

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

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Mary of Nazareth School: 301.869.0940

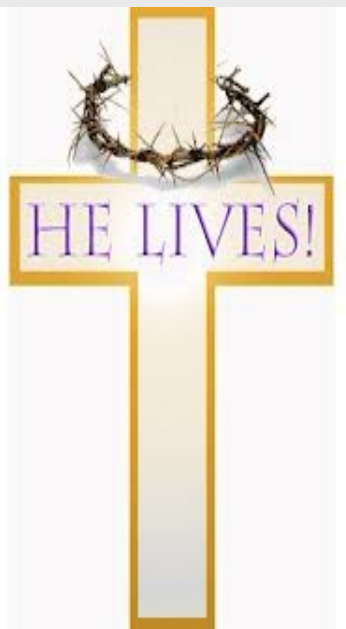
*We welcome you to our historic parish family.
Since 1741 believers such as yourself have built a spirit-
filled, Catholic faith community here in Barnesville.
We are privileged to have you join us in our mission to
share God's blessings.*



April 16, 2023
2nd 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*
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



Divine Mercy Sunday (also known as the **Feast of the Divine Mercy**) is celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter, which concludes the Octave of Easter. The feast day is observed in the Roman Rite calendar, as well as some Anglo-Catholics of the Church of England (it is not, however, an official Anglican feast). It is originally based on the Catholic devotion to the Divine Mercy that Faustina Kowalska reported as part of her encounter with Jesus, and is associated with special promises from Jesus and indulgences issued by the Catholic Church.

The feast of Divine Mercy, according to the diary of Kowalska, receives from Jesus the biggest promises of grace related to the Devotion of Divine Mercy, in particular that a person who goes to sacramental confession (the confession may take place some days before) and receives holy communion on that day, shall obtain the total expiation of all sins and punishment. That means each person would go immediately after death to heaven without suffering in purgatory. Additionally, the Roman Catholic Church grants a plenary indulgence (observing the usual rules) with the recitation of some simple prayers.



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, 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, Sr. Barbara Murtha, 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, Richard Thompson, Jack Thorp, Corinne Torney, 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,

John's Gospel gives us two accounts in which Jesus becomes present in the midst of a group of his disciples, appearances neither Mark nor Matthew even mention, and which Luke presents as a single incident. In reading the resurrection accounts we need to remember that the evangelists' purpose was not to write newspaper reports but to lead the readers to reflect on their own faith in the risen Lord.

Today's Gospel includes both of John's accounts of Jesus' appearance to the gathered disciples. All we know about the first group that Jesus breaks in on is that it included some but not all of the disciples and they were afraid enough to have locked themselves in, leaving the distinct impression that they were in hiding.

The risen Lord never appeared with flashy ostentation. Instead, he appeared to his beloved friends with a simplicity comparable to that of his birth in the stable. When he appeared on the inside of the locked doors, he showed the disciples his hands and feet, signs of all that had happened and also the definitive sign that evil and death had no power over him — not on the cross, not ever.

Jesus who had spoken at such length at the Last Supper makes only a few short statements when he appears among the disciples. The one word he repeats is "Peace." When they hear that they surely recall his promise to give them peace unlike any in the world. After that greeting Jesus showed them the maimed hands and feet that identified him as exactly who he was: the crucified and risen one.

After speaking a second blessing of peace Jesus imparted on them the graced power to become who they were called to be. Breathing over them as the Creator had blown life into the first humans he incorporated them into his own relationship of being loved and commissioned to carry on the Father's work. Jesus gave the disciples the one ministry that symbolized and included everything he had done and was handing on to them: "Forgive. You have the power. You have the necessary grace. Forgive."

Thomas is Jesus' key dialogue partner in the second appearance story which begins just like the first: with peace. Except for his need to touch the risen Jesus, we don't know the details of Thomas' struggle to believe. Did he find the testimony of the first witnesses unconvincing? Was it doubt that death could really be overcome? Perhaps he couldn't believe that they could all really be forgiven for their betrayals. Whatever blocked him, it was symbolized in what Jesus' had suffered; Thomas had to see for himself that one so wounded could be living and loving. So Jesus acted out exactly what he had told the disciples to do: demonstrating how to be forgiving and hold fast to one who could be lost, Jesus invited Thomas to touch him and to take his place in the believing community. Thomas needed no further evidence.

In this second week of Easter the early community and especially Thomas stand as witnesses to us. Their stories encourage us to allow Christ's word of peace and reconciliation to touch us and move us into mission. They remind us that locked doors are ineffective against the appearance of grace and that Christ approaches closed minds with love and often even a touch of friendly humor.

Peace,

Fr. Kevin

WORSHIP



Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

- John 20:29

Mass Intentions

Sat., 15 5 pm - George Brings
Sun., 16 8:30 am - Parishioners
10:30 am - Susan Rizk
Mon., 17 9 am - Robert Barbour
Tue., 18 9 am - George Brings
Wed., 19 9 am - Edwin & Mary Reid
Thu., 20 9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 21 9 am - Ann Whalen



Vacation Bible School Save the date! July 10 - 14 for River Adventures! This is a fun, faith filled time for all. For more information contact Terri Phipps at okoni@hotmail.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.

Second Collection next weekend will be for the Church Missions within the United States.

Blessed Easter Water is available in the Sanctuary in bottles bearing the image of our Shrine Church.

Easter Thanks We are grateful to all who helped make our Holy Week and Easter Celebrations so special. Our Music Ministry for the uplifting music. Our Decorators for the beautiful church. Thanks to our Altar Servers, Lectors, Ushers, and all of you for being here with us.

Catholic High School Fair Is your middle schooler considering a Catholic high school? The Archdiocese hosts a High School Fair each year to help families plan for the future. This will be on Saturday, April 22 from 11 am - 2 pm at the Catholic University of America. Visit www.adwcatholicsschools.org for more information and to register. This event is free.

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: 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 2023 and receive funds by August 1st.

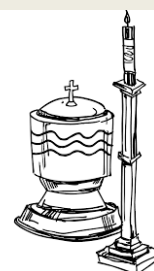
Haiti Baking Many thanks to the dedicated bakers who prepared the breads that were sold on Palm Sunday weekend. Thank you especially to the generous buyers for your donations. Kristine Kingery was the winner of the Easter gift basket.



"To Jesus Through Mary"
Our Lady of Fatima Sodality

Communion Breakfast is coming on May 7 after the 8:30 am Mass. All are invited. First Communicants are invited for free, accompanied by one parent. See the flyer in this bulletin for more information. Sign up outside after mass today.

Congratulations



to
Lillian Marie Wilson
child of

Benjamin & Rebecca Wilson

who received the
Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

