

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

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

www.stmaryonline.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.*



January 28, 2024
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rev. Kevin P. O'Reilly, *Pastor*
David Cahoon, *Deacon*
Rev. Msgr. John Macfarlane, *Weekend Asst.*
Elizabeth Smith, *Dir. of Faith Formation*
Diane Yendrey, *Dir. of Music*
Bill Lynch, *Pavilion Manager*
Brenda Evans, *Secretary*
Denise Crawford, *Secretary, Notary*
Chris Carey, *Bookkeeper*
Joy McCartin, *Sodality*
Tom McCartin, *Knights of Columbus*

Daily Mass: Monday - Friday: 9:00 am
Sunday Mass: Saturday @ 4 pm, Sunday @ 8:30 & 10:30 am
First Friday: Adoration 9:30 am - Noon
First Saturday: 9:00 am with Devotions
Confession: Saturday @ 3:15 pm
Baptism: by appointment
Wedding: by appointment at least 6 months after initial contact
Rel. Ed.: September - May
School: Mary of Nazareth in Darnestown, grades PreK-8

Calendar of Events

February 4	Donuts & Youth Sunday / Catholic Services Appeal
February 10	First Penance & Luncheon / Super Bowl Subs / Haiti Valentine Cookies
February 13	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 14	Ash Wednesday
February 18	Sodality Tea Party
February 23	Lenten Dinner
March 1	Lenten Dinner
March 3	Donuts & Youth Sunday with Lenten & Easter Crafts



Please Pray For.....James Abernethy, Frank Anderson, Louise Austin, Michael Austin, Nancy Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Jim Bowie, Donna & Fred Brashears, Linda Burke, Pete Brunner, Maddie Cabatic, Norma Camp, Ada Candor, Dylan Captain, Gretchen Carrillo, Patrick Carpentier, Eric Carpentier, Pat Chmelik, Sonya Cortez, Grant Kraft, Dot Crawford, John Curry, Dana DeLauter, Andrew & Nicholas Diaz, Michael Dillon, Julian Douchard, Steve Drescher, Dennis Edward, Tom Ehart, Jo Evans, Hazel Finney, Timothy Flanders, Sandy Flynn, Mark Fye, Fr. Rich Gancayco, Zachery Gorouch, Kimberly Harris, Bridget Hart, Larry Horton, Andrew Howard, Cecilia Hughan & family, Marie Horton, Laura Hutchinson, Eleanor Kelly, Michael Kelley, Brittany, Joe & Ava Marie Koelie, Jeffrey Krohn, Jr., Betty Kutts, John Kutzi, Ryma Lacks, Cade Lutz, David Liska Sr., Colleen Loss, Harvey Lovelless, Diane Lynch, Betty MacDonald, Sylvia Marshall, Anna Lozada Martinez, Edwin Mbanude, Joy McIntyre, Joy McCartin, Anthony Murdock, Bea Nastacio, Christine O'Connell, Dennis O'Fallan, Jane Parsley, Bob & Donna Pavlick, Frank Pena, Gene Post, Lauren Prete, Dennis Regii, Susan Reid, Elizabeth Renninger, Everly Reed Rice, Andrea Rivas, Misty Runyon, Tom Schwanbeck, Teresa Silverman, Gene Smith, Jerry Stafford, Rani Taylor, Colleen Thomas, Richard Thompson, Jack Thorp, Corinne Torney, Rex & Trisha Tully, Vicki Tosques, Michael Zahn.

Please Pray for Our Military Family & Friends... Richard Alford, Michael Breslin, Alex & Maxwell Chmelik, Lucas Conway, Adam Fitterer, David Gilliam, Erich Lloyd, Joshua Miller, Brian Nazarian, Elvin Rivera, Mark Russell, Oliver Weigand.

Dear Parishioners,

Today's readings invite us to reflect on several themes: consider the words of prophets; listen with open hearts to the true voice of the Lord; and hear the authority in the teachings of Jesus.

In the first reading, we find Moses reassuring the people that someone will come after him to continue to reveal the message of God. Moses would not be with them forever and the people needed to know someone would continue to share the messages.

He reminds the people that a prophet is what they asked for during their days at Horeb. They said, "Let us not again hear the voice of the Lord, our God, nor see this great fire any more, lest we die." Moses reveals what the Lord has said about the prophet he will raise up. The Lord will raise someone in their midst that will speak his words, but if someone does not listen to the words the prophet speaks, the Lord himself will make them answer for it. On the other hand, a prophet who speaks falsely or presumes what the Lord says will pay with his life.

As we see in the first reading, prophets are called to speak for God and were a gift that allowed those in the time of Moses to hear the word of God in a way that would not overwhelm them.

Yet, how are the people to know which prophet is truly called by God? The world is full of false prophets. There are televangelists interested only in money for their pockets despite their claims of more worthy causes. There are the street corner preachers who scream of the end times and the fiery wrath of an angry God.

Who do you see as modern-day prophets?

The responsorial psalm reminds us to always praise God. It begins with an invitation to sing joyfully about the rock of our salvation, and to kneel and bow in worship. Yet, in the second half, we are warned not to tempt the Lord as their fathers and ancestors had done in the desert. We are to keep our hearts open to the word of God. How are you tempted to harden your heart?

Watching the news sometimes, it may seem there is an abundance of hardened hearts in the world, though witnessing the people that have pitched in to help the victims of recent hurricanes and disasters certainly shows the opposite. We need to remain open and not ask God for things in a way that is tempting and manipulative.

While Paul in the second reading may seem to be expressing the benefits of unmarried life for Christians, the truth of his words is deeper than that. Paul and his followers expected the second coming of Jesus to happen at anytime. Paul wanted to stress to his listeners that all followers of Christ needed to avoid the trappings of the temporary and earth-bound life. He was reminding everyone in the community to dedicate themselves completely to God. We need to give God our undivided attention.

Jesus speaks with authority in today's Gospel. He heals a man possessed by demons. Yet the healing isn't what catches the attention of those in attendance. It is his teaching. Did they not listen to the words of the demon telling them exactly who was in their midst? Jesus rebukes the demon who asks him on behalf of the others: "Have you come to destroy us?" The demon does not let go very easily. What struggles in our lives do we hold on to despite our desire for freedom?

Jesus' reputation as a teacher grew through his teaching in Capernaum. He taught as someone learned. The crowd could not believe these words were coming from someone with his background as a carpenter's son. They expected a simpler teaching, not the way Jesus addressed the crowd.

Jesus' words drew even more followers. His words and deeds have the power to change us too, if we are open to hearing his words in our heart.

Peace, Fr. Kevin

WORSHIP



“What is this? A new teaching with authority.”

- Mark 1:27

Mass Intentions

Sat.,27	4 pm - Maryanne Staszec
Sun.,28	8:30 am - Nancy Slattery 10:30 am - Parishioners
Mon.,29	9 am - Virginia & Irving Fisk
Tue., 30	9 am - Cecile Fecteau
Wed.,31	9 am - Lloyd & Eleanor Jones
Thu.,1	9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 2	9 am - Mary Lillian Hewitt
Sat., 3	9 am -

Tax Statements for 2023 are available from the parish office. Please call or email us and we can email them to you.

Join the Maryland Catholic Advocacy Network Our state's General Assembly creates laws that affect us, our church, families, and vulnerable neighbors. The Maryland Catholic Advocacy Network keeps you informed and gives you a voice. You will receive action alerts on critical issues plus occasional email updates from the Maryland Catholic Conference: mdcatholic.org/joincan or text MDCATHOLIC to 52886.

"SAVE THE DATE" The Sodality will be hosting a family Tea party in the Pavillion 12:00 pm. Sunday Feb 18th. By reservations only! We will be celebrating the conclusion of the Holy Family Prayer Week initiated by the Knights. The Knights will be handing out prayer cards to each family to pray together in honor of The Holy Family on Feb 10th and 11th after each Mass. Reservation can be made by email to joymccartin@comcast.net

Catholic Services Appeal The turning of the calendar to February means the *Annual Catholic Services Appeal* is at hand. On behalf of Cardinal Gregory, thank you to all our families who made a contribution in 2023 to help the archdiocese reach its goal.

Now, I ask you to prayerfully consider your gift to the *2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal*. If you are not familiar with the Appeal, you may wonder how it is different and separate from your offertory giving to the parish. First, the Appeal unites us with our archbishop in serving the many charitable needs of the Church of Washington. Second, the Appeal funds ministries that our parish could not sustain on our own, such as seminarian formation, campus ministry programs and deaf and disabilities ministries. Third, the Appeal supports our parish ministerial life, from schools and catechesis, to family and pro-life ministries, to many more in between.

The *Annual Catholic Services Appeal* is a call to stewardship. It is not mandatory. This means that the many vibrant ministries we have in the archdiocese are the result of families such as your own who have responded generously each year with your free will offering. I am particularly grateful, as a priest of the archdiocese, for your contribution which helps to inspire new vocations and form our new generations of priests.

I am also asked to remind you that, as in every year, 100% of your gift to the Appeal is restricted to the ministries that are a part of the Appeal and cannot be used for any other purpose. Furthermore, your gift will be credited towards our parish goal. You can read more about the *United in Purpose: 2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal* at appeal.adw.org.

Fr. Kevin

Weather Policy If Montgomery County schools close or delay then there is no morning Mass and our offices may close. If they are closed, then all activities for that day are cancelled. Our lots are not always plowed right away. We must wait on the kindness of our parishioners.

Gabriel Project Cluster of Montgomery County: Want to put your pro-life beliefs into action? Women volunteers are urgently needed to assist struggling pregnant mothers. This includes keeping in touch with them via text, phone, or email during their pregnancy; bringing them needed items, such as diapers, baby clothes, formula, etc., that are provided by the project; and praying for them. The average time commitment is 60 minutes or less per week. Men are also needed to set up cribs or to pick up donations once or twice per month. Join our over 120 volunteer team members that make this possible help to more than 300 needy moms. Please visit our Website for more information at www.gpmoco.org or contact Brenda Stohlman at stohlmanbrendagp@outlook.com.

First Friday Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in church from 9:30 am - Noon.

Come for Fatima Devotions and the Rosary this first Saturday morning after the First Saturday 9:00 am Mass.

"Vocations Tree" Coming Soon! What's a "Vocations Tree?" Shortly before Ash Wednesday, you'll find a "tree" in the church covered with cards. Each card in the display features a seminarian of The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington. We invite you to choose one card (or more than one) and commit to praying a short prayer for that seminarian each day during Lent. This is a great activity for families, too!