

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.*



February 19, 2023

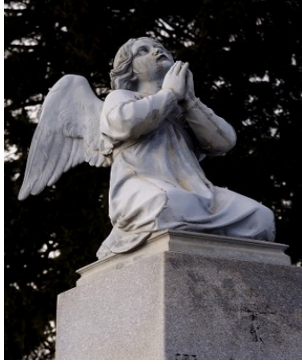
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 20	President's Day, Mass at 10 am and Office is closed.
February 21	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6 - 8 pm
February 22	Ash Wednesday 9:00 am, 4:15 pm, 7:30 pm
March 3	Lenten Dinner 5:30 - 7:00 pm / Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm
March 4	New Young Family Ministry
March 5	Donuts & Youth Sunday with Lenten & Easter Crafts & Woodcarvers, Exposition and Parish Mission
March 6	Exposition and Parish Mission
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, 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, Gene Smith, Jerry Stafford, Colleen Thomas, Christy Thomsen, Richard Thompson, Jack Thorp, Corinne Torney, Vicki Tosques, Rosalie Weller, 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,

On June 17, 2015, nine members of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina were shot to death while participating in a Bible study in the basement of their church. The shooter, a 21 year-old self-proclaimed white supremacist, had *wandered* into the room that evening. Can you picture it? Nine black church-goers in the midst of prayer and study, look up to see a young white man in jeans and a sweatshirt. Did they politely ask him to leave? Did they threaten to call the police if he did not leave? No. They invited him to join them. For a time, he did just that, he participated in their Bible study. And just as they were ending their session, heads bowed in prayer, he pulled a gun out of his fanny pack and one by one he shot them. Can you imagine the anguish the families of those nine people experienced? I cannot. I cannot even begin to imagine what it must be like to lose a loved one so suddenly and so violently. And that is what makes the next part of this story so stunning. Only three days later, when invited to share a statement at the shooter's bond hearing, several of the family members turned to the shooter and said, "I forgive you".

In today's first reading, God instructs Moses to tell the Israelites to be holy as the Lord their God is holy, to bear no hatred in their hearts, to take no revenge, to cherish no grudge and to love their neighbor as themselves. And who is their neighbor? Jesus responds to this question in chapter 10 of Luke's Gospel with the parable of the good Samaritan: *your neighbor is the one who is not like you*. In today's Gospel as Jesus brings his Sermon on the Mount to a close, he seems to save the most challenging part for last: Love not only those who are like you or even those who are not like you. Go one step further. Love your *enemy*. In this way, you will be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Few of us will be called to love in such horrific circumstances as those who lost loved ones in Charleston that night. But all of us have people around us who are difficult to love. It might be that co-worker who loudly snaps her gum in the next cubicle, or perhaps the committee chair who never listens to our ideas. It might be the protesters blocking traffic, or a family member with whom we haven't spoken in many months. The wisdom of the world might call us to be righteous in our particular situation, but as Paul tells us in the second reading, the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God. God calls us to holiness.

The man who shot those nine people was certainly not a friend. He was indeed their enemy. Yet, even in the midst of unimaginable pain, their family members knew that this man was still their neighbor. From somewhere deep inside themselves they knew that they were called to love that neighbor, to love their enemy. Did their forgiveness mean they no longer hurt? No. I am quite sure the family members of those victims continued to ache deeply. Yet their decision to love and forgive not only stopped a potential cycle of violence and vengeance, it made it possible for good to follow.

These family members reflect the spirit of today's readings. They show us how to be holy and perfect as the Lord our God is holy and perfect. It cannot have been easy for them. But they show us that with God's grace, it can indeed be done.

Peace, Fr. Kevin

WORSHIP



"Jesus said to his disciples:
"You have heard that it was
said, an eye for an eye and
a tooth for a tooth. But I say
to you..." "

- Matthew 5:38-39

Mass Intentions

- Sat., 18** 4 pm - Bobby Hewitt
Sun., 19 8:30 am - Clementine Blonquist
10:30 am - Parishioners
Mon., 20 10 am - Sr. M. Herberta Burns
Tue., 21 9 am - Eleanor & Lloyd Jones
Wed., 22 9 am - Barbara Auman
4:15 pm - Parishioners
7:30 pm - Bobby Hewitt
Thu., 23 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 24 9 am - Anne Rizk

Baby Bottle Campaign Shady Grove Pregnancy Center helps pregnant women facing difficult choices with options counseling, ultrasounds, parenting classes, and material aid. Women considering abortion can come to the center and make a life-affirming choice instead, thanks to your support. Pick up and fill a baby bottle with coins, currency, or a check made out to Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. Put "St. Mary's BBC" in the memo. Please return all bottles by April 9. To give virtually, use the link to get to your church's unique giving page: <https://donate.givedirect.org/?cid=15687>

Lenten Materials for Children and Adults, including the **Word Among Us and Magnificats** for Lent, and more helpful calendars and readings materials for young and old are available in the church.

2023 Annual Appeal: Many Ministries, One Church This past weekend parishioners were asked prayerfully to consider making a gift to the 2023 Annual Appeal. There are envelopes available for you to make a commitment, or make your gift at give.adw.org. Visit appeal.adw.org to learn more about how the Annual Appeal benefits our parish and serves people in need throughout the archdiocese. It is our goal that every parish family will participate this year. All gifts will be credited toward our parish goal. Thank you in advance for your generous response to the 2023 Annual Appeal.

Pray for our seminarians Please stop by our "Vocations Tree" in the Sanctuary, where you'll see cards for each of the seminarians of The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington. Choose one or more cards and pray for that seminarian each day during Lent. Make it a beautiful offering to the Lord this Lent to pray for those whom He calls to give their lives in service of His Church in our archdiocese.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper This Tuesday, February 21, 6-8 pm. Pancakes, Sausage & Eggs, Juice, Coffee, Milk - chocolate & white. No charge this year, just a donation. Call 301-972-8660 by tomorrow to reserve your seat.

Young Family Ministry All families with young children are invited to spend a morning together on Saturday, March 4th, from 10am-12pm in the Parish Pavilion. This event is designed to help parents and children ages 2nd grade and younger live the season of Lent together. We will have a children's songs, stories, and games with a Lenten center. Coffee and bagels will be provided in the morning. Please pack a lunch. To RSVP or learn more, contact Brenda Stohlman at blinibrenda@gmail.com

Parish Mission with 30 hours of Exposition will begin Sunday, March 5 following Donuts, Children's Crafts, and the Bethlehem Carving group. Msgr. John Macfarlane will preach that Sunday and we will begin Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 1:00 pm and it will continue through the night and on Monday until 7:00 pm, when Msgr. Macfarlane will close with a spiritual talk and Solemn Benediction. A SignUpGenius and sign up board will be available shortly. All parishioners are encouraged to make some time for Jesus this Lent.

Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, February 22. We will offer Masses with the distribution of Ashes at 9:00 am, 4:15 pm and 7:30 pm.



"To Jesus Through Mary" St. Mary's Sodality
Join us on March 12th after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish House . Newcomers welcome!