

Dear Parishioners,

Today we are honored to welcome Edwin Cardinal O'Brien to St. Mary's as he confers the sacrament of Confirmation on 31 of our young people.

Cardinal O'Brien was Archbishop of Baltimore from 2007 - 2011. In 2011 Pope Benedict appointed Cardinal O'Brien to serve as the head of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre (His official title is: Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.)

The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre are an international organization of Catholic men and women who unite for the purpose of supporting the Christians in the Holy Land both with their prayers and material support along with pilgrimages that often include service. In fact, the parishes and other institutions of the Church depend on the support of the Order because it is very difficult for Christians to make a living in the Holy Land. Many Christians have fled the Holy Land on account of persecution or even just the need for a stable job. This leaves the Christian population of the Holy Land – the very place that Christ walked the earth – only about 1% of the total population (seventy years ago, it was 30%). Cardinal O'Brien meets with the members of the Order throughout the world in order to guide and encourage them in their efforts.

Cardinal O'Brien is originally from the Bronx. Since being ordained a priest he has served as an Army chaplain in Vietnam, the rector of the Pontifical North American College in Rome, and later as the Archbishop of the Military Services. On a more personal level, he is the bishop who ordained me a priest in 2009, and from 2013-2015, I had the privilege of serving as his priest-secretary.

It's a privilege to be able to welcome His Eminence to Hagerstown, and I'm glad we have such a great group of young people for him to Confirm. Please join me in praying for those to be Confirmed, that the Holy Spirit will guide and strengthen them as faithful disciples of Christ. Please also join me in offering a prayer of gratitude for Cardinal O'Brien's presence here, today.

May God bless you and keep you in His care, and may the Blessed Mother intercede for you,

Father Cibelli

P.S. It was suggested to me that I publish in the Bulletin the text of my homily from the Fourth Sunday of Easter. While I think it's very different reading a homily versus hearing it, I pray you find it helpful, especially given the important subject matter.

May 21, 2017

6th Sunday of Easter

St. Mary Stewardship Blessings

5/14/2017	Attendance	923
Offertory	\$10,415.43	
Online Giving	2,694.70	
EOM	167.54	
Other	305.00	
Total	\$13,582.67	
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	255.00	
Poor Box	\$499.25	

St. Michael Stewardship Blessings

5/14/2017	Attendance	48
Offertory	\$518.00	
School Support	35.00	
Ascension	150.00	
Amount Needed** \$749		
**This is the amount of weekly collection that would allow St. Michael to break even for fiscal year 2017		

This week's second collection is for **School Support**.
Please give generously to the needs of our school.
Thank you!

Next week's second collection is for **Catholic Communications**.

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.

Please keep in mind, Mass attendance is a requirement for the Sacrament of Baptism to occur.

Congratulations to our boys and girls who received their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 7. Please remember these boys in your prayers. (See insert in today's bulletin).



The **flowers on the altars** this weekend are donated by the **Catholic Daughters** in honor of **Confirmation**. The **flowers under the main altar** are in loving memory of **Donald Burger** from his wife, **Cora Burger**.

The **hosts** being used for the month of May have been donated by The Legion of Mary.

The **candles** and **wine** being used for the month of May have been donated by The St. Vincent de Paul Society.

St. Mary Church Holy Mass Intentions
May 22—28, 2017

Day	Date	Mass	Intention
Monday	5/22	6:30	Donald Burger
		8:30	Intentions of St. Rita
Tuesday	5/23	6:30	Msgr. Alfred Smith
		8:30	Special Intentions of Suzanne Kankam
Wednesday	5/24	6:30	Gene Eakle
		8:30	William D'Aquino
Thursday	5/25	6:30	Philip & Sara Alencherry
		8:30	Ann Pauline McDermott
		7:30 PM EF Mass	Dottie Jones
Friday	5/26	6:30	William D'Aquino
		8:30	Fr. Eugene DelConte
Saturday	5/27	8:30	NO MASS
		5:15	Bill Hudson
Sunday	5/28	8:00	James & Joan St. Ledger
		9:30	William D'Aquino
		11:00	Jeanette Blazes
		12:50	Special Intentions of Pauline Allison

St. Michael Church 10:30AM 5/28/2017

Parishioners of St. Mary & St. Michael Churches

On May 27, the schedule will be different on account of Diaconate Ordination in Baltimore. Cancelling the 8:30 am Mass and 11:30 Confessions will allow Fr. Larry and I to participate in the ordination of three of our seminarians to the diaconate, the last major preparation for priestly ordination. It is important for priests to support each other, especially those preparing for ordination.

Saturday, May 27

NO 8:30 am Mass

NO 11:30 Confessions

The rest of the schedule as normal

On June 4, the Mass schedule will be different on account of Eighth Grade Graduation. Moving the Extraordinary Form Mass to 5:00 pm is the alternative to cancelling as has been done previously.

(Regular Saturday Schedule, June 3)

Sunday, June 4

8:00 am Mass (St. Mary's)

11:00 am Mass (St. Mary's)

9:30 am Mass (St. Mary's)

2:00 pm Mass for Graduation (St. Mary's)

10:30 am Mass (St. Michael's)

5:00 pm Mass (Extraordinary Form) (St. Mary's)

There are lots of voices begging for our attention today, asking us to follow them. We hear the voices of various movements and activist groups, the voices of businesses and ways of life all bidding for our attention, for us to follow them.

They promise to make us happy, to fulfill our wants and our needs, to make up what is lacking in our lives. They promise to fulfill all of our desires, to heal loneliness and make us popular and successful. They promise us great experiences of adventure, to put an end to evil and suffering and injustice, to make everything right in the world.

We, finding these things good and appealing, follow them and purchase their products or sign on to their way of life – often enough, unwittingly. We buy more and more toys and gadgets, we sign up for more and more teams, we do more and more “stuff.” We buy into these messages and promises and expect to be satisfied, to be living life more fully.

Yet, are we satisfied? Are we fulfilled? Do we not still feel lonely at times, like we’re still searching? We seem to always be asking ourselves, “What do I need to get now, what will make me happy?”

To whatever degree and with whatever frequency we might follow these voices, we probably realize from time to time that something is still missing, that this is not the right voice to follow.

Still, Jesus says, my sheep know my voice, they do not follow thieves and robbers, they don’t recognize the voice of strangers. We are his sheep, so how is it that we so often follow these false shepherds?

It’s not because we’re persuaded by evil, by the thieves and the robbers, but because they appeal to real needs and longings of our hearts, they seem to offer us some legitimately good things.

In reality, however, the good is mixed in with the evil, or it only has the *appearance* of good. They promise us fulfillment when they have no ability to do so, they promise us fullness of life, abundant life, *but in reality there is only one who can **make** that promise as well as **keep** it.*

He is the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ himself

So how, in the midst of all these false voices, do we hear his voice?

There are many ways that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, makes his voice heard to his flock, and each of us shares in the ability to hear His voice but also to be His voice in virtue of our baptism.

Nonetheless, the Lord has desired to make it possible to hear His voice in as real and personal a way as possible, to make it possible to hear His voice just as personally today as when He walked the earth. He wants us to be able to hear his voice above all the many thieves and robbers and false shepherds out there, and so He has made His voice *sacramentally* present.

Jesus has chosen to take weak human beings and anoint them to be His voice in the world, so that we might hear a loving man speak the Lord’s words of peace and fulfillment to us in a personal way.

These men that the Lord uses to speak to us in this way are called priests. The priest is the unique way that Jesus calls out to us throughout the generations in a way just as personal as it was for his disciples who lived with Him 2000 years ago.

The Lord uses men to speak to us, with all their short comings and failings right along with all their gifts and talents, not because they are perfect or deserve this role but because He wants us to be able to hear His voice just like the disciples heard His voice – as human beings, with a loving, personal touch.

So it is fitting that today [the Fourth Sunday of Easter] is designated as the World day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood. We pray for vocations to the Priesthood today because we recall what an important role they play in Christ's desire to shepherd us into eternal life. They do so when they preach Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

How urgently we need this gift in the midst of all the false shepherds calling out to us in very convincing voices. How important it is that we pray *for them* and *for more of them*.

Therefore, today [whatever day you are reading this] I invite you to do three things:

1. Take time each day to discern God's voice in your day-to-day lives. How do we hear God's voice amidst all the many things that bid our attention? What is God calling me to do today? How can I love Him and follow Him better *today*?
2. Next, take time to pray, each day, that more young men may respond to the Lord's call to act in the person of Christ, to be his voice, the Good Shepherd's voice, that there might always be strong voices to counteract those false voices and false promises that bid our attention and certainly provide the Sacraments.
3. And finally I ask you, young men, to consider if the Lord is calling you to the priesthood. Asking this question today or this week, doesn't mean answering it right away. It doesn't even mean the answer will be "Yes." I can tell you personally it takes time to know what the Lord's call is. In my own discernment, I was inspired by the example of my parish priests and felt a strong call to the priesthood even in high school. It wasn't until college, however, that I was ready to try it out. Even then, each step I took in that direction was part of the discernment, not being certain exactly where the path would lead me until I got towards the end.

Moreover, the freedom my parents gave me to respond, assuring me that they would love me on whatever path God was leading me, was so important. Parents, relatives, and friends, you can be the good shepherd's voice not only by inviting a young man to consider the call but most importantly, by giving him the freedom to respond.

Frankly, these are good principles and practices to keep in mind regardless of what our vocation is or even if we have already arrived at it.

The Lord came to give us abundant life in many different ways, the priesthood playing a special role in this for each of us. He wants us to be happy and provide for our needs amidst all the pain of this world. We however, whatever path the Lord has marked out for us, must cooperate with Him, and heed His voice.

Congratulations

St. Mary's First Communicants

Marcello Anderson

Amelie Augustine

Brayden Barbitta

Corrina Byrne

Eric Cabezas

Miles Campbell

Amber Constantino

Avery NDong-Cantare

Daniel Fraticelli

Emma Haren

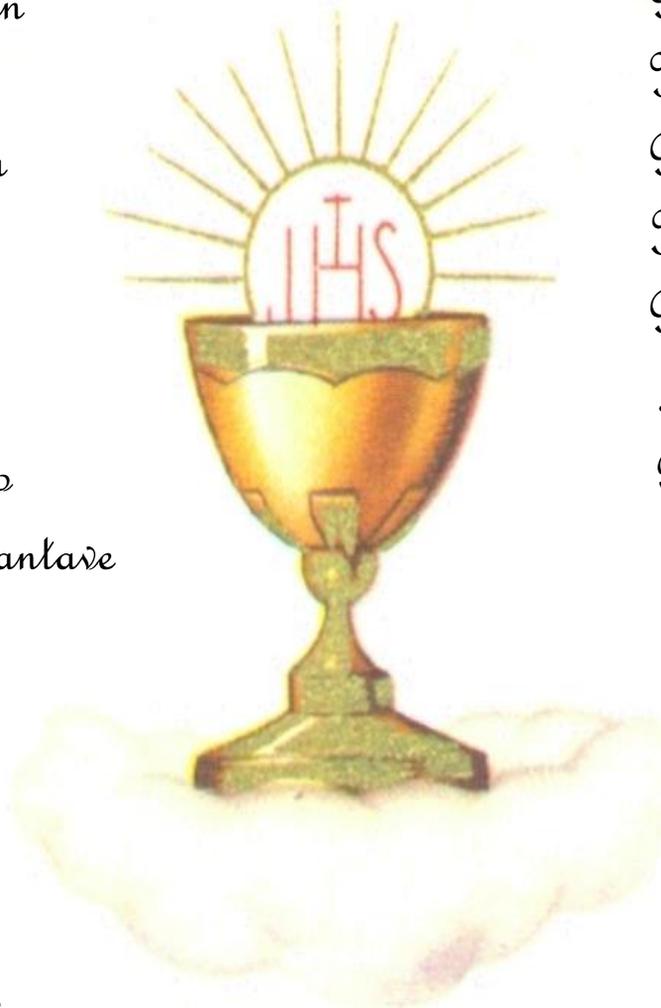
Riley Horn

David Judge

Raine Kuritz

Isabella Maciulla

Olivia Morgan



Mia Nitzell

Kaitlyn O'Berry

Molly Pollak

Kailie Pryor

Mia Robinson

Luke Scott

Barrett Shoemaker

Sydney Smith

Hannah Strother

Shane Tyler

Therese Sungenis

Angelo Villalobos

Christopher Walker

Avery Wood

St. Michael's First Communicants

Lily Miller

Emma Rosenberry

Introducing - Take A Look Tuesdays

SMCS staff will be available every **Tuesday from 9:00 am – 11:00 am** to give you a tour and provide information about St. Mary Catholic School. Stop by and see for yourself why St. Mary Catholic School is the right place for your student.

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.** Email Rachel O'Connor at roconnor@stmarycatholicschool.org or call 301-733-1184 for an information packet and/or a tour.

Please join the Padre Pio Prayer Group

Thursdays after the 8:30AM Mass in the church. On May 25, we will be celebrating his 130th birthday. All are welcome!

Second annual St. Philomena Medical Benefit Concert

at St. James Catholic Church in Charles Town, WV on June 10th. The headlining band is Scythian and we have many other opening bands, including Catholic Podcast, Fishing With Dynamite! Get tickets at St. James, Charles Town, WV or www.radioheartmedia.com/concert

Tuscarora Catholic Summer Camp

will hold its 24th Annual Week of Faith and Fun-filled Activities July 24th—27th for campers in 4th through 12th grades. Held at Rhodes Grove Camp, off US Route 11 near Greencastle. This unique opportunity permits true Christian interaction giving our campers an opportunity to meet other Catholic Students. Each day's program includes Mass, Religious Lesson. Swimming is scheduled each afternoon with a certified lifeguard and other adults present. There is a Rope Course, Nature Program, Horse Back Riding, Hikes, Camp Fires and other scheduled activities. The fee is \$225 for each camper.

For more information and applications contact Sister Margie at 717-485-5917.

St. Anthony Shrine will be holding a **Yard Sale** on **Friday, May 26** and **Saturday, May 27**. Baked goods and food will be available both days starting at 8:30 a. m. Yard Sale Space will be available for \$10 per day—you must bring your own table or tables. Come enjoy the day with us. For ore information call Helen Reaver at 301-447-6431 or the Parish Office at 301-447-2367. Thanks for any help you can give us!

Is your car dirty? Come help support our youth going to the Steubenville Summer Youth Conference by getting your car, van or truck washed every Saturday in May and June from 9 am to 5pm. Cost: donation

Thank you everyone who joined us for the annual procession and crowning of Mary. Thank you to our Confirmation Court and our First Communicants. We would also like to thank West Side Florist for their donation of the flowers that were presented.

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 Knight about joining our order.
- ♦ K of C Pangborn ASM 387 is paying **Tribute to Veterans & First Responders on Memorial Day 2017** with an **AMERICAN Flag Display of Honor**. Show your Support by Sponsoring a Flag to be displayed at Your Church during Memorial Day Weekend. See Knight Members or flyer posted at entrance of Church.

Father,

I've noticed that some people hold hands during the 'Our Father' and others lift their hands up in the air while praying at different times throughout the Mass. Are we allowed to do this? What does the church say about it?

In the *Roman Missal*, the book that the priest prays from at Mass, there are a series of instructions about what we should be doing at Mass. The instructions are called "rubrics" (coming from the Latin word for "red") because they are often written in red ink. The rubrics for the 'Our Father' state "(152) After the Eucharistic Prayer is concluded, the priest, with hands joined, says the introduction to the Lord's Prayer. With hands extended, he then says this prayer together with the people. (153) After the Lord's Prayer is concluded, the priest alone, with hands extended, says the embolism *Libera nos* (Deliver us). At the end, the people make the acclamation, *Quia tuum est regnam* (For the kingdom)." As you can see the rubrics do not clearly encourage or prohibit the practices mentioned above. It does however, say that the priest ALONE extends his hands for the embolism. The extension of the hands in prayer is called the "orans" (Latin, for "praying) position, and is often used by the priest to lead people in prayer. The *Book of Blessings* states "A minister who is a priest or deacon says the prayer of blessing with hands outstretched; a lay minister says the prayers with hands joined." (#1999) In a document issued in 1997 by St. Pope John Paul II entitled, "Instruction on Certain Questions Regarding the Collaboration of the Non-Ordained Faithful in the Sacred Ministry of the Priest", it states "Neither may the deacon or non-ordained members of the faithful use gestures or actions which are proper to the to the same priest celebrant."

"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.

St. Vincent de Paul— 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**.

Readings for May 21 — 28, 2017

Sunday 5/21	Sunday Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 / 1st Peter 3:15-18 / John 14:15-21
Monday 5/22	Monday Easter Weekday St. Rita of Cascia, Religious Acts 16:11-15 / John 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday 5/23	Tuesday Easter Weekday Acts 16:22-34 / John 16:5-11
Wednesday 5/24	Wednesday Easter Weekday Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 / John 16:12-15
Thursday 5/25	Thursday THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Holyday of Obligation) Acts 1:1-11 / Ephesians 1:17-23 / Matthew 28:16-20 / John 15:9-11
Friday 5/26	Friday St. Philip Neri, Priest Acts 18:9-18 / John 16:20-23
Saturday 5/27	Saturday Easter Weekday St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop Acts 18:23-28 / John 16:23b-28
Sunday 5/28	Sunday Seventh Sunday of Easter Acts 1:12-14 / 1st Peter 4:13-16 / John 17:1-11a