



## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)



Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." - Jn 20:28-29



*St. Mary, Our Lady  
of the Annunciation  
April 24, 2022  
Rev. James R. Rafferty, Pastor  
Deacon David Drysdale*

**SUNDAY EUCHARIST**

Saturday: 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 8:15, 10:00 & 11:45 am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays: 8:00 am & 3:00-4:00 pm  
Wednesday 6:00 pm,  
First Friday 8:00 am & 6:30pm  
Or by Appointment— call parish office  
**Baptism Class-Registration Required**  
Date TBD

**PARISH OFFICE**

32477 Church St., Rockwood, MI 48173  
734-379-9248 or 379-1476  
Email: stmaryrockwood@sbcglobal.net  
Website www.stmaryannunciation.org

**Parish Office Hours**

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9-4  
Wed 9-noon or by appointment

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Mike Williams, President  
734-379-9248

**CATECHISM PROGRAM**

Leslie Swayze, DRE  
Director of Religious Education  
ljswayze@yahoo.com or 734-379-9248

**St. Mary Prayer Line**

stmaryprayers7@gmail.com

**St. Vincent de Paul Help Line**

734-277-5620

**Food Pantry Third Saturday of the Month 10-12pm**

**St. Mary's Clothing Closet**  
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Please keep Alissa Drouillard and Don Tuttle III in your prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.



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**Mass Schedule**

**Monday, April 25, 2022**

**St. Mark, Evangelist**

8:30 a.m. Living members of the Presbyterate & diaconate

**Tuesday, April 26, 2022**

8:30 a.m. Sandy Schroeder by Joe & Mary Jane Apap

**Wednesday, April 27, 2022**

6:30 p.m. Patricia Fawcett+ by Terry Karner  
Greg Gonyea  
Deceased Daughters of Mary by Wetzel's  
Bryan Dziuban by family  
Daniel DeVriendt by Betty Steffke

**Thursday, April 28, 2022**

**St. Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest**

8:30 a.m. Don Rinna+ by Sue Cuzelis

**Friday, April 29, 2022**

**St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the Church**

8:30 a.m. Clive Taylor+ by Clarice Taylor

**Saturday, April 30, 2022**

**St. Pius V, Pope**

8:30 a.m. Don+ & Karen+ Rinna by Craig & Joyce Ritchie  
Thanksgiving for blessings  
Leo Arquette+ by Lauren Zrioka  
Bryan Dziuban by family  
Jean & Walter Wojcik by family  
Parishioners of St. Mary

4:30 p.m. Mark Labadie on his 69th birthday

**Sunday, May 1, 2022**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

8:15 a.m. Deceased members of Siska and Vanek families

10:00 a.m. Alyssa Comartin birthday

11:45 a.m. Dennis Rafferty+

**Gathering Space Doors**

Fr. Jim has requested that the doors to the gathering space remained closed during Mass. If they are open between Masses or prior to the start of Mass, the ushers have been asked to close them when the 5 minute bell rings. If you have any questions, please contact Beth in the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Giving Basket Needs**

**Shampoo, hamburger helper,  
family size adult cereal, jelly, pasta**

*"Whatever you do to the least of my Brethren,  
that you do unto me."*

**Offering April 17, 2022**

Current	YTD	Budget	over/(under)
\$ 32,147	\$425,003	\$387,870	\$37,133
Thank you for your generosity!			

## April 28th-May1st

4/28 Benediction	Mass	4:30 p.m.	8:15 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	11:45 a.m..
<i>Mike D</i>	<i>Lector</i>	Mary Jo P	Joe S	Barb M	Ron M
	<i>Acolyte</i>	Tom M	Michael D	Tony R	Tom J
	<i>Servers</i>	Ethan M	Hunter/Ryder	Daniel B	Brody T

### April/May 2022 Calendar

Rosary is prayed before Mass.

Information is based on submission date of bulletin and subject to change  
watch the website and flocknote for updates

24 Divine Mercy Sunday Mass 8:15, 10:00, 11:45, & 3:00pm Rosary & Conf. 1-3 Potluck social following 3:00 Mass	25 Mass 8:30am Flame of Love 9:30am	26 Mass 8:30am DoM 9:30am and 6:30pm Catechism 6pm Ice Cream Social	27 Confession 6:00 p.m.  Mass 6:30pm K of C Meeting 7:30 p.m.	28 Mass 8:30am Adoration 9:30-6:45pm  GIFT study 7:00pm	29 Mass 8:30am  GIFT study 1:00pm	30 Confession 8am & 3pm <b>Confirmation Rehearsal 1pm</b> Mass 8:30am & 4:30pm
1 Mass 8:15, 10:00 & 11:45am  Widows Group 1:00	2 Mass 8:30am Flame of Love 9:30am	3 Mass 8:30am  DoM 9:30am & 6:30pm <b>First Comm. Rehearsal 6pm</b>	4 Two Hearts Group Noon  Confession 6:00 p.m.  Mass 6:30 p.m.- <b>Confirmation w/ Bishop Battersby</b>	5 Mass 8:30am Adoration 9:30-6:45pm  GIFT study 7:00pm	6 First Friday Confession 8:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.  Mass 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  GIFT study 1:00pm  All night Adoration →	7 Confession 8am & 3pm Mass 8:30am & 4:30pm— <b>First Communion</b>
8 Mass 8:15, 10:00 & 11:45am	9 Mass 8:30am Flame of Love 9:30am	10 Mass 8:30am DoM 9:30am & 6:30pm	11 Confession 6:00pm Mass 6:30pm	12 Mass 8:30am Adoration 9:30-6:45pm  GIFT Study 7:00pm	13 Mass 8:30am  GIFT study 1:00pm	14 Confession 8am & 3pm Mass 8:30am & 4:30pm

#### A Note of Thanks and Gratitude

I have been battling cancer for several years; it started as stage IV colon cancer then spread to my liver. Chemo and surgery have been used to eliminate the cancer but eventually the plan became an effort to just keep it "in check." On Monday, March 21st, I had a new MRI to see if my liver tumors were still shrinking and I prayed during the test for God to help me deal with whatever was found. On Thursday, March 24th, I had an appointment scheduled with my oncologist to review the test results but she called me that morning in tears to tell me the news....THE TUMORS ARE GONE!!! Some small lesions are visible and I will get additional chemo treatments for a month or two but they will be less severe than the IV infusions I have been having. She and I both cried and thanked God for this miracle. I tell everyone I can that I know that God is our Shepherd, our Best Friend, and I have prayed with other chemo patients and other dealing with illness and disease in the hope they also will seek the Lord's comfort. I cannot know what is in my future but I do know that I won't face it alone because our God is always with us. The 23rd Psalm says it best! My church, Fr. Jim, Deacon David and his wife Joan have my deepest gratitude for their prayers and visits. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely, Nancy

#### Rosary Walks at Our Lady of the Scapular

Rosary Walks take place in May as a special devotion to Mary. Each Sunday after the 11:00am Mass, everyone is invited to meet on the front steps and join in procession as we walk together and pray the Rosary, visiting the Rosary Shrines in the neighborhood. The schedule is as follows:

Sunday, May 1st Joyful Mysteries

Sunday, May 8th Luminous Mysteries

Sunday, May 15th Sorrowful Mysteries

Sunday, May 22nd Glorious Mysteries

Join us for this Pilgrimage of Faith. Youth groups and families are encouraged to join us and help to spread devotion to the Rosary.

For further information, call Debbie at 734-934-2599.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION—DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Even Thomas struggles to remove his boulder! Being very pragmatic and determined, he wants to see the risen Christ for himself! Thomas's boulder is heavy with mistrust. Many of ours are too. A certain amount of skepticism is good, as it can save us from being duped or misled. But we can become so skeptical of things that it erodes our ability to trust anything we see or hear. Skepticism can actually be a well-disguised defense mechanism that we use to prevent us from being hurt or perceived as a fool. Having too much ego protection is a real risk. Thomas, because of the boulder blocking his vision, could not even trust the word of his friends.

Boulders are hard to move. It's difficult to seek change or take a risk, especially when we are so afraid to be vulnerable or reluctant to trust another's word. When we are closed minded, overly pragmatic, unwilling to see things in a different way, stubborn or defensive, it is difficult to be surprised by God and stretched. We need to be less guarded, self-assured, and self-absorbed. God cannot break into the ordinary moments of our lives and inspire us when we cling to doubt. If we are going to discover resurrection faith, we have to believe that what the witnesses say is true, especially when they are credible. We also have to trust that the risen Christ is alive in us, too!

While the first witnesses to the resurrection have faded into history, there are many others who have come after them. They continue to inspire by walking the talk of faith. They are the martyrs who offer their lives for the Gospel, the simple holy people in our communities who cling so steadfastly to their faith, those who have touched despair and found new hope and the ones who, even in spite of ridicule, still pursue their hunger and thirst for God. They are our friends, acquaintances, biblical heroes, and saints, and many others who are convinced that they have seen the Lord! The risen Christ may not surprise us with the same kind of visit as he did the first disciples, but God finds other ways. All we have to do is open our eyes, remove whatever is preventing us from seeing and believing and exclaim: "My Lord and my God!"

©LPi



### Thank You

Thank you to all the families who came to our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday! It was a fun filled time for the children of our parish, and the adults too! Everyone enjoyed donuts, juice and coffee while games were played, crafts were made, and eggs were hunted. We even had a visit from the Easter bunny. It was so good to bring this event back! Thanks to everyone who helped set up, work the event, and clean up. You are all so very appreciated. God's blessings upon all of you.

## Divine Mercy Sunday April 24, 2022

On February 22, 1931, a young Polish nun, Sr. Faustina Kowalska, saw a vision of Jesus with rays of mercy streaming from the area of His Heart. He told her to have an image painted to represent this vision and to sign it, "Jesus, I trust in You!" Calling her the Apostle and secretary of His mercy, He ordered her to begin writing a diary so others would come to know and trust in Him.

In a series of revelations that followed between 1931 and 1938, He taught her that His mercy is unlimited and available even to the greatest sinners. He revealed special ways for people to respond to His mercy in their lives, and He gave her several promises for those who would trust in His mercy and show mercy to others.

By the time of Sr. Faustina's death in 1938, devotion to The Divine Mercy had already begun to spread throughout Eastern Europe. In July of 1940, Fr. Joseph Jarzebowski, a Polish Marian priest fleeing from war-torn Poland, prayed to the merciful Savior to help him escape, vowing to spend the rest of his life spreading the Divine Mercy Devotion. He arrived safely on American soil in May, 1941, and Marian communities in Detroit and Washington, D.C. were soon distributing Mercy of God materials.

Pope John Paul II said: "Through the work of this Polish religious, this message of mercy has become linked forever to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the last of the second millennium, and a bridge to the third.....It is a ray of light to the men and women of our time." To show the importance of this great revelation Pope John Paul II declared the Sunday following Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday and all the faithful are encouraged to participate in the devotion. The devotion actually begins on Good Friday which is the first day of the Novena to Divine Mercy. Copies of the intentions for each day will soon be in the church and are available in the parish office.

The celebration at St. Mary will begin at 1:00 p.m.

- ❖ *Confessions*
- ❖ *Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy*
- ❖ *Recitation of the Holy Rosary*
- ❖ *Mass of Devotion to His Divine Mercy 3:00 p.m.*
- ❖ *Pot Luck Social after 3:00 p.m. mass*
- ❖ *Confessions resume following mass if needed*

**Jesus revealed to St. Faustina an extraordinary promise that the soul that will go to confession\* (if in the state of grace) and receive Holy Communion on Mercy Sunday shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. Share the gift of His Mercy with your family and friends by inviting them to this special celebration!**

**\*confession within a reasonable time before or after is considered sufficient**





## Consecration to Jesus Through Mary

Join fellow parishioners and friends as we begin preparation for Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary (Marian consecration) truly is the surest, easiest, shortest and the most perfect means to becoming a saint.

Join a group that meets weekly beginning April 26 (Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. , Thursday 7:00 p.m. or Friday 1:00 p.m.).

We will be using the book 33 Days to Morning Glory by Fr. Michael E Gaitley, MIC . The book is \$10 and the recommended workbook is an additional \$13. Books (no workbooks ) are available in the parish office or the set can be ordered from Shopmercy.org

Contact George 734 770 2840 or Blair 734 309 1165 for additional information.

Fr. Jim blesses the fire, and lights the Paschal candle at the beginning of the Easter Vigil. The congregation lights their candle from that flame as we enter the darkened church.

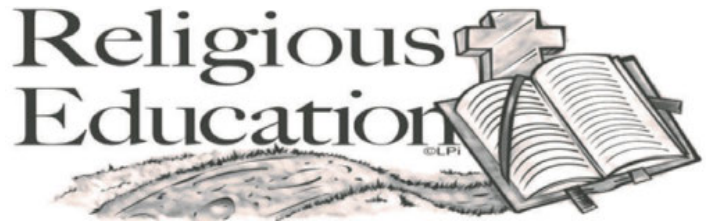
How blessed we are here at St. Mary's! Thank you Fr. Jim for your hours spent in the Confessional this Lent and for guiding your flock. Thank you to Lorraine and Jeanette for their hours spent decorating, and all those who helped. What a team!!



### Welcome

Congratulations and welcome into full communion with the Catholic Church: Nathaniel Gipson, Jewel Payyappilly, and James Temple. May the light of

Christ always lead you and the Holy Spirit give you the fortitude to stay strong in your faith now and forever.



### Calendar for 2022

Our family class and ice cream social is on the 26th of April. I will also have early registration for next year available. If your child has fallen behind in their faith formation, now is the time to return to our program. All grades are important!! Please contact Leslie Swayze if you have any questions. God bless.

April 26th Ice Cream Social Family Class

April 30th Confirmation Mass rehearsal 1pm in church

May 3rd First Communion rehearsal in church 6pm

May 4th Confirmation Mass w/ Bishop Battersby 6:30pm  
Students and sponsors to arrive by 6pm.

May 7th First Communion Mass 4:30pm

Please pray for all our sacramental students!!

### Please pray for the sick

Betty Beste	Margaret Gick	Eileen Herzog
James Benyo	Joanne Gomoll	Przybylo
Nancy Benyo	Louise Griffiths	Patricia Schwartz
Kathy Brinkmeier	Andrew Hailo	Violet Scheffer
Bernadette Ciupak	Debbie Hanson	Yvonne Ziemba
Arlys Clegg	Doreen Hebert	Jerry Zemke
Karla Cobb	Ken Herzog	Terri Zemke
Ashley Collins	William Kaminske	
Mildred Costa	Leo Kormos	
Olga Cronin	Kim Landrith	
Noah Czajka	Dave (DJ) Lerner	
Diane Czajkowski	Diane Leach	
Mikey Czajkowski	Lawrence Leach	
Rita Davidson	Kate Leonard	
Brian Dean	Elizabeth Lovett	
Sharon Dean	Brian McNamara	
Patrick Eldridge	Norman Muscat	
Marlene Elwell	Pete Petrey	
Karen Fron	Gary Pizzini	
Ann Gick	Chuck Przybylo	

### Please Pray for Those in the Armed Forces

Alexis Assenmacher	Denny Szczechowski
Andrew Benyo	David Ward
Chaz Phipps	
James T. Herzog	
Ryan Jernigan	
Troy Masserant	
Caitlin Mercure	
Daniel Mercure II	
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Bryan Reyes	
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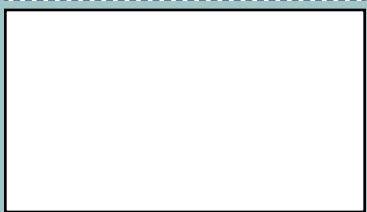
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