

# St. Mary's Church & Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima

18230 Barnesville Road • P.O. Box 67 • Barnesville, MD 20838

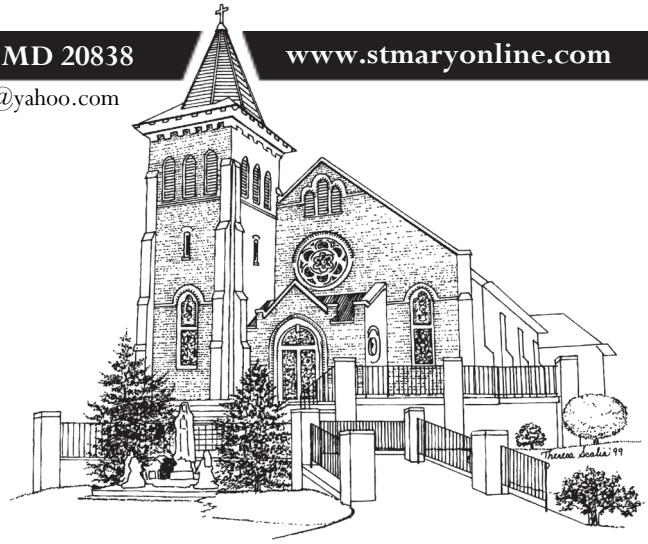
[www.stmaryonline.com](http://www.stmaryonline.com)

Rectory: 301.972.8660 • Rel. Ed.: 301.972.8576 • Email: [stmarysb@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarysb@yahoo.com)

Mary of Nazareth School: 301.869.0940

*We welcome you to our historic parish family.  
Since 1741 believers such as yourself have built a spirit-  
filled, Catholic faith community here in Barnesville.  
We are privileged to have you join us in our mission to  
share God's blessings.*

March 10, 2024  
4th Sunday of Lent



Rev. Kevin P. O'Reilly, *Pastor*  
David Cahoon, *Deacon*  
Rev. Msgr. John Macfarlane, *Weekend Asst.*  
Elizabeth Smith, *Dir. of Faith Formation*  
Diane Yendrey, *Dir. of Music*  
Bill Lynch, *Pavilion Manager*  
Denise Crawford, *Secretary, Notary*  
Brenda Evans, *Secretary*  
Chris Carey, *Bookkeeper*  
Joy McCartin, *Sodality*  
Tom McCartin, *Knights of Columbus*

**Daily Mass: Monday - Friday:** 9:00 am  
**Sunday Mass:** Saturday @ 5 pm, Sunday @ 8:30 & 10:30 am  
**First Friday:** Adoration 9:30 am - Noon  
**First Saturday:** 9:00 am with Devotions  
**Confession:** Saturday @ 4:15 pm  
**Baptism:** by appointment  
**Wedding:** by appointment at least 6 months after initial contact  
**Rel. Ed.:** September - May  
**School:** Mary of Nazareth in Darnestown, grades PreK-8

**Baby Bottle Campaign** Shady Grove Pregnancy Center helps pregnant women facing difficult choices with options counseling, ultrasounds, parenting classes, and material aid (diapers, cribs, infant car seats, and baby clothes). Your donation enables us to provide these services free of charge to women who desperately need to hear about alternatives to abortion. Pick up and fill a baby bottle with coins, currency, or a check made out to Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. Put "St. Mary's BBC" in the memo. Please return all bottles by March 24. To give online, use the link to get to your church's unique giving page: <https://donate.givedirect.org/?cid=16092&n=77071>



**Lenten Food Drive for WUMCO** The food we collect this weekend is donated to WUMCO in Poolesville for local needy families.



***Please Pray For.....***James Abernethy, Frank Anderson, Louise Austin, Michael Austin, Nancy Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Jim Bowie, Donna & Fred Brashears, Linda Burke, Maddie Cabatic, Norma Camp, Ada Candor, Dylan Captain, Gretchen Carrillo, Patrick Carpentier, Eric Carpentier, Pat Chmelik, Sonya Cortez, Grant Kraft, Dot Crawford, John Curry, Dana DeLauter, Andrew & Nicholas Diaz, Michael Dillon, Julian Douchard, Steve Drescher, Dennis Edward, Tom Ehart, Jo Evans, Hazel Finney, Timothy Flanders, Sandy Flynn, Mark Fye, Fr. Rich Gancayco, Zachery Gorouch, Gail Hahn, Kimberly Harris, Bridget Hart, Andrew Howard, Cecilia Hughan & family, Marie Horton, Laura Hutchinson, Louise Jones, Eleanor Kelly, Michael Kelley, Brittany, Joe & Ava Marie Koelie, Jeffrey Krohn, Jr., Betty Kutts, John Kutzi, Ryma Lacks, David Liska Sr., Colleen Loss, Harvey Loveless, Diane Lynch, Sylvia Marshall, Anna Lozada Martinez, Edwin Mbanude, Joy McIntyre, Joy McCartin, Anthony Murdock, Bea Nastacio, Christine O'Connell, Dennis O'Fallan, Bob & Donna Pavlick, Frank Pena, Gene Post, Lauren Prete, Dennis Regii, Susan Reid, Elizabeth Renninger, Everly Reed Rice, Andrea Rivas, Misty Runyon, Tom Schwanbeck, Teresa Silverman, Gene Smith, Jerry Stafford, Rani Taylor, Colleen Thomas, Richard Thompson, Jack Thorp, Corinne Torney, Rex & Trisha Tully, Vicki Tosques, Michael Zahn.

***Please Pray for Our Military Family & Friends...*** Richard Alford, Michael Breslin, Alex & Maxwell Chmelik, Lucas Conway, Adam Fitterer, David Gilliam, Erich Lloyd, Joshua Miller, Brian Nazarian, Elvin Rivera, Mark Russell, Oliver Weigand.

## **Dear Parishioners,**

I have 2 quilts I love, one from a classmate's mother when I was ordained and another made from my father's ties by Fran Rothenberg. I am drawn to the creative handiwork, especially of handmade quilts with their intricate patterns and countless stitches that help the flat pieces of material come alive. Each single stitch is meaningless by itself, but together with the thousands of others, creates a beautiful work of art.

Traditionally the Fourth Sunday of Lent has been known as Laetare Sunday, taken from the entrance antiphon which tells us to rejoice. We're halfway through our days of Lenten penitence. Pink or rose-colored vestments and maybe even flowers are meant to set the tone, encouraging us to review and continue our Lenten program of prayer and discipline.

But the mood of the first reading and responsorial psalm does not echo that of rejoicing. The last chapter of 2 Chronicles contains a meditation on God's action in the history of Israel, a summary of the kingdom of Judah from the ninth to the sixth centuries B.C.E. The people failed God and ridiculed the prophets. The Babylonian captivity was their punishment, and it ended under King Cyrus of Persia. In spite of wonderful achievements, the overall record is sad. The chronicler sums it up: "They mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the Lord against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy" (36:16).

And then the Israelites had to watch helplessly as the king of the Chaldeans had the young as well as the old and decrepit all killed. They witnessed the entire city set on fire and their precious objects destroyed. Those who escaped the sword were taken to Babylon, where they "sat and wept, remembering Zion" (Psalm 137:6). This could very well be the chronicle of our present day with the many wars, famines, refugee and migrant movements around the world. How can we again be joyous?

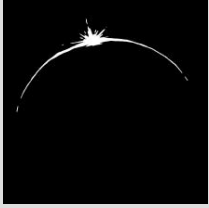
Paul, in the letter to the Ephesians, brings us back to joy and gives us reason to rejoice. God is rich in mercy. Because of our Creator's great love for us, God brought us to life with Christ when we were dead in sin. We were dead — dead in sin, dead with insensitivity and injustice, dead in wars and famine, dead in hate — and now we have been brought to life again in Christ Jesus, who is the ultimate kindness of our God. We have been saved by a favor, a grace, a mercy beyond telling or understanding. God's great gift of salvation is offered as gift. We have reason to rejoice. We are reminded that we are truly God's handiwork, God's work of art, a work of masterful creativity.

As God's handiwork, all of us are created in Christ to lead the life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance. We are brought to life in Christ, no longer dead in sin. Truly a reason to rejoice! As receivers of God's free gift of salvation through faith, it is now time to get on with the good deeds, being useful, working to bring about the reign of God.

Jesus tells Nicodemus and us that this is the time for decision. Are we going to live according to the light that came into the world or stay in the darkness and shadows of being noncommittal? Can we look with open eyes at the reality of our personal sin and the evil of the world around us? Can we challenge evil and darkness we see around us rather than being complacent and passive? We can do this, for we are God's handiwork "created to rejoice in Christ Jesus and to lead the life of good deeds."

*Peace, Fr. Kevin*

## WORSHIP



"And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil..." - John 3:19

### Mass Intentions

**Sat., 9** 4 pm - Pete Brunner  
**Sun., 10** 8:30 am - Parishioners  
 10:30 am - Leonard Offett  
**Mon., 11** 9 am - Virginia & Irving Fisk  
**Tue., 12** 9 am - Joe Luny  
**Wed. 13** 9 am -  
**Thu., 14** 9 am - Eucharistic Service  
**Fri., 15** 9 am - Lloyd & Eleanor Jones



### Lenten Meals

There is no meal this week due to cooking and preparations for the St. Patrick's Day Party.



**St. Patrick's Party** is this Saturday, March 16 from 6 – 9 pm in the Pavilion. The band, the food, the fun will all be back. The dinner is by reservation only this year, so call or email the parish office at [stmarysb@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarysb@yahoo.com). The cost is \$25 per person, \$75 for a family of four. No sales at the door.

**Stations of the Cross** are on Friday evenings during Lent at 7:00 pm in the Church.

**Schedule Change** Next weekend we move to our summer and fall Saturday schedule. Confessions will be at 4:15 pm and Mass at 5:00 pm.

**Keep Praying for our Seminarians** Thanks to all who picked a card from the "Vocations Tree." Please keep up the daily prayers for seminarians throughout Lent—and beyond, if you wish.

**Easter Children's Choir** Attention children who are available to sing for Easter Sunday Mass @ 10:30 am. Students in Grades 2 - 8 and Choristers are invited to March rehearsals. Please email Director of Music, Mrs. Yendrey for more information: [dyendrey98@gmail.com](mailto:dyendrey98@gmail.com).



**Easter We need Egg your help! Hunt** will be on March 31 after the 8:30 am Mass. If you would like to help out hiding the eggs, and watching over the event, please call or email Fr. Kevin in the parish office.

**The Gabriel Project** wishes to express our hearty thanks to all who contributed to the St Mary's drive. Your generous donations will provide much needed formula, diapers, wipes, bottles, clothing, books and other useful supplies to those needy families that made a decision for life. Contact Chris Miller ([cmillerusn@gmail.com](mailto:cmillerusn@gmail.com)) for more information on this ministry.



**Easter Flower** envelopes are in the back of church and in your packets. Please use them to donate in memory or celebration of a loved one and return them to the Office by March 20. You may place them in any collection as well.

**Bible Study** Join Fr. Kevin on Tuesdays at 10 am in the Rectory for a look into the coming Sunday's Scripture.

**Lenten Reminders** Fridays during Lent are days of Abstinence. All Catholics 14 and older are to abstain from eating meat on all the Fridays of Lent. Good Friday will be a day of Fast.

**United in Purpose: The 2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal.** We have been asked prayerfully to consider making a gift to the *2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal*. Please complete or take a commitment form at Mass this weekend, or make your gift at [give.adw.org](http://give.adw.org). Visit [appeal.adw.org](http://appeal.adw.org) to learn more about how the Annual Appeal benefits our parish and serves people in need throughout the archdiocese. It is our goal that every parish family will participate this year. All gifts will be credited towards our parish goal. Thank you in advance for your generous response to the *2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal*!

### Welcome

to

Michele Burrows

of

Urbana

who has joined our parish family