

# St. Mary Catholic Church

214 Church Street, Algoma, WI 54201

... since 1860

## Pastor

Fr. Alvan Amadi

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Office: .....(920)487-5005 Ext# 3

## Parish Administrative Assistant

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Email: parishoffice@smsgoma.com

## Religious Education

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## Lo-Sec & Grief Ministry

Donna Moran .....(920)723-1948

Email: dmoran@smsgoma.com

## Parish Trustees

Larry Feuerstein.....(920)487-3956

Mike Haase.....(920)304-0252

## St. Mary Grade School

Lucinda Massey, Lead Teacher

Email: cmassey@smsgoma.com

## School Secretary

Marcia Cross

Email: schooloffice@smsgoma.com

Phone.....(920)487-5004

## Prayer Chain

Barb Harz.....(920)255-2296

## Gift Bearers

Patti Donart.....(920)487-2651

## Chairpersons

### Pastoral Council

Mark LeBotte.....(920)559-3004

Jamie Stangel .....(920)217-0124

### Finance Council

Mary Kay Bennett.....(920)255-2944

### Buildings & Grounds

Dan Vertz.....(920).487-2091

### Cemetery Association

Earl Krueger.....(920)487-3861

Larry Feuerstein.....(920)487-3956

Jane Michalik.....(920)737-7768

### Board of Education

Jamie Dachelet .....(920)255-0931

### Stewardship

Linda Andre .....(920)487-2542

Jan Guillette.....(920)856-6979

### Worship

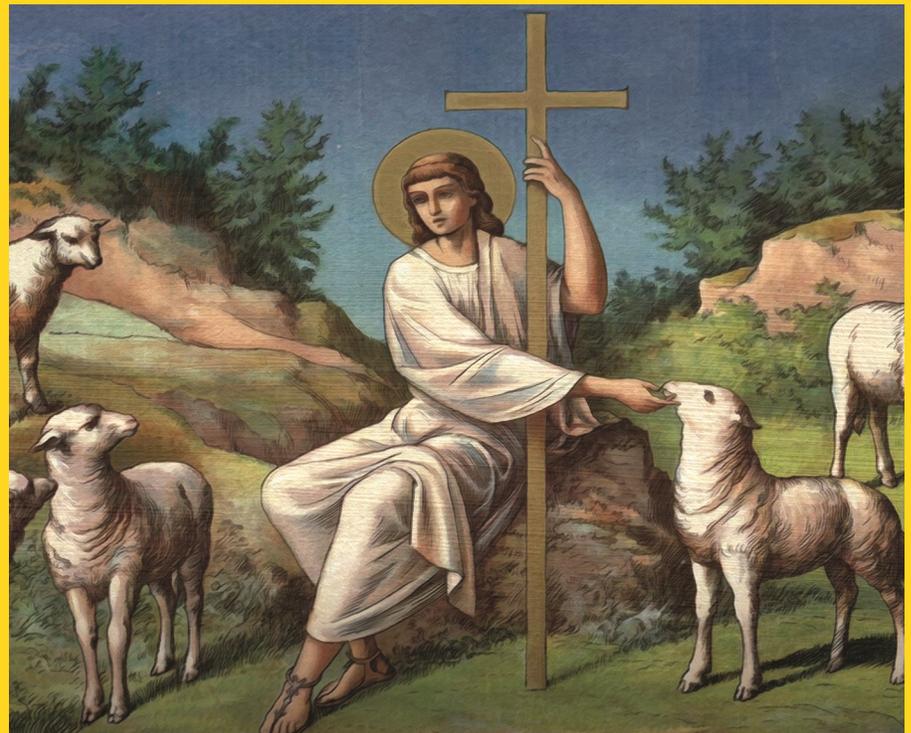
Jacque Wiese .....(920)487-5524

## VISION:

Love God, Love others, and form disciples for Jesus.

## MISSION:

To build a Catholic Community that discovers Jesus, follows Jesus, worships Jesus, and shares Jesus with others.



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep." - Jn 10:14-15

**April 25, 2021**

**Call Parish Office For Sacramental Prep**

**Baptism • Marriage • RCIA**

**(920) 487-5005 Ext #100**

**Confessions according to schedule**

**and Confessions and Sacrament of Anointing  
anytime by request.**

**Contact Father Amadi (920) 487-5005 Ext #3**

**Check out  
Formed.org**

**Parish Access  
Code:**

**C3F6DM**

**Parish Website:**

**[https://  
stmaryalgoma.com](https://stmaryalgoma.com)**

## St. Mary Mass Schedule



### Saturday, April 24

9:00 am **Confessions**  
5:30 pm † Dean Meister

### Sunday, April 25

8:15 am For the People of the Parish  
10:30 am **1st Communion**

### Tuesday, April 27

8:05 am † Ron Boucher

### Thursday, April 29

8:05 am † Edward Sticka  
5:00-6:00 pm **Adoration and Confessions**

### Friday, April 30

8:05 am For the People of the Parish

### Saturday, May 1

9:00 am **Confessions**  
5:30 pm For the People of the Parish

### Sunday, May 2

8:15 am † Mary Kersten

## This Week at St. Mary

### Sunday, April 25

8:15 am Mass - Livestream  
<https://www.facebook.com/Stmaryalgoma/live/>

### 10:30 am - 1st Communion

### Wednesday, April 28

6:45 pm - 8:30 pm  
7th - 11th grade Youth Alpha class



### Thursday, April 29

9:00 am - Bible Study "The Sunday Scriptures" in the Rosary Society Room.  
All are invited, come join us every Thursday!



St. Mary Parish/School is in need of volunteers to help with cutting the lawn for the north half of church/school property, using the church's lawn mowers.

Could work by yourself or with a friend and would take about 1 1/2 hours (with 2 people), about once every 3 weeks.

Please call Tom, 920-559-6188. Thanks



Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.  
Let perpetual light shine on her.

### Nicole Lee Bergquist

Born to eternal life on April 9, 2021.



## Readings for the Week of April 25, 2021

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18  
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:1-10  
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30  
Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50  
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20  
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6  
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14  
*St. Joseph the Worker:* Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 13:54-58  
Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8



We are looking for a part-time cleaning person and house keeper for the Rectory.

Needed twice a month beginning in May.

Contact Fr. Amadi if you are interested.



## Congratulations!

to the following students who are receiving First Holy Communion here at St. Mary Parish, Algoma on Sunday April 25:

Eli Burroughs  
Abel DeMuese  
Carter Heidmann  
Easton Piesler  
Catherine Ray  
Audrey Schley  
Beau Schuster  
Levi Schwader  
Mason Vertz



## Parish Support



Stewardship	Apr. 17 & 18
Building & Grounds	\$ 3,517.58
Auto WD Stewardship 4/20/2021	\$ 50.00
	\$ 2,475.00



**Saint Mary Parish Lights**  
April 25 - May 1  
Steeple, Tabernacle, & Grotto Lights  
**Ron Boucher**

If you are looking for a part-time position we are looking for you!

St. Mary School - Algoma has an opening for a school custodian and we want you to be a part of our Team! We offer a variety of schedules and hours to provide the best service to our students.

- Current Opening • Part time Monday-Friday Schedule
- Hours: Flexible
- Direct hire

Some Benefits included

Our team members have a meaningful role supporting our efforts to keep our school clean and ready for learning.

No experience? Not a Problem! We will train the right person. Contact the School Office at 920-487-5004 or email – [schooloffice@smsgoma.com](mailto:schooloffice@smsgoma.com) - if interested.



### Receiving the Eucharist with Faith

One of the things I look forward to celebrating each spring after Easter Sunday, is First Communion. I have always experienced this liturgy as very moving as I watch the first communicants approach the altar to receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time. Their innocence and simplicity of faith is both heartwarming and beautiful. Seeing them all neatly dressed and ready, reminds me of my own first communion years ago. I remember how I hardly slept the night before the celebration, for sheer excitement. If the truth be told, I was also nervous, since I had been given the responsibility of proclaiming the Second Reading for that Mass. It was the custom at my home parish in Nigeria for two of the first communicants to do the readings at their First Communion Mass.

Although I had been practicing for months, so much so that I had practically memorized the reading from Romans 13: 8-10, I still could not believe I was asked to read in front of a church full of people. I remember complaining to my parents months before when the catechist assigned the task to me and sent me home with a copy of the reading so that I can practice at home with my parents. But they said that I can do it and that I should quit complaining. It helped a little that our catechist told me not to look at people's faces, but instead to look above their heads when I am standing at the Ambo to read. In that way, I would not see their happy faces and smiling eyes (some of them belonging to my parents and relatives) lovingly gazing at me. I would also not see my younger siblings making faces at me. I was ten years old. The reading must have gone well because from that day, I became known in the parish as the "little guy who read at Mass." Some parishioners would also ask me from that day whether I was going to be a priest. My parents were proud.

Celebrating First Communion masses now as a priest somehow reminds me of that day. Participating at the First Communion Masses should help us recall the day we received Jesus for the first time. What do you remember about your own First Communion Day? This celebration should also provide us with a unique occasion to remind ourselves of what we believe regarding the Holy Eucharist, the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. At Mass, following the words of consecration or institution by an ordained priest, the bread and wine placed on the altar are transformed or rather "transubstantiated" into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, given for the life and salvation of the world. When the consecrated Bread and Wine are consumed by the faithful who are in a state of grace, their souls are nourished. They experience a deep and abiding intimacy, friendship and communion with God who comes to dwell within them.

To receive the Holy Eucharist worthily, there is need for an examination of conscience which is not to be taken lightly. If someone is aware of any serious sin, they should go to confession before receiving the Eucharist. St. Paul puts it this way: "Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself" (I Cor 11: 27 -29).

Sadly many people today seem to have lost sight of the precious gift of the Holy Eucharist and the corresponding need to prepare worthily for its reception. We take it too much for granted. The great gift of the Eucharist invites us to receive it responsibly and worthily, with faith. The second century theologian St. Ignatius of Antioch calls the Eucharist, the "medicine of immortality." It is the source and nourishment of our life in Christ. Without believing that one is receiving the Body and Blood of Christ truly present in the consecrated elements --not some symbol of God's love as some Christian denominations teach-- one should not approach the altar to receive the Eucharist. This is the reason why non-Catholics and non-baptized people are not invited to Holy Communion at Catholic Masses. Writing in the first century, the church father St. Justin Martyr comments: "No one may share the Eucharist with us unless he believes that what we teach is true, unless he is washed in the regenerating waters of baptism for the remission of his sins, and unless he lives in accordance with the principles given us by Christ."

First Communion Mass will be beautiful and moving as always. I hope and pray that the parents of the children who will receive Jesus for the first time will show by their lives of Eucharistic faith and coherence as well as by their regular participation in the Sunday liturgy, that truly they believe in their very bones that the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of their Christian lives.

Fr. Alvan Amadi