

St. Mary of the Assumption

Part of the



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 30, 2023

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."
(Matthew 13:44)

**1 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086
stmarysonthehill.org
Social Media: @SMALancaster**

Masses

Saturday: 7 p.m. in Church
Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 12 Noon in Church
Weekdays: 12 Noon in Chapel

Live Streamed Masses

Sunday: 10 a.m.
Weekdays: 12 Noon

Confessions

Saturday 6 - 6:30 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.

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



The St. Mary's Junior Ladies of Charity wish to thank all who stopped by their bake sale the weekend of July 15th and 16th. The sale was a huge success, and due to your generosity and support the ladies will be able to help those in need in our local community. New members in grades 6-12 are always welcome! For more information, please contact Marian Snyder (716) 681-2957.

Readings for This Week

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 (97a)/Rom 8:28-30/
Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/
2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9
Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46



WE ARE HIRING COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

PRIMARY DUTIES INCLUDE BULLETIN EDITOR, WEBSITE MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL MEDIA POSTING FOR ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH

SEND RESUME TO: BOB@STMARYSONTHEHILL.ORG
FOR THE COMPLETE JOB LISTING VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.BUFFALODIOCESE.ORG/BLOGJOBS/COMMUNICATIONS-COORDINATOR/](https://WWW.BUFFALODIOCESE.ORG/BLOGJOBS/COMMUNICATIONS-COORDINATOR/)

St. Mary's 175th Anniversary

St. Mary's 175th anniversary is coming up in 2025! While that may sound far away, it will sneak up on us faster than we think. We'd like to invite parishioners to help us plan events to celebrate this special anniversary. If you're interested in joining our anniversary planning team, please contact Jenny in the Rectory: 716-683-6445 or jennifer@stmarysonthehill.org

Answer: The permanent deaconate.

Masses for This Week

Monday – July 31 – Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

12:00 p.m. (Chapel) Ben Domanowski
(Happy Birthday! Love, Mom)

Tuesday – August 1 – Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

12:00 p.m. (Chapel) Edwin Reese
(Jim & Marian Snyder)

Wednesday – August 2 – Weekday- Saint Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop; Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

12:00 p.m. (Chapel) Peter Weirzbicki
(Gerry & Shirley Fleischman)

Thursday – August 3 – Weekday

12:00 p.m. (Chapel) Edward Buszka
(Creighton Family)

Friday – August 4 – FIRST FRIDAY- Saint John Vianney, Priest

12:00 p.m. (Church) LouAnn Paoella
(John Stephan & Amy Darcy)

12:30 p.m. Adoration

Saturday – August 5 – FIRST SATURDAY- Weekday- The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major; Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 p.m. Ted Loecher (Loecker Family)

Sunday – August 6 – THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

8:00 a.m. Lauren Sullivan (Dick & Cheryl Dillon)

10:00 a.m. Herbert Wutz (Family)

12:00 p.m. Rose and Harry Jarmuz (Family)

Faith Formation Registration

Please register your student(s) before this Tuesday, August 1st for the 2023-24 Faith Formation year. A late fee will be added to registrations received after August 1st. Visit www.bdclfam.org to view class options and sign up online. Questions? Contact Becky Hoag at 716-683-8564 or becky@stmarysonthehill.org.

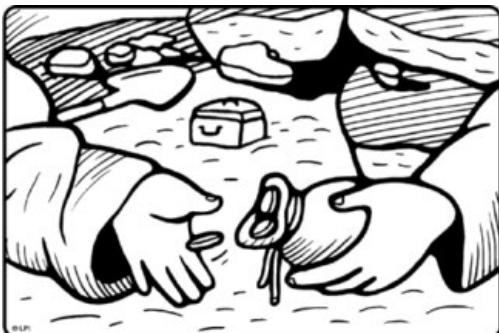
Catholic Trivia

Question:

What rank of ordination is open to married men?

A Vocation View:

"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." A famous quote from St. Paul to the Romans. It's still true! Surrender to God's plan and see how He works it all out! Contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org



RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Falling Action and the Field

In my freshman year of high school, I was fairly miserable at identifying the five essential elements of plot (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution).

To this day, the only reason I remember anything about them at all is because my English teacher used episodes of Scooby Doo to illustrate the different elements. Falling action vs. climax is where I got tripped up, the two are similar, and only discernible if you examine them relative to each other.

Every Scooby Doo episode has a big dramatic sequence (the climax) where the ghost/monster/zombie chases The Gang through the haunted mansion. The falling action is what comes immediately after: searching for her glasses that she lost during the chase, Velma bumps into a pulley wheel disguised behind a tapestry and realizes the ghost/monster/zombie is actually the janitor in a costume, hooked up to an elaborate cable system jerry-rigged throughout the mansion. Meddling kids. I confused the two because, to me, they are both equally dramatic: the chase and the fallout.

It occurs to me that, if you look at the course of salvation history, we are living in the falling action, not the climax. Take the parable of the treasure in the field: we have found the treasure. But we haven't yet bought the field.

I often make the mistake of thinking I am still lost in the climax, searching for the truth. But I know exactly where the truth is.

What I need to be concerned with is this: am I doing what I need to do to buy the field?

"Wonderful are your decrees; therefore I observe them. The revelation of your words sheds light, giving understanding to the simple." — Psalm 119

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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK:

First Reading:

The young King Solomon asked the Lord in prayer for a wise and discerning heart, and it was granted to him. What gift would you ask from the Lord?

Second Reading:

Paul teaches the believers in Rome that God calls us "according to his purpose." Do you have a sense your purpose in life? If so, what is it?

Gospel:

Jesus offers several kingdom of heaven parables to the disciples: buried treasure and fine pearls (a priceless discovery) and the large catch of fish (an invitation to all). With these parables, what do you think Jesus is teaching us about the kingdom of heaven?

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Vacation Bible School

Please pray for our young parishioners, teen volunteers and adult leaders as they participate in Vacation Bible School this week. May they enjoy a fun-filled week as they "Dig for Treasure" learning about the parables!



Financial Report 7/23/23

Regular	\$3,113.00
CPL	\$4,160.56
TOTAL	\$ 7,273.56



Are you an adult (18+) who is baptized & received First Eucharist in the Catholic Church but never received the Sacrament of Confirmation?

We are offering an opportunity for anyone in our Family of Parishes to complete this sacramental process for Confirmation and full membership in the Church.

Classes will take place on Sundays - 9/10, 9/17, 9/24, 10/1, & 10/8 at 11 am-12 pm.

Our Confirmation liturgy will take place in October - date TBD.

To register for these classes, or for more information, please contact St. Mary's Parish Office at (716) 683-6445.

This Confirmation class is for adults (over 18 & out of High School) who have received the Sacraments of Baptism & Holy Eucharist but have not been Confirmed. These sacramental preparation classes will review the fundamentals of our Catholic faith to better form our understanding of what it means to live as emboldened witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The process will also assist candidates for Confirmation in being active and faithful Catholics with the firm practice of attending Mass every weekend and Holy Days of Obligation.



ST. MARY
OF THE
ASSUMPTION



RaiseRight Gift Cards

RaiseRight summer sale hours are Tuesdays & Fridays

11-3 in the SME school building. Orders may also be placed by completing an order form and dropping it with payment in the drop box at the school or in the rear of the church. Gift cards to Tops, Tim Hortons, and Kohl's are always available in the Rectory Monday-Friday from 9:00-3:00. Thank you for your continued support of our school through the RaiseRight program!

Renew your calendar now!

Renewals for the 2024 Calendar club are now being accepted. Please return the 2024 Renewal Form located on the back of your 2023 calendar with your \$25 payment to lock in your current calendar number. This year's number wasn't lucky? No problem. You can request a different number as well as additional calendars. Didn't get in on the action this year? We've got you covered! Order forms will be mailed in early fall to all who haven't purchased a calendar in years past. Our calendar club is open to all - feel free to share with friends and family! Calendars make great gifts that keep on giving throughout the year! If you have any questions, please contact Joe Magiera at calendarclub@smeschool.com or (716) 473-7112. Good luck and thank you for supporting St. Mary's Elementary School!



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Erin Heerdt, Dolores Chavez, Officer Troy Blackchief, MaryAnn Krocker, Kevin Schmidt, Derek Zakrewski, Robert Reynders, Mary Chris Jerome, John Zbock, Ruth Wunner, Jane Dutro, Cindy Marlow, Tammy Bosse Phillips, Tim Bosse, Jennifer Hunter, Louise Wozniak, Patricia Reynders, Judith Baumgart and Joey Urso.

Please Pray for Those in the Armed Forces...

Maj. Geoff Guinnup (Army), Cpt. Benjamin Geblein (Army), Mitchell Cayea (MA1 - Navy) and Cpt. Matthew Keysa (Army)

Our prayer lists are refreshed every quarter to remove those we have not received an update on within the past 90 days. If a name is removed that should be added back to the list, please call to let us know. Also, if you or your loved one no longer need to be on the list or have a story of answered prayer to share, please let us know! (716) 683-6445



"Hello? Mr. Haskins? I quit!"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Martha Campbell

Ablaze Ministry

We are looking for young adults to join our ministry to help plan events, share the spirit and build a community. Sometimes, there's not a lot we can be sure of in this world, but when we bring it all back to our faith, we can find our strength together!



Follow us: [@ablazebuffalony](https://twitter.com/ablazebuffalony)
Visit us: ablazeministry.church

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

What Is God Asking of You?

What are you willing to give for the sake of the kingdom of God? Often, we begin a discussion like this with a story or a few leading thoughts. However, if we are to be serious about who we claim to be as Christians, there should be no beating around the bush. The question is not only important for each of us and our relationship with our God, but it should be important for the relationship each of us has with the entire Body of Christ. Like any good team or family, I need you to have my back, and I need to have yours. If one of us is going to lay it on the line and be all in for our faith, then we all need to be as well.

If only all the Christians of the world felt the same way. In some parts of the world, Christians are still being martyred for their faith. Others must worship underground and avoid the government-led police. Then there are those who seem to take faith for granted, and because little is asked by their friends or parish, they give nothing. It is quite a contrast of situations.

On this day, it may seem like little is being asked of you and I by God. Is that because we aren't being asked or because we aren't listening? If you are counting on me and I am on you, we should figure this out sooner than later. Of course, I suspect we actually do know the answer, don't we?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Why do priests kiss the altar at the start of Mass?

Answer:

Our churches and chapels are filled with symbols. We might think of the more common symbols (like the crucifix, statues, stained-glass windows, vestment color and altar cloths) as well as major symbols (such as the paschal candle and the baptismal font). But there are some things that we can take for granted in our sacred spaces, because unfortunately, they seem to just be part of the building, including three of the main symbols of our liturgy: the ambo (lectern), the chair for the priest celebrant, and the altar.

These three objects are placed in a specially designated area called the sanctuary. They are the places where the Word of God is proclaimed, where the priest prays and presides at the celebration, and where the bread and wine are offered by the priest during the Eucharistic Prayer. Although each of these objects is sacred because of the role they play in our worship, the altar holds a special place. In a document containing the rules and instructions for the Mass — the “General Instruction of the Roman Missal” — we read: “The altar on which the Sacrifice of the Cross is made present under sacramental signs is also the table of the Lord to which the People of God is called together to participate in the Mass, as well as the center of the thanksgiving that is accomplished throughout the Eucharist” (no. 296).

One of the ways that we recognize the importance of the altar is when the priest and deacon kiss the altar at the beginning of Mass. Kissing is an ancient act of devotion. Remember, we also kiss the cross on Good Friday, and the deacon or priest kisses the “Book of the Gospels” after the Gospel is proclaimed. This act of devotion reminds us that the altar is a symbol of Jesus, the “living stone” (see 1 Peter 2:4), the foundation stone of our faith. It is a symbol gesture, but it is a powerful reminder of the One on whom our faith is built and in whose name we gather as the “household of faith” (see Galatians 6:10).

To learn more, see the “Catechism of the Catholic Church” (no. 1382-1383).



St. Mary of the Assumption, Our Lady of Pompeii,
St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, St. Martha,
St. Philip the Apostle, Sacred Heart of Jesus

bdclfamily.org

Family Weekend

Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart of Jesus,
St. Mother Teresa of
Calcutta

4:30 p.m.

St. Philip the Apostle
Our Lady of Pompeii

5:00 p.m.

St. Martha

7:00 p.m.

St. Mary's

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

St. Mary's, St. Martha

8:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart of Jesus
St. Philip the Apostle

9:00 a.m.

St. Mother Teresa of
Calcutta

10:00 a.m.

St. Mary's, St. Martha,
Our Lady of Pompeii

10:30 a.m.

St. Philip the Apostle

11:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart of Jesus

11:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Pompeii

Noon

St. Mary's

St. Philip the Apostle

VIRTUS Protecting God's Children

WORKSHOP

FOR ADULTS 18+

AUGUST 23, 2023

6:00-9:30 PM

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH CENTER



PRE-REGISTER ONLY!

[HTTPS://WWW.BUFFALODIOCESE.ORG/PROTECTING-GODS-CHILDREN/](https://www.buffalodiocese.org/protecting-gods-children/)

Catholic Charities

A lot has changed since the founding of Catholic Charities nearly 100 years ago in October 1923. But one thing has remained a constant throughout the years: Just as we have for 99 years, Catholic Charities is here and ready to help – now. If you have an urgent need or you or your family is facing a crisis situation, please give us a call at 716-218-1400 or visit www.ccwny.org to complete an online assistance form. Help and HOPE are available.

BDCL Family Magazine

Are you interested in contributing to the magazine by sharing a story? Would you like to advertise your business with us? We would love to hear from you!
Please send an email to: magazine@bdclfamily.org

Lakeside Day Retreats

Branches Christian Rest and Renewal Centers, Inc. invites you for a day of rest and renewal at our Seneca Lake property. Our 2023 Summer schedule is:

- "Seeking the Peace of Christ with 3 pm Healing Mass" – Friday, August 4 – retreat facilitator: Rick Paolini; Mass celebrated by Rev. Lukasz Kopala.
- "The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, with 3 pm Mass" – Thursday, August 24 – facilitated by Deacon Ward Nolan and Jayne Badano-Bidwell; Mass celebrated by Rev. Jeffrey Tunnicliff.
- "Consecration to Jesus through Mary, with 11:30 am Mass" – Saturday, September 9 – facilitated by Nancy Potter and Donna Wieand; Mass celebrated by Rev. Augustine Chumo.

For more information, visit www.branchescenter.org, call 716-901-4313 or email branches1515@live.com.

Staff

St. Mary's Rectory		716-683-6445	
Moderator	Msgr. Richard W. Siepka	716-668-8370 ext. 215	
Associate	Rev. Paul W. Steller	ext. 17	paul@stmarysonthehill.org
Weekend Associate	Rev. Msgr. Frederick D. Leising		
Permanent Deacon	Deacon John Owczarczak		deaconjohnowczarczak@gmail.com
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	716-330-9182	andrea@stmarysonthehill.org
Director of Faith Formation	Becky Hoag	716-683-8564	becky@stmarysonthehill.org
Parish Bookkeeper	Heather Pierce	ext. 14	heather@stmarysonthehill.org
Parish Secretary	Carol Kwandrans	ext. 10	carol@stmarysonthehill.org
Parish Secretary	Jennifer Sparmo	ext. 12	jennifer@stmarysonthehill.org
Parish Trustees	Christina Pietrantoni, Dan Stoiber		
School Principal	Glenn Olejniczak	716-683-2112 (ext. 124)	olejniczak@smeschool.com

Ministries and Parish Outreach

Ablaze Young Adult Ministry	Jennifer Gaglione	480-0510	Liturgy Planning	Joe Kugler	681-5448
Altar Servers	Deacon John Owczarczak	683-3269	Liturgy Environment	Elaine Driscoll	683-8611
Altar Society	Gertrude Wolski	683-0593	Live Streaming	Jennifer Gaglione	480-0510
Archiving	Rectory	683-6445	Marriage Rehearsals	Deacon John Owczarczak	683-3269
Baptism Preparation	Rectory	683-6445	Meditation & Yoga	Jane Schmitt	984-6282
Before Cana Marriage Prep	Rectory	683-6445	Ministry of Praise	Rectory	683-6445
Bereavement	Marilyn Streit	684-9864	Music	Andrea Ross	330-9182
Cemetery Maintenance	Daniel Rinow	601-0305	Office Support	Rectory	683-6445
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon John Owczarczak	683-3269	Prayer Shawls	Patricia Kedzierski	698-4258
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	Debbie Goldfuss	681-1899	Retrouvaille (Marriage Help)	Carol Krajewski	474-9371
Greeters	Paula Clarone	685-9356	SME School	Glenn Olejniczak	683-2112
Hospitality	Elaine Driscoll	683-8611	Social Justice Ministry	Holly Walter	656-9583
Junior Ladies Of Charity	Marian Snyder	681-2957	St. Vincent de Paul	Jim Snyder	395-5677
Ladies of Charity	Holly Walter	656-9583	Ushers	Harold Knittel	415-0192
Lectors	Deacon John Owczarczak	683-3269	WINGS (Women's Bible Study)	Kim Dobiesz	200-2261

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 6:00 - 6:30 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 3:30 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. The sick, shut-ins, elderly,

and disabled of the parish may receive Communion at home, if they desire to do so. Please contact the Rectory. Please notify the Rectory when a parishioner is admitted to a hospital or nursing home.

Bulletin Announcements

Email materials to heather@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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