

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

18230 Barnesville Road • P.O. Box 67 • Barnesville, MD 20838

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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.*

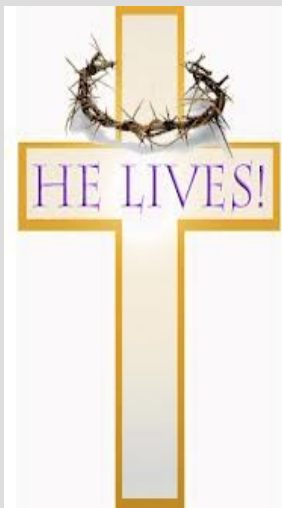


**April 14, 2024**  
**3rd Sunday of Easter**

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, *Sodality*  
Tom McCartin, *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

## Dear Parishioners,



The most important detail in Luke's accounts of the disciples meeting the risen Jesus may be the fact that he slowly opened their minds to understand what they had previously been unwilling or unable to grasp. Their facile and self-interested ideas about Jesus as Lord or Messiah all fell apart with the Passion. Those of us born into a so-called Christian society may unwittingly share their lack of depth of understanding. We sometimes proclaim: "He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day" with about the same amount of wonder as we say "the light just turned green." When we read the Gospels, it is all too easy to overlook the mind-boggling confusion they convey and thus avoid their invitation to undergo the transformation they offer. To the extent that we succeed in those evasions, we prevent ourselves from sharing the faith experience of an encounter with Christ that the evangelists wanted to communicate.

Sometimes we enter into the stories we hear from Scripture as if they were played out with all the serious solemnity of a papal funeral. That approach can both shroud the fact that people genuinely enjoyed being with Jesus and erase the impact of his great sense of humor. Jesus was well-known for his proficiency as the come-back artist. His great one-liners included challenging the righteous that they'd better remove the 2-by-4 from their eyes before going after a speck in someone else's, as well as challenging the Pharisees with the observation that while straining to avoid ingesting a gnat they were swallowing a camel (Luke 6:42, Matthew 23:24). He never let his followers take themselves too seriously.



***Please Pray For.....*** James Abernethy, Frank Anderson, Louise Austin, Michael Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Jim Bowie, Donna & Fred Brashears, Linda Burke, Maddie Cabbatic, 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, Dick Hadaway, Kimberly Harris, Bridget Hart, Andrew Howard, Cecilia Hughan & family, Larry & 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, John Mulcare, 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, Annette Young, Bob White, 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.

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Remembering what the earthly Jesus was really like, it seems at least remotely possible that when Jesus suddenly materialized in the midst of his disciples on the night of his resurrection, he might have been at least tempted to startle them with a resounding "Boo!"

Luke quotes Jesus as saying "Peace be with you," but that greeting apparently had exactly the same effect as if he had plotted and carried off a plan to make them jump right out of their sandals. Luke says the disciples were "startled and terrified." That sounds like a progression from bad to worse. When their good sense kicked in, they figured that they were seeing a phantom. (So much for giving your friends a wonderful surprise ...)

When we read the Resurrection accounts without supplementary overlays of piety and unquestioned faith, we can start to comprehend how hard it was for the disciples to understand the risen Christ. That is simply because the Resurrection fulfilled everything Jesus had tried to teach them during his ministry but they had never grasped it. They had loved him, but their faith was never more than a ghost of his own. The risen Jesus had to begin by convincing them that he himself had returned to them and that he was truly alive; they could see the scars of his suffering and just as he had done throughout their life together, he could eat with them.

Luke tells us that Jesus nudged his friends through their incredulity and amazement to the point that he could open their minds to understand the Scriptures. The Gospels attest to the fact that until they had been through Jesus' death and resurrection, they did not and perhaps could not understand what he had tried to teach them. It was one thing to hear him proclaim that the last would be first; it was quite another for them to meet their crucified friend arisen from the dead. They had often heard him preach metanoia and forgiveness, but they began to learn what it meant when he transformed their way of thinking by returning to them with his message of peace. In the end, Jesus mandated his disciples to be his witnesses. He knew that the only way they could learn what his message was about was through preaching it in word and deed.

Thus, in today's reading from Acts, we meet the new Peter. No longer the braggart, he is a witness. As a prophet, he demands that his people accept their responsibility for crucifying Jesus.

As an evangelist, he has become a preacher and agent of forgiveness, even ready to risk his skin for the message that has captivated him. On one hand, people might not recognize him; on another, they would say he had become what he was always meant to be.

In the end, Easter is God's invitation that we all become what we are meant to be in and through the encounter with the risen Christ. All the saints will tell us that the process involves terrible confusion and frightening realizations that prod us beyond our safe boundaries and easy creeds. They will also tell us that the peace we will find is worth any cost.

*Peace,*

*Fr. Kevin*

## WORSHIP



"You are witnesses of these things."

- Luke 22:48

### Mass Intentions

- Sat., 13 5 pm - Melinda Cornish
- Sun., 14 8:30 am - Thomas Armstrong  
10:30 am - Parishioners
- Mon., 15 9 am - Fr. Jim Downs
- Tue., 16 9 am - Susan Rizk
- Wed., 17 9 am - Lloyd & Eleanor Jones
- Thu., 18 9 am - Eucharistic Service
- Fri., 19 9 am - Edwin & Mary Reid

**Mark your Calendars** The annual Chicken Dinner and Jousting Tournament will be Saturday, July 27, 2024. We will serve the chicken dinners and have all the other popular events. We will hold White Elephant, Games, etc.



**Vacation Bible School** Plan ahead for this summer's VBS which will be July 8 - 12. The theme is Desert Bible Stories. For more information contact Terri Phipps at ok-oni.tp@gmail.com. Teen and Adult volunteers are needed.

**Grass Cutting Reservations are now being taken.** An opportunity awaits you to enjoy the fresh country air at St. Mary's while helping the parish as a grass cutter. Reservations are currently being accepted for the season. Reserve the weeks of your choice by calling the parish office or emailing us at stmarysb@yahoo.com; anyone above the age of 16 is welcome.

**Mother's Day Remembrance** We are offering mass cards for Mothers on Mother's Day. Intention envelopes are in the back of church. Fill one out and return it, quickly, then send the card to your mother, grandmother, etc. The names will be printed on Mother's Day and you will be given a special mass card to give to a loved one. Deadline for turning in envelopes is Sunday, May 5.



### "To Jesus Through Mary" Our Lady of Fatima 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 19, 2024. Complete the following and email to Alice Tung, Sodality Chair for Scholarships: [alicetungviola@gmail.com](mailto:alicetungviola@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 2024 and will receive funds by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Communion Breakfast** The Sodality is hosting the annual communion breakfast on Sunday, May 5 after the 8:30 am Mass in the Father Reid Pavilion. All are invited. This is our opportunity to congratulate all of our new communicants. We will be featuring a guest speaker on "The Flame of Love Rosary". You can make reservations by signing up after every mass the next couple of weeks. Price of admission is \$15.00 per person payable at reservation time. Check or cash appreciated. First Communicants are free.

### Congratulations



to

Robert Harris Willard  
child of

Matthew Willard & Nancy Jamison

and

Autumn Ray Aviles

Child of

Carlos Aviles & McKenzie Knott

Baptized on April 6

### Congratulations

to

Elizabeth Mae Frost  
child of

Garrett Frost & Kelly Crow

Baptized on April 7

