

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.*



March 19, 2023
Fourth Sunday in 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*
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 @ 5 pm, Sunday @ 8:30 & 10:30 am
First Friday: Adoration 9:30 am - Noon
First Saturday: 9:00 am with Devotions
Confession: Saturday @ 4:15 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



Pray for our Seminarians and Those in Consecrated Life Please continue to pray for our seminarians 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 the Church.

Formed.org is a wonderful faith-based website that our parish pays for to provide good family content. Check it out for Lent.

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.

Friday Lenten Dinners sponsored by our Knights of Columbus return this Friday from 5:30 - 7:00 pm in the Fr. Reid Pavilion. The menu features Salmon, Fish Sticks, Mac-n-cheese, Salad bar, Ziti, Fries & Garlic Bread. Crab Cake for an up charge. The cost is \$14 per person.



Please Pray For.... Frank Anderson, Louise Austin, Michael Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Jim Bowie, Donna Brashears, Suzanne Brodt, Ida Brown, Linda Burke, Pete Brunner, Maddie Cabatic, Norma Camp, Ada Candor, Dylan Captain, 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,

A couple crosses the street to welcome a new neighbor. Knocking on the door, they feel awkward. What if they appear foolish? Mindful of their mission, they proceed with the goal of making their neighborhood a welcoming place.

Today's readings remind us of times when we are sent and invited to go beyond what is seen.

We may not carry a horn of oil, or stumble toward a distant pool. But God sends us to visit a sick relative, comfort a grieving friend, or help someone with homework. Regardless of the task, we may sometimes feel awkward or even afraid.

In the spirit of Samuel who, in today's first reading, is being sent for a mission, we can ask ourselves: "What is my mission?" or "How is God calling me to serve?"

Samuel's motives are to follow God's call, and that means going beyond what he sees. Additionally, Samuel was invited to experience the unexpected. David, seemingly the weakest, is God's choice.

The theme of seeing carries through to the Gospel. Imagine being blind and overhearing Jesus say that your blindness is because "the works of God might be made visible" — seen — in you. God will use you. God sees something special when God looks at you.

Jesus doesn't heal you instantly. You must journey to wash. You are sent. Does your faith allow you to expect healing?

Remember Naaman, the leper from Syria, who, in another story from the Hebrew Scriptures, goes to see Elisha (2 Kings 5) for a cure. Instead of meeting him, the prophet sends Naaman a message, telling him to wash seven times in the Jordan. Naaman gets angry. He expected Elisha to see him personally, and do something extraordinary. Naaman's servant must convince him to go and wash, saying, "If the prophet told you to do something extraordinary, would you not do it?"

Naaman's healing, David's selection as king, and the blind beggar's healing all involve people being sent, and taking steps to go beyond hesitations, first impressions and expectations.

I wonder if the person healed of blindness in today's Gospel was excited to have mud put on his eyes, or did he feel foolish stumbling to the pool?

God wants action from us. Samuel steps up to God's challenge, despite fear. The person healed risks looking foolish yet acts nevertheless. Am I willing to imitate them?

I may avoid accepting my mission, and have many excuses. Today's Gospel is full of them: "It's not really the blind beggar." "He really wasn't blind from birth." "Jesus can't be God because he cured on the Sabbath." "Ask our son — I'm not going to commit myself to an answer."

Forget the excuses. Rather, ask yourself: "What would I see and do, if I were not afraid?"

I wonder if the man born blind expected the consequences of seeing. Could he foresee being grilled by the Pharisees, ridiculed, mistreated and thrown out of his faith community? Once your eyes are open, it's difficult to ignore what is seen.

In being sent, we exercise faith. We hope. Things may not turn out as we expect. Anything is possible when God sends us forth.

Peace, Fr. Kevin

WORSHIP



"His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who has sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind"?"

- John 9:2

Mass Intentions

Sat., 18 5 pm - Francis & Clara O'Reilly
Sun., 19 8:30 am - Parishioners
10:30 am - Pete Brunner (L)
Mon., 20 9 am - Daniel Whalen
Tue., 21 9 am - Eleanor & Lloyd Jones
Wed., 22 9 am - Fr. Peter Alliata
Thu., 23 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 24 9 am - Josef Rizk

Student Applications for the 2023 Sodality Scholarship

Members of St. Mary's Parish, Barnesville are invited to apply: applicants must have received the Sacraments through Confirmation; and are currently graduating high school or continuing attendance in a trade school or 2-4 year college.

Application deadline is May 21, 2023. Complete the following and email to Alice Tung, Sodality Chair for Scholarships: alictungviola@gmail.com

Name/Address/Phone Number/ Email / Trade school or college intended for the upcoming semester / List of activities in church, community, and school; and a typed 500+ word essay on the following topic: "How will I apply what I learn through my college education, to spread my faith and to help others?" Winners will be notified in early June 2023 and receive funds by August 1st.

Bible Study with Fr. Kevin continues on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Rectory.

Mass Schedule Change With the time change, the Saturday Vigil Mass has moved to 5:00 pm. Confession is held at 4:15 pm.

Stations of the Cross Join us on Friday evenings of Lent at 7:00 pm in the church.

Shady Grove Pregnancy Center Ultrasound models are needed! Are you pregnant? Thinking of becoming pregnant? Please join us for a free ultrasound during our week of Nurse Sonographer Training. March 27 - 31. We need women who are not pregnant, and pregnant women at every stage for a limited OB/GYN ultrasound. Note: this is not a diagnostic sonogram to rule out pregnancy complications. You will receive a picture of your ultrasound and be entered into a raffle for an awesome gift card basket. Call 301-963-6223 to sign up.

Young men interested in the Priesthood and who are in high school are invited to join the Vocations office on March 26 for a day that includes mass, lunch, and hiking. Spend time with seminarians, priests, and other high-school guys who are open to exploring the priesthood. This event will be held in Black Hill Regional Park. For more information contact Fr. Mark Ivany at 202-636-9020 or vocations@adw.org.



Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Egg Hunt - we need your help! It will be on April 9 after the 8:30 am Mass. If you would like to help out hiding the eggs, and watching over the event, please call or email Fr. Kevin in the parish office.

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>



Anointing of the Sick

We will offer this Sacrament of Healing next

Sunday, March 26 at the 10:30 am Mass. Join us and consider bringing homebound neighbors to share in God's healing grace.



Easter Flower envelopes are in the back of church. Please use them to donate in memory or celebration of a loved

one and return them to the parish office by April 2.



"To Jesus Through Mary"
Our Lady of Fatima Sodality

Looking for a way to serve the community? Join Sodality members who volunteer at The Friendly Thrift Shop in Poolesville. Contact Prefect Terry Crawford for more information at terryc1026@gmail.com