

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

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www.stmaryonline.com

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Mary of Nazareth School: 301.869.0940

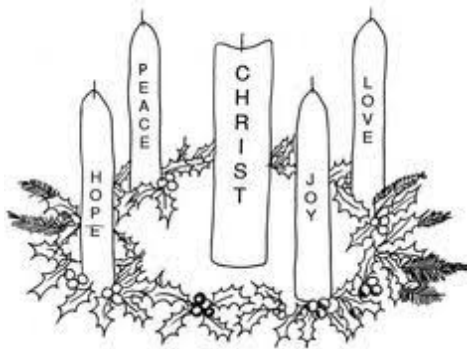
*We welcome you to our historic parish family.  
Since 1741 believers such as yourself have built a spirit-  
filled, Catholic faith community here in Barnesville.  
We are privileged to have you join us in our mission to  
share God's blessings.*



December 4, 2022  
Second Sunday of Advent

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



**Advent Reading & Bible Study** Join Fr. Kevin on Tuesday mornings to Scripture study as we look at the coming Sunday's readings at 10:00 am in the Rectory.

Advent reading materials are available including "The Word Among Us" and the "Magnificat" for Advent are in the back of church. More materials for adults and children are in the Pavilion today. Calendars for 2023, courtesy of Hilton Funeral Home are in the Pavilion as well.

**Children's Crafts, Coffee, Donuts, Cookie Sale and more** are next Sunday, December 4 after the masses. There will be Holiday crafts for the young to create. Coffee and Donuts. The Sodality Cookie Sale (a special Thanks to all who baked and donated cookies for the sale) and the Pregnancy Center Baby Shower. Come up and join us.



**The Sacrament of the Sick** takes place, December 18 at the 10:30 am Mass. Anyone in serious illness or facing surgery or in physical or mental distress is welcome to come forward.



***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, Billy 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, Nancy Slattery, Jerry Stafford, Colleen Thomas, 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, Brian Nazarian, Elvin Rivera, Mark Russell, Oliver Weigand.

## **Dear Parishioners,**

Many areas around the world have stone walls constructed by farmers years ago who worked the land to plant crops. Clearing the way took time and back-breaking labor to dig, move and arrange small rocks and large boulders into walls.

In the first reading, Isaiah paints images of clearing the way for the Lord that require work — obstacles must be removed and paths must be made straight and clear. Yet, his message is one of comfort and reassurance to a demoralized people.

Israel is to become a herald of “glad tidings” proclaiming the presence of God to all the cities of Judah. She is to give witness to God’s might, yet tell of the gentleness this same God bestows, feeding like a shepherd, gathering lambs and tenderly leading the flock. Isaiah speaks to a people returning from exile — a people who will soon be on their way home to Jerusalem.

John the Baptist is found in the beginning of all four Gospels. His story is proclaimed on the Second Sunday in Advent in all three Lectionary cycles. This Sunday we hear the beginning of Mark’s Gospel. With no infancy narratives, Mark begins with a powerful proclamation about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Mark then writes about John quoting several texts from the Hebrew Scriptures, including today’s passage from Isaiah.

A forceful herald, John gives witness to Jesus, the one to come after him. Preaching repentance for sins and pointing to the one coming as being more powerful, John proclaims the work ahead: Make ready the path. The Messiah is coming!

If we were to proclaim at the top of our voices, “Here is your God,” where in the world would we begin? Where would we cry out against sin and evil and proclaim glad tidings of God’s salvation and loving care? Would we start in our neighborhoods or with estranged family members? Would we shout the good news to our country or to the world?

Where would we offer the blessings and justice of God? Would we proclaim good news to the marginalized and those who experience the brunt of governmental program cuts? Can we do that without doing the work of clearing the way?

Would we offer blessings to immigrants, refugees or undocumented workers? Would we spread good news to prisoners who are on death row? Would we bless those who are both pregnant and unmarried? Where would we echo the message of God’s blessings? Where are we willing to work?

Mark’s Jesus will suffer as he struggles to bring the good news into the world, and his suffering will lead to the cross. John himself will be put to death because of his message about repentance and sin (6:14-29). In countless parables and encounters, Mark’s Jesus will preach about the coming reign of God, telling disciples how they must search within their own hearts to bring God’s reign to fruition.

Mark’s community believed the reign of God was imminent, so there was an urgency about the message. God is coming now. Jesus reminded followers of the work that must be done, the hearts that must be cleared — beginning with their own.

As we light another Advent candle, we remember the fire lit in us by bringing the word of God to the world. We stand again in awe of a God who became flesh, who entered human history as one of us. We make our own the message of John and the prophets: God is coming! Clear the way. Remove the obstacles. Make straight the path! Here is your God!

*Peace, Fr. Kevin*

## WORSHIP



"A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths'."

- Mark 1:3

### Mass Intentions

<b>Sat., 3</b>	9 am - Tom Schwaneck (L) 4 pm - Ann Hopkins
<b>Sun., 4</b>	8:30 am - Sean Markley 10:30am - Parishioners
<b>Mon., 5</b>	9 am - George Brings
<b>Tue., 6</b>	9 am - Loretta Oehler
<b>Wed., 7</b>	9 am -
<b>Thu., 8</b>	9 am - Adele Moore 7 pm - Parishioners
<b>Fri., 9</b>	9 am - Stephen Stanley

**Penance Services** Mark your calendars for the Sacrament of Confession which will be on Wednesday, December 14 at 4:15 & 7:30 pm in the church. Extra priests will be available to hear your confession in preparation for Christmas.

**Second Collection** next weekend is the annual offering for the 35,000 retired religious priests, brothers and sisters in the United States.



**Feast of the Immaculate Conception** is this Thursday December 8. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will have masses at 9:00 am & 7:00 pm.



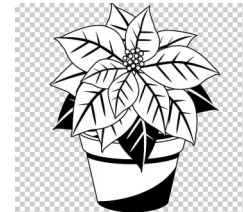
**Jesse Tree** The Tree is in the Sanctuary with tags indicating gifts for local families, supplied by WUMCO, patients at Springfield Hospital, and children in St. Martin's Church in Washington. The Tree uses Biblical symbols to point the way to the coming Messiah at Christmas. Gifts will need to be returned by December 18, with a tag or copy of a tag attached securely to each box so we get it to the right destination. In giving gift cards - PLEASE write the store and amount on the outside. No high end stores, please. **Gifts for Springfield Hospital should not be wrapped. Monetary donations for the Hospital should be made payable to "Auxiliary of SHC/CFCC".**

**Welcome New Servers** We welcome Lydia Henderson and Gi-an Doan to our Sanctuary to serve our priests at mass.

**The Justice and Advocacy Council of Montgomery County** is having its November/December meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 7pm in the Shrine of St. Jude's Thaddeus Room at 12701 Veirs Mill Road, Rockville. Our special guest for the evening is **Monsignor John Enzler**, who is retiring after many years at the helm of Catholic Charities. Please come to honor his service (and to eat cookies and other treats!). If you plan to attend, please email [lawrence-couch1@gmail.com](mailto:lawrence-couch1@gmail.com). Thank you.

**2023 Lector Workbooks** are available in the Sacristy. Please pick yours up now.

**Food Drive** Our parish prepares 17 meals for local families from WUMCO for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We always welcome donations of cash to provide these meals. As we reach the Holiday season we ask for your help to provide food baskets to local needy families. Please place donations marked "food baskets" in any collection this month.



**Christmas Flower Memorials** Remember a loved one, celebrate a special event.

Help us enjoy the beauty of the coming holidays with your donations toward Christmas flowers. Use the envelopes in the back of church and turn them in or drop them in the basket by Dec. 18.

**Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest** Break out your markers, crayons, paints and pencils - the annual poster contest sponsored by our Knights of Columbus 6901 is for students in grades 1 - 8. There are \$200 in prizes. Create a unique poster (no larger than 12x18") reminding people that Christmas is all about Jesus. Posters are due by December 12. For more information contact Dave Bivens at 301-977-4734, or email him at [dnlbivens34@verizon.net](mailto:dnlbivens34@verizon.net).

