

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.*



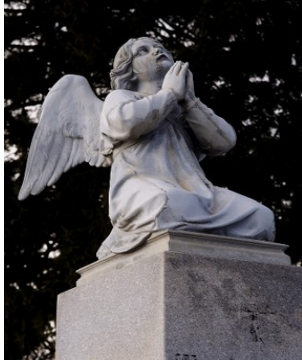
January 29, 2023
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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*
Chris Carey, *Bookkeeper*
Terry Crawford, *Sodality*
David Bivens, *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	Mass for Deceased Sodalists
February 5	Donuts & Youth Sunday
February 12	Super Bowl Subs / Haiti Valentines Cookies
February 18	First Penance
February 21	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 22	Ash Wednesday
February 24	Lenten Dinner
March 3	Lenten Dinner
March 5	Donuts & Youth Sunday with Lenten & Easter Crafts & Woodcarvers
March 18	St. Patrick's Party



Please Pray For.... Frank Anderson, Louise Austin, Michael Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Jim Bowie, Donna Brashears, Suzanne Brodt, Linda Burke, Pete Brunner, Maddie Cabatic, Norma Camp, Ada Candor, Gretchen Carrillo, Patrick Carpentier, Eric Carpentier, Pat Chmelik, Alex Chmelik, Sonya Cortez, Bridget Curan, Grant Kraft, Dot Crawford, John Curry, Dana DeLauter, Michael Dillon, Julian Douchard, Dennis Edward, Tom Ehart, Jo Evans, Robert Evans, Timothy Flanders, Sandy Flynn, Dolores Flynn, Fr. Rich Gancayco, Kimberly Harris, Andrew Howard, Cecilia Hughan & family, Mary Lillian Hewitt, Sophie Hoover, Marie Horton, Laura Hutchinson, Eleanor Kelly, Michael Kelley, Brittany, Joe & Ava Marie Koelie, Jeffrey Krohn, Jr., John Kutzi, Ryma Lacks, Cade Lutz, David Liska Sr., Colleen Loss, Sylvia Marshall, Anna Lozada Martinez, Joy McIntyre, Anthony Murdock, Bea Nastacio, Christine O'Connell, Dennis O'Fallan, Patrick Ambrose O'Grady, 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, Lin Selby, Teresa Silverman, Jerry Stafford, Colleen Thomas, Christy Thomsen, Richard Thompson, Jack Thorp, Corinne Torney, 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,

In Matthew's Sermon on the Mount why would Jesus say: *Blessed* are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who thirst for justice? Is it because Jesus recognized that in some of the world's cultures, the tendency is to place too high of a value on self-reliance? We sometimes, perhaps often, imagine that we can rely only on our own personal strength to face the challenges the world throws at us. Certainly, the U.S. culture seems to promote self-interest and self-reliance, i.e. "Pull yourself up by your own bootstraps."

If we buy into this type of thinking, the tendency is to believe that we will only get as far as our own efforts will take us. We lose sight of the fact that we are beloved children of God and that God desires a personal relationship with us. We fail often enough and experience our own sinfulness, which may lead us to wonder how God could possibly love us, unworthy as we are. We might feel alone, filled with our own concerns and worries. We could end up only calling upon God when our efforts fail, when life teaches us that we are not in control of all that life presents to us.

A priest friend shared that when visiting with his spiritual director, he disclosed some of the struggles of his spiritual life. His director responded that a source of his struggles was his arrogance. The priest thought, "I'm not arrogant." His director told him that the arrogance stemmed from his desire to not have to depend on God for help with his faults.

As my friend shared this conversation, I was struck by the awareness: "That's me." I desire to not have to depend on God's help with my faults; instead, I prefer to overcome my inadequacies on my own. However, my memory bank can find multiple examples for each beatitude where I have failed. *Blessed are the poor in spirit*: How often am I filled with a sense of self-righteousness when I think I've been slighted or treated rudely, resulting in a less than Christ-like response? *Blessed are the meek*: How often has pride kept me from helping someone in need because I don't want to get involved or I am in a hurry? *Blessed are they who show mercy*: How often am I incensed about the stories of injustice that are broadcast on a seemingly daily basis, and yet don't take the time to do anything in response? With each example of failure on my part I can lose a sense of hope that I am loveable. It is in these times that humility will allow me to know that I need God's love and forgiveness to be more Christ-like, to become more the person God has created me to be. Is this true for you, too?

In today's first reading Zephaniah instructs us well: "Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth, who observed his law; seek justice, seek humility ..." It is these faithful servants who Jesus calls blessed.

This is not to deny our giftedness. Each of us has been endowed with gifts to further God's kingdom. We are to develop and use these gifts. When we are in right relationship with God we recognize that credit for these gifts is due to God. In the second reading Paul encourages us that when recognition comes our way we should boast in the Lord, not in ourselves. The Beatitudes remind us of the attitudes we ought to have.

When I fall short in living out the Beatitudes, I turn to the words of St. Anselm. May this prayer enliven your desire to be a disciple of Jesus: "Hope of my heart, strength of my soul, help of my weakness, by your powerful kindness complete what in my powerlessness I attempt ... although I have not yet attained to love you as I ought, still let my desire for you be as great as my love ought to be."

Peace, Fr. Kevin

WORSHIP



"Blessed are they."

- Matthew 5:4

Mass Intentions

- Sat., 28 4 pm - Josie Mayne
Sun., 29 8:30 am - Parishioners
10:30am - Anne Rizk
Mon., 30 9 am - Eleanor & Lloyd Jones
Tue., 31 9 am - Rick Edwards
Wed., 1 9 am - Benjamin Davis
Thu., 2 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 3 9 am - Bp. John Dougherty
Sat., 4 9 am - Deceased Sodalists

Tax Statements for 2022 are available from the parish office. Please call or email us and we can email them to you.

Mass for Deceased Sodalists The 9:00 am First Saturday Mass on February 4 will be for deceased members of our Ladies Sodality. Fatima Devotions and the Rosary will follow. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Parish House. Every parishioner is invited.

Bible Study has returned on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Rectory. Come for refreshments and a look at the following Sunday's Sacred Scriptures.

St. Mary's Choristers: Grades 5-8 Start the new year in music with us! Sunday, Jan. 22 & Jan. 29, meet in the choir loft immediately after 10:30 Mass. New students invited. Email dyendrey98@gmail.com for details.

Catholic Schools Week is celebrated this week. We invite all students in our Catholic schools, Mary of Nazareth, St. John's Prep, Avalon, Brookewood, etc. to come to mass next Sunday in uniform and be recognized. Students and parents will then be welcome to Donut Sunday.

Thank you from Springfield Hospital We received a letter of thanks from Andrea Pastor of Volunteer Services, thanking the people of St. Mary's for their generous donations at Christmas time.



First Friday Eucharistic Adoration - Please join us Friday, February 3 from 9:30 am to noon as we spend time in prayer and reflection with our precious Lord. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Donuts and More are next Sunday. There will be Haiti Coffee, library and we will celebrate Catholic Schools week with your students.

Sodality meets next Sunday at 11:30 in the sun room. All ladies of the parish are welcome.

Knights of Columbus Scholarships The Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus is the sponsor of several High School scholarships for its members and for Catholic Students in general. Below is the complete information on these scholarships and information regarding eligibility for scholarship awards. *(continues in next column)*

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Awards may be applied to tuition payments only. Additional opportunities are available through the Supreme Council Scholarship Programs at: [Scholarships for College Students | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](http://Scholarships for College Students | Knights of Columbus (kofc.org)) The Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus is the sponsor of several High School scholarships for its members and for Catholic Students in general. Below is the complete information on these scholarships and information regarding eligibility for scholarship awards. Awards may be applied to tuition payments only. Application period ends February 1, 2023. All applications must be received in their entirety by the Scholarship Committee no later than February 1, 2023. Scholarship information and application information is included below (preferred) or write to: Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee P.O. Box 1468, Bowie, MD 20717.

The William J. O'Brien Jr., Memorial Catholic High School Scholarship. Three (3) grants of \$1,500.00 per year for up to four years will be awarded. Eligibility for a grant under this program is open to Catholic students who are residents of the State of Maryland. Affiliation with the Knights of Columbus is not required. However, children and grandchildren of a member of a Knights of Columbus council within the jurisdiction of Maryland are also eligible. Applicants must have been officially accepted at or must be students at accredited Catholic High Schools. Applications will be judged on academic excellence, personal qualifications, and financial need. Continued support after the first year is contingent on continued academic success. Funds are applicable to tuition only. Applications and requirements are available at the following link: [William J \(kofc-md.org\)](http://William J (kofc-md.org))