

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

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

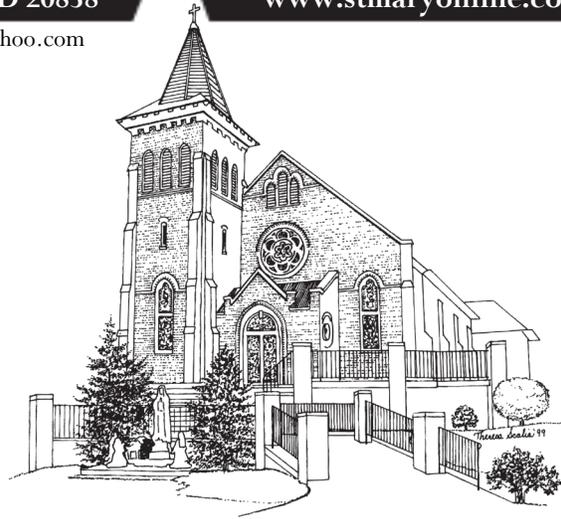
www.stmarysonline.com

Rectory: 301.972.8660 • Rel. Ed.: 301.972.8576 • Email: 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 19, 2017
Third Sunday of Lent



Rev. Kevin P. O'Reilly, *Pastor*
David Cahoon, *Deacon*
Elizabeth Smith, *Dir. of Rel. Ed.*
Leslie Poe, *Adm. Asst. Rel. Ed.*
Diane Yendrey, *Dir. of Music*
Kimball Carpentier, *Organist*
Bill Lynch, *Pavilion Manager*
Brenda Evans, *Secretary*
Diane Lynch, *Secretary*
Susan Jamison, *Sodality*
Steve Corbeille, *Holy Name*
Dave Horton, *Knights of Columbus*

Daily Mass: Monday - Friday: 9am
Sunday Mass: Saturday Vigil 5pm, Sunday: 8, 9:30, 11am
First Friday: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:30am to Noon
First Saturday: Rosary & Our Lady of Fatima Devotions, follow 9am Mass
Confession: Saturday at 4:15 pm and by request
Baptism: by appointment
Weddings: by appointment at least 6 months after initial contact
Rel. Ed.: Wednesdays Fall to Spring: **K-5**, 4-5:15pm; **6-8**, 7:30-8:30pm
H. S. Youth Group Wednesdays 7 - 8:30pm
School: Mary of Nazareth in Darnestown, grades PreK-8

Dear Parishioners,

Nobody would be surprised to hear that the account of the Samaritan woman at the well is called a conversion story. Some will compare her to the woman caught in adultery or other famous women in Scripture. In reality there are many similarities among them all, but they don't necessarily lead to traditional themes of repentance and penance.

If we start by looking at the Samaritan woman as an apostle in her hometown, we might ask about the message she took to her people. After all, she had engaged in quite a theological discussion with Jesus, going from questions about whether he had something better than Jacob's well (tradition) to where people should really worship (liturgy) and ending with hearing Jesus identify himself as the Christ (theology). So, what was her message? "He told me everything I have done." That is all that we hear from her. In discussion with Jesus she had said that the coming Messiah would "tell us everything," but there was no hint that "everything" would be primarily personal information.

What we have in this story is a rather complex encounter in which Jesus first approaches this woman on the level of human need. He asks her for water. But oh, how the simplest things can be complicated! The Samaritans now owned Jacob's well, a symbol of the common roots and tradition they shared with the Jews. But how could a Jew ask a Samaritan for anything? The Jews had destroyed the Samaritans' temple on Mount Gerizim, they disdained the Samaritans for being backwoods idolaters whose intermarriage with non-chosen people had contaminated the bloodlines.

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WEEK-at-a-GLANCE

Sun., 19 7 pm - Sacraments & Bible
Tue., 21 9 am - Exercise Class
10 am - Bible Study
Wed., 22 4 - 5:15 pm - Rel. Ed. K - 5
7 - 8:30 pm - Youth Group
7:30 - 8:30 pm - Grs. 6 - 8
Thur., 23 9 am - Exercise Class
7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal
Fri., 24 6 pm - Soup Dinner
7 pm - Confession
7:30 pm - Stations of the Cross
Sat., 25 4:15 pm - Confession
6:30 pm - St. Patrick's Party

Please Pray For... Frank & Louise Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Robert Baumler, Sally Benson, Pattie Bittner, Jim Bowie, Herbert Brown, J.P. Buckley, Reese Burdette, Linda Burke, Ada Candor, Robert Carhart, Brian Carnahan, Gloria Carrico, Donna Cartwright, John Curry, A. D'Amore, Dana DeLauter, Kevin Dorsey, Bro. Edwin Dupre, Gary Evans, Harry Ganjian, Martha Anne Gehring, Kate Gowans, Marie Horton, Doris Jeffers, Michael Kelley, Jeffrey Krohn, Jr., John Kutzi, Jim Lambert, Bernice Lewandowski, David Liska Sr., Colleen Loss, Harriet Magaha, Joy McIntyre, Gary Mann, Gaile McBride, Maureen & Timmy McDonnell, Bea Nastacio, Dennis O'Fallan, Mary Whelan Porter, Stephen Preffitt, Lauren Prete, Rex Reed, Susan Reid, Elizabeth Renninger, Everly Reed Rice, Andrea Rivas, Salvatore Romano, Lucille Schultz, Teresa Silverman, Nancy Slattery, Angela Smith, Mary Lou Smith, Jerry Stafford, Dolores Suit, Mike Sutherland, Pam Mongan-Taylor, David Thomas, Jean Trotter, Darlene Watson, Wilbur Watkins, Andrea Williams, Donald Williams, Michael Yin, Michael Zahn.

Please Pray for Our Military Family & Friends... Michael Breslin, Alex & Maxwell Chmelik, Dennis Davio, Chase Garrett, David Gilliam, Erich Lloyd, John Marion, Joshua & Noah Miller, Brian Nazarian, Elvin Rivera, Mark Russell, Kyle Twitchell, Chris Watkins, Michael Weigand.

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In short, they were antagonistic peoples inextricably related to one another at the deepest level of their religious history. Jesus was taking on all of that with his simple request for a drink.

As the exchange progressed there was great theological discussion about living water, Jacob's importance, correct worship, prophets and the coming Messiah. But what really counted was that Jesus revealed himself to the woman and revealed her to herself. We don't know the extent of their dialogue, we only know that she came to believe he had come from God and proclaimed, "He told me everything I have done."

What's interesting about this in the context of Lent is that we have a conversion story that doesn't focus at all on sinfulness or even traditional repentance but rather on being known and accepted. When the conversation about husbands began, the woman said she had none, and Jesus replied that she had known at least five. But there is no follow-up on the topic. No talk about straightening out her life, no discussion about laws concerning divorce and remarriage, nor about whether she could commune with him in her current state.

She told her people, "He told me everything I have done." One gets the sense that Jesus explained her to herself. The symbolism of five husbands speaks to a person seeking something on a human level. Her discussion about where to worship, about prophets and the coming Messiah showed that she was well versed in the tradition and had real theological questions and religious hopes. But the message she took home spoke of none of that. She had been accepted for everything she was, just as she was. That fulfilled a need that no affair of the flesh or the mind could ever satisfy.

This story is about thirst, about God seeking and finding beloved humanity. Whatever her social status, whether she was the town reject or a popular figure, the Samaritan became an apostle, an evangelizer. In *Evangelii Gaudium* ("The Joy of the Gospel"), Pope Francis writes, "Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that she or he has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus." That is exactly what happened to the Samaritan woman. Theology, liturgical correctness and the question of who has the better tradition are no more than distractions in the face of an encounter with Christ. Her interaction with Jesus filled her with the living water (the Spirit) that made her an apostle, one who enticed others into a similar encounter.

The church offers us this story in this third week of Lent and invites us to meditate on the woman and her transformation. It reminds us that our faith is based on a personal encounter with Christ, the one whose effect on us is like cascading water. Water filling us and bubbling over into joyful expressions of being so loved just as we are, that we are impelled to continue the relationship and share it. The conversion revealed here is about focusing on Jesus and God's love, nothing more and nothing less.

After all is said and done, the reading does leave us with a blaringly unanswered question: Did she ever give Jesus that drink of water?

Fr. Kevin



Anointing of the Sick We are offering this Sacrament of Healing today at the 11 am Mass.

WORSHIP



"How can you, a Jew,
ask me, a Samaritan
woman, for a drink?"

- John 4:9

Mass Intentions

Sat., 18 5 pm - Lillian Rizzo
Sun., 19 8 am - Rose Regii
9:30 am - Parishioners
11 am - Kathy Silvia
Mon., 20 9 am - Kathleen Kellinger
Tue., 21 9 am - Dorothy Elston
Wed., 22 9 am - Theresa Rizzo
Thu., 23 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 24 9 am - Timothy Murray

Scripture Readings for the Week of March 20

Mon., Mar. 20 2 Sm 7:4-16; Rom 4:13, 16-18; Mt 1:16, 18-2, 24a
Joseph, Husband of Mary
Tues., Mar. 21 Dn 3:25-43; Mt 18:21-35
Wed., Mar. 22 Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thurs., Mar. 23 Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23
Fri., Mar. 24 Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
Sat., Mar. 25 Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Annunciation of the Lord

Lenten Food Drive for WUMCO

Every Lent, parishes across the Archdiocese collect food to help the hungry in our community. Our parish collection will take place next weekend, March 26. Please take home some of the grocery bags from church today and return filled next weekend. Our food will be donated to WUMCO.

Baby Bottles for Life As part of our Lenten offerings we will offer baby bottles for you to collect loose change during Lent and donate them to the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center at Easter. Bottles are in the rear of church.

Pray for our Seminarians and Those in Consecrated Life

Please take a moment today to stop by the "Vocations Tree" in the Sanctuary. Please choose one or more cards and pray for that seminarian each day during Lent. Make it a beautiful offering to the Lord this Lent to pray for those whom He calls to give their lives on service of the Church.

Faith Study Join Deacon Dave as he leads a video series of discussions based on "the Bible and the Sacraments" Sunday evenings at 7 pm in the Pavilion.

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

40 Days for Life Make time to pray in front of the abortion clinic in Germantown on Wisteria Drive. Our parish is part of this annual campaign along with Our Lady of the Presentation, and we are praying on Tuesday, April 4th. Sign-up for an hour with Susan Jamison or Laura Wright, or sign up outside church on March 26 and April 2. This prayer is a proven and easy way to save the lives of your neighbors.

Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 16 after the 9:30 am Mass. If you would like to help out hiding the eggs, and watching over the event, please call Fr. Kevin in the parish office.



Join our Holy Youth group for dinner this Friday from 6 - 7:30 pm in the Fr. Reid Pavilion. The menu includes homemade soups, salad bar and more. The cost is \$8 per person and \$25 for a family.

Stations of the Cross are on Friday evenings during Lent at 7:30 pm in the Church.

The Light is On for You! This Friday at 7 pm and Saturday at 4:15 pm, come and experience the simple generosity of God's love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

2016 Annual Jubilarian Mass

The annual celebration of Marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held on Sunday, June 25 at 2:00 pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine. Cardinal Wuerl will preside at the Mass. Please call the parish office to sign up no later than April 15.

Easter Flower envelopes are in the back of church. Please use them to donate in memory or celebration of a loved one and return them to the parish office by April 2.

Haiti Festival Save the date of Saturday, April 29 for our annual festival to aid our twinning parish in Carcasse. Donations of items are needed for the silent auction.

Second Collection next weekend is for Catholic Relief Services and their work around the world.

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.