Tvrdik, Ken Tvrdik, Vinnie Hennen

Extraordinary Ministers Team 5

Lector 1 Lois Braun

Lector 2 Tom Savageau

Servers Daniel Savageau, Lauren Savageau

SUNDAY 10 AM MASS

Greeters Team 9 –Greg & Linda Thompson, Paulette Engels, Rodney & Sue Borden

Ushers Team 9 –Brad Dumm, Bruce Strandskov, Jacob Schiltgen, Mark Meuwissen, Hank Janz, Dennis Mack, Lyle Holscher, T. Michael Thompson

Extraordinary Ministers Team 9

Lector 1 Lynda Wosmek

Lector 2 Greg Thompson

Servers Elizabeth Winter, David Winter

Drivers –July 2nd

Bethel Manor –Jerry Wright

Windmill Ponds –Rich Solheid

Arabella Manor –Ken Wersinger

Grand Arbor – John Hovel & Ron Boyden

Hospital/Nursing Home –July2nd

Hospital – Aaron Korkowski

Knute Nelson/Nelson Gables – Kevin & Mary Gorghuber

Bethany –Mary Strasser

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Tuesday evenings in the Great Hall immediately following the 5 PM mass. Call Mike at 759-1911 for more info.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Thursday mornings in the Commons Area of the church at 6:00 AM. Call Mike at 759-1911 for more info.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Come discover how to deepen your relationship with the Holy Spirit beginning the weekend of June 17th - 18th. You may attend Saturday mornings or Sunday evenings and can alternate between sessions for your convenience. **Please consider joining us!** Contact Tammy 320-808-6404 or Lori 320-808-1145 email: biblestudywomen@gmail.com

ST. MARY'S PRAYER LINK: If you have a prayer request, please send to Wosepkak@aol.com or phone Kelly Wosepka at 320-815-4655. You may also call Julie Desautels at 846-1842. All prayer requests will be kept confidential.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Rosary: Sundays (before Mass) 7:35 AM & 9:35 AM

Holy Spirit Prayer Group: Thursdays 5:30-6:00 PM (rosary in Commons Area) 6-7 PM prayer time in the Chapel Contact Jim Joerger 834-2945

Divine Mercy Hour: Mondays from 3-4 PM Contact Barb Nei at 846-0022.

Sanctity of Life Prayer Group: Meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7 PM. Contact Louise Revering at 762-8632.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION - Our Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St. Mary's is open Monday through Friday from the early morning until late in the evening, with several perpetual hours of operation. The following times we would like another person to be with someone who already has volunteered. Mon – 4-5 am; Tues – 7-8 am; Wed – 4-5 am, 7-8 pm, 11-midnight; Thurs – 12-1 am, 2-3 pm, 11-midnight; Fri – 12-1 am, 5-6 pm

For more information, please contact Sue McCulloch at 320-491-7006; tscamcculloch@charter.net.

THE MINISTRY OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION is offered by Craig Hamilton, an experienced, certified spiritual director and parishioner. For an appointment or more information call 612-237-3463 or email craighamilton@careofsouls.org.



SANCTITY OF LIFE MOMENT:

Before I formed you in the womb I **KNEW YOU**, before you were born I sanctified you.

Jeremiah 1:5

RCIA - Interested in becoming Catholic, or returning to the church? Call Fr. Steve at 320-763-5781. Our process of becoming Catholic begins mid-September. He would be happy to visit with you.

PRAYER CORNER

If you or someone you know in our parish community is sick or ill or has a family member who could use our prayers, please call our Parish Nurse, Kathy Fischer, at 762-2320. Please remember the following people in your prayers: Lori Thorson, Ruth Partington, Ron Hoffman, Chris Ficenec, Emily & Richard Stark, Ken Judson, Betty Schlosser, Carol Menk, Joanna Hacker, Tim & Sharon Rudd, Dennis Menk, Pam Schnettler, Robert Weiland, Butch (Bruce) Schmidt, Dolloween Hauer, Rita Fehrman, Jim Rutten and Don Dvorsak.

We wish to offer our sympathy and a promise of our prayers to: Family and friends on the death of

Eleanor Boysen & Lorraine Van Santen



COMMUNITY NEWS

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO Sunday, June 25th at 7:00 PM & Wednesday, June 28th at 2:00 PM at the KC Hall on 6th Ave E. & Nokomis. Team 7 – Ron Pachan, Jerry Glisky, Kevin Freiderich, Paul Maack and Ron Hoffman will be in charge.

PLEASE NOTE: A family of our parish is in need of help with occasional meals brought to their home. July 18th is available if you are willing to help with this, please call Kathy at 762-2320 to volunteer and for more information.

A YEAR OF
Peacemaking
AUGUST 2016 THROUGH JULY 2017

Dale Carnegie says that the “greatest need people have is for love and approval”. Praise, compliment and honor the uniqueness of at least three people today. Notice the positive impact you make on everyone when you value the individuality of one person.

After years of hard work and dedication, it's time to take a permanent vacation.



Join us in celebrating the retirement of St. Mary's Parish Business Administrator,

JIM BOYLE

RETIREMENT

OPEN HOUSE

Please bring a favorite story about Jim.

Sunday – June 25, 2017 – 1-4 p.m. 2:30 program
Carlos Creek Winery
6693 County Road 34 NW Alexandria, MN

PRAYER SHAWLS – if you know someone in need of comfort and prayer, we have prayer shawls available. Please call Jean at 762-7729 or Terry at 763-6755.

Douglas County Triad Presents: THE 10th ANNUAL FREE SENIOR EXPO

The Expo will be on Thursday, June 29th from 8:30 – 2:30 PM. This Senior Expo will feature area providers, services and resources for citizens of Douglas County. Admission is free and so is lunch. Sessions include Alzheimer's, AARP ID Theft, Personal Awareness, Estate Planning, Renter's Rights, Veteran's Benefits, Fire Safety and Carbon Monoxide, Exercise, Natural Healing Benefits and lots more. Call to pre-register at 762-3047 or 762-2320 or email maryk@co.douglas.mn.us

JPIC TABLE TALK

Habitat is recruiting volunteers to participate in a global village build on November 13 – 17, 2017. Michelle Lackey-Olsen will be the team leader. She has led several global village trips for Habitat Douglas County. If an international

build has been on your bucket list, consider joining approximately 200 volunteers from around the world to build 15 homes in the Battambang Province in Cambodia. For more information contact Michelle at mchellevlo@yahoo.com. Volunteers will be required to pay their own travel costs and a program fee. Thrivent Financial is partnering with Habitat and is offering special pricing for Thrivent Members.

RECOGNIZING THE CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY— “FEED THE HUNGRY”,

Your Committee for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation is sponsoring a **JULY FOOD CAMPAIGN**. Please check your car trunk & closets for our St. Mary's blue bags for the collection of food. We ask that you kindly return them.

“LET'S BAG HUNGER”

- Pick up a bag from the display tables at the church entrances
- Return the filled bag to display area in the commons area.

During our March Food Campaign you generously donated 6,145 lbs. of food and \$3,295.00 monetary donations.

BELGIAN WAFFLE FEED – The Marine Corps League, Alexandria Post 1409 and the Alexandria Evening Lions Club will have a Belgian Waffle feed on Sunday, June 25th from 9 AM to Noon at VFW Post 936, 1102 3rd Ave E. All you can eat waffles for \$6.00. All proceeds will go to the Marine Corp League “Toys for Kids,” a Christmas toy benefit for children in Alexandria and Douglas County. This is open to the public

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY

Lifting Spirits, Touching Lives

June is National Aphasia Awareness Month.

More people have aphasia than many other common conditions such as cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease or muscular dystrophy; yet in a 2016 survey 84.5% of people had never heard the term aphasia.

What is Aphasia?

Aphasia is an acquired communication disorder that impairs a person's ability to process language, but does not affect intelligence. Aphasia impairs the ability to speak and understand others, and most people with aphasia experience difficulty reading and writing. The diagnosis of aphasia does NOT imply a person has a mental illness or impairment in intelligence.

Cause of Aphasia

Aphasia is usually due to stroke or traumatic injury to the brain. About 25-40% of stroke survivors acquire aphasia.

Communication Problems

The ability to communicate using language is affected. Language includes:

- Speaking
- Understanding the speech of others
- Reading
- Writing
- Gesturing
- Using numbers
- Aphasia affects everyone differently.

Recovering with Aphasia

- There is no medical “cure” for aphasia.
- Problems communicating can last a long time.
- Most people improve over time, particularly if speech therapy is provided.
- People’s aphasia can be helped even 10 years or more after the onset if they have access to appropriate intensive treatment.
- New imaging studies show with time the brain can make new networks and heal.

Incidence of Aphasia

- Stroke is the leading cause of long-term disability.
- Stroke is the 3rd leading cause of death in the USA after heart disease and cancer.
- About 5,000,000 people survived strokes in the USA.
- About 750,000 strokes occur each year in the USA.
- About 1/3 (225,000) of strokes result in aphasia.
- There are at least 2,000,000 people in the USA with aphasia.

Aphasia Statistics Pulled from our 2016 national survey on aphasia awareness (<http://www.aphasia.org/2016-aphasia-awareness-survey/>).

- 84.5% of people have never heard the term “Aphasia.”
- 8.8% of people have heard of aphasia and can identify it as a language disorder.
- 34.7% of people agree or give a neutral response to the statement: “If a person has difficulties with speech, they also have intellectual deficiencies.”
- 84.1% of people make a connection between stroke and brain injury and difficulties with communication.
- 15.3% of people recall first hearing about aphasia from newspapers, magazines or online publication.

RESEARCH STUDY DEMONSTRATING IMPACT OF APHASIA ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR PEOPLE

Aphasia Has Greater Negative Impact on a Person’s Quality of Life than Cancer or Alzheimer’s Disease.

- Researchers studied health-related factors affecting quality of life for hospital residents in Ontario, Canada.
- They examined the impact of 60 different diseases and 15 conditions on quality of life of 66,193 people.
- Results showed aphasia has the largest negative impact on quality of life, more than cancer and Alzheimer’s disease.
- The negative effects of aphasia on an individual’s quality of life includes their inability to communicate with and engage their family, friends, doctors and their wider community.

For more info go to www.aphasia.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

email: stmreled@stmaryalexandria.org

Phone: 763-9202



VBS MEMORIES 2017



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

St. Mary's School educates the whole child within a nurturing Catholic Christian environment.

Email: stmaryss@stmaryalexandria.org

Phone: 320-763-5861

Fax: 320-763-7992

St. Mary's School

by: **Giselle Jahner**



I have been at St. Mary's for 7 years, from Kindergarten until now, in 6th grade. I can't imagine being at a different school. I have made so many memories. My favorite memory is Long Lake. Long Lake was a

field trip 5th and 6th graders went on for 3 days and 2 nights. I learned different ways to survive in the wilderness. I had so much fun seeing new animals, exploring different environments, and hanging out with friends.

Sixth graders are the oldest kids in the school so we got to plan out Catholic Schools Week. We had duct tape day, pajama day, a pancake breakfast, K-2 went to the water park and 3-6 students went to Andes Tower Hills. Organizing Catholic Schools Week was a lot of fun!

I wanted to thank all of those who have taught me in my years at St. Mary's including Mrs. Ihnen, Mrs. Struchen, Mrs. Hetland, Mrs. Bristow, Mrs. Gustafson, Mr. Hovel, Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Korynta, Mrs. Herth, Mrs. Senora Wood, Mr. Witt, and to all the other helpers and teachers who I did not have as a homeroom teacher. Lastly, I wanted to thank Mr. Sladek for making this school what it is today.

I am really going to miss all of my friends and teachers as I go to Discovery Middle School. I am going to miss all that I have done here at St. Mary's and all of the memories I have made.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

JUNE 2017

June 18 Diane Gay, Alexandria \$35
 June 19 Kara Maus, Alexandria \$20
 June 20 Joel Barten, Alexandria \$20
 June 21 Don Neu, Freeport \$20
 June 22 Bruce Gorghuber, Alexandria \$20
 June 23 Steve Russell, Miltona \$20
 June 24 Brian Fleming, Alexandria \$20

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

We are accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school year. Please call Mr. Sladek at 763-5861 for more information or to schedule a tour.



St. Mary's After School Kid Kare Assistant 17-18 School Year

The primary responsibility of this position is to work collaboratively with the Kid Kare Director to help supervise the students who are attending the after school program.

Position information and requirements:

Assistant must be a team player who is flexible to assist students and staff.

The position requires continual communication with Kid Kare Director, parents, classroom teachers and principal.

The position is for 3 hours per day during the 168 student contact days (2:30 – 5:30 p.m.)

Hourly rate of pay is negotiable with experience.

Experience working with children is preferred.

Position will remain open until filled.

Interested candidates must send cover letter and resume to
 Troy Sladek, Principal, St. Mary's School,
 421 Hawthorne, Alexandria, MN 56308.

LITURGICAL & MUSICAL NOTES

Death

The [Gospel](#) reading this week is focused on death. In the Gospel Reading, Jesus tells his apostles not to be afraid of those who can kill you. They are not to be feared, because death itself is not to be feared.

No doubt, there is always something sorrowful about dying, because the death of the body separates the dying person from his family and his friends; and they still have to slog through their lives in this world without their companion. But Jesus is telling people not to fear facing death.

If you were walking alone down a dark street late at night, and you saw a small knot of strangers gathered menacingly at a corner, wouldn't you be afraid? Shouldn't you be afraid? If the cancer doctor tells you that you have only months to live, wouldn't you—shouldn't you—be afraid?

How can Jesus tell us—actually, command us—not to be afraid of death?

Well, think about it this way. If you are surprised when you discover that you are dying, you just haven't been paying attention. None of us is getting out of this alive. Everyone of us will die. It is just a question of when. Or maybe better: it is just a question of how.

Here is how it will be if you love the Lord. In dying, you will move through the veil that separates you, in this world of sorrow and suffering, from the Lord's own presence. There, on the other side, you will find all tears wiped away—the ones you wept before and the ones that are now stuck in your heart—by the tenderness of your creator. You will think you must be dreaming, because the beauty and the goodness of that world surpass your every want or need, and you yourself will be what you never imagined you could be. Surrounded by beauty and goodness, bathed in the love of the Lord, you will join the angels in singing for joy at what the Lord is doing.

Are you afraid now? Is this scary to you?

What is worth fearing is losing all of this beauty and goodness on the other side of death because you will not surrender to the love of the Lord who calls you to himself. But that death comes from sin, as the [Second Reading](#) says, and no one can force sin on you. If you wall yourself off from the love of the Lord, you kill your soul yourself. That is definitely worth fearing, as the Lord says.

*Eleonore Stump, Professor of Philosophy, St. Louis University © 2017. All Rights Reserved.
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FINANCIAL GIFTS

Collections for the Weekend of 06/18/2017

	Actual	Budgeted
Sunday Envelope	\$22,150.35	\$29,941.88
Loose	\$ 2,345.85	\$ 2,115.38
Sunday Children	\$ 13.00	\$ 115.38

A more detailed report may be viewed at the Parish Office.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Steve Binsfeld 763-5781

Parish Business Administrator

Jim Boyle 763-5781

Director of Music and Liturgy

Laurie Youngers 763-5781

Parish Nurse

Kathy Fischer 762-2320

School Principal & Elem. Religious Ed

Troy Sladek 763-5861

Logistics Coordinator

Laurie Bienias 763-9202

Coordinator of Youth Ministries & Confirmation

Gina Pohlen 763-9202

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Parish Trustees

Elmer Kobbermann 834-3103

Francie Peterson 320-360-0325

Pastoral Council President

Tammy Huss 808-6404

Finance Committee

Mike Dolan 763-4705

Board of Education

Francie Peterson 320-360-0325

Liturgy Committee

Laurie Youngers 763-5781

Committee for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation

Tammy Boushek 760-5405

Parish Life Committee

Verna Winter 507-329-0135

Cemetery Committee

Don Skrove 320-760-4454

CARING & SHARING ROOM

320-760-8084

PASTORAL COUNCIL

President: Tammy Huss

Vice President: Dan Hilback

Secretary: Sonya Skinner

Glen Reiner, Randy Meyer, Michaela

Niblett, Steve Russell, Megan Bristow &

Dawn Houska