

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

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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 25, 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent



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*
Denise Crawford, *Secretary, Notary*
Brenda Evans, *Secretary*
Chris Carey, *Bookkeeper*
Joy McCartin, *Sodalitty*
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

Gabriel Project Collection Place items in our sanctuary, near the baptismal font. Your donation of baby (diapers, formula (Similac Advance)) and toddler items, clothing, shoes, coats, small toys), grocery cards (from Giant supermarket), checks (Payable to Gabriel Project Cluster of Montgomery County) will help so much. Especially requested are girl/ boy 0-3 months diapers and clothes (gently used clothing is greatly appreciated). Donations are due in today, February 25. Contact Chris Miller (cmillerusn@gmail.com) with any questions.

Baby Bottle Campaign Shady Grove Pregnancy Center helps pregnant women facing difficult choices with options counseling, ultrasounds, parenting classes, and material aid (diapers, cribs, infant car seats, and baby clothes). Your donation enables us to provide these services free of charge to women who desperately need to hear about alternatives to abortion. 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 March 24. To give online, use the link to get to your church's unique giving page: <https://donate.givedirect.org/?cid=16092&n=77071>



Please Pray For.....James Abernethy, Frank Anderson, Louise Austin, Michael Austin, Nancy Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Jim Bowie, Donna & Fred Brashears, Linda Burke, 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, Gail Hahn, Kimberly Harris, Bridget Hart, Andrew Howard, Cecilia Hughan & family, Marie Horton, Laura Hutchinson, Louise Jones, Eleanor Kelly, Michael Kelley, Brittany, Joe & Ava Marie Koelie, Jeffrey Krohn, Jr., Betty Kutts, John Kutzi, Ryma Lacks, David Liska Sr., Colleen Loss, Harvey Loveless, Diane Lynch, Sylvia Marshall, Anna Lozada Martinez, Edwin Mbanude, Joy McIntyre, Joy McCartin, Anthony Murdock, Bea Nastacio, Christine O'Connell, Dennis O'Fallan, 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,

Most of our growth in life is slow-paced and subtle. However, there are those transforming moments when we see with new eyes, where a new vision takes shape in us. Sometimes, they come when we are faced with impossible choices like Abraham in the first reading. At other times, they are mountaintop experiences like the disciples had in the Gospel reading. These transfigurations are pivotal events, times when we cannot go backwards, and where the past informs our future in a new way.

Are there historic events which have completely redefined your worldview? It is likely that many people can give a detailed account of their day on September 11, 2001. It is easy to recall images, feelings and thoughts from an experience that is simply referred to by a number — 9/11. Then we were immersed in the Pandemic with many more dead. In both these instances, life as we know it in the United States and throughout much of the world changed dramatically. How have you been forced to view the world differently since those days?

What personal events have changed you forever? When asking a woman to recount her story of pregnancy and giving birth, be prepared for a long, involved description. To the listening ear, she will share details, descriptions, and a barrage of emotions. She will remember so passionately, so intensely, because through the privilege of co-creating with God, everything in her life took on new purpose and meaning. What life-altering moments have reshaped your priorities and identity?

What crossroads moments have set the stage for a new normal in your life? If you have grieved the loss of a loved one, you know the struggle of figuring out how to live without them. Life went on as usual, and yet everything changed. The quilt grandma made for you came out from the back of the closet to remind you of her love. After the death of a spouse, tears flowed when you filled out your income tax forms as a single person for the first time in over 50 years. During the holidays, it seemed the world celebrated family togetherness and merriment while your heart broke for the family member who was never coming home for Christmas again. As you wrote a new soundtrack for your life, you re-evaluated what was really most important to you. What have those landmark crossings taught you to cherish and value?

In this Sunday's first reading, Abraham is faithfully following God's call on a path that is ripping out his heart and crushing his dreams. In the end, God is not really asking Abraham to sacrifice his son, but only the ego, security and honor he has attached to his son. In return, God blesses Abraham's sacrifice with a vision far beyond his dreams. Is there something clouding your sight and keeping you from a much more abundant view?

We can imagine that Jesus taught and slept, prayed and cried, worked and celebrated, alongside the disciples for months. In the Gospel passage, they saw him in a whole new light. Once they had seen him with a new set of eyes, their vision was transfigured. They saw the world differently. Their purpose and meaning, priorities and identity changed. They had a new realization of what was really important to them. Frightened yet strengthened by a transformed vision of Jesus and themselves, they journeyed into a new normal in their lives.

How are you being called to see with new eyes? What is clouding your view of the transfigured Christ? How does the world look different through Jesus's vision? Does your identity and your purpose need to be transformed? Should you see your priorities and values in a new light? Today's readings invite us to envision that God's dream for us is beyond anything we could have ever imagined.

Peace, Fr. Kevin

WORSHIP



"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him..."

- Mark 9:7

Mass Intentions

Sat.,24 4 pm - Anne Rizk
Sun.,25 8:30 am- The Hewitts
10:30 am - Parishioners
Mon.,26 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Tue., 27 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Wed.,28 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Thu.,29 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 1 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Sat., 2 9 am - Eucharistic Service



Lenten Meals

Join Us this Friday from 5:30 - 7:00 pm in the Fr. Reid Pavilion. The menu includes Salmon, Fish Sticks, Macaroni & Cheese, Baked Ziti, large Salad Bar and more. The cost is \$15 per person and \$50 for a family of over 4. The Crab Cake is an extra charge of \$7. The meal is sponsored by our Knights of Columbus.



The St. Patrick's Party is Saturday, March 16 from 6 - 9 pm in the Pavilion. The band, the food, the fun will all be back. The dinner is by reservation only this year, so call or email the parish office at stmarysb@yahoo.com. The cost is \$25 per person, \$75 for a family of four. No sales at the door.

Pray for our Seminarians It's not too late to choose an archdiocesan seminarian and commit to praying for him each day during the remainder of Lent. Stop by the "Vocations Tree" in the narthex and support the men called to serve as priests with your prayers. Don't let any of them go without our prayers! You might be praying for someone who will someday serve you as a priest in our parish.

United in Purpose: The 2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal. We have been asked prayerfully to consider making a gift to the *2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal*. Please complete or take a commitment form at Mass this weekend, 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 towards our parish goal. Thank you in advance for your generous response to the *2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal!*

Cross International Visit Please welcome Fr. Richard Kunzman who is speaking at all the masses on behalf of Cross Catholic Outreach which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central & South America. Brochures will be provided if you wish to support this ministry.



Crafts, Donuts, Olivewood Carvers Next Sunday, March 3 we will have donuts, coffee, juice.

Our children will partake in Lent and Easter Crafts. Also the Bethlehem Carving group will be here with their wares. These make good gifts for spring sacraments.

Stations of the Cross are on Friday evenings during Lent at 7:00 pm in the Church.

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

Fatima Devotions Join us Saturday for devotions following the Eucharistic Service at 9:00 am.

Haiti Cookie Thank You! Many thanks to those who supported our Haiti twinning parish with your donations for our Valentines cookies.

Lenten Reminders Fridays during Lent are days of Abstinence. All Catholics 14 and older are to abstain from eating meat on all the Fridays of Lent. Good Friday will be a day of Fast.



Lenten Food Drive for WUMCO Included in today's bulletin is a flyer listing items for our annual food drive run by Catholic Charities. The food we collect is donated to WUMCO in Poolesville for local needy families. Please consult the flyer and bring in suggested items on March 9 & 10.