

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

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

[www.stmaryonline.com](http://www.stmaryonline.com)

Rectory: 301.972.8660 • Rel. Ed.: 301.972.8576 • Email: [stmarysb@yahoo.com](mailto: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.*



August 20, 2023

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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, Notary*  
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



We are getting ready for another Faith filled year at St. Mary's. We hope you are having a spectacular summer. We are beginning registration and encourage you to complete your family's registration promptly. The registration for the School of Religion is in the vestibule of the Church, and on the Parish Web site.

Our classes begin on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. Grades Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> meet at 4:00pm- 5:00pm. Our Middle School program for Grades 6-8 will meet from 7:30 to 8:30pm. All classes are held on the Parish grounds.

**Home School and Parochial School** students are to complete a registration form for children receiving the Sacraments of Penance and First Holy Communion. The preparation for Confirmation is a two-year program. Please complete a registration for you to receive information regarding the Sacrament of Confirmation, if the student is in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. The tuition need not be paid, only the \$25.00 Sacrament fee. Your student will only join us for activities pertaining to the requirements of the Sacrament, Retreats, Parent Meetings, and rehearsals. They will receive their instruction through their schools.

We are a Parish supported by volunteers! The last section on the application regarding volunteering, *is not optional*. In order to offer our children every opportunity for growth in their faith and enhance their experience, we need volunteers to help.

We are in need of staff for 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades. Please consider accepting one of these positions. All lesson plans and teaching materials will be provided. We have a wonderful group of young people in our Parish. Call Liz Smith, 301-651-3353 for more information.



***Please Pray For.....***James Abernethy, Frank Anderson, Louise Austin, Michael Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Stanton Boteler, Jim Bowie, Donna Brashears, 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, Andrew & Nicholas Diaz, Michael Dillon, Julian Douchard, Steve Drescher, Dennis Edward, Tom Ehart, Jo Evans, Hazel Finney, Timothy Flanders, Sandy Flynn, Dolores Flynn, Mark Fye, Fr. Rich Gancayco, Jennifer Gilbert, Zachery Gorouch, Kimberly Harris, Bridget Hart, Larry Horton, Andrew Howard, Cecilia Hughan & family, Mary Lillian Hewitt, 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, Harvey Lovelless, Sylvia Marshall, Karla Linn Merrifield, Anna Lozada Martinez, Joy McIntyre, Anthony Murdock, Bea Nastacio, Christine O'Connell, Dennis O'Fallan, 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, Teresa Silverman, Cynthia Slattum, Gene Smith, Jerry Stafford, 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,**

Today's Gospel presents a Jesus we might not recognize, who says "No," is dismissive to the point of being rude, and who totally ignores obvious suffering.

How can this be? After feeding hungry multitudes and reaching out in compassion to all those in pain, how can it be that Jesus would refuse this woman who is experiencing terrible anguish because her daughter is being tormented by a demon? And yet, that's what Jesus does. Not once, but twice he refuses the woman's plea for mercy. He even goes so far as to dismissively say to her: "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." So, what's really going on here?

The Gospel of Matthew was written some 50-60 years after the death of Jesus. It emerged from a community of believers struggling to deal with two major concerns: First, the role of "gentiles" or "foreigners," people of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. What should we do with these people? How should we behave towards them? Second, the role of women in the early church community. Sound familiar? We Christian people, we followers of Jesus are still grappling with both issues to this day.

The matter of how to treat people who are not "one of our own" — immigrants or those racially different — is ever present in our news cycle. Historically, this issue alone is still causing controversies within the church and in countries around the world as well. Who is to be accepted? Who is to be rejected? Who is to be relegated to the back of the bus?

Today's Gospel tells the story of Jesus himself struggling with these very questions through an encounter with a woman — a very persistent woman, who refuses to take "no" for an answer. At first, Jesus demonstrates how uncomfortable he is with her because she is not Jewish. She is part of another culture, another country, another religion. And so initially, Jesus stays with his "own kind," and states: "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

Most everyone can identify with this point of view. We are uncomfortable, at least initially, with anyone who is "different." Jesus is depicted in today's Gospel reading in much the same way. But, notice one huge distinction: It is the woman's faith that make all of the difference and changes Jesus. Ultimately, it's not her persistence that transforms Jesus. Instead, it's his amazement at the depth of her love for her daughter and her recognition of the breadth of God's love for all humans. It's her belief that God loves all people and will heal all people.

The other major issue, that of women, is presented in a subtle, yet equally significant way. Women had no rights at that time — legally nor religiously. Yet, again and again, Jesus broke the rules of his religion and culture, by listening to women, conversing with them, healing them, and including them among his primary followers. Jesus even went so far as to use women as examples for us all, such as the woman in today's Gospel who is given the ultimate compliment of teaching Jesus.

What Jesus finds remarkable is the woman's faith. That's our lesson from today's Gospel: It will be our faith that will lead us through all the heartaches and the demons that torment us. It will be our faith that will overcome all our many biases and prejudices and give us hearts large enough to welcome everyone. It will be our faith that will transform us.

Just as it did for Jesus.

***Fr. Kevin***

## WORSHIP



“Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters”

- Matthew 15:27

### Mass Intentions

**Sat., 19** 5 pm - Virginia & Irving Fisk  
**Sun., 20** 8:30 am - David Slattery  
10:30 am - Parishioners  
**Mon., 21** 9 am - Anne & Kaleel Rizk  
**Tue., 22** 9 am - Eucharistic Service  
**Wed., 23** 9 am - Eucharistic Service  
**Thu., 24** 9 am - Eucharistic Service  
**Fri., 25** 9 am - Eucharistic Service

**Event Photos** Pictures from the the Chicken Dinner are posted on our smugmug pages. Simply go to <https://stmarysbarnesville.smugmug.com/>. The password is StMarysBarnesville.

## Church Picnic



### Outdoor Mass & Pot Luck

St. Mary's Parishioners and their families and friends are invited to join together for an outdoor Mass on **Sunday, September 17, at 11 am**. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets for the Mass. We will celebrate Catechetical Sunday. Please bring 8-10 servings of YOUR FAVORITE DISH to share with your fellow parishioners. Meats, drinks and paper goods will be provided. There will be live music and fun for all.

**“Unplanned” Movie Showing Young Family Life Ministry** join us for a great start of the year! Save the date for Saturday September 30, 10 am. Weather permitting, we will hike together Sugarloaf Mountain with our children. Pack your lunch and be ready for some singing at the top of the mountain. In case of rain, we will get together in the Pavilion for some story time, games, crafts and songs. Hope to meet you and see you soon! Details on meeting point at Sugarloaf TBE soon. If you have any questions or want to RSVP, please email us at [blinibrenda@gmail.com](mailto:blinibrenda@gmail.com)

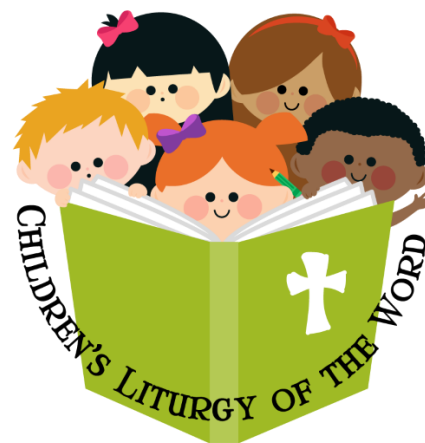
**Mary of Nazareth Catholic School** offers an introduction to ballroom dancing and social grace training for eighth-grade boys and girls. Students enjoy the opportunity to learn basic dance steps and etiquette skills from professional instructors. For more information, dates and registration, please go to <https://irp.cdn-website.com/bf0619bf/files/uploaded/MON%20Cotillion%20Flyer%20Update.png>

**Food For The Poor** Hear inspiring testimony and stories of faith-filled people living in some of the most impoverished countries in our hemisphere. Our Food For The Poor clergy speakers have witnessed the suffering, and the inspiring faith, of those who sometimes have only their trust in the Lord as their daily bread. Please welcome Father Joseph Monahan, T.O.R. who will be visiting St. Mary's the weekend of August 26-27.



*“To Jesus Through Mary”*  
Our Lady of Fatima Sodality

We're launching exciting plans for the coming year in St. Mary's Sodality! Next meeting: Sept. 3rd after 10:30 Mass. Get your coffee and donut in the Pavilion, and meet us in the Sun-room for all the details. All parish ladies are welcome.



The joyous ministry of sharing God's Word with the youngest of our parish, ages 3 years old to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, is returning in September. Please consider volunteering to be a part of this ministry. The obligation is one Sunday a month. During Children's Liturgy of The Word, young children leave the sanctuary during the Liturgy of the Word to hear the scripture readings proclaimed and explained at an age-appropriate level. These sessions are not faith formation classes, arts-and-crafts activities, or babysitting during Mass. Rather, the children hear the same Mass readings as adults – but in simpler terms that are easier to grasp. Please contact Liz Smith at 301-651-3353 or [smithstmarysb@gmail.com](mailto:smithstmarysb@gmail.com) for more information. Training will be provided.