



St. Mary of the *Assumption* Roman Catholic Church

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2022

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." Matthew 2:2

**1 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086
stmarysonthehill.org**

Rectory Phone (716) 683-6445
Rectory Fax (716) 684-8446
Rectory Hours Weekdays: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
School Phone (716) 683-2112
School Website smeschool.com
Faith Formation (716) 683-8564
Cemetery (716) 601-0305

Masses

Saturday: 4:30 & 7 p.m.
Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 12 Noon
Weekdays: 12 Noon
All Masses are celebrated in Church.

Live Streamed Masses:

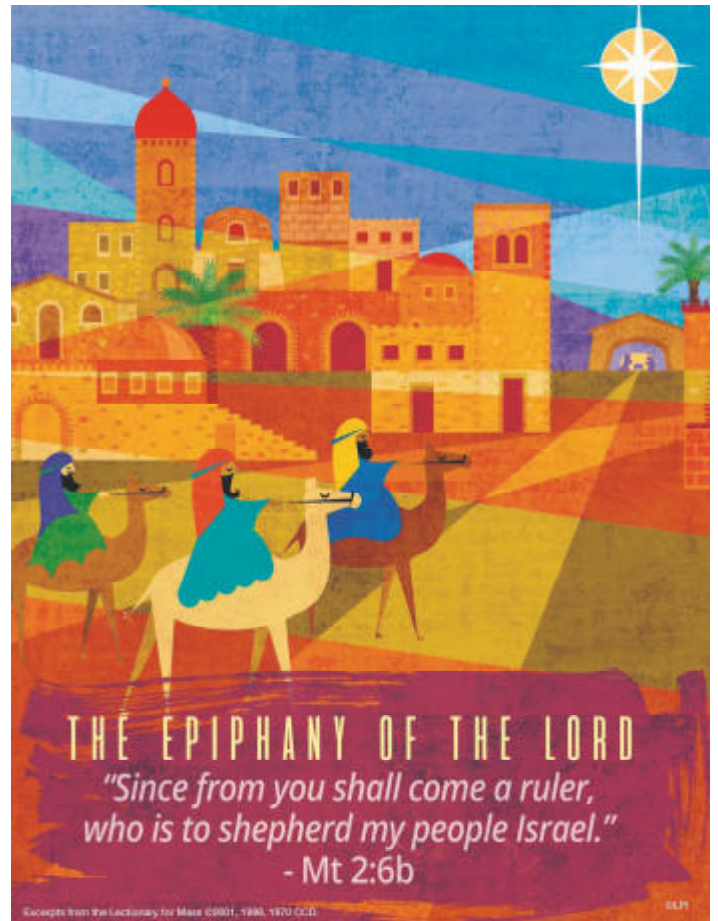
Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m.
Weekdays: 12 Noon

Confessions

Saturday 3:30 - 4 p.m. or by appointment
Regional Penance Services during Advent & Lent

Parish Registration

We welcome new parishioners to St. Mary's!
Registration may be made by phone or in person.



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

*"Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel."*

- Mt 2:6b

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6/19

Readings for This Week

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/
Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4,
24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Financial Report

12/19/21

Regular	\$ 5,375.60
CPL	\$ 5,020.78
Hunger Bowl	\$ 3,406.00
Christmas	\$ 51.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 100.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 5.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 310.00
TOTAL	\$ 14,268.38

Masses for the Week

Monday—January 3—Christmas Weekday—Holy Name of Jesus
12:00 p.m. Elizabeth Everett
(Frank Weidman and Family)

Tuesday—January 4—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
12:00 p.m. John Schaefer
(Anniversary of Passing from Family)

Wednesday—January 5—St. John Neumann, Bishop
12:00 p.m. Peggy Bunyak (Cynthia & David Carter)

**Thursday—January 6—Christmas Weekday—
St. Andre Bessette, Religious**
12:00 p.m. All Souls

**Friday—January 7—Christmas Weekday—First Friday—
St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest**
12:00 p.m. Leo & Barbara Knauber (Knauber Family)
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday—January 8—Christmas Weekday
4:30 p.m. Floyd Adolf (Dan & Rita Clark)
7:00 p.m. Edward & Frances Calkins (Family)

Sunday—January 9—Baptism of the Lord
8:00 a.m. Ann Ciszewski (Roger & Rosanne Faulhaber)
10:00 a.m. Paul Streit (Dorothy & Ron Adamczak)
12:00 p.m. Ruth Monin (Donald & Mildred Gorenflo)

A Vocation View

The Epiphany of the Lord – January 2, 2022

The greatest gift we can place before the newborn Jesus is the gift of our life's work. What is He calling you to accomplish in your life? If God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

Mark Your Calendar: 2022 Parish Mission

Dr. Edward Sri will present a two-day parish mission entitled *Living Lent* on Tuesday, March 15 and Wednesday, March 16 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. As in previous years, the Lenten mission will be co-sponsored by St. Mary's, Our Lady of Pompeii, St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta and St. Martha parishes. The 2022 mission will be held at St. Martha Church, 10 French Road, Depew. *Watch for more information!*



Ablaze Young Adult Ministry

Ablaze is looking for young adults to help build this new, vibrant ministry. Young adults in their 20s and 30s who are interested in joining the ministry team to help plan and participate in events should contact Jennifer Gaglione at jakaite1@gmail.com or 716-480-0510. Or reach out through Facebook or Instagram: **@AblazeBuffaloNY**

***Let's Talk About...* Epiphany**



Question:

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

Answer:

Epiphany means “manifestation,” or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew’s infancy narrative differs from Luke’s account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph’s long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?

©LPi

A Prayer for Renewal

In every age, O God, you have called us to be your people, to be your Church.

In this time, we begin anew to discern the pathways that will lead us, your people, closer to you.

Continually Bless our journey as we proclaim your Good News, celebrate your saving presence among us, serve others with charity and justice, and steward the world you have entrusted to our care.

Send your Spirit to lead and guide our Emmaus journey as we commit ourselves to the renewal of our Church. This we ask through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sale of Card Holders Benefits Parish

Hand-crafted solid wood card holders made from old St. Mary’s Church pews are available for purchase at the Rectory during regular business hours – while supplies last. The antique oak card holders are priced at \$15, with all proceeds going to our parish. Special thanks to parishioner Dave Wienckowski for his talented work in making them. And thanks to our parishioners for your support!

*Wise
Men
Still
Seek Him*



Saturday K-5 Classes: 1/8, 1/22
Sunday High School Classes: 1/9, 1/23
Monday Middle School Classes: 1/10, 1/24

Happy New Year! We hope everyone has been enjoying a blessed and relaxing holiday break. Please pray for our First Reconciliation students as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament in February. We look forward to seeing everyone when Faith Formation classes resume next weekend.

Thank You for Supporting St. Mary's! **12 Days of Christmas Raffle Sale Closed Dec. 17**

Thank you to all who supported this new fundraiser! Daily Cash prizes will be awarded from Saturday, December 25 through Wednesday, January 5, 2022. Winners will be contacted after January 5.

For more information, email Jennifersparmo@gmail.com or call (716) 713-0719.

Calendar Club 2022 Closed Dec. 31

Thank you to all who supported our 2nd annual Calendar Club! All winning checks will be mailed out the first week of the month for the previous month, beginning in February (for January). Winning numbers will also be posted on our website and in the bulletin.

For more information, email jesskulpit@gmail.com.

Scrip News

Support St. Mary's with Scrip! Shop from available inventory in the Rectory, Monday-Friday between 9:00-4:00. A percentage of every sale comes back to St. Mary's! Consider all the places that you normally shop, including Tops groceries and gas, prescriptions, coffee breaks, and more! Cash or checks accepted.

We thank you for your support throughout the year! Questions?

Call (716) 683-6445, Ext. 12, or email: scrip@smeschool.com



A Message From Catholic Charities

Happy New Year! Is giving back on your to-do list for 2022? If so, consider becoming a Catholic Charities volunteer. View all current opportunities at www.ccwny.org and become a beacon of HOPE right here in Western New York. Thank you for your support throughout the year! Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. If someone you know needs help, go to www.ccwny.org or call our Helpline at 716-218-1419.

New St. Mary's Blog **L.I.F.E. ~ Living in Faith Everyday**

Life throws a lot at us. As Catholics, we strive to live our faith out loud everyday, but we all face challenges. Our busy lives often leave us tired, stressed, and tempted. With our new blog, the St. Mary's parish family hopes to equip our faith community to live in faith everyday with articles, devotionals, and testimonies.

Visit the St. Mary's website to read our first post,

Spiritual Fitness in the New Year.

Bible Study

Catholic Podcast from Fr. Mike Schmitz Takes Listeners Through the Entire Bible in a Year



“

As cradle Catholics, we heard Scripture at Mass and occasionally in self study but never like this. This *Bible in a Year* brings it all together.
— *Ignacio G.*

I have never in my life have gotten so far in the Bible as I am with this podcast. I actually plan on repeating again next year. I love *Bible in a Year*. Such a blessing! — *Vanessa W.*

”



Start Listening!

iPhone/iPad - scan this QR code to listen now on Apple Podcasts

All Devices - listen now on all major podcast platforms and YouTube by simply searching “The Bible in a Year”

Listen on your own or with friends or family!

Those interested in joining a discussion group and journeying through this podcast together may contact Therese Milkowski at 716-473-6003 or raymilkowski@gmail.com.



Volunteers Needed For Live Streaming

Additional volunteers are needed to assist with live streaming Masses at St. Mary's. This can be done at Church and possibly from home in the future, with minimal training and time commitment. If you can help, please call the Rectory at (716) 683-6445. *Thank you!*

Meditation & Yoga as Christian Spiritual Practice

St. Mary's next Meditation & Yoga as Christian Spiritual Practice class will be held this Tuesday, January 4 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Parish Center. Safe distancing will be maintained. Classes are free of charge; however, donations will be accepted. Please bring your own mat. For more information, please contact Jane Schmitt at Janeschmitt@hotmail.com or (716) 984-6282.

Around the Area

- **Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish**, 496 Terrace Boulevard, Depew, invites everyone to attend its **Eucharistic Holy Hour** every Tuesday from 7 to 8 p.m., with Deacon John Hendricks presiding.
- **Our Lady of Pompeii Parish**, 129 Laverack Avenue, Lancaster, will hold its free monthly **Faith Enrichment Series** tomorrow, Monday, January 3 from 7 to 8 p.m. Seminarian C.J. Wild will present **CALLED TO SERVE: Reflections on Christian Leadership**. For more information, visit olpparish.com or call (716) 683-6522.
- **UB North Newman Center**, 495 Skiddersville Road., Amherst, will host an Annulment Workshop on Saturday, February 5 from 9 to 11 a.m. The session will include information on the recent changes in the annulment process and step-by-step help in getting started. A nominal registration fee will cover the cost of materials. For additional information, contact Barbara at 716-633-7786 or BJWTR@aol.com. Walk-ins are welcome.



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Eddie Krajewski, Joan Pomietlarz, Stephanie Merenda, Rose Marie Nowak, Tracey Rogowski, Richard Marr, Judith Zielinski, Robert Nye, Joseph Scandurra, Richard Zielinski, Tammy Bosse Phillips, John Netter, Christine Zgoda, Molly Fleischman, Chris Nicastro, Thomas Barniak, Jennifer LaValley, John Zbock, Mary Peterson, Bob Lipiarz, Lisa Schmidt, Virginia Nowak, Mark Antonio, Sr., M. Margaret Benz, Erik Slimko, Leigh Szablewski, Stephen Czaplá, Kathleen Slawatycki, Thomas Kostek, Mario Petrosky, Alice Ann Ott, Sandra Lisowski, Jim Doherty, Samuel Suzano, Robert Stevens, Robert Niznansky, Monica Niznansky, Mark Niewiemski, Sr., Linda Rugani, Patricia Singleton, Shirley Rinow, Augusta Stefano, Erin Heerd, Tim Bosse, Charles Friedmann, Barb Kegler, Tracy Martell, Robert Knauber, Gertrude Hauserman, Matthew Schmidt, David Hake, Carole Olejniczak, Rosemary Schmitt, Arlene Jason, Ruth Wunner, Suzanne Notarpole, and Bill Anstett.

Please Pray for Those in the Armed Forces...

Raymond Herr, Jeremiah & Rebecca Herr (Air Force), Robert Napper (Navy), LTC Evelyn Vento, M.D. (Army), Christopher Pfeil, Jr. (Air Force), Chief Fireman William Noll (Coast Guard), Capt. Kelly Lelito (Army), Patrick Brotka (Navy), Capt. Thomas Derion (Army), Col. David J. Roll (Air Force), LCPL Anthony Celano (Marines), Anthony Celani, Jr., Maj. Jeffrey Buczak (Army), Lance Corporal Stephen St. George (Marines), Msgt. Mark T. Braun (Marines), PV2 Jacob C. White (Army), Maj. Geoff Guinnup (Army), Matthew Banach (Air Force), Capt. Robert Gold (Army), Capt. Daniel Warner (Army), Capt. Joshua T. Mertzluft (Air Force), Sgt. Gregory Glauber (Army), Capt. Ethan Rugani (Army), Capt. Benjamin Geblein (Army), Capt. Matthew A. Keysa (Army), Lt. Jacob Concannon (Air Force), MC3 Joseph Calabrese (Navy), AMAA Vincent DiJoseph (Navy), Lt. Marcus Knoll (Navy), and MA1 Mitchell Cayea (Navy).

Staff

Pastor	Rev. Paul W. Steller	ext. 17	paul@stmarysonthehill.org
Weekend Associate	Rev. Msgr. Frederick D. Leising		
Permanent Deacon	Deacon John Owczarczak		john@stmarysonthehill.org
Business Manager	Robert E. Over	ext. 36	bob@stmarysonthehill.org
Cemetery Director	Daniel E. Rinow	ext. 34	danny@stmarysonthehill.org
Director of Music	Andrea Ross	330-9182	andrea@stmarysonthehill.org
Director of Faith Formation	Becky Hoag	683-8564	becky@stmarysonthehill.org
Faith Formation Coordinator	Kaitlin Scirri	683-8564	kaitlin@stmarysonthehill.org
Communications Coordinator	Kaitlin Scirri	683-6445 ext. 24	kaitlin@stmarysonthehill.org
Events Coordinator	Mary Kate DeMarzio	ext. 12	marykate@stmarysonthehill.org
Parish Bookkeeper	Heather Pierce	ext. 14	heather@stmarysonthehill.org
Parish Secretary	Carol Kwandrans	ext. 10	carol@stmarysonthehill.org
Parish Trustees	Christina Pietrantonio, Dan Stoiber		
School Principal	Kim Kwitowski	683-2112 (ext. 124)	kwitowskik@smeschool.com

Ministries and Parish Outreach

Ablaze Young Adult Ministry	Jennifer Gaglione	480-0510	Ladies of Charity	Holly Walter	656-9583
Altar Society	Gertrude Wolski	683-0593	Liturgy	Joe Kugler	681-5448
Archiving	Rectory	683-6445	Liturgy Environment	Elaine Driscoll	683-8611
Baptism Preparation	Rectory	683-6445	Marriage Rehearsals	Deacon John Owczarczak	683-3269
Before Cana Marriage Prep	Deacon John Owczarczak	683-3269	Meditation & Yoga	Jane Schmitt	984-6282
Bereavement	Marilyn Streit	684-9864	Ministry of Praise	Rectory	683-6445
Care of the Soul Book Club	Diane Knittel	601-7860	Music	Andrea Ross	330-9182
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon John Owczarczak	683-3269	Outreach Coordinator	Holly Walter	656-9583
Evangelization	Holly Walter	656-9583	Prayer Shawls	Patricia Kedzierski	681-2284
Faith Formation	Becky Hoag	683-8564	Prison Ministry	Jack Thielmann	684-5777
Finance Council	Dan Stoiber	683-6445	R.C.I.A.	Mary Nowak	681-4145
Food Baskets	Elaine Driscoll	683-8611	Respect Life	Deacon John Owczarczak	683-3269
Funeral Breakfasts	Josie Wienckowski	683-4749	SME School	Kim Kwitowski	683-2112
Greeters	Paula Clarone	685-9356	Social Justice Ministry	Holly Walter	656-9583
Hospitality	Elaine Driscoll	683-8611	St. Vincent de Paul	Jim Snyder	395-5677
Junior Ladies Of Charity	Marian Snyder	681-2957	Ushers	Harold Knittel	260-0911
Knights of Columbus	Rectory	683-6445	WINGS (Women's Bible Study)	Kim Dobiesz	683-6445

Parish Registration

St. Mary's welcomes new parishioners at anytime. Please call the Rectory or register in person.

Baptism

Parishioners are asked to contact the Rectory before the birth of a child and to participate in a program of preparation for the celebration of Baptism. Baptisms are celebrated the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 1:15 p.m. or during any weekend Mass. A godparent should be a practicing Catholic and must obtain a Letter of Recommendation from his or her own parish. Please call the Rectory for details and registration.

Confessions

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered on Saturdays from 3:30 to 4 p.m. or by appointment, by calling the Rectory. Area Penance Services are offered during Advent and Lent.

Marriages

Before a wedding date is scheduled, arrangements must be made with the pastor at least six months in advance. Weddings may be scheduled anytime after 3:00 p.m. on Fridays and before 1:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Throwing of rice, birdseed, confetti, etc. is prohibited.

Ministry to the Sick

Mass with the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be held the third Sundays of May and November at 3:00 p.m. in the Church. Due to COVID restrictions,

we have paused taking Communion to parishioners at home. Please notify the Rectory when a parishioner is admitted to a hospital or nursing home.

Bulletin Announcements

Bulletin Editor: Kaitlin Scirri
Email materials to kaitlin@stmarysonthehill.org at least nine days before the date of the bulletin in which they are to appear. Please allow extra time during holidays.

Low Gluten Hosts

Hosts with .01% gluten content are available at Masses. Please advise the priest just prior to each Mass that you will need this host, and receive from that priest, who is aware of the condition.

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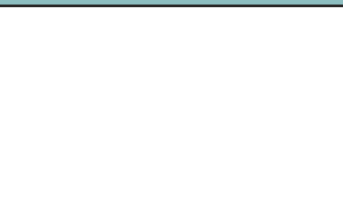
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