

Saint Mary's News

Next Weekends Mass Schedule

Saturday, January 18th - 3:30 p.m. - David Soja

Sunday, January 19th - 10:30 a.m. - Leon Zerkowski



Helped is needed to take down the Christmas decorations at St. Mary's on January 16th at 9:00 a.m.

Commemorating St. Mary's: We are initiating an effort to create a book commemorating St. Mary's. It will consist of a history of the parish, examples of parish life, and a complete photographic record of St. Mary's Church. As a considerable effort is involved in this effort, we would like to get an idea of how many people would purchase a book in a price range of \$10 - \$15. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule of St. Mary's. If you would have an interest in purchasing the book, please sign the sheet or email your interest to Carl Gethmann at cagethmann74@gmail.com

The Lenten Pierogi Society will continue its labors on Monday, January 27, from 9:00 A.M. to 12 :00 P.M. and will meet each Monday and Tuesday through Lent. Pierogies will be made in the kitchen under the Church. Please use parking lot Chapel entrance. New members are always welcome.

\$26,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS - On Saturday, April 25, 2020, the Polish American Board of Education of Berks County will be awarding ten college scholarships totaling \$25,000 to Berks County high school seniors of Polish-American descent. Applicants for the scholarships can obtain application forms and guidelines in the office of the guidance counselor in all Berks County high schools. They are also available in the Polish-American Cultural Center in the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, 201 Washington St., Reading, and they can be downloaded from the PABEBC website at www.pabeberks.org. Completed application forms are due no later than Saturday, March 28, 2020, to the PABEBC Scholarship Secretary, Ronald Savitski, 159 Texter Mountain Road, Wernersville, PA 19565-9442. Tel. 610-693-9792 or email him at rsavitski@msn.com. In conjunction with the PABEBC scholarship awards program, the Polish-American Heritage Association of Berks County is awarding a \$1,000 scholarship to a Berks County high school senior of Polish-American descent. The guidelines for obtaining this scholarship are also available in the office of the high school guidance counselors, the Polish-American Cultural Center in the GoggleWorks or by contacting Sandy Lubas Hummel, the scholarship chair for PAHABC at sahummel@ptd.net or by calling her at 610-207-7065.

TAX STATEMENTS

Please note: If you would like a copy of your **giving record for tax purposes**, please fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket. **If you would like your statement sent through email please print email address clearly on this form. You can also email with your request anytime at dsitler@comcast.net. If you do not have a computer we can mail you a copy of your statement. Statements will not be ready until the week of the 23rd of January.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email

If you have any questions, please call Diane Sitler at 610-779-4005 .

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Is 42:1-4, 6-7: The prophet Isaiah sees the spirit upon the Lord's servant who will proclaim the "good news" to the poor, freedom to prisoners and joy to those in sorrow.

Acts 10:34-38: God anointed Jesus the Savior with the Holy Spirit and power. Jesus is the Lord of all, and He brought healing to all who were in the grip of the devil.

Mt 3:13-17: John objected to baptizing Jesus since he recognized the Messiah. Jesus insisted, and the heavens opened showing God's favor. God also identified His Son, Jesus.

Today's Message: Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father. He is the light of the nations and Lord of all creation. To Him be all glory and praise!

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 9 a.m. – Church

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – After 8 a.m. Mass until 8 p.m.

GUITAR PRACTICE – 7 p.m. - Church

GRIEFSHARE – 7 p.m. – Parish Center

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

RCIA - 6:30 p.m. – Parish Center Basement

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

PREP LEVEL 1-7- 6:30 p.m. - School

LEGION OF MARY – 6:30 p.m. – Parish Center

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

SIENA STITCHERS – 10 a.m. – Church Gathering Area

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – 7:30 p. m. – Knights Room

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

AHG – 6 p.m. – Social Hall

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

NEW ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING - 10 -11:30 a.m. - Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

BAPTISMS – 1 p.m. After 12 noon Mass – Church

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 9 a.m. – Church

DEN MEETING – 6 p.m. – Social Hall

Berks Catholic Open House-Thursday, January 23, 2020 5-7pm

It's a great time to Be A Saint! Visit our new John R. Post Learning Center which features a new STEM Lab, expanded, cafeteria, new classrooms, college and career counseling suite and collegiate style learning commons. Come experience the energy of our community and learn more about how we prepare young men and ladies to be college and life ready. For more information please contact Nicky Smith at 610.374.8361 ext. 244 or nsmith@betkscatholic.org

EXETER AREA FOOD PANTRY will continue to accept PERSONAL HYGEINE products and any non-perishable food item on an on-going basis. Bins are located in the back of the Church. Thank you for your continued prayers and support. For more information, please contact Phil & Bonnie Blankenstein at 610-779-6045.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

7:30 John V. Nowotarski, Sr. (9th Anniversary)

9:00 Casey Zielinski (10th Anniversary)

10:30 Thomas Rathman (2nd Anniversary)

12:00 Charles Harhigh

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

6:30 Paul Arnold

8:00 Joseph C. Pettyjohn

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

6:30 Edward Rudyk (2nd Anniversary)

8:00 William Vath

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

6:30 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

8:00 Mark Lundquist

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

6:30 Helen Frey

8:00 Charles J. McDonald

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

6:30 Francis Patrick Visbal

8:30 John Fellin - (**School**)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

8:00 Concetta Brewer

4:30 Thomas Fry (8th Anniversary)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

7:30 Dick Horrigan (7th Anniversary)

9:00 Rita M. (Miller) Mierczkowski (13th Anniversary)

10:30 Earl Heintz (9th Anniversary)

12:00 Violet C. Maksimowicz

Scripture Readings for the Week of January 12, 2020

Sunday

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 9-10;

Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

Monday

Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19;

Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday

1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;

Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,

8b-9, 10; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday

1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25;

Mk 1:40-45

Friday

Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbott

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-17, 18-19;

Mk 2:1-12

Saturday

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7;

Mk 2:13-17

Sunday

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10;

1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

EVENT SUPPORTS OVER 90 RETIRED NUNS:

The Bernardine Franciscan Sisters in Reading invite you to Bernardine Bonanza, on February 22, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at their Motherhouse. To make a donation for their retired Sisters or to purchase tickets, visit bfranciscan.org or call Sr. Maria Bartos at 484-334-6815.

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 1/13	Rev. Msgr. Thomas Koons
Tuesday 1/14	Very Rev. Robert Kosek
Wednesday 1/15	Rev. David Kozak
Thursday 1/16	Rev. Msgr. Robert Kozel
Friday 1/17	Rev. Daniel Kravatz
Saturday 1/18	Rev. John Krivak
Sunday 1/19	Rev. Thomas Kuller, S.J.

Parish Nurse News - It is not unusual to slowly gain weight as we age. Make small calorie cuts and increase your activity just a little! Eating 50-100 fewer calories and increase your daily walk by 10 minutes will help you maintain that healthy weight! (*Healthy Advice Networks, LLC, 2011*).

Anyone wishing to receive Gluten Free Hosts should go to the Celebrant's communion line and indicate to him that you need a Gluten Free Host.

The next Blood Drive is Sunday, February 23rd in the Social hall 8:15 to 1:15 pm. Please contact Miller Keystone at 800-223-6667 or email David.Sheehan@med.ge.com for an appointment.

Kennedy House. Want to volunteer and help those struggling? It is St. Catharine's turn to run the **Kennedy House** in Reading. We would love to have you come and help out either **Saturday, February 15th and or Sunday, February 16th** or both days! Times are from 9-2 each day. Please call, text, or email if you can help - Sara Miller 484-459-0270 or sk1699@hotmail.com. Hope to see you there. Also if you are unable to help but would be willing to **donate** food or other supplies we would need, please contact me as well.

Children's Liturgy – We are in need of volunteers to help with the Children's Liturgy at the 10:30am Mass on Sundays. No experience needed...just a desire to share our Lord with the future of our church! All materials are provided. Please contact Marci Zambito at mzambito@scsreading.org if interested.

The Knights of Columbus and Human Concerns Ministry of St. Columbkil Church invite you to view the movie "Unplanned" on **Friday, January 17th at 7 p.m. in Quinn Hall.** Admission is free. This 2019 movie is the compelling, true story of Abby Johnson, former clinic director and executive at Planned Parenthood, whose viewpoint abruptly changes when she is called to assist during a procedure and leads her to join the pro-life movement.

Next Weekend's Mass Schedule

January 18th - 4:30 p.m. Mass

Lector - Todd Tomczyk

Cantor - Jay Yohn

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - E. Simms - M. Feeney - K. Nguyen

Eucharistic Ministers - Mark Abramowicz - Lorraine Simon

January 19th - 7:30 a.m. Mass

Lector - Kathy Lavanga

Altar Servers - J. Davis - B. Davis - M. Woodward

Eucharistic Ministers - Donna Weidner - Beth Pawlik

January 19th - 9:00 a.m. Mass

Lector - John Vogel

Guitar Group

Altar Servers - J. Wentling - N. Wentling - K. Zambito

Eucharistic Ministers - Marica Wert - Vince McDevitt - Cassie Sedlack

January 19th - 10:30 a.m. Mass

Lector - Edrie Watson

Voices & Praise Choir

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - H. Keperling - T. Keperling - M. Griffin

Eucharistic Ministers - Diane Luchetta - Ernie Kovacs - Helen Veet

January 19th - 12:00 p.m. Mass

Lector - Rose Ann Uhrig

Cantor - Leah Rile

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - J. Howard - S. Robinson - D. Schmehl

Eucharistic Ministers - Milton Vincente - Edrie Watson - Mary Murphy



Baskets of Love (through St. Vincent DePaul Society) - Most of us have had people aside or near us in Church over the years and then one day realize where is that man or lady? Often times they become shut-ins and no longer can come to Mass. This year, we would like to do something for them, to say you are in our caring thoughts. The next few weeks we will have a table in the back of the Church to collect items to fill our "Baskets of Love" for shut-ins. We all have so many of these type items in our homes. If you have any medium size baskets, small note cards, lotions, soaps, warm sox, pocket calendars, small tissues, prayer books, stamps- won't you bring them to the "Baskets of Love" table. Help us make them smile and feel remembered by their parish family. We will be collecting through January.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

a time to be born... Recently Baptized: Ashton Harrison Hoffman

Please pray for our sick: Anthony Antonucci, Beverly Bansner, Marie Bassler, Becky Batastini, Charles Beatty, Melody Bechtel, Debbie Bennett, Agnes Bohner, Paul A. Bomba, Michele Boucher, Gerald Boyer, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Marvin Bush, Nancy Cassidy, Mary Christ, Larry Curtin, Joan Davis, Charles DeNaples, Jennifer Devlin, Arthur Dietrich Jr., Susan Dolinski, Christine Gubernot, David J. Gulati II, Roberta Hedl, William Hedl, Jr., Wayne Hedrick, Catherine Hefferan, Robyn Hefferan, Brian Heim, Patricia Herber, Christine Jenkins, Sister Mary Cecilia Jurasinski, Dorothy Kaisoglus, Winnie Kerns, Sharon Kieffer, Mary Kolakowski, Dorothy Kosikowski, Rosemarie Kovacs, Mary Leddy, Albert Lellig, David C. Lellig, Pat Lessig, Charles Loose, Charles E. Mathews, Cindy McConnell, Jacob McCue, Jim McGinnis, John Mercadante Jr., Dolores Miravich, Cathy Motznik, Jerome Nigh, Joann Patty, Melly Pimentel, Stella Pingitore, Patricia Pinto, Donald Pisker, Angelo Porcaro, Sharon Prechtel, Lorraine Ransom, Nada Rathkey, David Samsel, John Sausen, Anne Schaeffer, Barry Scheirer, Mary Scheirer, Tammy Scrobe, Michael Shadday, Vincent Skimski, Tyler Skoczen, Margaret Smith, Veronica Stoss, Andy Strangarity, Sandy Sullivan, Kim Trois, Betty Vilardo, Lillian Van Note, Ian Wachowicz, Chris Wasko, Merritt Weidner, Bill Wertz, Frank White, Theresa White, Leo Woelkers, Carol Woolston, Elaine Woudstra, Noel Yapsuga, Susan Yapsuga, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zimmerman. **A time to die:** **Edward Zabinski**, (husband of Louise Zabinski & father of Christine Jenkins & sister of Anna Price); **Michael Spear** (husband of Valerie Spear); **Eugene Hracho**, (father of Eugene Hracho, Jr & Amy Obritz & grandfather of Madison & Aldan Obritz) & **Andrew Lewandowski**(son of Anna Lewandowski) & **all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11**

To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. Parishioners who are sick or hospitalized, in a rehabilitation facility or at home wishing to receive the Holy Eucharist may call the Parish at 610-779-4005.

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: SPC Specialist Mackenzie Adame, Private Lance Corporal Connor A. Soja, Lance Corporal Kadan C. Soja, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, LCPL David Ermentrout, Captain Morgan Hissick, Captain Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Sgt. Erin Pawlik, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, Tech. Sgt. John V. Nowotarski, III, Senior Airman Timothy Hinsey, Thomas Bristol, Col. Patrick Sullivan, Second Lt. Joshua Kline, Captain Kevin Madary, Sgt. First Class Andrew Spies, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Cdr. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig & Lt. Cdr. Brian Blair. Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net. Please call with addresses of military to Terri Mueller at 610-779-1766.



New Altar Servers Training!

Father Wehr will be holding an altar servers training session open to all students in 6th grade and up. This training is scheduled for Saturday, January 18th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the

Church. All students are welcome! Please call the Parish Center at 610-779-4005 to sign up.

Youth Group News

Retreat Registration - All youth in grades 9-12 are invited to our 2020 youth retreat on February 21 - 23 at Camp Manatawny. The theme of the retreat this year is "Our Father". This retreat is run by teens from the St. Catharine's and St. Benedict's Youth Groups. Cost is \$50. Registration forms can be found in the back of the church or from the youth website www.scsyouth.weebly.com Register now to reserve your spot. You will not be disappointed!

The first Upper Room meeting of the new year will be Sunday, January 12 from 6:30pm -8:30pm. The meeting is open to all students in grades 9-12. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Youth Group Events

January 12 – Upper Room Meeting

January 24 – March for Life

January 26 – Upper Room Meeting

February 21 – 23 Senior High Retreat

March 28-29 Soup Kitchen Weekend

For More information on these events please go to the youth website at www.scsyouth.weebly.com



If you or a fellow parishioner is hospitalized please contact us at 610-779-4005.

Recall that in order to protect your privacy (HIPAA rules), it is no longer a regular practice for healthcare

facilities to notify your Church or priest that you are in the hospital unless directly instructed to do so by you or your family. Yet we know how important it is for you to have spiritual and sacramental support while hospitalized. Here are some things you can do:

- Have someone, a family member or friend, to give us a call beforehand, so we know when you will be in the hospital.
- During the admission process, be sure to provide both your religion and the name of your Church. If the hospital fails to ask this question, inform your nurse of both your religion and your parish affiliation.

If you are hospitalized, ask a member of your healthcare team to contact your clergy or ask to see the chaplain. The hospital spiritual care team will contact us.

50+ CLUB NEWS

The monthly meeting for the 50+ Club will be held on **February 5, 2020 at 1:00 pm**. The board meeting will be held on **February 4, 2020 at 10:00 am**. Please call Carol Buddell, President of the 50+ Club at 610-401-0600 with any questions or concerns. You can see us on **Facebook** for additional information.

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 5, 2020: Valentine Day Celebration with cakes and coffee

Speaker: Pat White – 2020 trip schedule

MARCH 4, 2020: Speaker: **Cindy Kauffman**, the Manager of the **Pagoda**, she is responsible for the management and development of the Pagoda, Pagoda Cafe and all activities and events at the Pagoda Cake & Coffee

APRIL 1, 2020: **SPECIAL EVENT** - Everybody's Birthday Celebration at Victor Emmanuel's, starting at 12:00 PM, Happy Boombadears to entertain us.

MAY 6, 2020: Entertainment will be Maya, the belly dancer. Cake & Coffee

JUNE 3, 2020: **Italian sandwiches** & then let's play **BINGO**. Cupcakes & Coffee

2020 Trip information will be announced at the **February meeting**. **Royal Caribbean Cruise to the Bahamas on Anthem of the Sea**, leaves **Feb 7th to Feb 15th**, Balcony-\$840.00, Ocean View-\$748.00 Double Occupancy +\$116.00 Gratuity. This trip is definitely a go, so please call **Pat White 610-582-1437** for more information.

Please call **Rosalie Snyder at 610-779-6562** with the name of members who are sick or have died.

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 P.M. on the first Wednesday of every month at St. Catharine's Social Hall at 4975 Boyertown Pike, Rt. 562, Reading, PA.