



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

Website: www.stmarylos.com

Prayer Line (413)243-1523 (Vicki)

Parish Pastoral Staff

Fr. Brian F. McGrath - *Pastor*

Fr. Matt Barone - *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. Holly Cusack - *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 - *Maintenance*

Mr. Tim Holian - *Maintenance*

Pastoral Council

Charles Houff,
chair

Laura Sexton

Lewis Brooks

Chad Klapes

Lori Koperek

Richard Lacey

Carol Lombardo

Kate Murray

Lynda Newton

Erin Pollard

Trish Santos

Finance Council

Richard Brittain,
chair

Bob Gutmann

Bob Kelly

Richard Lacey

John Masten

Cathie Sparks

Thom Swift

Holly Cusack



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.



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free.*

- Lk 4:18

St. Mary's School Est. 1885

Celebrating 136 years of Catholic education!

115 Orchard Street — Lee, MA 01238

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

www.StMarysLee.org

Miss. Cara Maiorano | *Interim-Principal*

Mrs. Linda Winters | *School Secretary*

Mrs. Gina Reiners | *School Board Chair*

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.

**Fr. James Joyce
Daniel McDonald, Shirley Tyer**

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.



The Candles this Week

Sanctuary: Eda Salice

Grotto Lamps:

Oratory Lamp: M. Ray Saunders

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



Weekly Parishioner Contributions Jan 11-17

Mail: \$1,665

Online: \$847

Lee: \$3,838

Otis: \$134

Stockbridge: \$376

Consider Online giving.

Set up your gift today.

Visit our Website or
call Karen at the
rectory (243-0275)

Thanks! You make all our ministries possible.

Mass Intentions for This Week

Sat. 1/22	4:00 pm	† Albert & Madeline Coles and Michael Heath, <i>by MaryAnn Otis</i>
	5:30 pm	† Nina Dipon and ♥ her daughters, <i>by Isabella Shea</i>
Sun. 1/23	8:00 am	♥ John Roddy - Health and Healing, <i>by his aunt Ann Stockbridge</i>
	9:30 am	† Pat and Jim Kelly, <i>by friends</i>
	11:00 am	† Dayton Delorme, <i>by Paul and Dorothy Robinson</i>
Mon. 1/24	7:00 am	† M. Ray Saunders, <i>by Cheryl Saunders</i>
Tue. 1/25	7:00 am	†
Wed. 1/26	7:00 am	† Deceased of Our Parish
Thu. 1/27	7:00 am	† Margaret Wells, <i>by her daughter, Laurie Forfa</i>
Fri. 1/28	7:00 am	† Doris Pelletier, <i>by Bill and Becky Brunell</i>
Sat. 1/29	10:00 am	† Funeral for Daniel McDonald - SMC
	4:00 pm	† Elvin Bartini, <i>by Jane Membrino</i>
	5:30 pm	† Mazie Schoonmazer, <i>by Pat & Joe Otis</i>
Sun. 1/30	8:00 am	†
	9:30 am	† Winifred Johnson, <i>by her sister, Elizabeth Thompson Stockbridge</i>
	11:00 am	† Alexandra Puntin Pilsbury, <i>by Laurie Puntin</i>

MASS INTENTIONS: Contact the rectory (243-0275) if you want to book a Mass. It is a holy action to offer your prayers and the prayers of the Church in the sacrifice of the Mass.

Ministers on the Altar Next Week

Sat. 1/29 3:00 pm (Confessions): Fr. Matt

4:00 pm (Lee): Fr. Matt

E.M.: Sandy Scarafoni & Mary Ann Saunders

Lector: Tom Rollinger

5:30 pm (Otis): Fr. Brian w/Dec. Jim to Preach

E.M.: Carol Lombardo

Lector & A.S.: Logan and Dylan Fedor

Sun. 1/30 8:00 am (Lee): Fr. Matt

E.M.: Verna & Charles Houff and Ann O'Brien

Lector: Verna Houff

9:30 am (Stockbridge): Fr. Brian w/Dec. Jim to Preach Lector: Paula Valenti

11:00 am (Lee): Fr. Matt

A.S.: Brendan & Zooley Bayles

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 23RD, 2022

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 7/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Mon., *St. Francis de Sales*: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89/Mk 3:22-30

Tue., *The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle*: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117/Mk 16:15-18

Wed., *Sts. Timothy and Titus*: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 89/Mk 4:1-20

Thu., *St. Angela Merici*: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132/Mk 4:21-25

Fri., *St. Thomas Aquinas*: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51/Mk 4:26-34

Sat.: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51/Mk 4:35-41

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time; *Celebrate Catholic Schools Week*: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/ Ps 71/1 Cor 12:31-13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30



FROM THE PASTOR

Parish Council and Finance Council meet on Monday evening. Thanks to the men and women who serve on these Councils. Your vision, hard work and fidelity are deeply appreciated.

One of the things we started just before Christmas was a subscription to Formed. It is a great resource for enrichment and entertainment in our faith lives. I put the information on Page 6 of the bulletin. Check it out!

We are finishing our Diaper and Bottle drives. Thanks to Don Zukowski and the Knights of Columbus who spearheaded both drives this year. They coincide with the March for Life and the Day of Prayer for the Protection of the Unborn. As Catholics we strive to support, enhance and protect life from conception to natural death. It is good to put our money and our time behind our words.

On a few building notes, we have installed a new phone system at both the school and the rectory. The school phone system is also the PA system for morning announcements and paging people in the building, so it is very important. So far they have been a welcome improvement. At St. Joseph's we had work done on the organ. Here I will quote the organ master at Celusniak et Dugal: "thorough shop re-leathering restoration of the 8-stage Aeolian-Skinner electro-pneumatic whiffletree expression motor existing in the subject pipe organ in St. Joseph's Church, Stockbridge." We basically had to fix the volume knob, except that the volume knob on a pipe organ controls louvers that dampen or project the sound. Two very needed projects in the midst of all the work needed to be done to beat back the ice and keep the pipes from freezing. Our maintenance staff is amazing. I also want to give a shout out to all involved in removing the Christmas decorations inside and outside our three churches and rectory. It is a wonderful season with a huge amount of work to put up and take down the decorations. Thank you.

On a personal note I want to thank everyone for their prayers and best wishes for my mom. If all goes as planned she will have had her surgery on last Tuesday (I had to write this column by Monday so I could be with her at the hospital). It had been put off twice, so she is both anxious and grateful to have the surgery. I also need surgery. The staph infection in my knee has not really abated in over 17 months. I have tried several options with both the surgeon and the infectious disease doctors. Now it will take a major surgery. Basically they will be cutting the existing knee out and putting in a temporary knee. I will be on IV antibiotics for six weeks and additional ones after that for three months. Then they will put in a new knee. It promises to be a difficult time, but I am offering it up as an early Lenten journey.

Surgery is scheduled for January 31st. I hope I can be back to the rectory by the end of that week, but I will be laying low. Actually I had planned on a vacation with some of my classmates from seminary the following week. This year we celebrate 30th years of being priests and we wanted to get away for a little retreat and catching up. Please say a prayer for me and know I will be praying for you.

Our parish family is such a great place of grace and growth. May we continue to know, love and serve God. May God bless you.

Pax. Fr. b.

Answer to Catholic Trivia from p. 8: St. Anthony of Padua

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

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).

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

Sun 1/23 DIAPER & BOTTLE DRIVE ENDS

- 9:00 am Faith Formation Classes
- 6:00 pm Confirmation Class - SMS

- Mon 1/24 6:00 pm Parish Council - SMS
- 7:00 pm Finance Council - SMS

Tue 1/25

Wed 1/26

Thu 1/27

Fri. 1/28

Sat. 1/29 CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK BEGINS

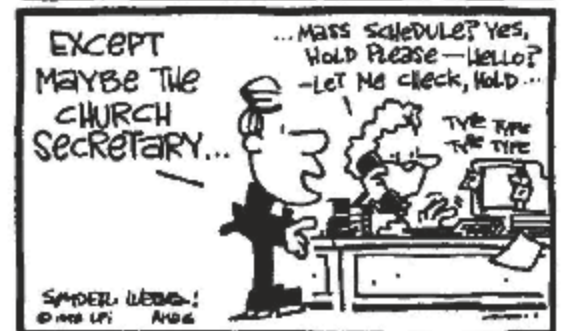
- 10:00 am Daniel McDonald Funeral - SMC

- Sun 1/30 6:00 pm Confirmation Class - SMS

Upcoming: 2/4 First Friday Devotions and Nursing Home Masses; 2/6 St. Mary's School Open House; 3/1 Shrove Tuesday Dinner & Burning of the Palms; 3/2 Ash Wednesday; 3/4 Stations of the Cross and Simple Suppers begin; 3/12 SMS Bingo; 4/10 Palm Sunday - Holy Week Begins; 4/14 Holy Thursday; 4/15 Good Friday; 4/16 Holy Saturday; 4/17 EASTER

www.stmarylos.com

3 RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



January 23rd, 2022 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

Registration: We welcome all new members to our parish family. To formally join the parish, please fill in the Parish Census form. 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 takes place in the Oratory
Mon. - Fri. 8 am - 11 pm
Sat. & Sun. 9 am - 11 pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation & The Anointing of the Sick is offered every Saturday from 3:00-3:30 in **St. Mary's Church, 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. Matt at the rectory or the diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. Jon Reardon: 413-739-0456, ext. 4

email: vocations@diospringfield.org

New Direction Crisis Pregnancy Center: Has a help line available 24/7.
Call: **413-347-8005**



ADORATION NEWS: OUR LADY'S ORATORY could use you! As the Year of the Eucharist begins, please consider spending an hour a week with Jesus in our Adoration Chapel. **WE CURRENTLY HAVE 20 OPEN HOURS.** Available hours are posted in the Oratory. More info can be had by calling Laurie Forfa at 413-464-8143 or Lisa Thorne at 298-3261

OUR LADY OF FATIMA TRAVELING STATUE: In January of 2022, we plan to resume the holy practice of having our beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima travel to homes throughout the parish. If you would like to have this statue in your home for a week during the coming year, the instructions and sign-up sheets are in Our Lady's Oratory. Also, when you come by the Oratory, be sure to take a moment to adore Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Remember this is the Year of the Eucharist in our Diocese.. If you have any questions, you may call Laurie Forfa at 413-464-8143.



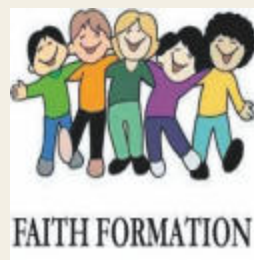
DIAPER DRIVE: The Knights of Columbus Diaper and Baby Bottle Drive draws to a close this weekend. Let's continue to support every person's Right To Life. Drop new diapers in the collection bins at the church and Baby Bottles filled with coins. Diapers will be donated to the Berkshire County Diaper Project and money raised from the Baby Bottles will be donated to the New Direction Women's Center in Pittsfield. Thank you for supporting these worthy Right To Life causes. You may contact Donald Zukowski at (413)822-7408 with questions on either the Diaper or Baby Bottle Drives.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: As a parish we are blessed with the ministry of running a Catholic School. Started in 1885 by Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery, France and supported by faithful pastors and parishioners ever since, it is an amazing place of excellent academics, formative service outreach and vibrant faith formation. We are welcoming speakers at the Masses next weekend January 29 & 30 as Catholic Schools Week begins. Plan ahead for **Open House on Sunday, 2/6, from Noon until 2 pm** up at the school. Alumni and friends of the school, this is a great chance to visit. Parents with children of school age this a great time to check out our school and register you child for next year.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM ST. MARY'S SCHOOL DATE CHANGES. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BINGO: St. Mary's School in Lee is postponing bingo (*from 2/5/22*) to **3/12/22**. We hope to host bingo on Saturdays: 3/12, 4/2, and 6/25, unless the pandemic causes us to postpone again. Doors open at 1:00 pm; games begin at 2:30 pm. Face masks are required. Call 413-243-1079 with questions or to pre-register. \$10 entrance (additional lottery games and 50/50 raffle!)

FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE: St. Mary's School in Lee is postponing our father/daughter dance (*from 2/12/2022*) to **5/7/2022**. Details will be available in March. Stay tuned. 413-243-1079 for more information.

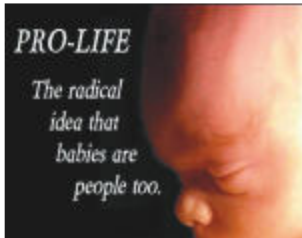


This weekend, January 23rd we have classes at 9:00 am for Grades K-10 | 6:00 pm for Confirmation Students. Next weekend, January 30th, only the Confirmation Students will be meeting. Thanks to all our teachers, parents and students for your efforts as we grow in faith.

If you have any questions, please email our Faith Formation Coordinator, Kate Murry and she will get your family signed up!

stmaryleccd@gmail.com

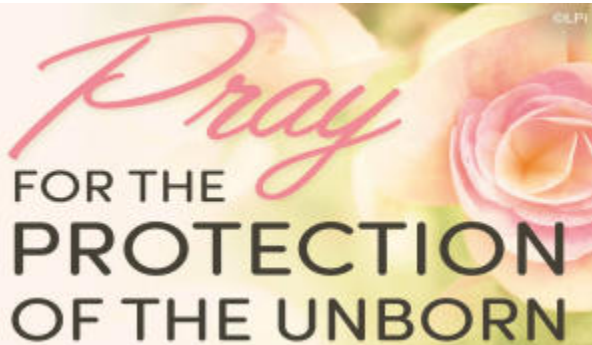
One Parish Serving through Three Churches, Two Cemeteries and Our School



Sadly, the effort to collect signatures for a ballot question requiring health care for ALL infants born alive in MA fell short of its goal. We collected 75,000 signa-

tures, not the 80,239 required. (100,000 "raw" signatures were not certified for various reasons.) On the bright side, we collected 18,000 **more** signatures than we did for a pro-life initiative in 2019. That is encouraging! We are grateful to all who participated in this endeavor. God bless you!

March 2 - Lenten 40 Days for Life Begins



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - PLANT YOUR WORKS IN THE WORD

One of the things about Scripture is that even the smallest word and shortest phrase can be critical to the overall message. When you take a quiet moment to rest with the Word, you find how quickly the most mundane sentence can reach out and grab you, pulling you into a deeper contemplation of some truth you hadn't even considered until then.

But we often fail to act as the Israelites in the Book of Nehemiah, standing before the Water Gate "listening attentively." Whether it's at Mass during the Liturgy of the Word or at home poring over the Bible, time after time we find ourselves less mindful than we could be. Our ears accept the sounds of the words and our eyes glance over the shape of the letters.

But are we mindful — truly?

The best answer is hopefully at least sometimes. There are always tasks to be completed, problems weighing on our minds that we can't quite give over to God. We lose ourselves in these things instead of in Scripture. We "clock in" with Bible reading instead of "diving in."

We can never forget that the words of the Lord are spirit and life. They are the soil that quickens the seed of all stewardship. There is no mindfulness, no prayer, no graciousness, no gratitude or accountability or sense of commitment unless there is the Word.

So let us pray today for mindfulness, that our every action will be grounded in the law of God — giving it true spirit and life.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

From the Area and the Diocese

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST: "What man could not utter nor conceive, and what he could never have dared to desire – that, God in his love has uttered, conceived, and executed. Should we ever have dared suggest to God that he should make his Son die for us, that he should give us his Flesh to eat and his Blood to drink? If all that were true, then man would have been able to imagine things that God could not do. He would have gone further than God in the inventions of love, [and] that is impossible." St. John Vianney, *Eucharistic Meditations: 1st Meditation.*

www.yearoftheeucharist.net

3 DAY TRIP TO OGUNQUIT, MAINE! Presented by the St. Peter Women's Guild Journey to the southern coast of Maine on June 7-9, 2022. Package includes: Roundtrip Deluxe Motor Coach, 2 nights at the lovely Meadowmere Resort in Ogunquit, ME, Wine and Cheese Welcome Greeting, 4 meals (2 Breakfasts & 2 Dinners), Kennebunkport Village Shops, Dinner at Jonathan's Restaurant, Lobster Clambake Dinner at Foster's, Ogunquit Playhouse, Guided Tour of Portland, Portland Head Lighthouse, Portland Discovery Cruise, Len Libby's Chocolate's, when Pigs Fly at the Kittery Shops, tips, taxes & gratuities. Costs are \$495 for a double occupancy, \$475 for a triple or \$675 for a single. Deposit of \$75 is due at sign up, and balance is due by May 5. For more information, please call Bobbie Kozlowski at 413-528-4961.

THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY has begun. If you would like to get more deeply involved in our diocesan synodal action, please feel free to reach out to our Diocesan Synodal Team at synod@diospringfield.org. Lewis Brooks (member of our Parish Council) will be attending the next *Synod Information Meetings*, on January 25th at 4:00 PM at St. Joseph Parish (Pittsfield) Talk to him if you want more information about this world-wide efforts.

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

People can easily lose a sense of the sacred and transcendent. When we lose a sense of God's special presence, we need to be brought back. Ezra brought people back to the word of God and they realized what they were missing. Jesus proclaims God's word in the synagogue with true conviction and tells those gathered that he is the fulfillment of all that Isaiah taught. Even though people get lost, distracted, discouraged, and often journey down the wrong path, God's timeless law remains. When we allow ourselves to truly hear God's word and act on it, that living word slowly, over time, changes us. It has the power to soften and mold us, creating within us a joyful spirit. We realize the truth in what God speaks and become open to God's love. Gradually and gently God leads us back where we belong. We discover again the sacred character of life and the wonder of God's power. It is no wonder that Luke addresses his remarks to Theophilus. It is a name that means "beloved of God," a name that can be used by anyone who desires friendship with God.

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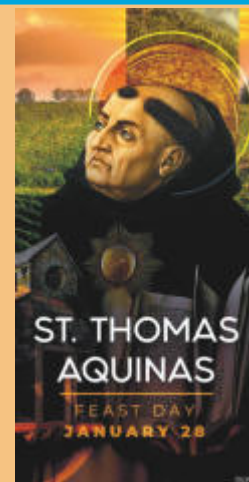
St. Thomas Aquinas | January 28

One of the most famous members of the Dominican Order, St. Thomas Aquinas (1225 – 1274) is well-known by many for his theological work, “*The Summa Theologiae*.” Born in Italy, his mother wanted him to become a Benedictine and had high hopes that he would eventually become abbot of Monte Cassino, where he spent much of his youth. To change his vocation, she had him kidnapped by his brothers on his way to Paris at the age of 19. He spent two years in their captivity. Despite this, nothing could shake him from his vocation to become a Dominican priest and he was eventually released. Once free, he went to Paris and then to Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great.

His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, encompasses his writings. The *Summa Theologiae*, his last and, unfortunately, uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology.

The patron saint of teachers, theologians and students, St. Thomas Aquinas died in 1274. His life and the impact he had on the whole Church, however, remains alive today.

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Here are some quotes by St. Thomas Aquinas: **“Three things are necessary for the salvation of man: to know what he ought to believe; to know what he ought to desire, and to know what he ought to do.”**

“To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.”

“Material food first changes into the one who eats it, and then, as a consequence, restores to him lost strength and increases his vitality. Spiritual food, on the other hand, changes the person who eats it into itself. Thus the effect proper to this Sacrament is the conversion of a man into Christ, so that he may no longer live, but Christ lives in him; consequently, it has the double effect of restoring the spiritual strength he had lost by his sins and defects, and of increasing the strength of his virtues.”



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GOSPEL MEDITATION | JANUARY 23, 2022

Human history reveals many periods where people lost a sense of God's transcendence. It may even be argued that human beings have been wandering and lost more than they have been at home and focused. Human nature being what it is, we struggle with who God really is — the God of our salvation history or the “gods” of human constructs. Relying on our own designs and pursuits, we forget that we really are meant to listen to One upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests, Jesus Christ, and not to ourselves. That same history that reveals our fickleness and infidelity also reveals God's constancy and faithfulness. God always finds us.

As people wander and fumble to find their way, God is there bringing them back to holiness and giving them the assurance of His presence. We have to allow God's Word, God's life, to touch us and change us. It can make us more flexible and attentive to the sacred in all facets of life so that every day is one that is holy. Every day is a time when fulfillment is possible for one's soul. Jesus stood before those gathered in the synagogue as the fulfillment of words of promise that were echoed long ago. God doesn't forget. He always comes for us.

Now it is time to remember to go to God. Sometimes our lives are so confused and tangled that it is difficult to see the Word and hand of God. But when we realize, deep within, the depth of friendship God offers to us it really has the power to turn sadness to joy. The promise is fulfilled. Going frequently to God's Word, allowing ourselves to be enriched and rejuvenated, and pondering the certainty of God's fidelity and promise permanently transforms us. We will be more aware of the sacred and the holy and less invested in things that pull us away.

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January 23rd, 2022



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

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL'S ANNUAL PARISH APPEAL

The students at St. Mary's School begin every morning with a prayer, pledge of allegiance, song, fun fact/quote, and announcements. They also recite the school's mission statement in every classroom, as it is lead by a student over the intercom. At the end of our school's mission statement is our motto, "Learn. Pray. Serve." Our students don't simply memorize this motto; they live this motto out in their daily lives. We often see our students pray and serve within our parish! They are contributing to our parish in very real and important ways. They are altar servers at funerals, as well as at Sunday Masses; they are prayers partners, praying for many of our parish; and they are even learning how to tithe and give generously of themselves (by following our examples). Our current eighth graders took some time to reflect on their experience. Here are just a couple responses:

"The St. Mary's community is one of the kindest I have ever had the pleasure to partake in. Granted it is small but that makes the abundance of love it produces an even more impressive feat. The teachers are very kind and respectful and give the perfect guidance and education to us. St. Mary's School is a place where every student truly has a chance to shine."

-Anonymous, 8th Grade Class of 2022

"Growing up within St. Mary's walls has been an excellent experience for me. The small class sizes have helped me grow strong, long-lasting friendships with my classmates and, the small sizes allow students to receive more academic attention from teachers. I wouldn't be the person I am without this school, and I wouldn't trade my time here for the world."

-Isabella, 8th Grade Class of 2022

These children feel blessed and proud to be both students and parishioners at St. Mary's! How awesome it is to witness these youngsters grow up in this parish, as well as attend our parochial school. Perhaps many of our parishioners were in their very shoes just a few years ago. We are blessed to be able to keep our doors open and provide an "education with a plus" where "every child shines!" with your help.

Perhaps the Holy Spirit is inspiring you to contribute a little something extra to the school's Parish Appeal this year, to help ensure that we can continue to do so in these challenging times. You can donate either through the school envelopes found in the monthly parish envelope, or online by

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: Who is the patron saint of lost things?

(answer on page 3)

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