

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.*



March 5, 2023

Second 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 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 foyer and support the men called to serve our Church 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.

Parish Mission with 30 hours of Exposition will be today & Monday, March 5 & 6 following Donuts. 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 is posted on our website and facebook page.

Friday Lenten Dinners sponsored by our Knights of Columbus are on March 10, 24, & 31 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, Seniors are \$11. Children 7 - 16 are \$9, under 7 are free. Crab Cakes available for \$7.

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



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,

"Behold!" That's a key word in today's story of the Transfiguration. It means more than "Look!" or "OMG!" It's more like "Take a very good look, and then look again, because there is more here than you can grasp." Interestingly, that word wasn't used for the description of the change in Jesus' appearance, as if an intensely bright face and dazzling clothes were not so unusual for the itinerant preacher from Nazareth. Instead, the word was used for the arrival of Moses and Elijah, for the cloud that overshadowed them and the voice that spoke.

"Behold! Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him." What an interesting description. The disciples receive a vision of the ancient prophets conversing with Jesus. It's as if to tell the disciples, "Behold, this Jesus whom you know is rooted in the best, the deepest of your tradition."

Moses and Elijah "were conversing with him," making it seem as if they were consulting, as if he were the revelation they had been awaiting. Their presence is all the more mysterious because they are two whose fame includes the fact that nobody saw them die — and they were conversing with the one who would overcome death.

"Behold! A bright cloud cast a shadow over them." The "bright cloud" might seem like a wonderful oxymoron, but it's not such an unusual biblical image. In the Hebrew Scriptures, God's glory frequently became visible as a cloud, and in Exodus 13 we hear that God led the people with a cloud by day and fire by night, symbolically confusing their certainty and lighting their darkness.

"Behold the bright cloud," seems to be the ultimate invitation to risk stepping into mystery.

"Behold! From the cloud came a voice." This final call heralded some clarity. From that moment on, the disciples were empowered to speak like prophets, with all the certainty of Jeremiah, they could say, "The word of God came to me and declared that Jesus is God's beloved Son. We must listen to him."

What the disciples beheld on the mountaintop was what psychologists of religion call a "peak experience." It was a moment when they understood the truth of who Jesus was for them in a way that was deeper than words could express. No miracle, no preaching, no philosophical argument can produce the interior conviction that such an encounter brings. A bit like falling in love, it's a life-changing experience that can't be pinned down any more than Jesus, Moses and Elijah could be housed in tents on the hill. In the truest sense of the phrase, you had to be there.

Most people have at least a few mountaintop moments in their life, times when they know that God is near, that love is the ultimate value, that faith is worth the risk, and in fact, that faith is a promise that demands that we risk all.

Abraham had a mountaintop moment when God called him from his homeland to go off into a most improbable future, a future in which he and his elderly childless wife would become the parents of a people of God too numerous to count. Paul had such a moment when he was stopped short in his persecution of the body of Christ.

We know their stories because those moments changed their lives and although the intensity of the experience was fleeting, it changed them and they remembered it forever.

Behold! That's the vital word. As Elizabeth Barrett Browning wrote in her poem, *Aurora Leigh*,

Earth is crammed with heaven,
And every bush is aflame with God,
But only those who see take off their shoes,
The rest sit around and pluck blackberries.

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WORSHIP



“When the disciples heard this they were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them. Saying, rise and do not be afraid.”

- Matthew 17:7

Mass Intentions

Sat., 4	4 pm - Patricia Hines
Sun.,5	8:30 am - Parishioners 10:30 am - Barbara Auman
Mon., 6	9 am - Nancy Slattery
Tue., 7	9 am - Virginia & Irving Fisk
Wed.,8	9 am - Eleanor & Lloyd Jones
Thu., 9	9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 10	9 am - Anna Rita McGlynn



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.

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We can only see what we are open to seeing. There's more of God around us than we can take in, but we can also miss it all. Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain after they had been with him, after they had been enthralled with the force of his goodness and repelled by his prediction that he would suffer rejection and a shameful death. They loved him and that was enough to open them to more. They were ready to begin to behold who he was in the sight of God. All that was left was to learn to listen to him. This second week of Lent invites us to behold the Christ of our tradition, to remember our peak moments of faith, and most of all, to listen to him.

Peace, Fr. Kevin

Young Family Ministry All families with young children are invited to spend a morning together on Saturday, April 15th, 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 Easter together. We will have a children's songs, stories, and games with an Easter 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



“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!

Many generations of women in Sodality have sought enrichment of their spiritual lives through devotion to our Blessed Mother, always leading to increased devotion and love of her Divine Son. Following Mary's example, Sodality members organize to meet our church's spiritual and material needs.



Mass Schedule Change

Mass Schedule Change With the time change coming next weekend, the Saturday Vigil Mass reverts to 5:00 pm beginning next Saturday, March 11. Confession will be held at 4:15 pm.



The St. Patrick's Party is in 2 weeks on Saturday, March 18 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm in the Fr. Reid Pavilion. Make plans to join us.

The band, the food, the bread, and new dancers from the Maple School will be on hand. Call or email the office to sign up. This years cost is: \$25 per person and \$75 for a family of four. No sales at the door. Reserve your spot now.

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 on Sunday, March

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



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