

Saint Mary's Parish Bulletin

St. Mary's is a Stewardship Parish, comprised of the faith-filled communities of St. Mary's Church and St. James Chapel. Together, we are devoted to the spreading of the Gospel message of Jesus Christ through deeds, prayer and the sacrificial giving of our Time, our Talent and our Treasure.



St. James Chapel - 2079 Matunuck School House Rd
Charlestown, RI 02813

St. Mary's Church - 437 Carolina Back Road Carolina, RI 02812
mailing address for St. Mary's Church & St. James Chapel is P.O. Box 475, Carolina RI 02812

PARISH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Paul Desmarais
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. John F. Heaney
Deacon Assistant	Rev. Mr. Ray Castaldi
Pastoral Associate	Sally Lambert 401-213-6276
Parish Manager	Greg Plunkett 401-322-1576
Parish Accountant	Brenda DeMerchant
Office Secretary	Dolly Theroux
Parish Main. Supervisor	Nathan Dipietro

Telephone Numbers

St. Mary's Parish & Rectory	(401) 364-7214
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	(401) 364-9413

St. Mary's Parish Website & email Address
www.stmjparish.org dolly@stmjparish.org
gplunkett@stmjparish.org

Sacraments

Baptisms	Third Sunday of every month. Please call rectory in advance.
Marriage	Please call Fr. Paul at least one year in advance.
Priesthood	Please call the Office of Vocations (401) 831-8011

MASS SCHEDULE

St. Mary's Church

Saturdays	4:00pm
Sunday	8:30 am
Holy Day of Obligation	7:00pm
Confessions - Saturdays	3:15pm to 3:45pm

St. James Chapel

Saturdays	5:30pm
Sundays	10:00am
Monday - Friday	8:30am
Holy Day of Obligation	8:30am

Summer Weekend Schedule (Effective Memorial Day thru Labor Day)

Sat-St. Mary's	4:00 pm
Sat-St. James	5:30 pm
Sun-St. James	8:00am, 9:30 am

Rosary:

Monday thru Friday	8:00am
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Confessions:

Saturdays	4:45pm to 5:15pm
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Adoration: Mary, Mother of Mercy Eucharistic Chapel

Monday & Tuesday	9:00 am-6:00pm
Wednesday	7:00 am-6:00 pm
First Friday	9:00—5:00 pm
First Saturday	7:00am—8:00 am

Healing Mass second Sunday of the month

Sept-June	2:00 pm
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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT—FEBRUARY 28, 2021



Saturday, February 27 and 28
10:00 am—St. James—
Dr. Donato Palermino

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEKEND
Saturday, March 6, 2021
St. Mary's/St. James—None

Sunday, March 7, 2012
St. Mary's/St. James—None

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES -
ENGAGE PARISHIONERS IN DAILY MASS
AND PRAYER

Readings for the week of February 28, 2021

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps
116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2
-10
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf.
103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17,
21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16
[17b]/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6
[40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps
105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4,
9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps
19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22
-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1
-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn
4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Observances for the week of February 28, 2021

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent
Monday:
Tuesday:
Wednesday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Thursday: St. Casimir
Friday:
Saturday:
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

February 28, 2021
2nd Sunday of Lent

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, "You are absolutely beaming!" The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn't mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald's and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new "digs," received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you're really "into it" this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it's only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God's call. Then, there is God's request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen.

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Are you listening to your God?
Are you answering His call?
He is trying to get your attention?
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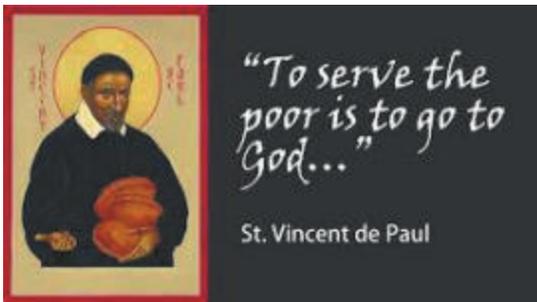


Turn to the One who offers us unconditional Love and Mercy.

When we help the poor of health, poor of spirit, as well as poor monetarily, we are truly followers of Jesus, who is servant of the poor.

Clothing, food, financial aid, yes,
but have you also considered Friendship?

Mother Teresa says, "I want you to be concerned about your next door neighbor. Do you know your next door neighbor?"

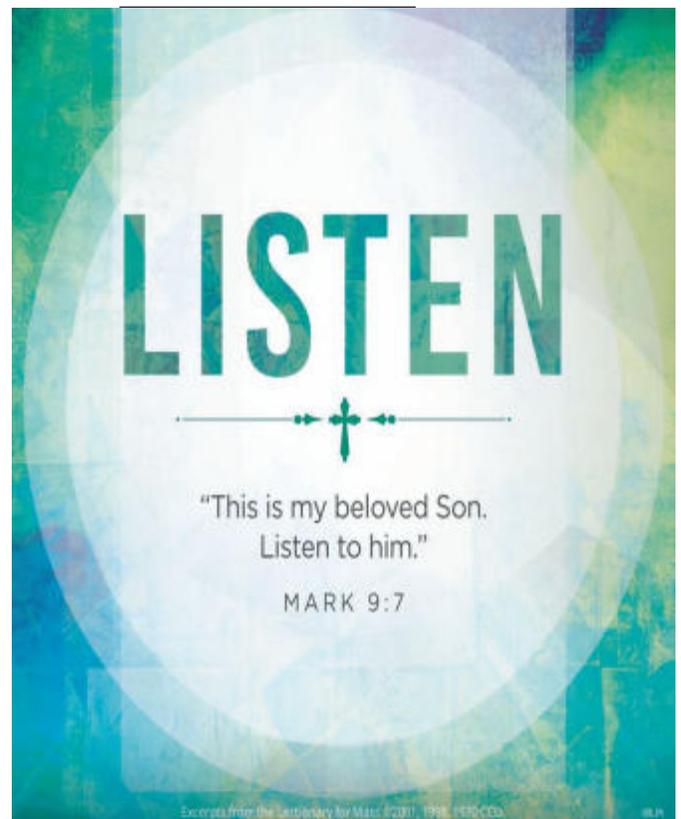


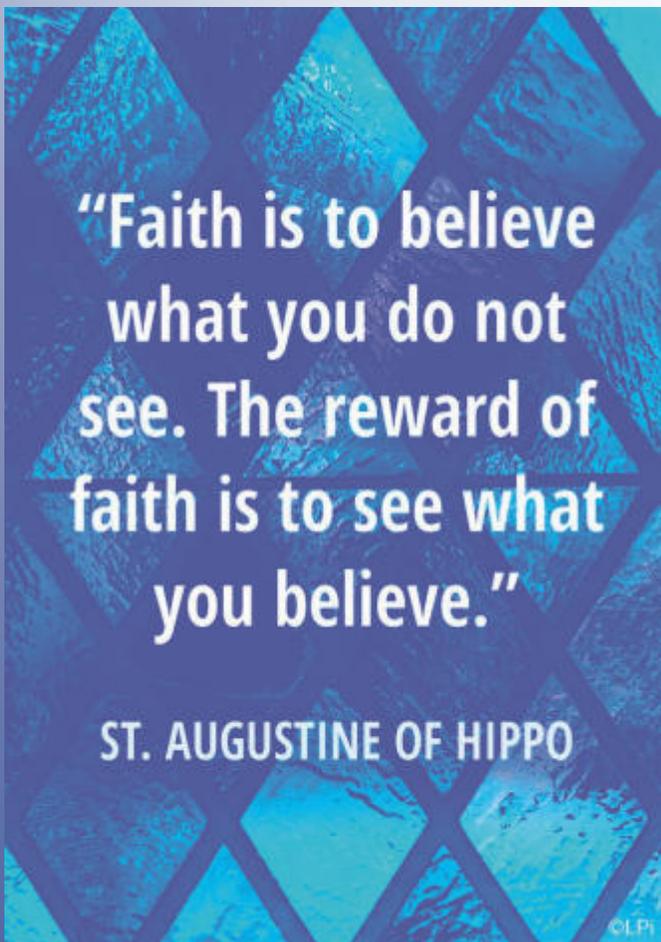
HELP LINE – 401-364-9413 CALL US IN YOUR NEED!

FROM THE PASTOR

Today's Gospel is the Transfiguration of Our Lord. Jesus shows three of his apostles his glory. He is telling them that his strength, power and glory will be with them always. When they deny him, abandon him, and betray him, he is still at their side. Jesus knew their shortcomings and faults, he comes to show his glory to offer them hope and encouragement. As we enter into this Lenten season during COVID, his healing, loving presence is at our side. His glory and love are greater than their sinfulness and weakness. He walks into where his disciples are in hiding and says to them: "Peace be with you."

This is what is offered to us now as we face the uncertainty of each day. It seems ironic that St. Paul writes, "If God is for us who can be against us." St. Paul himself was at one time against Jesus and Christians, but mercy was greater than his sinfulness, when things seem hopeless Our Lord intercedes for us on our behalf to God his Father.





Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of our parish, I would like to thank you for the generosity and flexibility you have demonstrated as we continue to provide safe ways in which we can worship the Lord here at our church.

Please know that the guidelines enacted to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 have worked. The spread of COVID-19 has not been traced to any Catholic church in the State of Rhode Island. This reflects your willingness to follow safe protocols in order to protect fellow parishioners and our community at large. I am grateful.

- (1) Please come to Mass wearing a mask and continue to sanitize your hands.
- (2) If you are sick—even with the mildest of symptoms—you must stay home. We continue to live-stream the Masses for this purpose.
- (3) This is important: **please do not congregate in the church or outside**, and always maintain distance of at least six feet between others when you are entering or exiting the church. In some churches, parishioners sometimes exit at the same time and congregate in large groups outside. This is understandable. After all, we all need community. But this unfortunately defeats the purpose of keeping our distance to ensure everyone is safe.

Thank you for understanding the importance of these guidelines during this critical time. I am confident that with prayer, and the Lord's unfailing help, we will get through this together. After all, God is in charge.



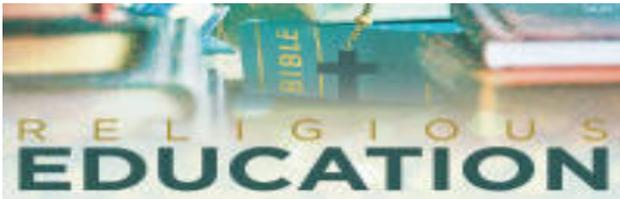
BUDGET REQUIRED - \$6,597.00

Budget collection received:

February 16, 2021—\$4642.00

Other— \$482.00

Second collection next weekend is the Fuel and Energy for the month of March. Thank you for your continued support.



We will hopefully be offering in-person classes in March. Details to follow.



ADORATION CHAPEL

Friday, March 5th is First Friday.
Adoration will be in the main chapel
from 9am -5pm.

Please join us to honor the Sacred Heart
of Jesus.



2021 USCCB Pro-Life Theme

“Live the Gospel of Life”...”to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps.”

Think about praying for an unborn baby and their families. Every day 4000 babies are killed by abortion. They have so little protection only the hand of God can end this. Prayer is the best weapon to help them. .the most effective. Say this prayer for nine months to save a baby’s life.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much, I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion.

.BEING PRO-LIFE is:

- believing that a baby's life is a gift that should be cherished.
- believing that a mother is a precious human life with value and dignity.
- believing that all human life belongs only to the Creator who gave us life.
- believing that all life is God's to give and take .

“A woman who had an abortion met Padre Pio. She said, “I never knew abortion was a sin.” What do you mean, you didn’t know it was a sin? That’s killing... it’s a sin, it’s a great sin.” Padre Pio

-Respect Life Rose for the week of Feb. 28th is for Catherine Hartigan.

-40 Days for Life Lenten Vigil, Feb. 17th- Mar. 28th (St. Mary’s Parish registered for the Fridays of the vigil at 10am in front of Planned Parenthood, Providence
-Parishioners at St. Mary’s Church who wish to place a name on the weekly rose dedication, please e mail me the name a week before.

For Respect Life news and events in the area and diocese, please check out the ministry’s Facebook page at St. Mary’s Respect Life Ministry, the Respect life table at the back of the churches and ministry email address is Respectlife@stmj.org. [sign up for emails](#)



Change in the Mass Schedule

Due to the changing attendance at Mass during the past several weeks, there will be a change in weekend Mass times beginning the weekend of January 23-24, 2021. We are returning to the more traditional schedule we have had for the winter months.

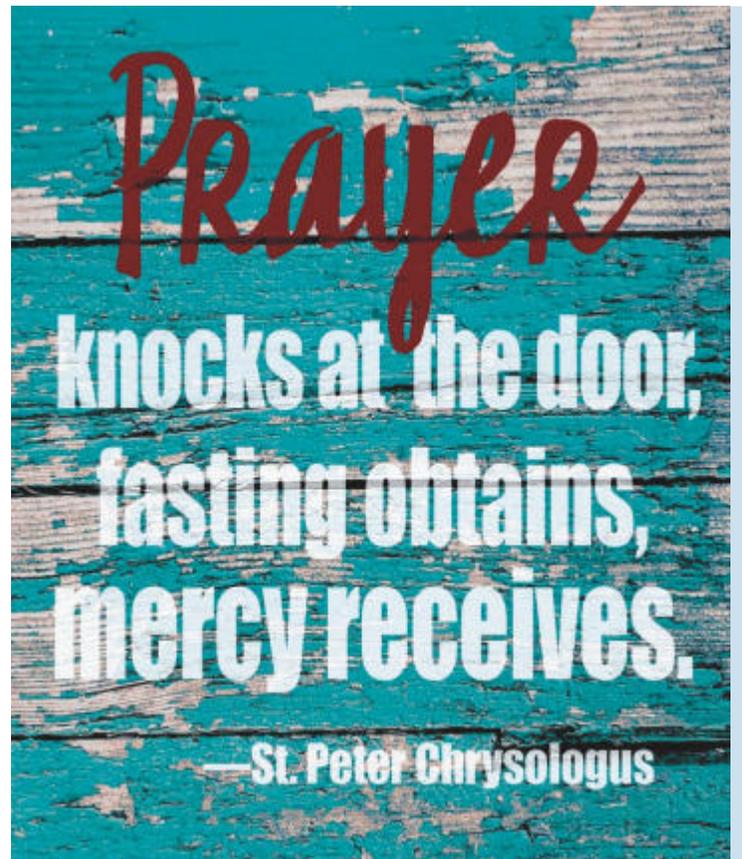
Mass on Saturday evening will remain the same:

4:00PM at St Mary's Church
And
5:30PM at St James

On Sunday Mass will be:

8:30AM at St Mary's Church
And
10:00AM at St James Chapel

The 10:00 AM Mass will be streamed, live over the internet and the Parish Center will be open to accommodate any overflow from the Chapel. This schedule will hopefully carry us through the spring. However, additional restrictions imposed by the State due to health concerns caused by Covid-19 may necessitate further changes. Thank you for your patience and support during these difficult times.



St. Francis of Assisi parish in Wakefield will hold its annual Lenten mission Monday through Wednesday, March 8, 9 and 10. Father John Unsworth, the pastor emeritus of St. Bernard's in Wickford, will preach on the theme of "journeying in place during the ongoing pandemic." If we cannot go on pilgrimage, can we make a virtual pilgrimage based on scripture? Fr. Unsworth will hear confessions from 6-6:45 each evening and celebrate Mass and preach at 7 p.m.



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