

Summer is finally here and that means the St. Mary Parish Festival will be coming back soon. It has been almost 3 years since we put our equipment away in July of 2019 and we're excited about getting together again the weekend of July 8, 9, and 10 of 2022.

Our festival will offer many of the same attractions that have made our festival so popular in the past. We have a number of great local bands, including Almighty Vinyl and the Love Monkeys who are playing on the main stage this year. In addition there are games of chance, a variety of children's games and activities, carnival rides and raffle prizes totaling over \$10,000. There is a festival flyer enclosed detailing the schedule of events.

Festival weekend is a great time to see old friends and make new ones. It's also an opportunity for our parish to be host to people throughout Southwestern Milwaukee and Eastern Waukesha counties. The Festival is also an opportunity for visitors to witness both the spirit and strength of the community of St. Mary. A successful Festival helps energize our base, but also feeds the life and growth of our parish and school. Finally, past festivals raise between \$80,000 and \$90,000 which helps support the Parish and School. With a restart there is no guarantee of that level of success, but every effort counts.

An event this size only works if we have enough volunteers and parishioners engaged in making the magic happen. Because it has been thirty five months since the end of the 2019 festival, overcoming the COVID impact means we need folks to please sign up and commit to making the festival work earlier this year. The website is <https://www.stmaryhc.org/fm/>. We can only do as much as we have volunteers to support.

Finally, we want to thank all our committee chair people whose faithful service has always been so instrumental in making our festival happen and run so smoothly. These are always important jobs, but they are a little bit harder this year as we reignite the festival. Your hard work and dedication are an amazing testament to the strength of the St Mary community.

Sponsors also help make this event what it is. If your business is interested in sponsorship opportunities and growing by supporting the festival, please contact Bob Coleman at 414-510-1869.

The raffle tickets are not enclosed in the mailing as has been done in the past. They are available for pick up at the Parish Office or after Mass starting June 11, 2022.

Please say a prayer for good weather and join us on the grounds this year for another great event. We look forward to seeing you in person again and thank you for all your support.

Dave Lownik and Bob Coleman
Festival Chairpersons