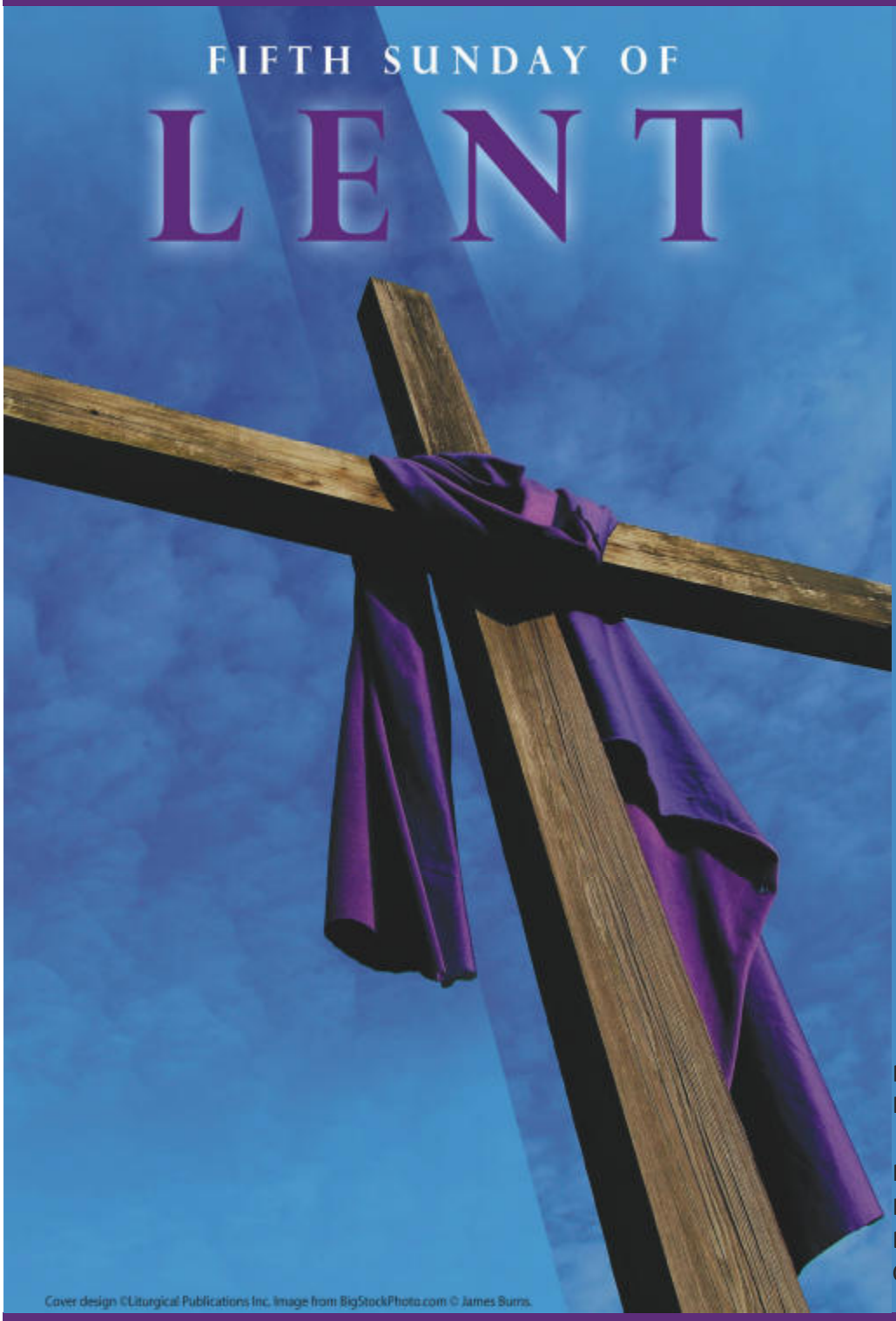
The Roman Catholic Parish of Saint Mary



March 21

MASS SCHEDULE
SATURDAY:
4:00 P.M. (Vigil Mass)

SUNDAY:
7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 A.M.

WEEKDAYS:
8:00 A.M.

SATURDAY MORNING:
9:00 A.M.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY:
9:30 AM ,3:15-3:45 PM
By Appointment.

Rev. Msgr. William A Hodge	Pastor
Rev. David J. Klein	In-residence
Kevin C Heil	Deacon
Dave Murnane	Deacon
Charles Reed	Sacristan

426 MONMOUTH STREET
GLOUCESTER CITY, N.J. 08030
856 - 456 - 0052
Fax: 856-456-1837
E-Mail: stmaryrectory@comcast.net
Website: stmarysgloucestercity.org

Organizations Meeting Schedules:
Knights of Columbus: John McNutt, Grand Knight 856-287-2547
Catholic Daughters of America: *Kim Kavanaugh 856-816-5977*
Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians: Maread Gallahger, President
Legion of Mary: Wednesdays 9:15 AM
Adoration: Thursdays 12 PM
Religious Education: Wednesdays 3:40 PM & Thursdays 3:40 PM

Volunteers have asked everyone to please leave their kneelers down before leaving church. This will help with sanitizing.

Saturday March 20, 2021

9:00 AM Helen M Hayes Bequest

4:00 PM Tom Virden (D) R/b Sharon & Troy, **Marie Saunders (Birthday)** R/b Mary Ann, Marge & Family, **Vicki Lynn Sanderson (D) (Ann Rem)** R/b Family

Sunday March 21, 2021 **Fifth Sunday of Lent** ***Bells: In Appreciation for Living and Deceased Members of Saints and Singers***

7:30 AM Raefeline DeSimone R/b Ed & Doris Saunders, **Dave Hamilton** R/b Sam Costanzo

9:30 AM Joseph Driscoll (D) R/b Joe & Bridget Collins & Family, **Raymond Rastelli Sr** R/b The Howey Family, **Lou Krasowski** R/b Peter Krasowski

11:30 AM Frank Crosson (D) R/b Helen & Bert Witcraft & Family, **Helen I Hansen** R/b Legion of Mary, **Joanne Krasowski** R/b Peter Krasowski, **Helen Krasowski (D)** R/b Peter Krasowski

Monday March 22, 2021

8:00 AM Con & Theresa Breslin R/b Marie Gallagher

Tuesday March 23, 2021 **Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop**

8:00 AM Helen P Murphy R/b Murphy Family

Wednesday March 24, 2021 ***Bells: Birthday Int of Bruce Lafferty*** *R/b Elaine & Fran & Logan Hancock*

8:00 AM Doris Adamski Bequest, **Julia Kenney** R/b Family, **Eppie DiGiacomo (D) (Birth Rem)** R/b Joe, Chris & Family

Thursday March 25, 2021 **The Annunciation of the Lord** ***Bells: The Original Gorman Girls*** *R/b Their Nieces*

8:00 AM Peter McNeillis R/b Marie Gallagher

Friday March 26, 2021

8:00 AM Colin Fitzpatrick (D) (Birth Rem) R/b Family

Saturday March 27, 2021

9:00 AM In Gratitude of the People of the Parish

4:00 PM Tom & Jean McParland (Easter Rem) R/b Pat Sharp, **John McGovern** R/b Sister, Kass Reed

Sunday March 28, 2021 **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord** ***Bells: In Appreciation for Living and Deceased Members of Saints and Singers***

7:30 AM Thecla Reed (D) (Ann Rem) R/b Son, Charles, **Doris Adamski** Bequest

9:30 AM Eva Berry (D) (Ann Rem) R/b Family, **Kay Schetter (D)** R/b George & Carol Bakey

11:30 AM Jean Pyrah (D) R/b Lynne & Mark Jergensen, **Josepf Driscoll (D)** R/b Charlotte Brown & Family**, Ruth Thomson** R/b Bert & Helen Witcraft & Family, **Anna Hall** R/b Mary Ann Hultgren, **Gabriela Remetei (D) (Ann Rem)** R/b Daughters, Eva, Maria & Gabiela

The Bells for the week of March 21, 2021 for the following Intentions:
SANCTUARY CANDLE is burning for
ST. JOSEPH ALTAR CANDLE is burning for **Eppie DiGiacomo (Birth Rem) R/b Family**
BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR CANDLE is burning for **Helen P Murphy (Birth Rem)** R/b Ronnie Battersby
Saint Francis of Assisi Candle is burning
Saint Anthony of Padua is burning
St Patrick is burning The Devine Child Jesus is burning for

Participate in Electronic Giving

Our current online giving portal is www.weshare.org. Both the website and Facebook pages have direct links or if you have questions, please contact WESHARE 1-800-950-9952.

If you would like to make an online donation, you can do so by visiting our website: ***www.stmarysgloucestercity.org*** *and follow the direction under the Giving Tab.*
By contributing electronically, the parish will have the benefit of stable monthly contributions and achieve a significant reduction in administrative costs.
Keep in mind that you can always use your credit card to receive rewards. If you need assistance contact the Rectory.

In Case You Missed It: Collection

2/7		2/14		2/21		2/28	
Special Collection	2235	Special Collection	1676	Special Collection	2145	Special Collection	2169
Parish Offerings	5,043	Parish Offerings	1739	Parish Offerings	5787	Parish Offerings	3657
Total	**7,278**	**Total**	**3415**	**Total**	**7932**	**Total**	**5826**

3/7		3/14	
Special Collection	3658	Special Collection	1685
Parish Offerings	5178	Parish Offerings	4031
Total	**8836**	**Total**	**6548**

March E-Giving Total: 3616.08

Ash Wednesday & Rice Bowl will be ongoing until Easter and will be reported once we have totals.

St Mary's is pleased to offer both **Masses** and **Bell Ringing**. We offer a beautiful card for the living and deceased memorializing the ringing of our magnificent Bells of St Mary. The donation for the Ringing is the same as announced Mass: **$15**. St Mary's is pleased to now offer the ability to sponsor **Altar Flowers**. The cost is **$50** per spray with upgrades available upon request.

Anyone who may be contributing to House of Charity via Employee Giving/Payroll Deduction thru United Way, United Way funds come in thru a bulk batch donation and if the acknowledgement is not sent to the diocese office it's not credited to any parish/individual. Please contact the Coordinator Carole Lackore at 856-583-6156 or carole.lackore@camdendiocese.org

If you would like a copy of your contributions from 2020, please email us at stmaryrectory@comcast.net or callus at 856-456-0052 PRESS EXTENSION 4 ONLY for statement requests and leave your information and phone number.
Due to COVID closings, etc for most of last year, if you find an error please email or drop off IN WRITING what the error is and we will correct it. Thank you!!!

In case of a cardiac emergency in church, please keep in mind that there is an AED located behind the pillar near the St Joseph's Altar. In case of a relevant emergency, someone should call 911 while someone else who is trained should use the AED.

PARISH LIFE

Trustees: Elaine & John McNutt
Religious Education (CCD) Coordinator: Mary Kelly, 609-605-2765 Email: mkelly4reled@gmail.com
Visitation of the Sick: Don't wait until you can't receive. Please call the Rectory if a parishioner is seriously ill and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, Confession, and Holy Communion.

Solemn Eucharistic Adoration:
Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Miraculous Medal Novena
Rosary
Quiet Time
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Every **Thursday** at 12 noon.
Adoration will be livestreamed.

The intentions are for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our families and a return to full health for the sick of our parish.

Attention:
To all prospective Godparents:
The Rectory requires a minimum of **6 weeks** notice to verify and provide certificates of eligibility. Please be mindful of the Baptismal date when asking for the certificate of eligibility.

A Prayer for our Priests as they exercise their ministry during this time of the Coronavirus COVID-19

Eternal God,
Be with our priests this day as they seek
to minister to your people.
May you be a guiding and protective presence with them
as they bring the consolation and hope of Your word
and the grace and nourishment of Eucharist
to those entrusted into their care.

Grant them the strength of mind and body,
keep them safe to do your will,
And give them the courage and peace
to face each day with trust and confidence in You.
Into your hands O God, we commend them;
fill them with your grace and healing.

Amen.

The deadline for receiving Bulletin information is Friday at 12PM. This is for the weekend of the following week. Holidays may alter the deadline. If you have a bulletin announcement, please email it to: carla.stmaryrectory@comcast.net Thank you. This will help facilitate prompt placement in the bulletin and on our social media pages.

Church Policy

Baptism: Held the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month following the 11:30 Mass. Class is held the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7PM in the Rectory. You **CANNOT** attend class until eligibility slips are received. Parents and Godparents must attend class.
Marriages: Arrangements must be made 1 year prior to marriage date. Please call the Rectory.
Policy for Certificates of Eligibility: In order to receive a certificate, **You (**Not your mother or father) must be a practicing Catholic, registered in the parish. If married, you must be married in the church. You must attend Mass regularly. Use of weekly offering envelopes will tell us you are attending regularly.

Prayer for the Spread of Perpetual Adoration

Heavenly Father, increase our faith in the Real Presence of Your Son Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.
We are obliged to adore Him, to give Him thanks and to make reparation for sins.
We need your peace in our hearts and among nations.
We need conversion from our sins and the mercy of Your forgiveness.
May we obtain this through prayer and our union with the Eucharistic Lord.
Please send down the Holy Spirit upon all peoples to give them the love, courage, strength and willingness to respond to the invitation to Eucharistic Adoration.
We beseech You to spread Perpetual Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament in parishes around the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Help us to spread the glory of Your Son through Perpetual Adoration.

Announcements

1. As the number of covid cases are spiking in Gloucester City, I need to remind you of the requirement to ***Wear your mask and wear it the correct way*** before, during and after Mass while you are in the Church. The proper way to wear your mask is covering your mouth and nose. ***It must be worn at all times; NO EXCEPTIONS!***

2. A Sincere Thank you to our great Knights of Columbus for taking up the collection at the corner intersection for the last months. The Knights will continue to take up the collection at the intersection of Atlantic and Monmouth Sts the First Sunday of each winter month; February, to April from 10:30 to 11:30 AM.

3. We now have new votive candles on the side Altars in honor of your loved ones. You cab have your candle intention reserved by stopping by the Parish Office. They will burn for 1 week for a donation of $10. Candles on the Blessed Mother's Altar are: Center for the Blessed Mother, left side for The Child Jesus, right side for St Francis of Assisi. Candles on the St Joseph's Altar are: Center for St Joseph, left side for St Anthony of Padua, right side for St Patrick.

4. The House of Charity Campaign began in the month of February. The theme is "Faces of Hope." Our Parish goal is $92,5000.. As of 3/5/21 we have raised $23,000 in donations. We will begin listing donors in the coming weeks.

5. Contribution Statements are available by ***Calling*** or ***Emailing*** the Mary House. Please give us several days notice to pull up and print your forms, please do not simply show up as we cannot print it while you wait. Thank you for your support to St Mary's.

6. Operation Rice Bowl began on Ash Wednesday. Please take a cardboard rice bowl with you as you leave Church. Fill it everyday with loose change and have your family members also share their loose change. Bring it to the Church on Easter Sunday with your Sacrificial Offering to change lives through Catholic Relief Services to feed the hungry. There is also a beautiful Lenten calendar enclosed with the Rice Bowl. St Mary's has been a recipient of the Rice Bowl Grant the past few years. Please be generous and help us support communities in need.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

In re The Diocese of Camden, New Jersey
Case No. 20-21257 (JNP)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on October 1, 2020, The Diocese of Camden, New Jersey, (the "Diocese") filed for protection under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code.

The Bankruptcy Court has established June 30, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the "Bar Date").

If you have a claim against the Diocese including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date with Prime Clerk, the appointed Claims Agent.

Please visit https://cases.primeclerk.com/camdendiocese or call 877-465-8420 (Toll-Free) or 347-817-4096 (Local) for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.

The following memorial donations were received by the Monsignor Edward B. Lucitt Needy Children's Christmas Fund

In memory of William P. Hutchinson from Jeanmarie and James Warrington

In memory of Joseph P. Driscoll, Jr. from William and Gail Stewart

In memory of Eleanor Loughery from John and Carol Iannello, Mary Catherine Schecter, Matthew and Kathleen Kuehn, John and Linda Plusch, Martin and Joanne O'Connor and Thomas and Shannon Bunting

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

When Our Own Hour Comes

We parents know that it's tricky, tackling the topic of fear with our kids. We want them to know that it's okay to be scared, that it's something we all feel from time to time. We want them to understand that bravery isn't the absence of fear, but the choices we make in persevering despite that feeling.

Most of all, we want to model the right kind of behavior for our kids. Whatever our scary situation is — illness, a job loss, life changes — we want them to see us make a choice to face that fear head-on.

Jesus seems to be the parent who is gently broaching the topic of fear with his children. A great sense of foreboding hangs over these readings. Jesus knew what was coming. He knew it was going to be hard, both for him and for his followers, who did not have his courage. Even he admits to being "troubled" and he speaks of "the time of judgment." There is the dramatic raising of Lazarus, the talk of how a grain of wheat must die in order to bear fruit, the depiction of Christ as an obedient student of his own suffering.

"Yet what should I say?" he asks them. "'Father, save me from this hour?' But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour."

This week, Christ gives us a very parental gift: He shows us his fear, and he shows us how to conquer it. He challenges us to embrace the purpose for which we came to this hour — whatever that hour may hold.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Legend of the Dogwood Tree
In Jesus' time, the dogwood grew
To a stately size and a lovely hue.
'Twas strong and firm its branches interwoven.
For the cross of Christ its timbers were chosen.
Seeing the distress at this use of their wood,
Christ made a promise which still holds good:
"Never again shall the dogwood grow
Large enough to be used so.
Slender and twisted, it shall be
With blossoms like the cross for all to see.
As blood stains the petals marked in brown
The blossom's center wears a thorny crown.
All who see it will remember Me
Crucified on a cross from the dogwood tree
Cherished and protected, this tree shall be
A reminder to all of My agony.

List of Local Food Banks

Helping Hand– 10-11 AM Every Friday
Crescent Mobile Park– 11 AM-1PM 0nce a month 3rd or 4th Thursday **For Residents only**
Lighthouse Baptist Church– 4-5:30 PM on 2nd & 4th Thursday each month
St Mary's– Daily lunch program 1-2 PM

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PASSION/PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021
Formerly this day was called Palm Sunday and it celebrates Christ's entrance into Jerusalem to accomplish our redemption. Masses follow our regular weekend schedule. Palm will be distributed after each Mass.
Masses on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week at 8:00 A.M.

SACRED TRIDUUM
HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021
(THERE IS NO MORNING MASS)
We celebrate today Christ's institution of the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist, the Priesthood. **THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** will begin at 7:00 P.M. The Eucharistic Procession and Adoration at the Altar of Repose, will follow the Mass. Adoration will end at 9:30 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021
MASS IS NOT CELEBRATED ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD TODAY
THE CHURCH IS OPEN ALL DAY
Commemoration of the **LORD'S PASSION** will begin at **3:00 P.M.** Holy Communion will be distributed at this service only. Today is a day of **FAST (18-59) and TOTAL ABSTINENCE** (No meat for those 14 and over). **STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 7:00 P.M.** Special collection for the Holy places in Holy Land at each service.

EASTER VIGIL, HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2021
THERE IS NO MORNING MASS TODAY
We must be ready for the Savior's coming so that we may share in the happiness of His Resurrection both in this life and in the life to come. **The EASTER VIGIL MASS will begin at 7:30 P.M. NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO 4:00 P.M. MASS THAT DAY.**

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021
Masses on EASTER SUNDAY will be 7:30 A.M., 9:30 A.M. & 11:30 A.M.

WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE AND ALLELUIA IS OUR SONG!

Helpers of God's precious infants N.J.

Confidential Help & Support Services
We care about you and your future

P: 856-207-6037 W: helpersNJ.org
Helpers Academy
138 N Broadway
Gloucester City, NJ 08030

Private Tours of Gloucester Catholic -for prospective students occur every day". If you would like to schedule a tour please email Mr. Tom Flynn at tflynn@gchsrams.org in the Admissions.

5th Annual Johnny Gaudreau Scholarship Golf Tournament Set for Friday, July 23

The Johnny Gaudreau Scholarship Golf Tournament will take place on Friday, July 23, 2021 at the Blue Heron Country Club in Egg Harbor, NJ and will provide families with financial need the opportunity to give their sons and daughters a Gloucester Catholic High School education. All proceeds directly fund scholarships and tuition assistance. For more information contact Pat Murphy pmurphy@gchsrams.org

The following students from your parish achieved honor roll status for the second marketing period:

Justina	DiFeterici
Jameson	Gorman
Erin	Walton
Genevieve	Driscoll
Brody	Driscoll
Michael	Garcia-Keenan
Anna	Kain
Megan	Kupiec
Tyler	Parker
Mary	Pearson
Thomas	Reinholt

The following students from your parish was inducted into the Marian Chapter of the National Honor Society

Justina	DiFeterici
Jameson	Gorman
Erin	Walton

FACES OF HOPE

The House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal seeks to raise funds to provide care, respect, justice, peace and dignity for every soul in the Diocese of Camden. We ask that you prayerfully consider how this annual program provides solace, support and grace to thousands of your brothers and sisters in Christ and give, generously, in support of the 2021 House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal.

Your support of the 2021 House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal ensures the vitality of essential Diocesan ministries and programs that sustain the healing, teaching and redemptive Presence of Jesus Christ through the Diocese of Camden.

Our Parish Goal is $92,500 of which we have collected almost $23,000 to date. Please help support the various programs that House of Charity supports.

Ms	Anne	M	Barron	
Mr & Mrs	John	J	Beckett	
Mr & Mrs	Tim		Blake	
Mr & Mrs	James		Braunwarth	
Mr & Mrs	Joseph		Brophy	
Mr & Mrs	Kenneth	A	Burkhardt	
Mr & Mrs	Stephen		Burkhardt	
Mr & Mrs	John	W	Callaghan	Sr
Mr & Mrs	Joseph	B	Collins	Jr
Mr & Mrs	Donald		Dantonio	
Mrs	Anne	M	Delengoski	
Mr & Mrs	James	J	Devereaux	
Ms	Martha	V	Dougherty	
Mr & Mrs	Thomas		Duffy	
Rev	James	J	Durkin	
Ms	Elizabeth		Epright	
Ms	Margaret	E	Ferry	
Mr	Brian		Fletcher	
Mrs	Eileen	M	Fletcher	
Mrs	Bernadette	M	Flinn	
Ms	Michelle		Formiglia-Colbert	
Mr & Mrs	Patrick		Gartland	
Mr & Mrs	Thomas	E	Gigante	
Mr & Mrs	Frank		Gorman	
Mr & Mrs	John	E	Green	III
Mr & Mrs	Michael	A	Grello	
Mr & Mrs	Stanley		Grieco	
Mrs	Patricia		Hagan	
Mr & Mrs	Ronald		Hall	
Mr & Mrs	Wayne		Hannold	
Mr	Frank		Heimerl	
Ms	Constance		Hill	
Rev Msgr	William	A	Hodge	
Mr & Mrs	David		Howey	
Mr & Mrs	James	E	Johnson	Sr
Mrs	Eleanor		Kain	
Mr & Mrs	John	E	Kain	
Mr	Joseph		Kain	
Rev	David	J	Klein	
Mr & Mrs	Joseph	J	Knecht	
Mr & Mrs	Michael		Krier	Sr
Mr & Mrs	Michael		Kwiatowski	
Mr & Mrs	William	F	Leeds	
Mr & Mrs	Charles		Light	
Deacon & Mrs	Dave	W	Murnane	Jr
Ms	Marie	C	Murphy	
Mr & Mrs	Michael		Murphy	
Mr & Mrs	Sean	T	Murphy	
Miss	Joan	M	Nolan	
Mr & Mrs	John		Nolan	
Ms	Theresa		Nolan	
Mr & Mrs	James		Parent	
Ms	Joanne	E	Pulaski	
Deacon & Mrs	Joseph	G	Rafferty	Sr
Mr	Charles		Reed	
Mr & Mrs	William	T	Ritchie	
Ms	Patricia	A	Snyder	
Mr & Mrs	Richard	A	Spangler	
Mr & Mrs	Walter		Stansfield	
Mr & Mrs	Thomas		Stewart	Jr
Mrs	Frances	M	Thomas	
Mr & Mrs	Joseph	J	Thomas	
Miss	Victoria		Tomshaw	
Miss	Catherine		Underwood	
Mrs	Florence	R	Underwood	
Ms	Frances	M	Underwood	
Mr	Paul	Michael	Underwood	
Miss	Rose	M	Underwood	
Mr & Mrs	Thomas		Underwood	
Mr & Mrs	Charles	W	Wigginton	
Mr & Mrs	Mark		Williams	
Mr & Mrs	Joseph	F	Wolf	

Parishioners will be kept on the sick list for 6 weeks. If you have a chronic illness and would like to be left on the list, please alert staff when you call to be placed on the list. **New additions will be in bold.**

Those who are sick:

Anetta & Hugo Adorno
Sophia McKeown
Martin Roach
Edward Cowgill Sr
Claire Dunn
Olive Driscoll
Eva Christ
Joan Villanova
Billy Gormley
Bob Glassman
Bob Ludwick
Robert Kotter
Joe Piscopio
Brooke Conklin
Charles Bruccoliere
Maryann Liebrand
Krista Mora
John Greene III
Denise Glassman
Grace Cooney
Michael Greene Jr
Ronald Michel
Eleanor Kain
Dominic Abate
Donna Musick
Florence Sweeten
Carol Samsanavicius
Frank Angeloni Sr.
George Springer
Grace Piscopio
Jack Heiser
James E Millier
Jillian DePoder
Cindy Dolson
Joe Flinn
John Battersby
Marge Saunders
Annette Pecina
Samantha Boulden
JOHNNY MCDEVITT
JORDAN NEFF
Joseph Carlino Sr
Ronnie Convey
KELLI CLINE-PERRONE
Marion Hakanson
Linda & Tom Ryan
Jack Stucliffe
Linda White Locker
Lynne Jergensen
Baby Colton McClain
Marie "Franny" Spencer
Marion Scalzo
Mary Lou & Bill Adams
Mike Murphy
Nicholas Mecchione
Elsie Cowgill
Bobby Leap
Mike Battersby
Rich Notis
Judy McGrath
Selma Toal
Sr Nora Foley
Stephanie Wenstrom
Theresa Gorman
THERESA SAUTER
Carolyn Foyle
Tracy Panno
Troy Lail
Vickie Virden
Wayne Bradlock
WILLIAM KELLY
William Livengood
Winifred Settar
Richard & Pat Schwarz
Tom Pierman
Harry “Chris” Brown

Those Serving in the Military:

Please contact the Rectory to have your loved one who is currently serving added to our list.

Colin Ward, Marine
Johnathan T Brown, Navy
John (Jack) Sullivan, US Air Force
JacquelineMyers-Barton, US Army
AJ Parent, US Coast Guard

Please remember Saint Mary in your Will. Your legacy will insure our continuance for generations to come. May our Dear Lord and His Blessed Mother Bring you much Happiness. Msgr Hodge

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them O Lord

Those Newly Baptized:

Classes have been moved to 420 Monmouth St, the new Parish Office Building.

St Patrick

THE APOSTLE OF IRELAND

The "Apostle of Ireland"

The man who would come to be known as St. Patrick the "Apostle of Ireland" was likely born in Britain around A.D. 387. Although much of his life is unknown to historians, some sources have listed his birth name as Maewyn Succat, with the name Patrick taken on later in life.

Slavery

When Patrick was 16 years old, he was captured by Irish pirates who brought him to Ireland. He was sold into slavery where his job was tending sheep.

Patrick came to view his enslavement as God's test of his faith. During his six years of captivity he became devoted to Christianity through constant prayer and became passionate about converting the Irish from Druidism (a pagan sect).

Freedom & Religious Calling

Around the year 408 Patrick fled his master and convinced a ship's captain to help him make his escape. After being shipwrecked and a month lost wondering the wilderness he finally reunited with his family.

In Auxerre, France, Patrick entered the priesthood under the guidance of St. Germain and ordained a deacon by the Bishop of Auxerre around 418. Years later he was ordained as a bishop and was sent by Pope Celestine I to Ireland to spread the gospel.

Missionary Work

Upon his arrival in Ireland, Patrick spread Christian teachings through preaching, writing and performing baptisms. In addition he helped fortify the church structure by creating councils, founding monasteries and organizing Ireland into dioceses.

Death & Legacy

Patrick died around the year 461 in Saul, Ireland, on what is believed to be March 17th. St. Patrick is recognized as the patron saint of Ireland, and his writings, noted for their humble voice, include the autobiographical *Confessio* and *Letter to Coroticus*.

Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated inside and outside Ireland as a religious and cultural holiday. In the dioceses of Ireland, it is both a solemnity and a holy day of obligation; it is also a celebration of Ireland itself.

St Patrick's Blue

Should we be wearing blue on St. Patrick's Day?

The original color associated with St. Patrick's Day was actually blue. Back in the 7th century, St. Patrick's Day was a religious holiday celebrated only in Ireland. Early depictions of St. Patrick show him wearing blue, and the official color of the Order of St. Patrick, part of Ireland's chivalry, was a sky blue known as "St. Patrick's Blue." So how did the feast day of the patron saint of Ireland become associated with green?

The use of green on St. Patrick's Day began during the 1798 Irish Rebellion, when the clover became a symbol of nationalism and the "wearing of the green" on lapels became regular practice. The green soon spread to uniforms as well. That evolution, combined with the idea of Ireland's lush green fields (The Emerald Isle), and St Patrick's legendary affinity for shamrocks eventually made blue a thing of the past.

More on St. Patrick

- Although **St. Patrick** is the patron saint of Ireland, he was actually **born in Britain**. His parents Calpurnius and Conchessa were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.

- Miracles attributed to **St. Patrick** include the driving of snakes out of Ireland. However, fossil evidence suggests Ireland has been **snakeless** since the ice age because of its climate. The snakes mentioned in legend are believed to be symbols for the pagan religions that St Patrick was trying to eliminate.

- Legend credits **St. Patrick** with teaching the Irish about the doctrine of the **Holy Trinity** by using the native three-leafed **shamrock**. The shamrock has since become a central symbol for Saint Patrick's Day

- St. Patrick was **never canonized** by a pope. In the Church's first millennium, there wasn't a formal canonization process, so most saints from that period were declared saints on a local level by the Bishop or by popular appeal. By the time the formal canonization process we know today came about St. Patrick was already renowned as a Saint so there was no need for the process.

St. Patrick's Breastplate

St. Patrick's Breastplate, a Prayer of Protection, is a popular prayer attributed to St. Patrick. According to tradition, St. Patrick wrote it in A.D. 433 for divine protection before successfully converting the Irish King Leoghaire and his subjects from paganism to Christianity. (The term *breastplate* refers to armor worn in battle.) The version printed here is popular on many prayer cards.

I arise today through
God's strength to pilot me,
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to see before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's host to secure me—
against snares of devils,
against temptations and vices,
against inclinations of nature,
against everyone who shall wish me
ill, afar and anear,
alone and in a crowd.
Christ, be with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right,
Christ on my left,
Christ where I lie,
Christ where I sit,
Christ where I arise,
Christ in the heart
of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth
of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.
Salvation is of the Lord.
Salvation is of the Christ.
May your salvation,
O Lord, be ever with us. *Amen*

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