

February 12, 2017

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Parishioners,

If you've already glanced up at the sanctuary, you have probably noticed something different. The speakers for our sound system are hanging on tripod supports, and the purpose of this is to see if we can find a better position for them. Their location up until now has been on the columns in the sanctuary. While this is a good place for them *aesthetically* – painted a similar color as the wood, they blended in somewhat – it is not good *acoustically* because one speaker is directly behind the microphone on the pulpit.

This scenario probably accounts for the difficulty some have had in hearing when they come to Mass. I'm not sure if everyone has the same concern, but at the very least, relocating the speakers may be a simple and inexpensive solution.

The tripods are temporary so that we can determine if this approximate location is, in fact, acoustically better. If it is, we will mount them to the wall near the stained-glass windows, in the most discrete location possible. In order to determine this, we will need your feedback. Pay attention at the announcements for information on how to give your feedback is coming.

Thank you for your help and support with this!

God bless you and keep you in His care,

Father Cibelli

St. Patrick's Day Dispensation

With St. Patrick's Day (March 17) falling on a Friday during Lent this year, Archbishop William E. Lori has granted Catholics in the Archdiocese of Baltimore a dispensation from abstinence from eating meat that day. Catholics practice fasting and abstinence as penitential practices which unite Catholics to the redemptive suffering and death of Jesus. Catholics abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent in remembrance of the day Christ died. In lieu of abstaining from meat on St. Patrick's Day, the Archbishop encourages those members of the faithful of the Archdiocese to engage in some additional act of prayer, service to the poor, or almsgiving.

St. Mary Stewardship Blessings

2/5/2017 Attendance 887

Offertory	\$10,136.52
Online Giving	3,261.70
Capital Improvement	1,608.00
Total	\$15,006.22

Amount Needed** \$15,239

**This is the amount of weekly collection that would allow St. Mary to break even for fiscal year 2017

School Support	375.00
Poor Box	135.49
Other	50.00

*Not used for St. Mary operating expenses

St. Michael Stewardship Blessings

2/5/2017 Attendance 46

Offertory	\$764.00
-----------	----------

Amount Needed** \$749

**This is the amount of weekly collection that would allow St. Michael to break even for fiscal year 2017

*Not used for St. Michael operating expenses

First Communion

Children who are making their First Communion need to be getting ready for their interviews. If they are in St. Mary School or St Mary CCD Program, they will be interviewed during class. If they are Home-Schooled, please call Jan at 301-739-0390 ext 129, to schedule an interview appointment.

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.

St. Mary's offers the **gift of baptism** on the **second and fourth Saturdays** of each month at **12:30pm**. **Baptism Class** is scheduled the first Sunday of each month in the **Conference Room of the Parish Center from 12:30 to 1:30pm**.

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. A good precedence would be, as soon as parents begin to announce their pregnancy, to call and schedule their baptism agenda shortly after.

Call the Parish Office 301-739-0390 ext. 110, Paula will assist you.



Please pray for

Charles "Casey" R. Martin, Jr.,
husband of Christina.

May he rest in the Peace of Christ!

Prayer for our Troops

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.

Protect them as they protect us.

Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.

And give us peace.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,
Our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

Contribution Statement: Contribution statements are available. 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
February 13—19, 2017

Day	Date	Mass	Mass Intention
Monday	2/13	6:30 8:30	Special Intentions of Emilio Rengifo Elsie Clippinger and Special Intentions of Aida Clippinger
Tuesday	2/14	6:30 8:30	Special Intentions of Jose Rengifo III Erik Gregg
Wednesday	2/15	6:30 8:30	Special Intentions of Zaccai Shavou Special Intentions of Tania Bowers
Thursday	2/16	6:30 8:30	Lucie Anderson Rose Mazzo
Friday	2/17	6:30 8:30	Special Intentions of Maria Taylor Special Intentions of Maria & Ted Axline
Saturday	2/18	8:30 5:15	Special Intentions of Julie Jacobson Bill Hudson
Sunday	2/19	8:00 9:30 11:00 12:50	In Honor of St. Joseph Parish Members of St. Mary and St. Michael Special Intentions of Joan Bernhard Rita Nowowieska



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



The **candles** being used for the month of February have been donated by Sandra Elkin in honor of her father, Joseph A. Sekerak

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

St. Michael Mass Intention

For All Our Fallen Military

Readings for February 12—19, 2017

Sunday 2/12	SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Sirach 15:15-20 / 1st Corinthians 2:6-10 / Matthew 5:17-37
Monday 2/13	Genesis 4:1-15, 25 / Mark 8:11-13
Tuesday 2/14	STS. CYRIL, MONK, and METHIDIUS, BISHOP Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10 / Mark 8:14-21
Wednesday 2/15	WEEKDAY Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22 / Mark 8:22-26
Thursday 2/16	WEEKDAY Genesis 9:1-13 / Mark 8:27-33
Friday 2/17	WEEKDAY (The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order) Genesis 11:1-9 / Mark 8:34—9:1
Saturday 2/18	WEEKDAY (BVM) Hebrew 11:1-7 / Mark 9:2-13
Sunday 2/19	SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 / 1st Corinthians 3:16-23 / Matthew 5:38-48

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.

ASK THE PRIEST

Father,

Can a Catholic marry a Muslim in the Church? If 'yes' what role does the "imam" [Muslim clergy] play in the wedding ceremony? If No, can 2 Catholics marry in the Church and then have their marriage blessed by an imam?

The institution of marriage was established by God at the very beginning of the human race when He created male and female and commanded that they be fertile and multiply. (Genesis ch. 1) Jesus reminded the Pharisees of this command when they asked about divorce. (Matthew ch. 19). It may be said that Jesus took a natural institution of marriage and turned it into a Sacrament. A sacrament is an "outward sign, instituted by Christ, to give grace." Marriage helps us to grow in the image and likeness of Christ, therefore, the Catholic Church takes great interest in making sure that when Catholics celebrate marriage, it is done so sacramentally and validly. Since one must be baptized to receive a sacrament, the Catholic Church is especially concerned to protect the faith of the Catholic when they desire to marry a non-Catholic, and especially a non-Christian. **CAN A CATHOLIC MARRY A MUSLIM?** Yes, but in order to safeguard the faith of the Catholic party, special permission must be granted by the bishop to allow the marriage but only after the Catholic party has promised to do all in their power to raise any children of this marriage in the Catholic faith. In order for a non-Catholic to officiate at the marriage ceremony, they would, again, have to get special permission from the bishop, know as "dispensation from form." If a Muslim only wanted read one of the Bible readings or be a member of the bridal party, there would be no special dispensation needed for that type of participation. Catholics who are not married by a Catholic clergyman and have not gotten a "dispensation from form" are not married in the eyes of the Catholic Church and their marriage is invalid. Catholics may not attend the marriage of another Catholic which the Church deems to be invalid. When two Catholics are married according to the rites of the Catholic Church, they may not have a second marriage ceremony. To have a second marriage ceremony, would call into question the validity of the Catholic rite and is therefore, NOT permitted.

"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.

Volunteers Urgently Needed for Mary's Center

Mary's Center, Inc. a Catholic Pregnancy Center, is seeking volunteers for its Hagerstown Center. If you are able to donate a few hours each week to help women and teens in a crisis pregnancy or in need of material assistance for their babies, please call the Center at 301-739-1234 or Ann at 301-790-1686. New volunteer training will begin March 7.

SVDP— Assistance to the poor and suffering is provided through your donations to the Poor Box. Anyone suffering through a hardship is encouraged to contact the Saint Vincent de Paul Society for assistance. Phone 301-739-0390 ext 124.

The Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul *Serving Christ in the Person of the Poor since 1633*
The Daughters of Charity are offering a **"Come and See"** vocation retreat weekend **March 3-5, 2017**. Single Catholic women ages 18-40 interested in a vocation as a Sister are invited to attend. The retreat will be held at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, MD. If interested please contact: Sr. Mary Frances Barnes, D.C. at 410-646-2074 or [dccc@doc.org](mailto:dccvoc@doc.org). www.daughters-of-charity.com

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God." Let the Holy Spirit scrutinize and strengthen your marriage by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on April 21-23, 2017 or October 27-29, 2017 in Gaithersburg, MD. For more information and to apply online visit welovematrimony.org, or call 301-541-7007, or email at applications@welovematrimony.org.

76 words | Starts March 1, 2017

From Stress to Success

Caritas Counseling Center is offering "From Stress to Success," a small group designed to help you manage a crisis or deal with a major life change, Wednesdays, March 1-April 19, 2-3:30 p.m. (except April 12). Part of our Healthy Life series, the therapist-facilitated group will cover mindfulness practice, skill-building and discussion. Space is limited. For details, cost or to register, contact Martha Keys Barker at 301-431-6866 orcaritas@sls.org. Caritas (caritas-sls.org) is a ministry of Saint Luke Institute.

PANGBORN 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 night 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.
- ◆ Pangborn Assembly of the Knights of Columbus will host **Italian Night Dinner & Dancing Saturday, February 18th opening at 6:30pm at the Columbus Hall on Leitersburg Pike.** Donation \$12.00 & children under 12 \$6. Contact Fred Nugent for advanced ticket sales at FNugent@verizon.net.
- ◆ All Bingo Tuesdays will be **HALF PRICE** on regular games during the month of February!
- ◆ Knights: Annual Dues Notices have been sent. Please remit timely.

SCHOOL NEWS

Introducing - Take A Look Tuesdays

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.

Registration Now Open!

Registration for the 2017-2018 school year for Pre-K 4 through 7th Grade is now Open.

Call or email Rachel O'Connor at 301-733-1184 or roconnor@stmarycatholicsschool.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@stmarycatholicsschool.org for an information packet and/or a tour.

Welcome Grants

Students who are currently enrolled in public school who wish to transfer to St. Mary Catholic School are eligible to receive a tuition grant for \$2,000 off the first year's tuition and \$1,000 off the second year's tuition. A limited number of grants are available to students actively participating in a Catholic parish. Grants will be available from January 20th until May 1st, 2017 for Grades 2nd through 5th only.



Called to Greatness

Youth Ministry

Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays 7-9

[The 13th of the Month Fatima Prayer Group](#) meets at 12 noon in

the church for prayer. It does not meet when the 13th falls on Sunday.

All are welcome please join us!.

Hershey Park

Get your tickets for our Annual Hershey fundraiser! Please share with friends and family!

Regular Tickets: \$43.00

(Ages 9-54)

Gate Price is \$65

Junior/Senior tickets: \$33.00

(Ages 3-8 & 55-69) Gate Price is \$43

All Tickets Valid 4/29/17 through 9/25/17

(not open every day in May or September)

If you sell 20 or more tickets, your name will be entered into a raffle to win 2 Regular Tickets!!

Orders Due: April 5th to School Office