

JANUARY 15, 2017

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Parishioners,

You'll notice at St. Mary's that while most of our Christmas decorations came down on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the Nativity scene in church and the Christmas tree in the parish center are still up. No, this isn't out of laziness! I mentioned on New Year's Day that places like St. Peter's Basilica in Rome leave these items up through February 2 as a way of highlighting a subtle theme in some parts of the Church's Liturgy that continues to reflect on the birth of the Christ child up until the Feast of His Presentation in the Temple, 40 days after His birth. It's in that spirit that we have left these items up.

We had an awesome first night of *Called to Greatness* this past January 6 with 40 some kids participating! We hope to see you all again, or for the first time if you couldn't make it! Ask someone who was there just how *great* it was!

A number of you very thoughtfully have been asking about the progress of my doctoral dissertation. Thank you for your interest. To be perfectly honest, there are so many different needs to tend to here at St. Mary's and St. Michael's that the time I set aside for it is easily eaten up, and little progress has been made on the dissertation in the preceding months.

I *very happily* attend to all our parish happenings (at least, as much as time permits – there really are *a lot* of good and important things happening here even without working on the dissertation!!). However, I am at the point where an hour here and an hour there isn't quite sufficient to make the progress needed to complete the dissertation. Therefore, I am trying to set aside several weekdays in a row, when I think I can find a window. I have attempted to do that this past week and will do so again this coming week. I will probably do so again in the coming months. I also need to make sure – as we all do – that I am factoring in some rest! I am not looking for any sympathy, but I feel like I owe it to you to keep you informed, and also to ask for your prayers! My goal is to be able to defend the dissertation in October.

Relatedly, it might be necessary for me to cancel the 6:30 am Mass on Wednesday (Jan 18) and Thursday (Jan 19) of this coming week. As of this writing, I am not 100% sure, so we'll announce it at the 6:30 Mass on Monday and Tuesday. I apologize for the inconvenience, and I will ensure that the intentions for those Masses are certainly offered. (The reason for canceling the 6:30 on both days instead of the 8:30 on one of them is that on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, our school students attend the 8:30 Mass).

Thank you for all you do to make St. Mary's and St. Michael's the wonderful community that they are. Your efforts to make folks who might not be regulars feel welcome and help them to encounter our Lord are especially appreciated.

God bless you and keep you in His care,

Father Cibelli

St. Mary Stewardship Blessings

<i>1/8/2017</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
Offertory	\$8,296.01
Online Giving	2,859.70
Solemnity of Mary	481.00
Christmas	20.00
Total	\$11,656.71
Amount Needed**	\$15,239
**This is the amount of weekly collection that would allow St. Mary to break even for fiscal year 2016	
Poor Box	\$74.70
School Support	5.00
*Not used for St. Mary operating expenses	

This week's second collection is for
Special Care for Diocesan Priests.

Next week's second collection is for
School Support.

**Thank you for your continued
generosity!**

Confirmation — Immediate Preparation Classes for Confirmation students will be held in Fatima Hall the parish Center every Wednesday from January 18 through March 8, 2017. Sign in time is 6:15PM. All Confirmandi must attend these classes.



St. Michael Stewardship Blessings

<i>1/8/2017</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>48</i>
Offertory	\$612.00	
Solemnity of Mary	15.00	
Total	\$627.00	
Amount Needed** \$749		
**This is the amount of weekly collection that would allow St. Michael to break even for fiscal year 2016 *Not used for St. Michael operating expenses		

Please pray for the souls of:
Francis "Frenchie" Ritchick,
husband of Virginia:
Daniel Borum,
husband of Mary;
and
William Slook,
father of Joelle Flynn

May they rest in the Peace of Christ!

Contribution Statement: Contribution statements will be available after January 9. If you would like a contribution statement, please call Paula at 301-739-0390, ext. 110. You can then pick up your statement, emailed, or have it mailed to you. If you made a contribution of \$250 or more at any one time, you will automatically receive a statement, in accordance with IRS requirements.

**St. Mary Church Holy Mass Intentions
January 16—22, 2017**

Day	Date	Mass	Mass Intention
Monday	1/16	6:30 8:30	For the Sanctity of Family Life Robert Hagelberg
Tuesday	1/17	6:30 8:30	Roberta Kufera Anthony G. Elia
Wednesday	1/18	6:30 8:30	William Slook* Robert Hagelberg
Thursday	1/19	6:30 8:30	Daniel Borum* Leonard Adamczyk
Friday	1/20	6:30 8:30	William Teeples Joan Sandford
Saturday	1/21	8:30 5:15	Mary Irene Detwiler Bill Hudson
Sunday	1/22	8:00 9:30 11:00 12:50	Aloysius Kamas For the Sanctity of Family Life Mary Wetzel Deceased Members of SSPX

* If the Mass is cancelled, it will be said at a Mass later the same day



The **hosts** being used for the month of January have been donated by an anonymous donor.



The **candles** being used for the month of January have been donated by an anonymous donor.

The wine being used for the month of January has been donated by an anonymous donor.

St. Michael Mass Intention
St. Mary's and St. Michael's Parishioners

Readings for January 15—22, 2017

Sunday 1/15	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 / 1st Corinthians 1:1-3 / John 1:29-34
Monday 1/16	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY Hebrew 5:1-10 / Mark 2:18-22
Tuesday 1/17	ST. ANTHONY, ABBOTT Hebrew 6:10-20 / Mark 2:23-28
Wednesday 1/18	Hebrew 7:1-3, 15-17 / Mark 3:7-12
Thursday 1/19	Hebrew 7:25—8:6 / Mark 1:40-45
Friday 1/20	ST. FABIAN, POPE & MARTYR; ST. SEBASTIAN, MARTYR Hebrew 8:6-13 / Mark 3:13-19
Saturday 1/21	ST. AGNES, VIRGIN & MARTYR Hebrew 9:2-3, 11-14 / Mark 3:20-21
Sunday 1/22	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Isaiah 8:23—9:3 / 1st Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 / Matthew 4:12-23



Poinsettias —

Anyone who purchased a memorial poinsettia at Christmas is welcome to pick one up in Fatima Hall to take with you. They will be available for a week.

Thank you!

44th ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE
WASHINGTON, DC
Friday, January 27, 2017



- 6:00 a.m. Chartered bus leaves St. Mary Church
- By 8:00 a.m. Arrive at Verizon Center for Youth Rally and Mass for Life
- Noon: Rally at Washington Monument
- 1:00-3:00 p.m. March to Supreme Court
- 5:00 p.m. Approximate return to St. Mary
- BRING:** LUNCH AND WATER; ROSARY
- DRESS:** To be outdoors
- Cost:** Goodwill offering for transportation
- CALL:** Eric Colliflower at 301-440-3295 to reserve your seat
- Additional information:** www.MarchforLife.org
#WhyWeMarch

Sursum

Corda



Called To Greatness

St Mary High School Youth Group 9-12 grade

Friday

January 20

Food

7-9pm

Bring a Friend!!

Fun

Friends

Games

"Dear young people, let yourselves be taken over by the light of Christ, and spread that light wherever you are."

St JPII

Questions? Contact Todd Anderson hagerstownhomeseller@gmail.com

Mary McNeil emmbee@look-ma.com or 301 582 3752

Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts (for the year 2017)

After the Gospel on the Feast of the Epiphany is sung the following:

Know, dear brothers and sisters,
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so by leave of God's mercy
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection,
who is our Savior.

On the first day of March will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the sixteenth day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-eighth day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the fourth day of June, the feast of Pentecost.

On the eighteenth day of June the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the third day of December, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ,
to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

Father,

ASK THE PRIEST

Is it against the third commandment to study on Sundays? Is it considered work for a student to study on Sundays?

The third commandment to “*Keep Holy the Sabbath*” is an attempt to help us to remember that “*man does not live on bread alone, but on every Word that comes from the mouth of God.*” (Luke 4:4) Therefore, Sunday is supposed to be a day when we give praise and thanks to God for all His great gifts to us. It is a day to sit back and reflect that our bounty comes not from our own efforts alone but also from the gracious gift of God. The Sabbath rest is a time to realize that without God all our efforts would be in vain. It is also a time to rest, relax, and be with family. My mother loved gardening. I did not. For her gardening was not work, but recreation. For me, it would be work. According to the Catechism, The Lord’s Day is for “**the appropriate relaxation of the mind and body**” #2185 and yet it also says that “**Sunday is a time for silence, cultivation of the mind, and meditation which furthers the growth of the Christian interior life.**” #2186

2185 On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body. Family needs or important social service can legitimately excuse from the obligation of Sunday rest. The faithful should see to it that legitimate excuses do not lead to habits prejudicial to religion, family life, and health.

2186 Those Christians who have leisure should be mindful of their brethren who have the same needs and the same rights, yet cannot rest from work because of poverty and misery. Sunday is traditionally consecrated by Christian piety to good works and humble service of the sick, the infirm, and the elderly. Christians will also sanctify Sunday by devoting time and care to their families and relatives, often difficult to do on other days of the week. Sunday is a time for reflection, silence, cultivation of the mind, and meditation which furthers the growth of the Christian interior life.

If studying on Sunday, helps you to achieve these goals, then it is not against the third Commandment.

“Ask The Priest” is a continuing feature of the Bulletin. If you have a question regarding the Catholic faith, please place your question in the box on the back table.

SCHOOL NEWS

Prospective parents and students are invited to visit Saint Mary Catholic School each *Tuesday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.*

Staff members will be available to give tours and to answer questions of prospective parents. Witness student participation in the classroom, observe a typical day, feel the energy in our hallways, and watch the children socialize during break. What a great chance to see SMCS students in action!
Stop by and see for yourself why St. Mary Catholic School is the right place for your student.

◆ Catholic Schools Week Kick-Off

SMCS Annual Pancake Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, January 28th from 8:00 AM – Noon** in the school cafeteria.

- ◆ Our **Scholastic Book Fair** will be set-up in Fatima Hall. Come see the great selection.
- ◆ **An Open House and Tours** for prospective new students and families will also be available from **9:00 AM to Noon**.
- ◆ **Tickets for pancake and omelets will be available at the door.**
- ◆ **Registration for the 2017-2018 school year for Pre-K 4 through 7th Grade** will open on **Friday, January 20th**. Call or email Rachel O'Connor at 301-733-1184 or roconnor@stmarycatholicschool.org for an information packet and/or a tour.
- ◆ **Starting New for 2017-2018:**

St. Mary Catholic School is excited to announce a Full Day option (8:15 AM – 2:45 PM) will be available for our Pre-K 4 program.

The Half Day option is from 8:15 AM – 11:30 AM. Space is limited so don't delay. Call or email Rachel O'Connor at 301-733-1184 or roconnor@stmarycatholicschool.org for an information packet and/or a tour.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift...

We call it gift, grace, anointing, enlightenment, garment of immortality, bath of rebirth, seal, and most precious gift. It is called *gift* because it is conferred on those who bring nothing of their own; *grace* since it is given even to the guilty; *Baptism* because sin is buried in the water; *anointing* for it is priestly and royal as are those who are anointed; *enlightenment* because it radiates light; *clothing* since it veils our shame; *bath* because it washes; and *seal* as it is our guard and the sign of God's Lordship.

Starting in January 2017, St. Mary's will be offering the **gift of baptism** on the **second and fourth Saturdays** of each month at **12:30pm**. The **baptism class** will be scheduled for either the first or third Sunday of each month in the **Conference Room of the Parish Center from 12:30 to 1:30pm**. (Please check the bulletin for the final determination of date).

It is very important that babies be baptized as soon as possible and preferably within six weeks of birth. Therefore, Fr. Cibelli is offering this sacrament more often.

RESPECT LIFE: Plan now to join tens of thousands from the Archdiocese of Baltimore and across our country for the **Annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, January 27, 2017** (due to the Presidential Inauguration). St. Mary does have **tickets for the Youth Rally and Mass for Life at the Verizon Center** prior to the National March. Therefore our chartered **bus will leave at 6:00 a.m. from Walnut St., and return to St. Mary about 5 to 6:00 p.m.** Call Eric Colliflower at 301-440-3295 to reserve your seat on the bus. Goodwill donation to cover transportation cost will be taken on the bus.

Upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend

January 27 - 29 in Columbia, Maryland

4 Stages of Marriage – The 4 stages of marriage are: (1) Romance, (2) Disillusionment, (3) Misery, and (4) Awakening. Many marriages experience the first 3 Stages. Marriages that end in divorce never make it to the 4th Stage of Awakening. Don't give up without learning about the 4th Stage of Awakening. If your marriage suffers from Disillusionment or Misery please contact. Our next weekend is January 27 - 29, 2017. All calls and inquires are confidential. To register or obtain more information visit our website at: www.HelpOurMarriage.com, call (443) 400-7017, or email: 3015@retrouvaille.org

SVDP— Our baptismal task is continually to deepen our own understanding of who Jesus is and to make him known. We don't come to a one-time understanding of Christ. Our whole lives are spent beholding the Lamb of God. Like John, we go from not knowing to seeing to testifying. More than likely, we aren't called to testify to the Son of God by going and baptizing or doing great things. We testify to Jesus' identity by being faithful to the ordinary things in life, by doing God's will. The revelation of Jesus' identity—how he is made known in the world—is mediated by the way we live our lives everyday.

The St. Mary Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was established in 1954. In 2016, the SVdPS helped approximately 400 members of our community. Types of assistance included eviction prevention, utility shut-off prevention and food vouchers. Anyone experiencing a hardship is encouraged to contact the SVdPS (301-739-0390 ext. 124).

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- ◆ **New council website for keeping informed of council news:** www.kofc1365.org
- ◆ **Brotherhood Council Meetings 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 8pm** in the Council Hall. Our Trustee for 2016-2017 is Cel Shannon. For information, please contact Cel Shannon at cel_s67@hotmail.com.
- ◆ **Bingo Bingo Bingo.** Every Tuesday at the **Knights of Columbus Hall (20340 Leitersburg Pike, Hagerstown, MD 21742)** Starting at 6:45 pm we conduct 34 bingo games for the public. Please join us and have fun.
- ◆ Every practical Catholic man over the age of 18 should become a Knight. We need your help. Speak with a knight about joining our order.
- ◆ The Knights of Columbus has launched a FREE smartphone app on Android and Apple iOS platforms that show what the Order has to offer eligible Catholic men and their families! Featuring an overview of the Order's work in providing security to families, as well as its charitable and Church activities, The "Knights of Columbus: Join Us" app is a concise and engaging way to share with potential new members the good works and insurance protection made possible by K of C membership. Users can also access an online form which they can complete as a first step in becoming a Knight! The app is available for FREE download through iTunes or the Google Play store.