

ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 22, 2021



MASS SCHEDULE

ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH—208 BALTIMORE AVE.

7AM SUNDAY & 8:30AM WEDNESDAY

HOLY SAVIOR CHURCH—1705 PHILADELPHIA AVE.

MASSES

MONDAY, TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 8:30AM

SATURDAY: 5:15PM

SUNDAY, 9AM, & 11AM

HOLY SAVIOR CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER DURING OFFICE HOURS.

PARISH OFFICE — HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9am to 3pm—Closed Fridays

Phone: 410-289-0652 Fax: 410-289-1026

Address: 1705 Philadelphia Ave. Ocean City, MD 21842

Pastor: Rev. John Solomon
pastor@stmaryholysavior.com

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Donna Santoni
office@stmaryholysavior.com

Faith Formation: Mrs. Rita Danhardt
Religiousued@stmaryholysavior.com 410-289-7038

Music Director: Mr. Jordan Pantalone
Music@stmaryholysavior.com

Facilities Manager: Mr. Tony Dicken
maintenance@stmaryholysavior.com

Website: Stmarystaroftheseaocmd.com

Facebook: st mary star of the sea/holy savior parish in ocean city, md



Confessions

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and anytime by appointment.

Baptism / Confirmation

Baptisms are held on Saturdays by appointment or the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. Confirmation is conferred in the Tenth Grade. Please contact Rita Danhardt for additional information.

R.C.I.A.

If you feel you are being called to join the Catholic Church, please contact Rita Danhardt.

Matrimony

Please contact the Parish Office at least one year in advance of desired date and prior to making any arrangements for the wedding reception.

Anointing of the Sick

Please inform the Parish Office about parishioners who need this sacrament as soon as their illness becomes serious or before surgery.

Holy Orders

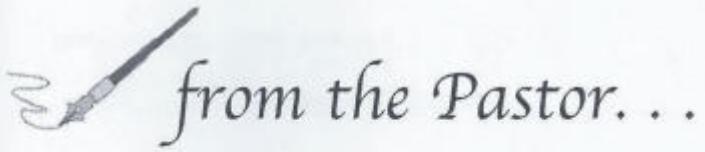
If you believe you are being called by God to serve the Church as a priest, deacon or religious brother or sister, contact Fr. Solomon.

Regional School:

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School
Grades K-8
11242 Racetrack Road Berlin, MD 21811
410-208-1600

Religious Articles Store

Our Religious Articles Store is located in Room #112 in the parish center and open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and after all weekend Masses. Stop on in and see what we have to offer.



from the Pastor . . .

This past Sunday we had our Annual Blessing of the Sea. Bishop Koenig was unable to join us, so Bishop Malooly kindly helped us out, for which I'm very grateful, especially as he took time out of his vacation with family to join us. We were also joined by one of our diocesan seminarians, Mark, who used to work in Ocean City teaching surf lessons at K-Coast and a seminarian from Brooklyn, Patrice, who was in town on vacation. So, we marked the day with appropriate solemnity, I think.

While the day had looked like rain, by the time we headed out after the 11 a.m. Mass the sun was shining, and it had actually cooled off. We headed down to the water and stood toe to toe with vacations and people in their beach chairs. It was wonderful. While many raised an eyebrow as we passed, everyone was very respectful. Some people even came over and asked to join in prayer. They also asked what we were doing and why, which allowed our parishioners a great evangelization opportunity. All in all, it was a great day and a wonderful time to honor Our Lady and ask for her protection for all those who work and play on the seas. If you've never been to the Blessing of the Sea before, please consider joining us next year. I'll just have to remember sandals instead of the boots I wore this year. I thought I'd be protected from the waves; a rookie mistake.

Speaking of good days, our Midweek Movies with Father was a resounding success. We had 63 people join us as we watched *I Confess*, a movie about a priest who hears someone confess to murder and the question about what the priest should do. It raised a lot of good discussion and clarification for people (Cliffs Notes version: we can't say what we hear in confession, regardless of the severity). There was popcorn and snacks and drinks and I'm grateful to Rita and our youth for helping work the concessions. Our next movie night will be September 15th at 6 p.m. As we get closer, I'll let you know which movie I've chosen. And don't worry, even though our last movie was older, everyone liked it. So, if the title of the next one doesn't seem appealing to you, give it a shot. After all, it's a free night at the movies and an opportunity to meet new people in the parish.

Speaking of free, just to clarify, for both Sunday Mass and Wednesday Daily Mass at St. Mary's we are able to park in the lot on Dorchester St. and Baltimore Ave. as well as the lot on Dorchester St. and Philadelphia Ave. for free. You can't park and then stay all day, though; you must leave after Mass. But for both Sunday and the Wednesday Mass at St. Mary's the town has agreed to not ticket us. So, let's say a prayer for those who made this happen and allow us to park for free.

Just a reminder, we still have our Sunday evening Mass at 6 p.m. The last Sunday we will have it this summer is the 5th, Labor Day Weekend.

This upcoming Friday the 27th and Saturday the 28th are the feasts of Ss. Monica and Augustine, respectively. St. Monica was the mother of St. Augustine and they have quite the interesting story. They lived in North Africa in the mid 300's, late 400's. "The circumstances of St. Monica's life could have made her a nagging wife, a bitter daughter-in-law, and a despairing parent, yet she did not give way to any of these temptations. Although she was a Christian, her parents gave her in marriage to a pagan, Patricius, who lived in her hometown of Tagaste in North Africa. Patricius had some redeeming features, but he had a violent temper [was alcoholic] and was licentious. Monica also had to bear with a cantankerous mother-in-law who lived in her home. Patricius criticized his wife because of her charity and piety, but always respected her. Monica's prayers and example finally won her husband and mother-in-law to Christianity. Her husband died in 371, one year after his baptism.

Monica had at least three children who survived infancy. The oldest, Augustine, is the most famous. At the time of his father's death, Augustine was 17 and a rhetoric student in Carthage. Monica was distressed to learn that her son had accepted the Manichean heresy—"all flesh is evil"—and was living an immoral life. For a while, she refused to let him eat or sleep in her house. Then one night she had a vision that assured her Augustine would return to the faith. From that time on, she stayed close to her son, praying and fasting for him. In fact she often stayed much closer than Augustine wanted.

When he was 29, Augustine decided to go to Rome to teach rhetoric. Monica was determined to go along. One night he told his mother that he was going to the dock to say goodbye to a friend. Instead he set sail for Rome. Monica was heartbroken when she learned of Augustine's trick, but she still followed him. She arrived in Rome only to find that he had left for Milan. Although travel was difficult, Monica pursued him to Milan.

In Milan, Augustine came under the influence of the bishop, St. Ambrose, who also became Monica's spiritual director. She accepted his advice in everything and had the humility to give up some practices that had become second nature to her. Monica became a leader of the devout women in Milan as she had been in Tagaste.

She continued her prayers for Augustine during his years of instruction. At Easter 387, St. Ambrose baptized Augustine and several of his friends. Soon after, his party left for Africa. Although no one else was aware of it, Monica knew her life was near the end. She told Augustine, "Son, nothing in this world now affords me delight. I do not know what there is now left for me to do or why I am still here, all my hopes in this world being now fulfilled." She became ill shortly after and suffered severely for nine days before her death.

Almost all we know about St. Monica is in the writings of St. Augustine, especially his *Confessions*.¹ She is the patron saint of alcoholics, conversion, mothers, and wives. St. Monica, pray for us!

¹ <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-monica>

MASS INTENTIONS

August 21

Holy Savior Saturday

5:15 p.m. Virginia Streckfus

August 22

St. Mary Sunday

7:00 a.m. Parishioners

Holy Savior Sunday

9:00 a.m. John A. Nolet

11:00 a.m. Vincent Zirpoli

6:00 p.m. Bob Freeman

August 23 Monday

8:30 a.m. S.I. Erik Charles Cruz

August 24 Tuesday

8:30 a.m. Rose Weber

August 25—St. Mary's Wednesday

8:30 a.m. S.I. of Chase & Gabrielle Jenkins

August 26 Thursday

8:30 a.m. Christine Masterbrook

August 27 Friday

No Mass

August 28

Holy Savior Saturday

5:15 p.m. Deacon Ed Gardner

August 29

St. Mary Sunday

7:00 a.m. Parishioners

Holy Savior Sunday

9:00 a.m. Mary & Thomas Dewey

11:00 a.m. Evelyn Skabisky

6:00 p.m. Bob Freeman



Ellen Sansone.

If you would like a Sanctuary Candle lit for the week for a special intention or in memory of a loved one, please contact the parish office. A donation of \$10.00 is appreciated. The Candle this week at Holy Savior will be for the Special Intention of John McHale from Pat. The Candle at St. Mary's in loving memory of



If you are interested in purchasing flowers for the Altar, please contact the parish office.



GOSPEL MEDITATION -
ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF
SCRIPTURE

August 22, 2021

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods." We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these "gods" because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with "who is God" and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised "more." But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only "feels" true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God's kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It's a choice we all have to make.

Readings of the Week

Readings for the week of August 15, 2021

Sunday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 [8]/

1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/
Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44 [4a]/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 [1b]/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [4]/Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/

Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69

WEEKLY MASS ATTENDANCE August 14/15, 2021

Saturday 5:15pm—138

Sunday 7:00am—108

Sunday 9:00am—242

Sunday 11:00am—255

Sunday 6:00pm—50



We know how much everyone missed coming together for our Annual Christmas Bazaar so we will be working hard to make this year's the best ever!

To do that, we need everyone to pitch in. First, we have a lot of items left from 2019 so storage space is very limited.

If you could save your items for the bazaar (gently used and clean Christmas Items and Toys) and bring them to us in the fall, that would be greatly appreciated. We can take Jewelry now as it is small and easy to store. Second, we will need volunteers to help set up, work and clean up the bazaar. We will keep you updated as we get closer, however, mark your calendars, our Christmas Bazaar will be November 19 & 20, 2021:)

Community Events

A Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat will be held the weekend of December 3-5, 2021. This retreat is for anyone

who has struggled with the pain of abortion. Whether you are post-abortive or associated with someone who is (parent, spouse, friend), there is nothing to fear and so much to gain. For more info about this beautiful and liberating opportunity, contact Nan Freeman at 302-648-2228 (call or text) or lucyminn929@gmail.com, or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.



Calling all Elves!! Calling all Elves!! Crafting with the Elves will begin on Wednesday, August 18th and Ms. Roberta has a lot of ideas:) All are welcome to attend after morning Mass in room 122 of the parish center. We are once again looking forward to hearing all the your laughter coming from the room again.



We are once again holding a school supply collection. This year we have spoken to our local elementary school to get a list of items needed. There will be a basket for collections in the lobby.

Markers

Crayons. 8 count and 24 count

Colored pencils

Composition books

Colored folders

Back packs

Earphones.

Hand sanitizer & wipes

2 pocket folders

Tissues

Highlighters

Spiral notebooks

Gallon, quart and sandwich size baggies

Thanks in advance! Know how much our schools and families appreciate your help and generosity.

Knights of Columbus



OUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL BE HOLDING THEIR TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE THIS LABOR DAY WEEKEND. WE WILL APPRECIATE DONATIONS FOR YOUR TOOTSIE ROLLS. ALL DONATIONS BENEFIT INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, SPECIFICALLY THE WORCESTER COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CENTER. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Wow!!! How many were able to join us Monday evening for the Feast of the Assumption? We had a beautiful Mass celebrated by Bishop Malooly and Concelebrated by our own, Fr. Solomon. Having been raised is another Seaside resort the Assumption holds great memories for me. For as long as I can remember I have been taking part in The Feast of the Assumption Mass and the traditional Blessing of the Ocean. As a kid I can remember a great sense of pride being able to walk with all the adults and other Children through the streets of Wildwood to the waters edge and to listen as Father blessed the water and recounted all the Blessings we receive from it ~ food, livelihoods, entertainment, protection and energy!! We also remembered the Lifeguards with prayers and thanks! We, here at St. Mary, Star of the Sea celebrate in a similar fashion also remembering to thank all of our first responders ~ Police, Fire, EMT, as well as the Beach Patrol! We "native" Ocean Cityans own so much to the waters and those who serve to protect and maintain! Could you image a summer without any part? So I have always considered it an honor to participate!! We had so many that joined us and there were so many awesome moments...but I wanted to specifically share the part religious ed played in it! Thanks to Ted and Jada Donahue who did a beautiful job as our Altar servers! I was so proud of the way they conducted themselves!! An Awesome job! I also put a call out for our youth to carry the cross and had a good response and a beautiful assortment of ages! Thanks so much to Jessica Beck and Daniel Anderson who organized and lead the team which went from Church to the beach. Thanks to our servers who quickly changed and joined this group as well, You did your parish proud! It was a beautiful statement! As the procession heads forward, I am at the Boardwalk waiting and answering questions and am always taken by the impact our presences has on those watching, Christians and non-Christians alike! The questions I answer and the conversations held are awesome!! This year we did it at noon on a Sunday with a crowded beach! Truly an awesome humbling experience!

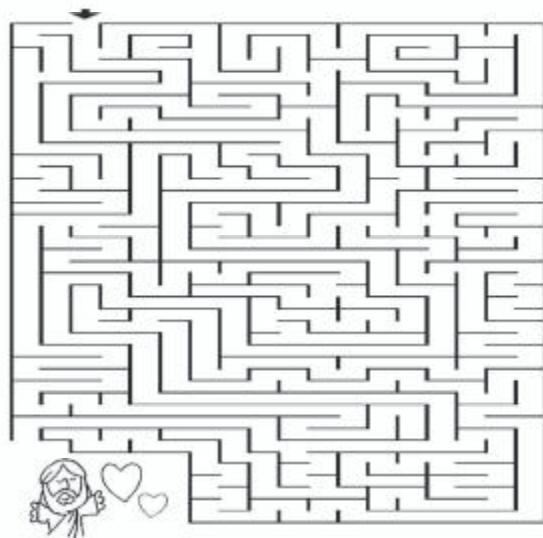
We will be starting Religious Education on Sunday, October 3...with pre k to 6th Grade meeting immediately after the 11 AM Mass and being dismissed Pre to grade 2 at 1250 and Grades 3 to 6 at 1255!! Our Teens grade 7 to 10 meet in the Evening at 6PM to 7 PM.

We are always in need of extra hands...**Catechists, Aides and monitors** for both programs. So, I ask you to take some time and think and pray. Is God calling you to pass on your faith to our younger parishioners? Could you be a model of faithfulness in the classrooms or hallways? It is an important role to pass on your love of Jesus but it is so rewarding!! I am really in the need of aides and monitors for both programs and I have room for a teen catechists. If you are interested call or stop by to talk. You can find me most Mondays and Tuesdays in my office. You can call or email me at 410 289 7038 or religioused@stmaryholysavior.com. If you still need to enroll your child/children for the 2021/2022 school year there are forms by the main door in church or on the counter in the Connell center or call, text, or email me and I will send them to you!

Enjoy the beautiful weather,
God Bless,
Rita

PUZZLE

Find your way through the maze to Jesus.



MISSION

Have you ever learned something about God that was hard to understand? Talk about it with your family, and together pray for each other. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you learn what God wants you to.

FINANCE COUNCIL NEWS

Monthly Budget Update 7/1/20 – 5/31/21

Total Actual Revenue \$740,250
 Total Budgeted Revenue \$543,304
 Positive Variance \$196,946

Total Actual Expenses \$524,305
 Total Budgeted Expenses \$498,495
 Negative Variance \$ -25,810

Actual Net Income \$215,945
 Budgeted Net Income \$ 44,809
 Positive Variance \$171,136
 Actual revenue includes \$105,946 in
 Deficit Reduction funds through 5/31/21.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Tax Free Charitable Distribution

Need a tax break? Congress has permanently enacted qualified charitable distributions from your traditional IRA accounts. These distributions can be used to satisfy all or a portion of your *Required Minimum Distribution* and are free of federal and state income tax. Also, these gifts help you avoid the Medicare high income surcharge and can help reduce your income taxes on your social security benefits.

Distributions must be made *directly* from your IRA account to St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church. For questions, contact the parish office at 410-289-0652

Weekly Collections (Including Electronic)

First Collection	FY2022	FY2021
Aug: 2nd Sunday	\$13,013	\$11,277
Aug: 1st Sunday	\$ 8,952	\$ 9,657
Jul: 4th Sunday	\$12,598	\$ 6,436
Jul: 3rd Sunday	\$11,624	\$ 8,311
Jul: 2nd Sunday	\$11,677	\$13,419

Second Collection

Aug: 2nd Sunday	\$ 3,031	\$ 988
Aug: 1st Sunday	\$ 2,172	\$ 669
Jul: 4th Sunday	\$ 2,006	\$ 577
Jul: 3rd Sunday	\$ 1,854	\$ 548
Jul: 2nd Sunday	\$ 2,182	\$ 974

Total Collections

Aug: 2nd Sunday	\$16,044	\$12,265
Aug: 1st Sunday	\$11,124	\$10,326
Jul: 4th Sunday	\$14,604	\$ 7,013
Jul: 3rd Sunday	\$13,478	\$ 8,859
Jul: 2nd Sunday	<u>\$13,859</u>	<u>\$14,393</u>
Total	\$69,109	\$52,856
	31% Increase	

Electronic Giving

Electronic giving (called WeShare) is the preferred way to make your weekly offertory. By giving electronically, it relieves the need for about 6 parishioners to count money every Sunday (about 10 hours total). Furthermore, the parish could eventually save money on envelope printing and mailing and you would not have to write checks. The Finance Council would also be able to budget more efficiently. Please consider making the switch; it is safe and secure. Cards are available in the back of church with instructions to join WeShare and have your offering sent electronically. You can also go to our website, www.stmarystaroftheseaocmd.com and go to the donate section and you will be guided to the site. If you need additional assistance setting this up, please don't hesitate to call the parish office (410-289-0652). Thank you for your continuing support.

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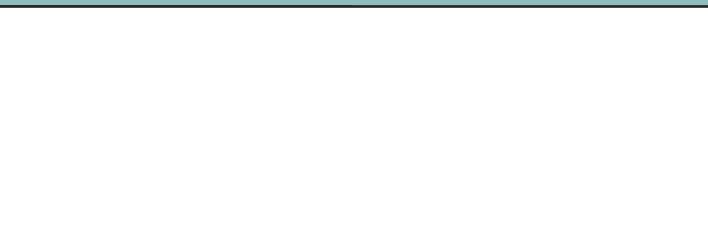
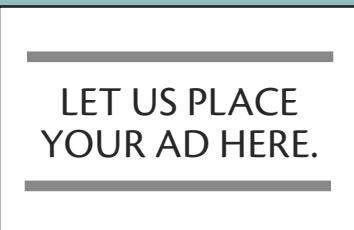


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