



# Parish of St. Mary



## Worship Schedule

Lord's Day Mass:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM (Lee) 5:30 PM (Otis)

Sunday: 8 & 11 AM (Lee) & 9:30 AM (Stockbridge)

Weekday Mass: (Lee) - 7:00 AM

Holy Days of Obligation (please see inside)

## Parish Offices

40 Academy Street / Lee, MA 01238

Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs 9am-12pm or by appt

Telephone (413)243-0275

Fax: (413)243-1926

Faith Formation Office (413)243-1079, Ext. 8

Email: [icsmchurch@gmail.com](mailto:icsmchurch@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stmarylos.com](http://www.stmarylos.com)

Prayer Line (413)243-1523 (Vicki)

## Parish Pastoral Staff

Fr. Brian F. McGrath - *Pastor*

Fr. John Duy Anh Le - *Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Jim McElroy - *Permanent Deacon*

Deacon Bob Digan - *Deacon Emeritus*

Mrs. Karen T. Vidoli - *Office Manager*

Mrs. Katherine Murray - *Faith Formation Coordinator*

Mrs. Fernanda Haywood - *Bookkeeper*

Ms. Sandy Cummings - *Music Director (Lee)*

Ms. Susan Aery - *Music Director (Otis)*

Mr. Art DeVlyder - *Music Director (Stockbridge)*

Mrs. Colleen Free - *Youth Ministry*

Mr. Charles Houff - *Pastoral Council*

Mr. Richard Brittain - *Administration & Finance*

Mrs. Brenda Bianco - *Child Advocate*

Mr. Jeffrey Simmons / Mr. Dion Hall - *Maintenance*

## Pastoral Council

Charles Houff

Chairperson

Brenda Bianco

Joe Cox

Verna Houff

Richard Lacey

Carol Lombardo

Lynda Newton

Sheila Viale

Kate Murray

## Finance Council

Richard Brittain

Chairperson

David Galisa

Fred Keator

Bob Kelly

Richard Lacey

John Masten

Cathie Sparks

Thom Swift

Fernanda Haywood

## *St. Mary's School*

Est. 1885

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115 Orchard Street — Lee, MA 01238

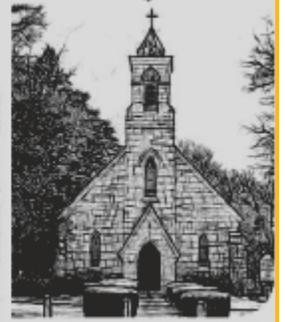
Telephone (413) 243-1079 | Fax 243-1022

[www.StMarysLee.org](http://www.StMarysLee.org)

Mrs. Jennifer Masten | *Principal*

Mrs. Linda Winters | *School Secretary*

Mrs. Gina Reiners | *School Board Chair*



St. Mary, Mother of the Church

140 Main Street

Lee

St. Mary of the Lakes

72 North Main Road

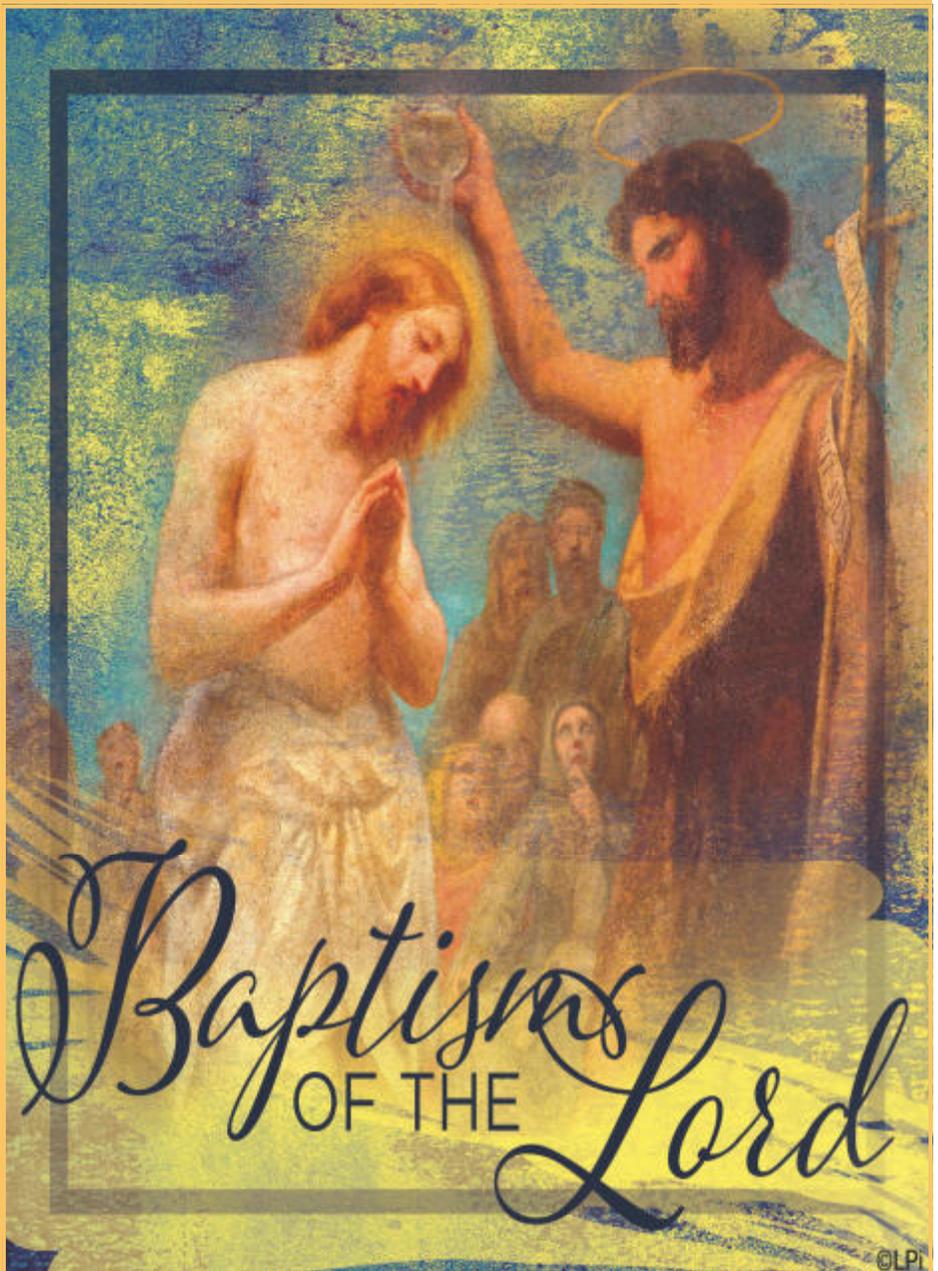
Otis

St. Joseph Church

11 Elm Street

Stockbridge

One parish serving God and Neighbor in three worship sites.



# Parish of St Mary

Please pray for the men and women who have been activated to serve our nation, all our police officers, firefighters, first responders, health care workers, research scientists and essential services workers.

Let us also pray for our departed brothers and sisters, especially those who have died due to the pandemic, anyone who has passed away recently, for those we miss so much.

Dayton DeLorme, Doris Pelltier,  
Marie Buffoni, Bill Laudon,  
Mary McAllister,  
Al Rozanski, Bob Gangell

May they rest in the loving arms of God in heaven. AMEN.

If you would like to add a name of a deceased loved one, please call the rectory.

## Mass Intentions for This Week

Sat. 1/9	4:00 pm	† George Membrino, <i>by Jane and Family</i>
<i>Otis</i>	5:30 pm	† Deceased Members of Our Parish Family
Sun. 1/10	8:00 am	† Audie Furgal, <i>by Joe, Tobey and family</i>
<i>Stockbridge</i>	9:30 am	†
	11:00 am	† Joseph Scapin (Birthday Remembrance), <i>by the family</i>
Mon. 1/11	7:00 am	† Marcia Purcell, <i>by Becky and Bill Brunell</i>
Tue. 1/12	7:00 am	† Leo McGrath, 21st Anniversary
Wed. 1/13	7:00 am	† Elaine Micale <i>by Becky and Bill Brunell,</i>
	7:00 am	† Joanne Gutmann, <i>by her husband</i>
Thur. 1/14	7:00 am	† Christy Rich, <i>by her Aunt Laurie Forfa</i>
Fri. 1/15	7:00 am	† Paul Doyoung Choi B-day, <i>by the Choi family</i>
Sat. 1/16	4:00 pm	† Ray Saunders, <i>by the family</i>
<i>Otis</i>	5:30 pm	†
Sun. 1/17	8:00 am	† Jim and Ann Del Grande, <i>by Dave and Anne Del Grande</i>
<i>Stockbridge</i>	9:30 am	†
	11:00 am	† Robert Shaw, <i>by Pat Plourde</i>

Call the rectory (243-0275) to have Mass said for your intention.

## The Candles this Week

Sanctuary: Oratory Lamp:

Grotto Lamps:

Candles may be reserved by calling the rectory at 243-0275

## Ministers on the Altar

EMs and Readers, please review the new procedures for COVID re-opening. Thanks to all who serve! You make our worship together possible, in a special way thanks to all our Usbers and Ministers of Hospitality.

Sat. 1/16	<b>3:00 pm Confessions:</b> Fr. Brian
<b>4:00 pm (Lee):</b> Fr. Brian w/Dec. Jim	<b>Lector:</b> Barb Scolforo
E.M.: Libby Driscoll, Donna Abbott	
<b>5:30 pm (Otis):</b> Fr. Brian	<b>Lector:</b> Logan & Dillon
Sun. 1/17	
<b>8:00 am (Lee):</b> Fr. Brian w/Dec. Jim	
E.M.: Ann O'Brien, Erin Pollard	
<b>Lector:</b> Erin Pollard	
<b>9:30 am (Stockbridge):</b> Fr. Brian	
<b>Lector:</b> Rob Kirschmann	
<b>11:00 am (Lee):</b> Fr. Brian	
E.M.: Suzanne Scarpa	
<b>Lector:</b> Malcolm Chisholm	



## Weekly Parishioner Contributions 12/30/20 - 01/03/21

At Masses: \$2,378

Mailed/Dropped Off: \$5,109

Online Giving: \$1,680

**MASS INTENTION REMINDER:** Just a friendly reminder that Mass intentions do not carryover year to year. The 2022 Mass Book is now open. If you have a 2021 or 2022 date you would like to book a Mass for, please call the rectory. Thank you!

## Readings for the Week of January 10, 2021

**Sunday, *The Baptism of the Lord:*** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Jn 5:1-9

**Monday, *First Week of Ordinary Time:*** Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97/Mk 1:14-2

**Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8/Mk 1:21-2

**Wednesday, *St. Hillary:*** Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105/Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95/Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78/Mk 2:1-1

**Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19/Mk 2:13-1

**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time:** 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

The future starts today, not tomorrow.

St. John Paul II



### From the Pastor

A new year is here! I am so happy to say goodbye to 2020 although it wasn't so nice in saying goodbye. At the New Year's Eve 4 pm Mass (the great Solemnity of Mary Mother of God) I got my foot caught in one of the pew ropes and went down. We would call it a "yard sale" on the ski slopes. I am fine (except my pride which needed a little dose of humility) and all the more hopeful that 2020 is finally done.

I have never really been one for New Year's resolutions. We as Catholics are encouraged to do a daily Examination of Conscience. I find that a good time to reset my daily balance. I also try to look at life in a much wider lens when I go on retreat, although honestly I didn't get to my annual retreat back in September so I hope to take a few days at the end of the month to visit a priest friend and attend the March for Life. So here are a few thoughts on our parish as we begin the new year.

I am so uplifted and inspired by the faithfulness of our people. Those who come to church ... wow! And the notes and phone calls and chance encounters with those who have stayed at home ... wow! This has been a year to challenge our faith, hope and love ... I pray we continue to strive to remain faithful, practice hope and deepen our love.

I also think it is good to start thinking about what is next. We will get past these COVID restrictions. What will parish life look like? Liturgical ministries and music and the liveliness of our Masses ... what have we learned? What need we change? How to do we reach out to our people when it is time to return to celebrating and worshiping together?

I look to our social life as a parish. We obviously have not been able to gather for suppers or receptions. I definitely miss them and totally believe they are an important part of a vibrant parish. What shape will they take place? Should we continue the things we did before COVID (Coffee and Donuts after Mass, receptions for special events like the Mass of Remembrance, the Parish Picnic) or explore some new options? Who will step up to make them happen?

I look to our faith formation. We should be learning and growing not just when we are children but all our lives. Bible Study, book club, mother's morning groups, evenings of renewal, parish retreats, evenings of renewal ... how do we, as disciples of the Lord, grow in our knowledge and love of God? Who will spearhead our efforts?

I look to the service life that is so essential as members of God's family. It has been awesome to see the Dreams of Joy and the Winter Coat drive be so successful. I am moved every time I see more food in the baskets by the entrances of the church. And here comes the Diaper and Bottle Drive and Personal Needs Collection. The people who were behind all this have stepped away during COVID and a few people have begun to pick up the pieces, but we really need more.

I guess I am really thinking ahead to leadership within the parish. I know we have lots of people who want to participate, but it takes individuals to step up to make things happen.

On Monday we have our Pastoral Council. I know these questions and much more will be discussed. But I wanted to put it out there to all those who read the bulletin. The hundreds who go to church and the hundreds who get the bulletin electronically. What do you want to see happen in our parish? What are you willing to help out with to make that happen?

God is alive and well. His grace will inspire us and fill us with the strength and blessing to move forward. Let's stay safe and healthy in the short run and let's start thinking beyond. 2021 is here ... let's make it alive with the grace of God!

Pax. Fr. b.

### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SMC = St. Mary, Mother of the Church, Lee | STJ = St. Joseph's, Stockbridge  
SML = St. Mary of the Lakes, Otis | SMS = St. Mary's School, Lee

We are live-streaming the Weekend Masses from St. Mary's Church on our Facebook page (St Mary Lee, Otis, Stockbridge).

We also have Sunday 11 am Mass broadcast on C.T.S.B (CTSBtv.org | Spectrum 1301)

The obligation to attend Mass continues to be lifted. We encourage anyone who is sick, symptomatic or concerned about their health to refrain from coming to church.

You can keep updated on the diocesan (diospringfield.org) parish (stmarylos.com) and school websites (stmaryslee.org) as well on Facebook (St Mary Lee, Otis, Stockbridge) & MyParish App.

+ + + + +

Sun. 1/10 9:15 am Faith Formation Classes - Zoom  
11:00 am RCIA

Mon. 1/11 7:00 am Mass follow by Adoration until Noon  
6:00 pm School Board  
7:00 pm Parish Council

Tues. 1/12 7:00 am Mass follow by Adoration until Noon

Wed. 1/13 7:00 am Mass follow by Adoration until Noon

Thu. 1/14 7:00 am Mass follow by Adoration until Noon

Fri. 1/15 7:00 am Mass follow by Adoration until Noon

Sat. 1/16

Sun. 1/17

Upcoming: 1/29 March for Life in Washington DC; 1/31 Bishop Byrne to visit

Have you checked out our parish website? On it you can find tons of information about the ministries and efforts of our parish as well as valuable links to great Catholic resources and so much more.

[www.stmarylos.com](http://www.stmarylos.com)

#### BAPTISM OF THE LORD



FORGET THE BIBLE!  
GIVE US THE MEDS!

# January 10rd, The Baptism of the Lord

We are a Eucharistic community, finding strength in Jesus and His Church by living both Word and Sacrament. We minister to the needs of the People of God through Worship and living out the Gospel and the Teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

**Rectory Office Hours** are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am to Noon. Please wear a mask.

**Registration:** Our parish census helps us keep track of who is a member of the parish. It is how we send parishioners the Catholic Mirror and parish mailings. If you want to be registered with us, simply fill in the Census Form (found at the entrances of the church or on our website) or stop by the rectory.

**Baptisms** take place at the request of the family. In preparation, parents are asked to complete one class. Contact the rectory for additional information

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** Will take place in the Main Church Mon. - Fri. 7 AM - 12 Noon  
*The Oratory is closed until further notice*

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation & The Anointing of the Sick** is offered every Saturday from 3:00-3:30 **outside at the grotto of St. Mary's, Lee.** These sacraments may be received any time by appointment.

**Sick or Homebound:** Kindly inform the Rectory if you or someone you know would like a visit at home, hospital or nursing home. You've come to church for all those years, now let us bring church to you.

**Marriage:** Congratulations to our newly engaged. Please contact the rectory to begin the process of preparation. The preparation can take up to a year. God's grace lasts all the days of your life.

**Holy Orders:** If you feel the call to religious life or a vocation to the diaconate or priesthood; contact Fr. Brian or Fr. Duy at the rectory or the diocesan Vocations Directors, Fr. Michael Wood and Fr. David Darcy; 413-739-0456, ext. 4

email: [vocations@diospringfield.org](mailto:vocations@diospringfield.org)

## Scripture Meditation - January 10th, 2021

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

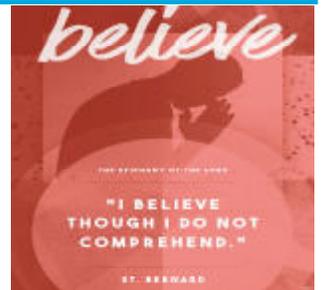
Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so? ©LPi

**PRO LIFE REFLECTION:** From today's Gospel ~ Mark 1

**"You are my beloved Son;  
with you I am well pleased."**

Each of us must be given the opportunity to develop a relationship with God as well as with our fellow human beings.



We restart Faith Formation classes on Zoom this weekend. Our students and teachers have been so adaptable this year with their response to our zoom format. I am so grateful at how attentive they are and how much they share each week. I know all of our catechists are inspired by their words and their grace.

Please continue to pray for all parish students and for our Sacramental preparation classes who are growing in their faith every day. Please be aware that we will be teaching Circle of Grace (our safe environment parish training) to all grades in faith formation virtually this year. This is required by the diocese and is beneficial in its teaching of safe boundaries and respecting our own circles of grace. More information will be sent home as the dates approach for your child/children's class. As always, if you have any questions, please email me at [smarlyeccd@gmail.com](mailto:smarlyeccd@gmail.com).

Please note that classes begin again on 1/10. We look forward to virtually seeing students then! Joyfully in Christ, Katie Murray

Schedule for January 2021 (For the full year schedule, please check the website)

January 10, 24 & 31 - Zoom Class, 9:15 am

# One Parish Serving through Three Churches, Two Cemeteries and Our School



## JANUARY DIAPER DRIVE & BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Beginning this weekend, January 9-10, and extending through the week-end of January 30-31, we, as a faith community and life-affirming people, will once again participate in the annual Diaper Drive and Baby Bottle Campaign sponsored by the Berkshire County Diaper Project, Inc. and new Directions Women's Center.

There is a lot more to being pro-life than being opposed to abortion, which is only the starting point. Many of the babies most in danger of being aborted are the babies of young women who cannot afford the expense of feeding, housing, and caring for a child. As pro-life Christians, we not only have a duty to help these mothers and babies but are compelled by Christ's words in chapter 25 of Matthew's Gospel to reach out to them and feed, clothe and care for them.

A baby crib will be set up in front of the side altar where the Holy Oils are displayed to serve as a collection receptacle for your disposable diaper donations. All sizes of diapers are sought but sizes 4, 5 and especially 6 are in great need this year.

Also, a receptacle for the collection of full baby bottles (with coins and bills) will be placed in the same general area. Empty baby bottles for you to fill will be available starting January 9.

Please be as generous to these two very worthy charitable efforts as we reach out to our sisters and brothers most in need as they struggle to feed, clothe and care for their children, "the little children" for whom Jesus had boundless love.

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASK THROUGHOUT THE MASS:** Unless you have an exemption and cannot wear a mask, please be sure to **wear a mask to Mass.** We all need to be respectful of each other and recognize that while most will be wearing masks, there are folks who have a qualified exemption not to wear one. If you have concerns regarding being seated near someone without a mask, please don't judge, just ask an usher to reseat you. We also hope people will **use the bathroom and wash up before you get to the church.** We will continue to **seat people three rows apart and try to separate "COVID bubbles" within the pews by at least 6 feet.** There is **no holy water in the fonts, no sign of peace and communion is now allowed both on the tongue or hands.** These are unusual procedures that we continue to get used to, but they are acts of charity and solidarity with each other as we navigate this time of pandemic. Thank you for your patience.

**ADORATION:** Takes place each day, Monday through Friday, following the 7 am Mass until Noon (**except Christmas Day and New Year's Day.**) We are using the main church of St. Mary Mother of the Church in Lee until we get to a situation when we can safely re-open the Oratory. Join us for a few moments of quiet or stay for a whole hour. God's grace is present in a powerful way. **We are currently looking for someone to take the Monday 10-11 AM slot.** Please call the rectory if you are interested in filling this vacancy.



**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** We continue to prepare two amazing adults for their full initiation into the Church. Their formation continues to Easter! Please pray for them. Are you, or do you know someone who wants to become Catholic? Fr. Brian is organizing this year's Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. He extends the invitation to you. Contact the rectory if you are interested in the RCIA. (243-0275)



PROMISE TO  
PROTECT



PLEDGE TO  
HEAL

*Our Diocese and we here at the parish encourage anyone who has been a victim of sexual abuse by representatives (Clergy, educators, employees or volunteers) of the Roman*

*Catholic Church to come forward by contacting the Office of Safe Environment & Victim Assistance, at (413) 452-0624, confidential toll free number at 800-842-9055 or email [reportabuse@diospringfield.org](mailto:reportabuse@diospringfield.org).*

*Bishop Byrne encourages victims of sexual abuse to contact law enforcement if they believe a crime has been committed:*

**Berkshire County District Attorney's Office: (413) 443-5951**

**Jeffrey J. Trant, Director**  
Diocese of Springfield  
65 Elliot Street • P.O. Box 1730  
Springfield, MA 01102-1730  
(413) 452-0624 Office  
(413) 452-0678 Fax  
Email: [j.trant@diospringfield.org](mailto:j.trant@diospringfield.org)



# RECONCILIATION

## **From the Area and the Diocese**

**STUFF THE PANTRY:** Please bring non-perishable food items, pet food and diapers to the Lee Food Pantry (45 Railroad St.) every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 11 am - 1 pm. All donations will be safely added directly to the Lee Food Pantry. Sponsored by Kiwanis International Club of Lee and the Lions Club of Lee. Thanks!

**ELMS COLLEGE:** Please be generous in your envelope for the College of Our Lady of the Elms - the Catholic college in the Springfield Diocese. The Sisters of St. Joseph founded Elms College in 1928 to educate the children of immigrants in the faith that was their heritage, and prepare them to fulfill the promises of the American Dream. Today, Elms continues to fulfill that mission today. This collection will be applied to the Founder's Fund for Excellence, which supports student scholarships. For info about scholarships or to apply, please visit the Elms College website, [www.elms.edu/apply](http://www.elms.edu/apply), or call at 413-265-2213

**DAILY DRIVE-THROUGH CONFESSIONS** are offered at the Shrine of Divine Mercy up on Eden Hill in Stockbridge from 1:00 - 2:00 pm DAILY and from 3:30-4:15 on SAT. & SUN. Come experience God's grace of mercy and forgiveness!

**NO BUS FOR THE MARCH FOR LIFE:** Unfortunately due to covid-19 issues, Mass Citizens for Life will NOT be able to send a bus to the March for Life this year. The March is still scheduled to take place on Friday, January 29th. Check C-span, EWTN or [marchforlife.org](http://marchforlife.org) for live coverage of the March.

**BISHOP BYRNE TO VISIT** on Sunday, January 31st at the 11 am Mass in Lee. We are going to use the reservation system we had at Christmas. Please email Karen at [Lcsmchurch@gmail.com](mailto:Lcsmchurch@gmail.com) with your *name, number in your party and a contact phone number*. We can only fit 25% of our capacity (and maybe less if the reservations are for parties of 1 or 2). We will stream the Mass live on Facebook but make your reservation now! When we fill up, we fill up.

## **Pope announces yearlong reflection on family, 'Amoris Laetitia'**

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

As the fifth anniversary of his apostolic exhortation "Amoris Laetitia" approaches, Pope Francis announced that the Catholic Church will dedicate more than a year to focusing on the family and conjugal love.

During his Sunday Angelus address Dec. 27, the pope commemorated the feast of the Holy Family and said that it served as a reminder "of the example of evangelizing with the family" as highlighted in his exhortation.

Beginning March 19, he said, the year of reflection on "Amoris Laetitia" will be an opportunity "to focus more closely on the contents of the document."

"I invite everyone to take part in the initiatives that will be promoted during the year and that will be coordinated by the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life," he added. "Let us entrust this journey, with families all over the world, to the Holy Family of Nazareth, in particular to St. Joseph, the devoted spouse and father."

According to the dicastery's website, the "Amoris Laetitia Family" year "aims to reach every family around the world through several spiritual, pastoral and cultural proposals that can be implemented within parishes, dioceses, universities, ecclesial movements and family associations."

The dicastery said that the goals of the celebration include sharing the contents of the apostolic exhortation more widely, proclaiming the gift of the sacrament of marriage and enabling families to "become active agents of the family apostolate."

The "Amoris Laetitia Family" year will include forums, symposiums, video projects and catechesis as well as providing resources for family spirituality, pastoral formation and marriage preparation. The commemoration will conclude June 26, 2022, "on the occasion of the World Meeting of Families in Rome," the dicastery said.

Pope Francis already had declared a year of St. Joseph, which began Dec. 8 and ends Dec. 8, 2021. In his Angelus talk, the pope said that the Holy Family is a model in which "all families of the world can find their sure point of reference and sure inspiration." Through them, he said, "we are called to rediscover the educational value of the family unit; it must be founded on the love that always regenerates relationships, opening up horizons of hope."

Families can experience sincere communion when they live in prayer, when forgiveness prevails over discord and "when the daily harshness of life is softened by mutual tenderness and serene adherence to God's will," he added. "I would like to say something to you: If you quarrel within the family, do not end the day without making peace," the pope said. "And do you know why? Because cold war, day after day, is extremely dangerous. It does not help."

Pope Francis also reflected on the theme of forgiveness during his Angelus address on the feast of St. Stephen Dec. 26. Recalling St. Stephen's martyrdom, the pope said that although it may seem that his death was in vain, among those who witnessed and consented to his stoning was St. Paul, who eventually became "the greatest missionary in history." St. Stephen's example "was the seed" of St. Paul's conversion, he said. "This is the proof that loving actions change history: even the ones that are small, hidden, every day."

Christians, he added, can become witnesses of Christ through their everyday actions, "even just by fleeing the shadow of gossip" or refusing to speak ill of others. "When an argument starts at home, instead of trying to win it, let's try to diffuse it," and forgive one another, Pope Francis said. Small efforts and gestures, he said, "change history because they open the door, they open the window to Jesus's light."



January 10th, 2021



St. Mary's School  
... where every child shines!

January 2021 Saint Mary's School

# TAKE-OUT DINNERS!

**Fri. January 15<sup>th</sup>**

**HAM & SPLIT PEA SOUP**

**PINWHEEL WRAPS**

roast beef, cheddar & dijonaise

smoked turkey, swiss & cranberry mayo

**\$10 per person**

**Order by Noon on Tue. January 12<sup>th</sup>**

Pick up at kitchen door between 2:30 - 4:30pm on Fri. January 15<sup>th</sup>

**Fri. January 29<sup>th</sup>**

**BEEF CHILI**

**CHICKEN EMPANADA**

**CORN BREAD**

**\$10 per person**

**Order by Noon on Tue. January 26<sup>th</sup>**

Pick up at kitchen door between 2:30 - 4:30pm on Fri. January 29<sup>th</sup>

You may pay by exact cash, check payable to Saint Mary's School, or credit card over the phone. ... where every child shines!

TO ORDER: CALL 413.243.1079 OR EMAIL LWINTERS@STMARYSLEE.ORG

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So that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,

joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us.

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas - we who are put to the test - and deliver us from every danger.

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