

November 19, 2017

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Happy  
Thanksgiving

Father in Heaven, Creator of all and source of all goodness and love,  
please look kindly upon us and receive our heartfelt gratitude in this time of giving thanks.

Thank you for all the graces and blessings. You have bestowed upon us, spiritual and temporal:  
our faith and religious heritage.

Our food and shelter, our health, the loves we have for one another, our family and friends.

Dear Father, in Your infinite generosity,  
please grant us continued graces and blessing throughout the coming year.

This we ask in the Name of Jesus, Your Son and our Brother. Amen.

## ADVENT SERVICE PROJECT

St. Mary's is once again sponsoring an **Advent Service Project**. Please join us in providing Christmas gifts to children in the **Washington County Head Start Program**. We would like the Parish to buy the toys for 3, 4, and 5 year olds and a few infants. The CCD program will be buying clothes for each of the children.

**Gender and age information will be handed out outside of the church after all the December 2/3 Masses.**

### Practice Faithful Citizenship: Join the Catholic Advocacy Network

"Responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation," the U.S. Bishops have said. Getting involved is easy. The Maryland Catholic Advocacy Network, an outreach of the Maryland Catholic Conference, is an email network that keeps you informed on public policy issues and puts you in direct contact with lawmakers to share your views. Visit [www.mdccatholic.org](http://www.mdccatholic.org) and click on the Catholic Advocacy Network button to join today.

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to take this opportunity to call your attention to some important events, including our Christmas schedule.

**As you may have observed, Christmas falls on a Monday this year which presents an interesting situation with the Mass schedule. This means that Catholics will need to go to Mass twice in a three-day period of time to fulfill both their Sunday obligation and Christmas obligation. Yet in making the Mass schedule, priests need to keep in mind that they can only celebrate three Masses in a given day on a holy day of obligation.**

Having consulted the Pastoral Council, the following schedule will be observed for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the feast of Christmas.

<b>Saturday, December 23, 2017</b>	<b>Sunday, December 24, 2017</b>	<b>Monday, December 25, 2017</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Mass</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Mass</b>	<b>Christmas Mass</b>
5:15 pm (St. Mary's)	8:00 am (St. Mary's)	12:00 am (St. Mary's)
	9:30 am (St. Mary's)	6:30 am (St. Mary's, EF, Low Mass)
	10:30 am ( <b>St. Michael's</b> )	8:00 am (St. Mary's)
	11:00 am (St. Mary's)	10:00 am (St. Mary's)
	12:50 pm (St. Mary's, EF, Low Mass)	10:00 am ( <b>St. Michael's</b> )
		12:00 pm (St. Mary's, EF, High Mass)
	<b>Christmas Mass</b>	
	4:00 pm (St. Mary's)	

This schedule is our normal Sunday Mass schedule and our normal Christmas Day schedule with the following changes: there is only one Mass in the evening on December 24; the Christmas Mass at St. Michael's will be at 10:00 am on Christmas Day (instead of on Christmas Eve); and there is an additional Mass at St. Mary's at 6:30 am on Christmas Day.

I do realize that having *only* the 4:00 pm Mass on the evening of December 24 will cause some families to adjust their Christmas practices, and I would like to assure you that we are offering as many Masses as we can for the number of priests that are assigned to St. Mary's and St. Michael's. The Pastoral Council along with St. Michael's corporators agree that this is the best schedule possible to help all of our parishioners fulfill their obligation of participating in Mass for both the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas.

Please note that if you wish to fulfill your *Christmas obligation* on the evening of December 24 you will also have to attend Mass earlier in the day or on Saturday evening to fulfill the *Sunday obligation*. If you have questions, please ask.

Also, please note that there is **no** obligation to attend Mass on January 1, when we honor the Blessed Mother under the title Mother of God. This is because the US bishops lift the obligation when this feast day falls on a Monday. Therefore, the schedule for that day will be simply 10:00 am and 12:00 pm Masses.

Finally, on January 21, 2018 Archbishop Lori will visit St. Mary's for a special Mass at 4:00 pm in which I will be formally installed as pastor with a reception to follow. Please mark your calendars – I hope you can join us!

Thank you for your attention and understanding with regard to this schedule!

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

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME)** — “When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.” Spouses, find value in one another by enjoying a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend together. The next weekends are April 20-22, 2018, November 2-4, 2018 in Gaithersburg, MD and August 3-5, 2018 in Hanover, MD. Go to [welovematrimony.org](http://welovematrimony.org) to sign-up or call 301-541-7007. It’s not too early to sign-up!

### **Upcoming Events at National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes**

**Thanksgiving Day on November 23** — Only the grounds will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The chapels, Miller Family Visitors Center and St. Bernadette's Gift Shop will be closed.

**The Immaculate Conception on December 8** — The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception celebrates the saving work of God in preserving the Blessed Virgin Mary from the stain of original sin. There will be reconciliation at 11 a.m. and mass at 12 p.m.

### **Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12**

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrates the appearance of the Blessed Virgin Mary that marks the beginning of the massive conversion to Christ and His Church of the native peoples of Mexico. There will be reconciliation at 11 a.m. and mass at 12 p.m.

### **Catholic Daughters Education**

**Contest!** The 2018 National Catholic Daughters Education Contest is underway! Any students in any school or home-schooled, from Grades 4 through 12 are invited to express their creativity on either of the following themes: “The Lord Has Done Great Things for Us, We are Filled with Joy” OR “Finding Joy in My Life”. What you need to do: Create an entry of art (grades 4-12), essay (grades 4-12), poem (grades 4-12), computer art (grades 4-12), music (grades 6-12) or photography (grades 6-12). You can enter as many categories as you like. **BEFORE YOU START:** Contact Linda Field at [lindab.field@myactv.net](mailto:lindab.field@myactv.net) or 301-797-6189 for criteria information and an application form. **Deadline for entries to Linda Field: March 1, 2018.** Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mention winners. First place winners go on to State judging and a chance for National judging!

**PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP** — All are welcome to attend the Padre Pio Prayer Group which meets Thursdays in church after the 8:30 AM Mass. We pray til 10:30. Please, come give us a try. More prayers are always needed.



### **Legion of Mary—**

*“The more we honor the Blessed Virgin, the more we honor Jesus Christ, because we honor Mary only that we may the more perfectly honor Jesus, since we go to her only as the way by which we are to find the end we are seeking, which is Jesus.” St. Louis De Montfort*

The Legion of Mary is an international of the faithful of the Catholic Church, who serve the Church on a voluntary basis. It was founded in Dublin, Ireland in 1921 as a Catholic Marian movement.

The Rosa Mystica Praesidium at St. Mary Church in Hagerstown, Maryland is inviting anyone interested in their apostolic work to join us or to start a new Praesidium in their own parish. Our meetings are every Friday morning at 9:30 AM in St. Mary’s Conference Room of the Parish Center.

## THINGS TO DO ....

### **The Saints Martha and Mary Meal Ministry:**

**The Saints Martha and Mary Meal Ministry is a group of parish volunteers that make and deliver meals on a short-term basis to parishioners who have:** just had a new baby, had surgery, had or are going through an illness, had or are having a hospital stay, experienced the loss of a loved one

The Meal Ministry will arrange timing and delivery of meals to those parishioners outlined above. For questions, to volunteer, or to request meals please contact coordinators

Jen Smith [jennifer.wilson.smith@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.wilson.smith@gmail.com)  
(301) 331 4575

or  
Valerie Ricketts [v.ricketts1@verizon.net](mailto:v.ricketts1@verizon.net)  
(301) 791 - 0133.

***For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me..." Matthew 25:35***

**St. Anthony Shrine** will be hosting a **BINGO** — For the extraordinary care and upkeep of our cemetery. The **BINGO** will be held on

**December 2, 2017,**

in the **Upper Hall at St. Anthony Shrine, 16150 St. Anthony Road,**

**Emmitsburg, MD.**

Bingo games will be 50/50; there will be a 50/50 Raffle and Tip Jars (must be 18 to buy or play the jar games). **Doors open at 5:30pm** and food will be available to purchase at that time.

**Games start at 7PM.** We also have a Framed Picture of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton as a raffle. Questions, please call **Leo Krietz at 301-447-3365** or the **Parish Office at 301-447-2367.**

Come have some fun for a good cause!

**The National Christian Choir's Christmas Concert**, The Splendor of Christ, is the perfect way to begin your holiday season. Be inspired, receive Christ's message through the music of the beautiful voices of this 150 auditioned member choir along with live orchestra. There are two venues, the first is in Frederick, MD at the International Community Church on Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm. On Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> they perform in Lancaster, PA at the Lancaster Mennonite High School Fine Arts Center at 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Tickets can be purchased online at [NationalChristianChoir.org](http://NationalChristianChoir.org) or call the office at (800) 599-4710.

## **Volunteers**

**Volunteers Needed to work in St. Mary's Religious Articles Store on Sundays from 9AM–1PM.** We could also do half shifts if that would work better for you. We are trying our best to have the store available during and after all the Masses. Please call **Joan Bernhard at 301-745-6697** or leave your name and number at the parish office, 301-739-0390.

### **REACH Cold Weather Shelter Volunteers Needed**

St. Mary's will again be hosting a weekend at the REACH Cold Weather Shelter in Hagerstown. **Volunteers are needed November 12-19.** Volunteer positions include check-in, laundry, kitchen help, overnight, breakfast and hospitality. Your selflessness and compassion during our week hosting at REACH cannot be measured. Those we help are truly grateful for your time and kindness. Contact Katie Leatherman ([leatherman.katie@gmail.com](mailto:leatherman.katie@gmail.com) or [240-291-2932](tel:240-291-2932)) to participate. Volunteers will need to complete a volunteer application; this can be done online using the following link. <https://reachofwc.org/volunteer-application/>

## St. Mary Stewardship Blessings

11/12/2017 Attendance 834

Offertory	\$9,135.38
Online Giving	2,589.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,725.08</b>
Amount Needed**	\$15,239

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

*Poor Box	\$267.54
School Support	\$ 22.00
EOM	\$167.71
Other	\$240.00

## St. Michael Stewardship Blessings

11/12/2017 Attendance 54

Offertory	\$593.00
School Support	10.00

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 Campaign for Human Development**

**Next week's second collection is for School Support.**

**Thank you for your generous donations!**

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul —



Anyone experiencing a hardship is encouraged to contact the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul Help Line** for assistance (301-739-0390 extension 124). Your contributions to the poor box are appreciated!

## NEW ADORERS needed for PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL at St. Maria Goretti in Hagerstown:

Sunday: 8 am, 11 am  
 Monday: Noon  
 Tuesday: 4am  
 Thursday: 7 am  
 Saturday: 2 pm



There are many other hours where we need "backup" adorers! Contact Mr./Mrs. Ott for more information at **301-739-4167**

## 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**.

**Parents are obliged by the Church to have their children baptized within about the first two months after birth. Failure to do so without a serious reason would be a mortal sin.** 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.

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

**St. Mary Church Holy Mass Intentions**  
**November 20—26, 2017**



<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>Intention</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>11/20</b>	<b>6:30</b>	Special Intentions of Lauren Beck
		<b>8:30</b>	Vicki Wood
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11/21</b>	<b>6:30</b>	Special Intentions of Stephen Hadford
		<b>8:30</b>	Vicki Wood
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>11/22</b>	<b>6:30</b>	Special Intentions of Robert Eves
		<b>8:30</b>	Special Intentions of Paula Bowers
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>11/23</b>	<b>6:30</b>	NO MASS
		<b>8:30</b>	Vocations to Priesthood
<b>Friday</b>	<b>11/24</b>	<b>6:30</b>	Vicki Wood
		<b>8:30</b>	Immaculate Conception
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>11/25</b>	<b>6:30</b>	Sara & Philip Alencherry
		<b>8:30</b>	Bill Hudson
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11/26</b>	<b>8:00</b>	Serafina & Frank Acre
		<b>9:30</b>	Special Intentions of Mary Beth Hackett
		<b>11:00</b>	Carroll & Victoria Wollard
		<b>12:50</b>	Special Intentions of Beatrix Szele-Szechenyi and Family



**The hosts and wine  
being used for the  
month of  
November have been  
generously donated by  
Angela Carroll.**

**St. Michael Church**    **10:30AM**    **November 26, 2017**  
St. Mary and St. Michael Parishioners

<b>Readings for November 19 — 26, 2017</b>	
<b>Sunday 11/19</b>	<b>Sunday Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Proverbs 31:10-13, 1—20, 30-31 / 1st Thessalonians 5:1-6 / Matthew 25:14-30
<b>Monday 11/20</b>	<b>Weekday</b> 1st Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 / Luke 18:35-43
<b>Tuesday 11/21</b>	<b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial</b> 2nd Maccabees 6:18-31 / Luke 19:1-10
<b>Wednesday 11/22</b>	<b>Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr Memorial</b> 2nd Maccabees 7:1, 20-31 / Luke 19:11-28
<b>Thursday 11/23</b>	<b>Weekday</b> ( <i>Saint Clement I, Pope and Martyr; Saint Columban, Abbot; USA: Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr; USA: Thanksgiving Day</i> ) 1st Maccabees 2:15-29 / Luke 19:41-44
<b>Friday 11/24</b>	<b>St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs Memorial</b> 1st Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59 / Luke 19:45-48
<b>Saturday 11/25</b>	<b>Weekday</b> ( <i>Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr; BVM</i> ) 1st Maccabees 6:1-13 / Luke 20:27-40
<b>Sunday 11/26</b>	<b>Sunday OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE Solemnity</b> Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17 / 1st Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 / Matthew 25:31-46

Father,

I have friends who check out satanic websites just to stay “informed” and out of curiosity not for the sake of becoming a follower. I have a friend who thinks nothing about using a ouiji board with his young nephews and nieces as a game of “scary” entertainment. I’ve known “good Christians” in college who go off in gothic attire to play a weekend of dungeons and dragons. And finally I have a friend that misses her mom so much she has tried to communicate with her through a “channeller” or medium.. My question is does or can these activities lead to demonic possession, attachment, or infestations? Can someone really intentionally bring chaos into your home by innocently giving you a gift with a demonic attachment; and does all this mean I have to give up my yoga class and that I have to stop watching the Exorcist series on TV?

The simple answer is Yes. Anybody who willingly invites the demonic into their lives or homes is giving the devil the freedom to take control of their lives. “If you give the devil an inch, he will become the ruler.” Whether you do it out of curiosity or ignorance, you are still willingly giving permission for the devil to enter your life. Pope Francis has said *‘Note well how Jesus responds [to temptation]: He doesn’t dialogue with Satan, as Eve did in the terrestrial Paradise. Jesus knows well that one can’t dialogue with Satan, because he is so cunning. For this reason, instead of dialoguing, as Eve did, Jesus chooses to take refuge in the Word of God and to respond with the power of this Word. Let us remind ourselves of this in the moment of temptation...: not arguing with Satan, but defending ourselves with the Word of God. And this will save us.’* Angelus address, 3/9/2014. Pope Francis has also said, *“Let us ask the Lord for the grace to take these things seriously. He came to fight for our salvation. He won against the devil! Please, let us not do business with the devil! He seeks to return home, to take possession of us... Do not relativize; be vigilant! And always with Jesus!”* Homily, 11/8/2013 . [The Catechism of the Catholic Church states in](#) paragraph 1673 *“When the Church asks publicly and authoritatively in the name of Jesus Christ that a person or object be protected against the power of the Evil One and withdrawn from his dominion, it is called exorcism. Jesus performed exorcisms and from him the Church has received the power and office of exorcizing. In a simple form, exorcism is performed at the celebration of Baptism. the solemn exorcism, called a major exorcism,"can be performed only by a priest and with the permission of the bishop. the priest must proceed with prudence, strictly observing the rules established by the Church. Exorcism is directed at the expulsion of demons or to the liberation from demonic possession through the spiritual authority which Jesus entrusted to his Church. Illness, especially psychological illness, is a very different matter; treating this is the concern of medical science. Therefore, before an exorcism is performed, it is important to ascertain that one is dealing with the presence of the Evil One, and not an illness.”*

***“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.***

## **Saint John’s Catholic Prep**

### **High School Placement Test (HSPT)**

**Saint John’s Catholic Prep**

**Saturday, December 2nd**

**8:30 AM Doors Open**

**9:00 AM Testing**

**\$40 Testing Fee**

**\*\*Online Preregistration Required\*\***

Saint John’s Catholic Prep is a Catholic, coeducational college preparatory high school located at 3989 Buckeystown Pike in Buckeystown, Maryland. Preregistration is required for this test. Please visit <https://stsusers.com/stsusers/registration/static/baltimore.php> by November 30th to register. Students currently enrolled in the 8th grade at an Archdiocese of Arlington or Washington school take the high school placement test at their middle school. Students do not need to take both tests.