

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
Dousman, Wisconsin  
**Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost**  
Sunday, October 25, 2020



**Dear St. Mary's Parish,**

This Sunday is our annual **Stewardship Sunday**. If you have joined us for Radio Church today at 10 a.m., please fill out and return your pledge card in the offering box before you leave – it's been a surprising and unexpected year, but your pledges allow us to continue spreading the Gospel at St. Mary's. We have homemade fudge as a thank you for everyone who has attended today (and if you are not able to join us on today, you can also stop by the office during the week).

Our **All Saints Evensong** is coming up on November 1. Join us on YouTube or Facebook at 5 p.m. for this beautiful remembrance of those who have gone before us, to inspire, to hearten and to challenge. We are all of us saints of God, and All Saints is a wonderful time to remember that vocation and build upon those who have gone before us.

Finally, I have had several people ask about the **Bishop's search**, and what is happening at the moment. Sally W. is on the Search Committee, but here is the general outline.

Bishop Miller is our Bishop until December 31, 2020. On January 1, 2021, we will have an Assisting Bishop assigned to us by Presiding Bishop Curry. In April we will hold a Special Convention to vote in a Provisional Bishop.

When we can meet in-person again, the Search Committee will visit individual churches to ask for input in putting together the Diocesan Profile. Once that is complete, we will receive applications and the Search Committee will do first round interviews. When they have narrowed down the candidates, they will announce a slate of nominees to the Diocese. At that point there is a process for nominating further candidates. The entire group will travel around the Diocese to meet people from the parishes, and then a Special Convention will vote to elect the 12<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Milwaukee.

If you would like more details, please talk to me or Sally W. The process is delayed until we can meet face-to-face but given that Bishop Miller was our bishop for 17 years, it is probably wise to take time to be deliberate in our discernment of a new Bishop.

Prayers & Blessings,  
Mother Pippa

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## THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S



### Sunday, October 25, 2020 - 21 Pentecost



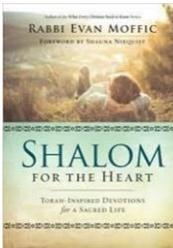
#### **ST. MARY'S ONLINE RECORDED EUCHARIST** (Posted @ 9 am)

Facebook Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/St-Marys-Episcopal-Church-670614162955490/videos>

YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMbnEfS48yysuKBGzGmqsyw>



#### **ONLINE ADULT FORMATION @ 9 am** **Shalom for the Heart**

Parish Hall: 10-person limit, social distancing & mask required

**and**

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81021226947?pwd=aE5sWEIqRnFMYzVBeIV4bzVXTk03dz09>

Contact: [Carol M.](#)



#### **ST. MARY'S DRIVE-IN EUCHARIST** **@ 10 am**

**Tune in to 97.9 FM**

**North (Hwy. 67) Parking Lot**



#### **ST. MARY'S ONLINE COFFEE HOUR** **11:30 am**

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81563748721?pwd=RXBWME5kdHNid2N3VEE4V0x1S2ZVUT09>



### Tuesday, October 27, 2020



#### **CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER** **4 pm**

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87955779809>



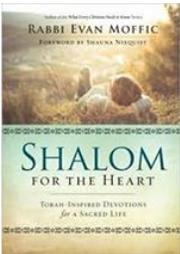
**Wednesday, October 2, 2020**  
**MORNING PRAYER (followed by)**  
**BOOK STUDY: Transforming Questions**  
**9-11 am**

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83112265477>

## SUNDAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS



**WELCOME:** May the Lord richly bless your time with us. If you have no church home, please consider St. Mary's as your new church home. This Sunday's services, adult education class and online coffee hour times can be found above along with all other weekly offerings and appropriate online viewing links. We are always happy to celebrate Sunday Eucharist with new faces. Please consider joining us again.



**SUNDAY ADULT FORMATION:** Please come at 9 a.m. to the Parish Hall with your mask or connect with Zoom to enhance your learning as a Christian. We are working with our book **Shalom for the Heart**. We look at the Old Testament folks who are strangely not unlike us: jealous, mean, kind, confused and ultimately totally human. Human beings, we are told, **made in the image of God**. Really? 9 a.m. No question is too inane. Zoom link can be found above. For more information, contact [Carol M.](#)



**MAY SHE REST IN PEACE:** With our condolences, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Jill H.**, parish member Jack's only sister. Jill passed away October 4 in Green Bay. Please keep her family in your prayers.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



**ALL SAINTS EVENSONG:** Join us online at **5 p.m.** on Sunday, **November 1** for our **All Saints Evensong**. The Feast of All Saints reminds us of those who have gone before us on this road and reminds us that we too are saints of God, called to ministry in the world. Evensong is a beautiful Anglican tradition that combines the services of Evening Prayer and Compline with glorious music and a palpable feeling of the numinous.

You can pick up a bulletin for the evensong service when you come to the 10 a.m. drive-in service, and we will also email out the pdf. We are looking for a reader for the service. If you are available to serve, please contact [Lynn](#) in the parish office.



**THANKSGIVING DRIVE-IN SERVICE:** Drive up for **Thanksgiving Eucharist** in the parking lot on Thanksgiving Day (November 26) at **9 a.m.** We'll celebrate all that we are thankful for with Holy Eucharist (which itself means giving thanks) before going off to cook, watch sports and eat! We are looking for lector/intercessor and an usher for this service. If you are available to serve, please contact [Lynn](#) in the parish office.

## ADVENT AT ST. MARY'S



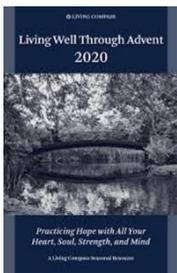
**ADVENT GIVING TREE TO BENEFIT LAD LAKE RESIDENTS:** Once again we will be collecting Christmas gifts for the residents of **Lad Lake**. It's a very unusual time for everyone, but I don't think we should forget about those less fortunate. I'm sure their lives have been altered during this pandemic, so hopefully, we can give them a nice Christmas.

Because we are not in the church building, we won't be setting up our Advent Giving Tree. We also realize that many of you are not going into businesses to shop, so we will have to be a little creative this year. We will offer you a few options:

- **Buy your own gifts** and bring them unwrapped to a collection box at our remaining drive-in church services or after that in the church office. If you don't want to venture out during this time, someone from our committee would be happy to pick up items at your home. Amazon would be a great place to shop for items and if you do shop on that website be sure to use the Amazon Smile link and choose St. Mary's as your charity.
- You can also **donate monetarily** in which case someone from our committee will purchase gifts for you.

We will be collecting gifts through the middle of December. A wish list for individual residents or program needs can be found in the parish office or at the table as you drive into the parking lot.

We know this has been a hard time for many of us, both emotionally and financially, but there are always items in every price range and any little bit will be appreciated. If you have any questions about this project or need to contact someone for pickup of gifts, don't hesitate to call or text [Sally K.](#) Thanks for all you have done to support our Outreach ministry. God Bless!



**WEDNESDAY ADVENT DISCUSSION GROUP:** Join us November 18, December 2, 9 and 16 for the Living Compass **Practicing Hope** Advent series. (Yes, we are skipping November 25, it's the day before Thanksgiving). We'll meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall for Morning Prayer, followed by Book Group. Please wear a mask if you join us in-person or join us virtually on Zoom. The themes include: Hope is a Decision; Being a Messenger of Hope; The Power of Hope; and Grounding our Hope in God. We can mail you your booklet if you like, please contact the office.



**LIGHTING OF THE CHURCH:** Stay after service November 22 (or November 29 if the weather is bad) to put up Christmas lights! Our Junior Warden, **Mary-Beth E.**, will lead the team to put lights, wreaths and snowflakes outside. We could particularly use someone to steady the ladders, help with the extension cords and hang the lights. All help is appreciated. These cheerful spots of light in darkness will be a tangible sign of Advent, as well as a general delight to the eyes.



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## QUIET DAY RETREAT ON ZOOM DECEMBER 5 AT 9:00 A.M.

Though Advent is meant to be a preparatory time to ready ourselves for both the Incarnation and the Second Coming, the fact is that it is often an incredibly stressful and busy time. Take a couple hours and quiet your soul. Program materials will be sent out prior to the event so that you can gather on Zoom for Morning Prayer and then break into quiet time at home; and close with noon day prayer on Zoom. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mother Pippa for program materials and Zoom link.

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## DECORATE THE NAVE:

 Help set up the crèche and decorate the Nave on Sunday, December 13 after the 10:00 a.m. service. We are planning to let people sign up to sit and pray in the church, and you will help decorate it to look like Advent and Christmas.

## LESSONS AND CAROLS:

 Join us for a festive service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 20 at the 10:00 a.m. drive-in service. We will hear a selection of readings from Holy Scripture and sing some favorite Christmas carols. Hope to see everyone there!

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## DIOCESAN NEWS

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## ALL-DIOCESAN ONLINE EUCHARIST

### 21 Pentecost

### Sunday, October 25, 2020

### 10 am

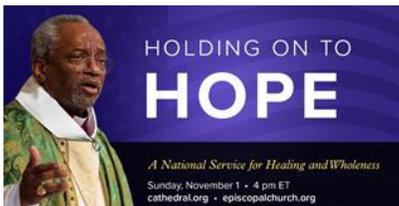
Facebook Link: <https://www.facebook.com/DioceseOfMilwaukee/>

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCu4EttoVZeEahU-m4XoCXWA>

Website for this Sunday's Bulletin:

<https://www.diomil.org/resources/all-diocese-online-worship/>

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## NATIONAL SERVICE FOR HEALING & WHOLENESS:

 Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will lead a live-streamed prayer service from Washington National Cathedral, **Holding on to Hope: A National Service for Healing and Wholeness**, on **All Saints Sunday, November 1, at 4:00-5:30 p.m. EST**. In the midst of pandemic, racial reckoning, and a historic election, the live-streamed service will gather

Americans for prayer, song, lament, hope, and a call to love God and neighbor.

The service will feature an ecumenical and multifaith array of voices, musical offerings, and prayers. Using a combination of live and visually stunning pre-recorded elements gathered from across the nation, the service will be live streamed in English and Spanish.

The link for the service is: <https://episcopalchurch.org/holding-hope>

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**THE WAY FORWARD TASK FORCE:** Task Force updates including the Regathering Rick Assessment Dashboard (make sure to choose “Waukesha County”), Returning to Public Worship Guidelines, Frequently Asked Questions, and the Reference List can be found at the following website link: <https://www.diomil.org/resources/covid-19-prevention-and-preparedness/>

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## **UPDATE FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE – PART I:**

Dear friends, following our recent diocesan convention, we’ve been receiving some questions about the transition process to finding a new bishop, leading us to believe it would be a good idea to share where things are at this point. We will do this in a question and answer (Q & A) format. We plan to communicate with you more regularly moving forward.

### **Q: Why are we going to have an Assisting/Provisional Bishop instead of continuing the search for a new bishop as originally planned?**

**A:** When the pandemic first hit the search committee needed to take a step back because of all the restrictions and we had not yet come to a point where technology was as widely used as it is now. As time went on, we realized that as we searched for our next bishop in that landscape, it would be increasingly difficult to find people who would be in a place to discern along with us whether Milwaukee was a fit for them. Once we decided to bring in an Assisting/Provisional Bishop, we also began to see the possibilities that having this interim time in between Bishops would allow the diocese to do some intentional work to discern who we are and what we want and need in our next Bishop.

### **Q: Are you talking with people now about fulfilling the roles of Assisting Bishop and Provisional Bishop?**

**A:** Yes. We are talking to several people, and once we have Letters of Agreements signed and their permission, we will announce their names to the diocese.

### **Q: When does the Assisting Bishop start?**

**A:** Our plan is to have an Assisting Bishop begin ministry with us on January 1, 2021.

### **Q: What does an Assisting Bishop do?**

**A:** The Assisting Bishop will be a resource for the Standing Committee, offering us advice and guidance in a variety of ways. This person will check in at our monthly Standing Committee meeting and lead special processes that are reserved for a bishop. These include specific issues related to the clergy. This person will also be available for “episcopal acts” — meaning roles that are reserved in our Church for a bishop. This will largely be an on-call position. The Assisting Bishop will already be a bishop prior to working with us.

### **Q: Is the Assisting Bishop the ecclesiastical authority in the diocese?**

**A:** No, the Assisting Bishop, as the name suggests, assists the Standing Committee for the few months that we are the ecclesiastical authority in the diocese.

### **Q: When does the Provisional Bishop start?**

**A:** The Provisional Bishop designee will begin ministry with us on or very close to April 1, 2021. We use the word “designee” because this person will need to be elected as Provisional Bishop in a special diocesan convention for that purpose. The Provisional Bishop will already be a bishop before working with us.

**(Part II Continued Next Week)**

## BITS & PIECES



**FAMILY PROMISE OUTREACH UPDATE:** St. Mary's is excited to announce that additional funds came in for the **Family Promise** program after we announced our donation in last week's bulletin. The new amount that St. Mary's was able to give to Family Promise is **\$985.00**, along with the generous out-pouring of donations of the requested items made by the group. Family Promise runs on a shoestring budget and relies so much on donations and volunteers. Again, thank you for your overwhelming support of this project. St. Mary's is truly a caring community. For more information on this worthy group go to <http://familypromisewaukesha.org/>. **Sally K., St. Mary's Outreach Committee**



**VESTRY NOMINATIONS:** The Vestry is the elected governing body that acts as the legal and financial body of the parish. Vestry members are elected at the Annual Meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Vestry or nominating someone for the Vestry, please speak to [Mother Pippa](#) or [Sally W.](#), the Senior Warden, by December 1st so that you can be considered for Vestry.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!



**MEAL TRAIN SET UP FOR PARISH FAMILY:** A member in the parish is having health issues due to an aneurysm on their optical nerve. It has been a difficult seven weeks post-op for them, but they hope they may be seeing the first signs of things beginning to go in a more positive direction. More information on how they are progressing with this health issue can be found through a link offered in the weekly eNews that is emailed out to the parish on Thursday.

The family would appreciate prayers and any support St. Mary's can give. Due to their difficulties, St. Mary's has set-up a meal train for the family for the next several weeks. Thank you for helping them. To sign-up for the meal train, go to: <https://mealtrain.com/klg4rz>



**ADVENT SURVEY—WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!** Please respond to the survey link listed below to express your interest in the following Advent activities:

1. St. Mary's Daily Reflections
2. St. Mary's Facebook Advent Calendar
3. Advent Quiet Day on Zoom

Please see Mother Pippa's column on Page 2 for a more detailed description of each activity/event. The survey link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2JCdT9B>



**WE LIVE BY STORIES:** We continue to collect as many stories as they can for our upcoming special book in celebration of St. Mary's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You can call them and tell them your stories, or you can write your stories down and email them.

Please contact [Carol](#) or [Kathy](#) with any of your personal memories or stories. We live by stories and we need to know yours!



**HELP NEEDED SORTING BOOKS:** Even though the 2020 book sale was cancelled, we are still collecting books for next year's sale. Books need to be sorted as they come in and we need help sorting the incoming inventory. If you are able to help sort, please contact [Sandie P.](#) Volunteer support is greatly appreciated.

## Giving Pledge

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP UP YOUR PLEDGE:** Please be mindful in remembering the church during this time of transition. We are aware that there are many changes in circumstances for our parish members, but if you are able, please continue to send in your pledge throughout the week.

- Mail in your offering to: St. Mary's Episcopal Church, PO Box 126, Dousman, WI 53118. *Please do not send donations to the church's physical address, as the post office will return your mail to you as undeliverable.*
- Give electronically through St. Mary's Giving Plus Online Program sponsored by Vanco. *Go to St. Mary's website, <https://www.stmarys-dousman.com/>, and click on DONATE at the top of the page.*
- Give in-person at the drive-in worship services or when regular church worship services resume.

## DISCRETIONARY FUND

**DISCRETIONARY FUND DONATIONS NEEDED:** If you feel able to donate to Mother Pippa's discretionary fund, there is a high demand for assistance. Please remember that these funds are available to parishioners as well, if you need help. It is also helpful for her to have gift cards on-hand for groceries and gas for those outside the parish in need.

## THINGS TO KNOW



**GIVING ONLINE:** Switch over to online giving! You can now go to our website, <https://www.stmarys-dousman.com/>, and click the new "Donate" menu option at the top. This will take you to a screen where you fill out a simple form. It is a very versatile way to donate: you can give with a credit card or through your bank; you can give once or repeatedly; you can give to the general fund or to another special collection. And once you give the first time, you can create an account for future giving, if you'd like. Questions? Please contact [Mother Pippa](#).

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You Shop. Amazon Gives.

**AMAZON.COM SMILES PROGRAM:** St. Mary's is part of the Amazon.com Smiles program. If you shop at Amazon.com you can sign up for the Smiles program and choose St. Mary's Episcopal as the recipient for a small percent of your purchase. It adds up. How can you help to get donations for St. Mary's? You can select St. Mary's by going to the site below and choose St. Mary's for your account. In order for St. Mary's to receive the donation, you must choose St. Mary's Episcopal on Amazon Smiles and log in to [AmazonSmiles.com](https://smile.amazon.com) when shopping on Amazon. Please join and help us make use of this program.

[https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/homepage/ref=smi\\_chpf\\_redirect/137-6989409-7635638?ie=UTF8&ein=39-1464914&ref=smi\\_ext\\_ch\\_39-1464914\\_cl](https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/homepage/ref=smi_chpf_redirect/137-6989409-7635638?ie=UTF8&ein=39-1464914&ref=smi_ext_ch_39-1464914_cl)



### THIS SUNDAY'S STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONIAL by Mother Pippa



I have grown up in the church, and I still find myself uncomfortable when talking about the need for money to run the church. Part of that discomfort is the reality that my salary comprises a significant percent of the budget – it seemed easier to talk about giving to the church before I received a part of that giving. I joke about how Stewardship is the time I “fundraise my salary,” but there is an uncomfortable truth in those words. However, I think there is a gift in that awareness of finances. To experience something wonderful while also seeing the hard work behind it is to have a richer, deeper and more appreciative view.

In today's Gospel Jesus is asked “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” Jesus has silenced one group of his questioners, and this is a last effort to trip him up and get him into trouble. Jesus, however, has an answer – to love. To love God wholeheartedly. To love our neighbors as ourselves. To love is the greatest of commandments.

When I walked into St. Mary's for the first time, that love was apparent – the love this community has for God, but also the love that you have for one another and for this physical place where people have worshipped God for 150 years. This place where people offer themselves for the benefit of all. Whether that is the gardeners who spend hours weeding and planting the many beds, or the mowers who edge, push mow and ride the lawn mower, or the people who sign up to host Coffee Hour, or those who work to keep the kitchen organized, or those saints who sign up to lead worship as acolytes, Altar Guild, ushers, readers, intercessors, chalice bearers, nursery workers, and choir members, or those who give their time to the many committees aimed at reaching out to people in the parish, outside the parish and in our community, or those who give their money – we are blessed with parishioners who love God, love one another, and express the love for both at St. Mary's.

I love the church. I have loved it since I was baptized as an infant, from when I joined the children's choir when I was three and started ushering at age four. And, since I was sixteen, I have loved the church by doing my best to tithe. When I started, I gave 50 cents a week. In college and grad school, I looked at my bank account in October and gave 10% of that. Since I started working, I sit down and budget each year. My total charitable giving is 10% of my income before taxes. I am working to grow my church pledge each year so that it will eventually add up to 10% of my income by itself. I tell you this, not to shame you or blame you if you give differently. Honestly, while I do look at the pledges in November, so I can send the thank you notes, I could not tell you what any person pledges. I sometimes have people tell me that they are sorry to have fallen behind, and I will tell you a secret – I didn't know until they told me.

I don't see people's pledges come in, nor do I track them. We have a very talented bookkeeper who does that. I tell you how I pledge because I have found it most helpful to hear from others about how they pledge. The broad theology is less helpful than the personal journeys.

We are all called to answer Jesus' challenge to love. To love God with all that we have and all that we are. To love our neighbors as ourselves. We show this love in the way we spend our time, in the way we reach out towards others, and in the way, we allocate our resources. And, yes, that means money too. And, since this is St. Mary's, I am blessed to have a group of people who do love one another and are

strongly committed to God, one another, and this community. I trust each family will give what they can, and that together we will continue to “celebrate faith in Jesus Christ through worship, support of one another, and service to others.”

**Mother Pippa**

## Freely giving our all to God

*“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” Jesus said to him, “ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind’....*

*And ... ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ” – MATTHEW 22:36-39*

BY ROB TOWNES



There’s a saying that the chicken who lays an egg makes a contribution, but the chicken who makes a sandwich offers a sacrifice. One could say that Jesus was alluding to the latter when he responded to the question as to which was the greatest commandment, “*You shall love the Lord your God with all of who you are.*” He was asking for more than a contribution; he was asking for the sacrifice of our all.

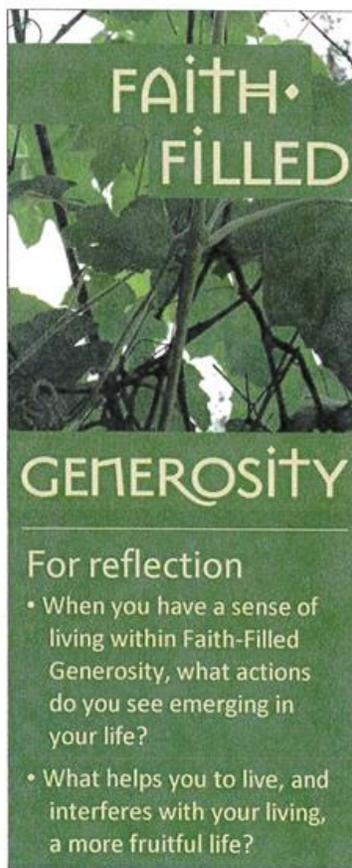
As the Latin root of the word suggests, a sacrifice — a *sacrum facere* — makes one holy. Giving generously of that of which you are a steward — your heart, soul, mind and all your possessions — is life giving. And it is countercultural. As the bumper sticker declares, “S/He who dies with the most toys wins.” That’s a powerfully seductive statement. Only with God’s help can we avoid being allured into thinking that it is in acquiring possessions that our life gains meaning. May we grow in the wisdom that a rich life results in trusting that it is in God we live and move and have our being.

This reflection is written while visiting Green Bough House of Prayer in Scott, Georgia. Here the three residents, with the company of 77 associates, have dedicated their lives, their all, to God and have taken on a Rule of Life to embrace silence, prayer, simplicity and living in the present moment, and accept all as coming from God. Do all for God. Offer all to God. This to me is a beautiful example of Faith-Filled Generosity.

Very few members of the Church dedicate themselves to full-time contemplative living, but all of us are invited to learn to live Jesus’ greatest commandment, trusting that in so doing, Faith-Filled Generosity will flourish in our lives.

As we move back into our church buildings, remembering only too well the COVID-19-caused absence of normalcy, may we re-enter with a renewed commitment to freely giving our all to God and faithfully loving our neighbors as ourselves.

*Rob Townes received his Master of Divinity degree from Emory University’s Candler School of Theology and has spent his professional career as a nonprofit and church fundraising consultant.*



## OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION



come to visit us.

**ST. MARY'S PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN:** The parish office is now open **Monday through Thursday** from **9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** [Mother Pippa](#) and [Lynn](#) will be available on those days to assist the parish. [Carrie](#) is in the office on Tuesdays for Music Ministry needs. Please be mindful in remembering the church during this time of transition. Masks are much appreciated when you



**PASTORAL CARE:** We are here to help and serve you. If you have an emergency hospitalization, scheduled hospital procedure, or for any other reason need a pastoral visitation, please contact **Mother Pippa** at **651-341-9629** or [motherpippa@milwpc.com](mailto:motherpippa@milwpc.com).



**ST. MARY'S MAILING ADDRESS:** Please make sure anything you send to St. Mary's in the mail is addressed to **PO Box 126**. Anything addressed to our street address will be rejected by the Dousman post office and won't make it to the church.