St. Mary Catholic Church

214 Church Street, Algoma, WI 54201

. . . since 1860

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.

December 5, 2021

Pastor
Fr. Alvan Amadi
Email: aamadi@smsalgoma.com
Office: .....(920)487-5005 Ext# 3

Parish Administrative Assistant
Susan Dean.....(920)487-5005
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Lo-Sec & Grief Ministry
Donna Moran .....(920)723-1948
Email: morandr286@gmail.com

Parish Trustees
Larry Feuerstein.....(920)487-3956
Mike Haase.....(920)304-0252

St. Mary Grade School
Mike Cattani, Principal
Email: mcattani@smsalgoma.com

School Secretary
Marcia Cross
Email: schooloffice@smsalgoma.com
Phone.....(920)487-5004

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

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

Chairpersons

Pastoral Council
Lisa Mraz.....(920)493-6602
Mark LeBotte.....(920)559-3004

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 Guilette.....(920)856-6979

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

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
https://formed.org/signup

Parish Website:
https://stmaryalgoma.com

St. Mary Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 4
4:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, December 5
7:45 am Rosary
8:15 am † Ann Schmitt Brodbeck

Tuesday, December 7 St. Ambrose (M)
8:05 am † Vivian Heidmann

Wednesday, December 8 The Immaculate Conception
6:00 pm † Francis Pierre of the Blessed Virgin Mary (S)

Thursday, December 9
8:05 am † Deceased Members of Joseph Krzysiak Family
3:00 - 4:00 pm Adoration

Friday, December 10
8:05 am † Jean Bair

Saturday, December 11
4:00 pm † Eric Mayheu & Mary Mayheu

Sunday, December 12
7:45 am Rosary
8:15 am For the People of the Parish

In Memory of... Envelopes

Fill out a memory envelope for your departed loved ones and return it to the Parish office or in the collection basket by December 16. Envelopes can be found in all entrances/exits of the church.

The offerings are for the seasonal decorations and flowers.

Readings for the Week of December 5, 2021

Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/ Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
Monday:	Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday:	Zep 3:14-18a/Is12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/ Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

This Week at St. Mary

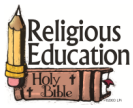
Saturday, December 4
Advent Candle Lighting: Doug Kostichka Family
9:00 am - 3:00 pm - Stocking Stuffer

Sunday, December 5
8:15 am Mass - Livestream
https://www.facebook.com/Stmaryalgoma/live/

Advent Candle Lighting: Nicole Bergquist Family
9:30 - 11:00 am - Confirmation Class

Tuesday, December 7
4:00 - Advent Penance Service

Wednesday, December 8
5:15 - 6:45 pm
K-6 grade Faith Formation Classes
6:45 - 8:15 pm
7th-11th grade Faith Formation Classes
7:00 pm - Knights of Columbus Meeting



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

Knights of Columbus Knights News

Dec. 5, 2021

Each month the Algoma Knights of Columbus select and acknowledge special people who are working hard for our parish and community. We want to say to those people a big "Thank You" for all that you do, and to let you know that your efforts are appreciated!!
The special people that were selected are:

Month	Special Person(s)
August	Bonnie Seiler
September	Jerry Guth
October	Mary Kay Bennet
November	Pete Junio
December	Dan & Cindy Vertz

The "Giving Tree" for those who are feeling isolated or in need this holiday season ends this weekend. Please have your wrapped gifts with the attached ornament under the tree near the Church Street entrance. Gifts will be sorted after the 8:15 Mass on Sunday, December 5. Thank you to everyone who participated. Please remember the recipients in your prayers.

Help Needed!

St. Mary Parish/School is looking for an individual that would be interested in the responsibility for snow removal of the parish and school sidewalks.
This is a paid position at the rate of $13 an hour.
No benefits are included.
Call the Parish office if you are interested.
920-487-5005

Parish Support

	Nov. 20 & 22
Stewardship	$ 2,758.30
School Support	$ 0.00
Building & Grounds	$ 5.00

Stewardship Support for Nov. 27 & 28 and Dec. 4 & 5 will be in the Dec. 11 & 12 bulletin.

Saint Mary Parish Lights
Dec. 5 - 11
Steeple & Tabernacle Lights
Jean Bair

Save the Date!

On Sunday, December 19, after the 8:15 AM Mass we will be decorating the church for Christmas.
If able, please stay to help out.

All are welcome.

Volunteers Needed!

Looking for volunteers for St. Mary after school program and afternoon playground help. The after school program runs until 5 or 5:30 PM and a volunteer is not needed every evening. Playground help is from 11:45 - 12:15 PM. Even helping out one day a month is an enjoyable way to help out our school.

Grateful. Thankful. Blessed

By Fr. Alvan Amadi
November 16, 2021

The year 2009 was a very big year for me. It was the year I came to the United States as a seminarian. This was in early April, which happened to be the Saturday of Holy Week. I had every intention of attending the Easter Vigil that night, but after a long flight I was exhausted and dozed off. Fr. Tom Long, the diocesan vocation director at the time, with whom I stayed, did not want to disturb my sleep because he knew how much I needed the rest. I was so excited to be in America. It was like a dream come true.

Growing up in Nigeria, I watched a lot of American movies and music videos. In high school, I was not very interested in sports. My interests were choral music and books, hence, I read a lot of American novels. I remember that, as a teenager, it was considered very cool to wear T-shirts and baseball caps with American sport teams or the names of American cities, such as New York, Chicago or Atlanta printed on them.

It was during college that I learned a bit more about American history and philosophy, especially since philosophy was my major. I marvel at America's impact on the world stage and her global leadership, power and influence. America's involvement in World War II, for example, changed the course of world history. The world continues to look up to the United States for leadership in research, science and information technology, as well as in many other fields of human endeavor.

Has the American scientific power and technological prowess always been a force for good? No. Has her foreign policies and history been utterly selfless and devoid of greed? Of course not. Every country, however, has aspects of its history that are somewhat shady. Great nations learn from their histories. They do not hide from them.

For as long as I can remember, America has always been that "shining city on the hill," a place where dreams come true and a land where anyone willing to work hard can succeed and achieve the impossible. It is as the line from the national anthem, the Star-Spangled Banner, states, "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Over the years of living in the United States, I have fallen in love with this country and its people. It has become home. Thus, it was a great privilege and honor for me to be sworn in last month in Milwaukee as a U.S. citizen.

The United States of America, which I love and am now privileged to call home, is filled with many qualities. One such virtue that distinguishes her and her citizens from other countries is this: generosity. I am constantly amazed and heartened by this. Wherever human suffering shows its ugly face, either in the form of natural or human-made disasters, the United States is oftentimes among the first nations to respond concretely with compassion. The milk of human kindness still flows in this land and in the hearts of many citizens of this country.

This nation thrives on the rule of law. In preparing for my citizenship exam, I had to study the meaning of the "rule of law." Its simple definition gets to the heart of the matter: that everyone must follow the law. When people criticize elected officials in higher offices and do not get arrested, or when I hear about politicians or highly-placed government officials going to jail for breaking the law, I realize this is truly an exceptional nation. This, unfortunately, is not the case in many other countries, where it seems the law only applies to the poor, while the rich and well-connected get away with violent acts against their people.

This is a nation where people, both young and old, can freely express themselves. Put simply, freedom of expression lives loudly in this country and that is a glorious thing. Cardinal Sean O'Malley, who serves as the archbishop of Boston, once mentioned that one of the remarkable things about America is that, when we talk about the issues that affect our country long enough, we tend to get them right. I hope and pray this culture of dialogue, debate and encounter may continue to flourish.

There is so much more about America that I love. It is difficult to put into words how thankful, grateful and blessed I am to live in this country and now be an American citizen. No matter how big or small the gesture, I humbly thank all who have helped me along my journey, especially Bishop David Ricken and Fr. Tom Long.

Fr. Alvan Amadi pastor of St. Mary Parish in Algoma.