

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. Mary's Catholic Church
406 E. Savidge St.
Spring Lake, MI 49456
www.stmarysl.org
616-842-1702

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
Parish Office closed for lunch from 12:30-1:00 p.m.

Pastor

Rev. Dave Gross
frdgross@grpriests.org
Emergency Number: 616-604-4105

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Bill Charron
bcharron@stmarysl.org

Pastoral Associate & R.C.I.A.

Bill Dunn
bdunn@stmarysl.org

Parish Secretary

Barbara Wyant
parishoffice@stmarysl.org

Christian Service

Dorothy Raha
draha@stmarysl.org

Adult Faith Formation

Dave Heinert
dheinert@stmarysl.org

K-6 Faith Formation

Cathy Pearce
cpearce@stmarysl.org

7-12th & Confirmation Prep

Chris Iwan
ciwan@stmarysl.org

Music Director

Diane Murray
dmurray@stmarysl.org

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m.
Friday - 9:00 a.m.
Holy Days: See Bulletin

Reconciliation

Wednesday 7:30-8:00 a.m.
**Wednesday 5:30-6:00 p.m. (September-May)
Saturday 3:30-4:15 p.m.

St. Mary's School

Principal

Steve VanHammen
svanhammen@stmarysl.org

School Office

School Phone: 616-842-1282
School Fax: 616-842-8048
School Website: www.stmarysl.org

Administrative Assistant:

Mary Peel
mpeel@stmarysl.org

School Secretary

Carol Payne
cpayne@stmarysl.org

Preschool Director

Kara Polega
kpolega@stmarysl.org

*"Blessed
are you
who are
poor,
for the
kingdom
of God
is yours."*

Luke 6:20

Worship in Our Parish

Mass Schedule

Monday, February 18
8:00 a.m. +Nik Barbera
by Bill & Marcia Palermo

Tuesday, February 19
8:00 a.m. +Dan English
by Pat & Cathy Kennedy

Wednesday, February 20
8:00 a.m. +Ruthann & Jeff Milner
by M. Stevens

Thursday, February 21
8:00 a.m. +Elizabeth Cook
by The Smith Family

Friday February 22
9:00 a.m. S.I. Students and Staff of
St. Mary's School

Saturday, February 23
4:30 p.m. +Dorothy Bruhn
by Bill & Marcia Palermo

Sunday, February 24
9:00 a.m. +Gail Bazany
by Ruth Stevens

11:00 a.m. St. Mary's Parish
Community

Liturgical Assignments

02/23-24/2019

4:30 pm: Rita Dyke, Sophia Raguse, Alex Hoisington, Alivia Holmes, J.C. Howe, Diane Carmode, John & Jill Conroy, Lee Ann Frame, Mike Grillo, Kare Mead, Kathy Struve, Paul & Jackie Twa, David & Theresa VanVeelen

9:00 a.m. Michael Zambiasi, Addie Mullally, Marley & Alyssa Fogel, Fred McNew, Colleen Barraclough, Diane & David Burel, Maryvic Cuison, Carl & Betty Doering, Gloria & Lou Draeger, Anne Fuller, Sharon & Carl Mesker

11:00 a.m. Amy Giroux, Luke & Clayton Glasgow, Sophie VanIttersum (sub req), Carol Hunt, Pattie & Bernesser (req subs), Janet Cox, Mary Sue Farmer, Lance Kilinski, David Lukasik, Sandy Mercurio, Cheri Shippy (req sub), Mitchel Tennyson, Sharon Vink, Henry Werksma

Ushers: Terry Johnson, Joe Mead, Mike Brown, Fred Kromer, Steve Boyink, Chris Jarvis, Bill Berns, Bob Glavich, Scott VanStrate, Jim Milanowski, E. Jack Gardner, Scott Hunt, Ken Michlitsch, Joe Garzelloni, John Brook, Charles Gardner, Kirk Antekeier

Our First Fruits to God

02/10/2019

Online Giving \$3,871.00
Adult Envelopes..... \$17,953.00
Kids Coins\$60.79
Loose Contributions \$1,559.14
Total Support..... \$23,443.93

Education Center Debt.....\$849,973.44

Mary, Light of Learning Campaign
Goal \$2,000,000.00
Mary, Light of Learning Campaign
Pledges \$1,288,068.18
Mary, Light of Learning Campaign
Received \$1,046,052.76

*Of all your gifts,
dear Lord,
I return a part to you.*

If you are 70 ½ or older and need to take a required minimum distribution from an IRA, gifts to St. Mary's Church are qualified charitable distributions and can save you tax dollars. To find out more on how to take advantage of this tax provision, please speak with your tax consultant or investment advisor.

A Word From The Pastor

Winter doesn't seem to want to let up right now, but thankfully spring isn't too far away. The days are starting to get longer, and the added sunlight helps to brighten our day. We must never forget that the light of God's Son is always shining down upon us, and illumined by Him, we are all called to bring others into this marvelous light. This is a reminder that after each of the Masses this weekend there will be an informational meeting about a potential trip to the Holy Land from **April 20-30, 2020**. This date feels like a long way away, but it will be here before we know it. Join us to explore the possibility of actually walking where our Lord Jesus walked upon this earth!

1st Reconciliation

Our second-grade children will be receiving the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time this upcoming Friday evening. This is one of my favorite celebrations of the year, despite the fact that it tends to be rather subdued, and it is generally a rather private affair. The look of joy on the faces of the kids as they realize that they have been forgiven by God for all their sins brings a special warmth to my heart. It is important that we allow the children to experience the outpouring of God's mercy and love that will then prepare them to receive His Body and

Blood in the Eucharist. Their first reception of sacramental forgiveness should inspire the rest of us to take advantage of this great gift from God as well.

A few years ago, at the beginning of the Fall Bishops' Conference, Cardinal Dolan of New York had this to say about this sacrament. "Reconciliation brings us sacramentally into contact with Jesus, who calls us to conversion of heart, and allows us to answer his invitation to repentance—a repentance from within that can then transform the world without. We need the sacrament of penance because we are profoundly sorry for our faults, failures and our sins, serious obstacles to the new evangelization. But then we stand forgiven, resolute to return to the work entrusted to us—as evangelizers of the Gospel of mercy." I pray that we will all be better evangelizers of the great mercy of our God!

Ministry Fair

Don't forget that after all the Masses on **March 2 and 3** there will be a ministry fair in the Activity Center (gym). This is an opportunity for everyone to see where they might be able to become more involved in the life of our parish. I am not even aware of all the groups who meet here on a regular

basis or the tremendous outreach that is done by the people of St. Mary. I hope that everyone will take at least 10-15 minutes to stay after Mass and explore the different possibilities for involvement. God has given everyone different gifts to share, and our parish will not live up to its potential if those gifts are not put to good use.

May God bless you and those you love throughout the upcoming week!

Fr. Dave

This Week in Our Parish

At a Glance

Monday, February 18
 7:25 a.m. Praying of the Rosary in the Chapel
 6-7:30 p.m. Adult Education Series
 7:00 p.m. RCIA
 7:00 p.m. Adoration Holy Hour

Tuesday, February 19
 7:25 a.m. Praying of the Rosary in the Chapel
 9:30 a.m. Bible Study
 10-11:30 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Wednesday, February 20
 7:25 a.m. Praying of the Rosary in the Chapel
 7:30 a.m. Reconciliation
 3:30-4:45 p.m. Junior Choir
 4:30 p.m. Elementary FF
 5:30-6:30 p.m. Reconciliation
 6:30-7:30 p.m. 7-12 Open Gym
 7-8:30 p.m. 7-12 Faith Formation

Thursday, February 21
 7:25 a.m. Praying of the Rosary in the Chapel
 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir

Friday, February 22
 7:25 a.m. Praying of the Rosary in the Chapel
 8:30 a.m. MCC Retreat

Saturday, February 23
 3:30-4:15 p.m. Reconciliation

Sunday, February 24
 3:00 p.m. Confirmation at the Cathedral of St. Andrew

Yearly contribution statements are available in the Gathering Space. If you don't find yours please call the parish office and one will be provided for you.

Scripture Readings 02.24.19

1Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
 Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
 1Cor 15:45-49 Lk 6:27-38

Family Perspective

Don't look very far when you hear today's gospel speak of poverty, hunger, sorrow or exclusion. These things happen in families. Children feel "insulted" when they are constantly criticized. Spouses "hunger" for affection. Grandparents feel "excluded" by divorce and custody decisions. Parents "weep" because they feel alienated from their children.

Sanctity of Life




Every Life is Worth Living! This ministry promotes the sacredness and inherent dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.

Reflection. Abortion supporters sometimes ask, "Why don't you focus on caring for people who are already alive?" When we speak about unborn children, we are not speaking about "possible" children, we are speaking about real children who are already quite alive.

Priests for life, Pro-life Reflections

To become involved with the Sanctity of Life Ministry please contact Mary Bilski at 616-846-5751 or mjbilski@att.net.

 The Riley family would like to say thanks to Fr. Dave, Diane Murray and Mike Wilson for the beautiful Mass for Art on January 21. We also want to thank the ladies for the wonderful luncheon. Thank you for all your prayers and cards.

Eva Riley, Tom & Kathy and Family

Women of the diocese, make plans to join us for the 2019 Diocesan Women's Conference.

Dwell

Ephesians 3:14-19

Saturday, March 16, 2019

Featuring Author, Speaker & Missionary, Colleen Mitchell

Location: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Belmont

\$30, Includes Morning Hospitality & Lunch

Register on Line at : [http://](http://www.dioceseofgrandrapids.org/multimedia/Pages/Upcoming_Events.aspx)

www.dioceseofgrandrapids.org/multimedia/Pages/Upcoming_Events.aspx

**Pray For Peace
 In Our World**



Scrip Scoop

Are you in heading out for a snowy vacation, or are you in need of some supplies to clean up snow and ice? The Cash and Carry box has all your needs. Pickup scrip for Amazon, Dick's Sports, Home Depot, Land's End, Meijer, Menard's, Target, and Walmart/Sam's.

The Unity Auction is still in need of donations for gift cards. Please consider purchasing through Scrip. You may leave your donation at the scrip office or after Mass with a scrip volunteer.

For more information on gift cards, please go to: <https://www.stmarysl.org/scrip.html>, or call the Scrip office.

Jennifer Grossman & Marci Hamilton
 Scrip Coordinators
 616-842-1702 Ext. 260
scrip@stmarysl.org



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend: Give the gift of yourselves to each other on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend, March 15-17 at St. Francis Retreat Center-DeWitt. Apply online at wwme.org or contact Chris & Darla Vinton at 734-531-9191.

**Business Sponsorships Available.
 Only a few spots remaining!**



Tri-Cities Unity Auction holds a fundraising event which captures over 300 people in one evening! Be one of the few that gets this opportunity to display your logo and show support for Catholic Education! Check us out online at www.tricityunityauction.org or email us at tricityunityauction@gmail.com. This is your chance to support the Catholic youth in our community

Faith Formation PS-6 PS- GD 6: Faith Formation:

What is it we value the most? Are we willing to let go of our possessions and recognize everything as a gift from God and offer it back? We hear today from Jesus' great teaching, the beatitudes, "*Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours*" (LK 6:20). Everything we have is a gift from God. When we come to recognize that all we have as a gift and not seek to constantly hold on to, we can come to understand true poverty of Spirit. It is then that we are *blessed* or happy for we no longer live in fear. We may believe that our children are our possessions. But aren't our children our greatest gifts? Let us offer them to God and trust God's providence in their lives. Let go of all fears and live in peace and trust. Please pray for the children of the world.



Our 2nd graders at St. Mary's will be celebrating First Reconciliation on **February 22**. Please pray for our 2nd graders that they come to know and experience God's love, forgiveness and providence in their lives. Thank you for your prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Preschool - Grade 12: Wednesday Faith Formation Classes are currently underway every Wednesday, but *NEW students are always welcome*. Your prayers are appreciated for our catechists, students and families.

Adult Education Series on Prayer will continue Monday, **February 18**, studying the Little Rock Bible Study series, "*On Praying the Scriptures*" from 6-7:30pm in the Youth Room -- based on Pillar IV of the Catholic Catechism. The series will continue through May. All are welcome to join on any Monday night throughout the series.

Cathy Pearce |

Director of Elementary Faith Formation

[616-842-2840](tel:616-842-2840) | cpearce@stmarysl.org | www.stmarysl.org

Youth Ministry

7th-12th Grade Lent Retreat Saturday March 9th 11am-9:30pm @ Camp Blodgett Open sign up is underway! This is a PERFECT time of year to dive deeper into your faith. This retreat is bringing out all the stops. Speakers include, Dr. Danielle Koestner who has a special message for all our female students! Anyone that knows Seth Alfero says he is a living miracle! Seth fell through a building ceiling and was in a coma for three weeks. During that time he had an experience that left him giving is life over to Christ and His church! Seth will also leave us with a concert as well!!!!

As you can see this will be an amazing experience!

Cost: \$45 per person

Make checks out to St. Mary's

8th Grade Confirmation Mass Sunday Feb. 24th 3pm @ St. Andrews Cathedral: Please pray for all our 8th grade students are the prepare for Confirmation. Pray that they will be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit!

Chris Iwan

Coordinator of Middle School and High School Youth Ministry
616-935-6974 / www.stmarysl.org/ ciwan@stmarysl.org
www.facebook.com/stmaryslym

Adult Faith Formation

Bible study: We are going to change it up and start watching some videos on Formed.org; starting with some on the **Liturgy** before Lent. Once **Lent** starts, which is right around the corner, we will start a series on **St. Peter** that can be found on **Formed.org**.

Tap'd Theology at Ted's: Next weeks' bulletin will have a new update for this much anticipated event.

Dave Heinert

Director of Adult Faith Formation

616-842-1702 | dheinert@stmarysl.org | www.stmarysl.org



St. Mary's Christian Service

Pantry Numbers: Last week **February 7** we were blessed to serve **20 Families** (Adults 41 Children 10). We thank you for your continued support and ask blessings for you and your families. **Hats & Gloves...**This morning (2/11) I noticed on the cart in the gathering space a bag of beautiful handmade hats, bright colors and various sizes. Beginning in November these welcome gifts began to arrive (also gloves/mittens/scarves). If you would like to share your names with me, please call me at 616-842-2602. These gifts along with the many collected by our St. Mary's first graders have and will continue to provide warmth for over 300 people. We currently have enough on hand to serve all who request them.

St. Mary's Central Food Pantry is an ongoing weekly ministry which appreciates and needs your support. Thank you on behalf of those who benefit. **This week's list includes:** coffee, regular tea, pancake mix, deserts, canned meats, apple juice, peanut butter, canned tuna/chicken, boxed potatoes, mac & cheese, bar soap, and toilet paper. We accept Vegan foods, protein drinks and gluten & sugar free foods.

The weekend of February 24th the second collection is for Christian Service. The December 23, 2018 second collection gifts totaled **\$3,011.16**. Our ministry has had many requests for assistance these winter months. Thank you for helping us say "yes".

Smiles and Blessings

Dorothy E. Raha

draha@stmarysl.org | 616-842-2602



The 14th Annual Building a Legacy Catholic Men's Conference will be held on Saturday, **March 9, 2019** at West Catholic High School in Grand Rapids. It will be a day of dynamic speakers, powerful faith development and reinvigorating fellowship. This year's lineup includes Elvis Grbac, Matt Fradd and Matthew Leonard with Mass celebrated by Bishop David Walkowiak.

See www.buildingalegacy.org for details and to register. Questions? Call Deacon Jim at 616-292-0422. Early registration ends **February 22** and is limited. Don't miss out.

"Solitude is a way to defend the spirit against the murderous din of our materialism."

Thomas Merton

As a Prayerful Community

Pray for our Military Personnel who serve our country with pride and valor.

We remember those who have asked to be listed in the bulletin for our prayers.

LCPL Benjamin Bosse
 Major Ken Brakora, USAF
 Lt. Col. Jason Braun, USAF
 PVT Brian Brennan, USA
 MA1 Jason Bruemmer, USN
 CW05 Tracy T. Byers, USMC
 Capt. Catherine Cassleman, USAF
 Major Jim Cassleman M.D., USAF
 Capt. Rick Cassleman, USAF
 Courtney Clark, Peace Corps
 SSGT Johnathan Cox II, USAF
 PFC Zachary J. Crevier, USA
 Specialist Ryan Diedrich, USA
 SGT Scott Diedrich, USMC
 LT Darcy M. Dubuc, MD, USN
 SGT Justin Ebidon, USMC
 SFC Jacob Frame, Green Beret
 SGT Jacob Gardner, USMC
 Airman Jacob Green, USAF
 CDR Brent Jackson USN
 MGy Sgt Daniel Kauppila, USMC
 Airman Basic Zachary Kennedy, USAF
 SGT Adam Ketner, USMC
 Capt Devin J. Kolenic, USMC
 Airman 1st Class Scott Lange USAF
 SPC Henry T. May, USAF

Andrew McCabe, Coast Guard Helicopter Rescue
 Lt. Col. William F. Ratledge, USAF
 Lt. Col. Kenneth Rossman, USMC
 SMSgt. Michael J. Rozneck, USAF
 LCPL Kyle James Russell, USMC
 Jonathan Schmitt
 First Class IT, USN
 Sgt. Josh Sherman, USA
 Capt. Matteson Smith, USA
 Major Max Smith, USA
 Capt. Ann Trombly, USAF
 PFT Austin Van Strate
 Major L. Brandon Wohlschlegel, Army Ranger.

Chase Anspach
 Cristy Barnes
 Aaron Bodbyl-Mast
 Bruce
 Joan Burke
 Gustavo Carrerro
 Nancy Carter
 Carolyn Cibor
 Millie Conran
 Daniele
 D.C.
 Sharon DeWitt
 Sarah & Doug Edgar
 Jennifer Edinger
 Ellen
 Caren Fann
 Joe & Frank Fendt
 Vanessa Fox
 Charles Gardner
 Ernie Grabman
 Paul Grantz
 Bob Green
 Barb Greene
 Janet Hall
 Stephen B. Hess
 Christopher Howe
 Gregory Howe
 Jack
 Lin Johnson

Nicholas Karlsons
 Kathleen Kennedy
 Mary Ann Kihnke
 Violet Korecki
 Fred Kromer
 Baby Paul Langeres
 Bruce MacDonald
 Bill Mason
 Ridge Matthews
 Jim McHugh
 Melissa
 Margie Meyer
 Lisa Meyers
 Susan Millett
 Jeff Moorehouse
 Jacob Myers
 Nash Nichols
 Jamie Noorman
 Ted Ostradick
 Bill Palermo
 Helen Paul
 Val Race
 Ayden Riggs
 Tegan Rose
 Helen & Larry Rozneck
 George Sadowski
 Esperanza Sanchez
 Christopher Schippers
 Michelle Scott

Nancy Senkowicz
 Edward Siemion
 Roger Shoestring
 Cathy Staeven
 Maureen Stubbs
 Dave VanSice
 Alan Walczak
 Eileen Westerhoff
 Young
 Alan Williams
 Sara Wolcott Family
 Amy Wygmans
 Ted Youn
 Ed & Jane Zahurak
 Ron & Phyllis Zant
 Zachary Zimmerman