

8th. Sunday in Ordinary Time

Do not worry about tomorrow;
tomorrow will take care of itself.

Matthew 6:34



St. Mary's Catholic Church

406 E. Savidge St.

Spring Lake, MI 49456

www.stmarysl.org

616-842-1702

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Pastor

Rev. Dave Gross

frdgross@grpriests.org

Emergency Number: 616-604-4105

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Bill Charron

bcharron@stmarysl.org

Parish Office

Parish Phone: 616-842-1702

Parish Secretary

Barbara Wyatt

parishoffice@stmarysl.org

Christian Service

Dorothy Raha

616-842-2602

Family & Adult Faith Formation

Jim Penrice/Adults

616-842-1702

Wendi Kujawski K-6

616-842-2840

Chris Iwan/7-12th & Confirmation Prep

616-935-6974

Music Director

Diane Murray

dmurray@stmarysl.org

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Daily Masses

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m.

Friday - 9:00 a.m. School in Session

Friday - 8:00 a.m. Summer & No School

Reconciliation

Wednesday 7:30-8:00 a.m.

**Wednesday 5:30-6:00 p.m.

Saturday 3:30-4:15 p.m.

****Wednesday Evening Reconciliation**

Cancelled June through August

Sacrament of the Sick

Last Saturday of the month at 3:00 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:

Ann Pendery

apendery@stmarysl.org

School Secretary

Mary Peel

mpeel@stmarysl.org

Preschool Director

Kara Polega

kpolega@stmarysl.org

Worship in Our Parish

Mass Schedule

Monday, February 27

8:00 a.m. +Robert Burwa
by Pat & Tim Trombly

Tuesday, February 28

8:00 a.m. +Anne Lesar
by Helen Paul

Wednesday, March 1

9:00 a.m. +St. Mary's Parish
7:00 p.m. For an End to Violence

Thursday, March 2

8:00 a.m. +David Gauthier
by Mark & Michelle
Gauthier

Friday, March 3

9:00 a.m. Special Intentions of
Jamie Noorman and
Family

Saturday, March 4

4:30 p.m. +Richard Strange
by His Family
Special Intentions of
Char Lozicki
by Her Family

Sunday, March 5

9:00 a.m. +Marge Payne
by Richard Kirby
+Margaret Rice
by Bob & Donna
Hundersmarck
11:00 a.m. St. Mary's Parish Family

Liturgical Assignments

03/04-05.2017

4:30 pm: Mike Grillo, Nick Penrice, Luke Meredith, Katherine Muntean, Jera Worth, Jill Conroy, Barbara Eskew, Amy Giroux, Michael Goodwin, Gary & Wendi Kujawski, Karen Mead, Fr. Ken, Paul & Jackie Twa, Sharon Vink

9:00 am: David Burel, Nino & Isabella Padula, Olivia Wright, Kathy Cicholski, Diane & David Burel, Lou & Gloria Draeger, Anne Fuller, Julie Kieft, Jeanne Kops, Mary LaGuire, Jake & Ben Lutz, Sharon Mesker

11:00 am: Bill Dunn, Joel Westhoff, Meah & Julia Bajt, Erin Curcio, Bill Bernesser, David Lukasik, Susan & Fred Millett, Joe Popiel, Rob Shippy (sub req), Cheri Shippy, Mitchel Tennyson, Carl Wasson, Henry Werksma, Dave Young

Ushers: Tom & Austin Twa, Mark Brininstool, Jim Kauppila

***See schedule for
Ash Wednesday online.

Scripture Readings 03.05.17

Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17
Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11

Our First Fruits to God

Sunday 02/19/2017

Online Giving \$3,810.00
Adult Envelopes \$11,351.50
Kids Coins \$31.41
Loose Contributions \$1,773.43
Total Support \$16,966.34

Education Center Goal \$5,500,000.00
Education Center To Date \$3,019,939.51

Renovation Goal \$90,000.00
Renovation To Date \$83,184.14
(Inc. CSA over)

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

Our sponsor of the week is **MERCY HEALTH
BLADDER CLINIC**. You make it possible for us
to receive the bulletin at no charge. Please
remember to patronize our bulletin ad
sponsors.

A Word From The Pastor

Lent begins this Wednesday, and the warm weather this past week has many of us thinking about springtime! Normally, Lent begins in the throes of winter snow and leads us to the rebirth of Easter. With its late start this year and the warm weather pattern, this promises to be anything but a typical season. Regardless of the weather, however, I hope that all of us can take advantage of these next 40+ days to truly prepare ourselves for the joyful celebration of Holy Week and the Lord's Resurrection!

Lent is one of my favorite times of the year, primarily because the focus centers on the way that we practice our faith. The number of confessions that I hear increases by at least 200%, and while that takes more energy on my part, it also brings tremendous joy to know that so many people appreciate and are taking advantage of God's gift of forgiveness. Please keep an eye on the bulletin for the additional opportunities for celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation, and mark your calendar for our communal penance service on Sunday, March 12 at 3 pm. In addition, we are adding a weekly Thursday evening Mass at

6 pm, beginning this week, for those who wish to attend Mass more during Lent but work during the day. Please join us for this extra chance to be nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ each week, to be strengthened to keep up your Lenten practices!

Another Lenten opportunity is that every Friday evening during Lent the church will be open at 6 pm for Eucharistic Adoration followed by the Stations of the Cross. During the Adoration time, I will be hearing confessions as well. Fridays are the day of the week when we are called to remember our Lord's Passion and death in a special way, and I hope that this will give everyone a chance to do this. Our seminarian, Michael, will also be giving a reflection as part of the celebration of the Stations of the Cross. Please make an effort to come join us for as many Fridays as you are able. I love a good fish fry as much as the next guy, and I encourage you to support the Knights of Columbus or Muskegon Catholic Central or the other Catholic organizations in the area that rely on these Friday evening fundraisers, but on your way home, stop by the church to spend a few

extra minutes with our Lord!

On another note, I finally have an update regarding the solar panel investment opportunity for our new building. After working through some different options and looking at the current situation, we have decided NOT to move forward with the project. Because we were too late to incorporate the roof cost into the equation, the investment period ballooned into 10 years, and the payback became less certain with potential changes in the tax code. There were also some issues with the roof lease and long-term costs that created too many questions and potential problems for the diocese to feel comfortable giving approval to the project. Thank you to everyone who expressed interest, and there may be an opportunity to add solar panels in the future. If we do, we will contact those who wanted to be a part of this one.

May God bless you and those you love throughout this week, and may your Lenten Season be a time of renewal and grace!

Fr. Dave

At a Glance

Monday, February 27

7:25 a.m. Praying of the Rosary in the Chapel
 4-5:15 p.m. Altar Server Training
 6:30-8:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
 7:00 p.m. Adoration Holy Hour RCIA

Tuesday, February 28

7:25 a.m. Praying of the Rosary in the Chapel
 9:30-11:00 a.m. Why Be Catholic?
 4:00 p.m. Junior Choir

Wednesday, March 01

7:25 a.m. Praying of the Rosary in the Chapel
 7:30 a.m. Reconciliation
 3:30 p.m. Junior Choir

Thursday March 02

Food Pantry Closed

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

Friday March 03

6-7:30 p.m. Adoration/Confessions/
 Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 04

Blood Drive Sign Up
 Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday, March 05

Blood Drive Sign Up



All Seniors (age 55 or older) are invited to the "Young at Heart" monthly potlucks on the second Thursday of each month, September through June. The March potluck will be on Thursday, March 9th at 12 noon in St. Mary's A-B-C rooms. Please bring a hot dish, cold dish or dessert to share. Table settings and beverages will be provided. You may bring a friend. All are welcome. Following the luncheon, those who would like to, may play Bingo. On the day of the potluck, check for school closings listed at the bottom of your TV screen. When weather conditions cause the Grand Haven and Spring Lake schools to be closed our luncheon will be cancelled. If you have questions, please contact Joyce & Warren Anderson at 616-842-8649.

Lenten Fish Frys

Knights of Columbus 2975 Grand Haven. March 3-April 14 from 5-7 p.m.
Muskegon Catholic Central 1145 W. Laketon March 3-April 7 from 4:30-7 p.m.
Ravenna Community Fish Fry St. Catherines' Hall March 3-April 7 from 5-7:30 p.m.
Check stmarysl.org for more details.

St. Mary's Christian Service

St. Mary's Pantry receives **"Special Food Donation"**. On Wednesday, February 15, 2017, St. Mary's School Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade students donated 156 cans on the **100th day of school** to the food pantry. Their goal was 100 cans and was exceeded by 56! The pantry happily accepted this gift. Please visit the schools web site at www.stmarysl.org to view photo's.

St. Mary's Parish Food Pantry is on schedule with the **relocation** and planning on **re-opening Thursday, March 9**. Beginning **NEXT weekend, March 4/5** you will find **carts located in the Gathering Space** for your **"Food Donations"**. Pantry needs for **Thursday, March 9 include....**cereal, juice, pasta sauce, jelly, coffee, regular tea, canned tomatoes/sauce, chicken/tuna, rice, applesauce, shampoo, and laundry detergent. **Monetary, gifts and Scrip are welcomed.**

Lenten Worship Aids. Your *St. Mary's Christian Service Ministry* has purchased Lenten Worship Aids for you and your family to assist in your travels through this Lenten Season. Located at the Church entrances you will find: Stations of the Cross 3-D Stand-up, Pocket Size Stations of the Cross, and Holy Cards with "Prayer before a Crucifix". We ask God's Blessings as we walk the *Way of the Cross* together.

Smiles and Blessings,
 Dorothy E. Raha
draha@stmarysl.org/616-842-2602

St. Mary's Women's Club Special Speaker on Wednesday, March 8th. at 1:30 p.m., Jim (Butch) Murphy.

In 1992, inspired by the American Bishop's letter Heritage and Hope, Jim undertook a 4,200 mile journey on foot across America carrying a 6ft, cross in an effort of prayer and evangelization. The journey took 18 months and 14 pairs of shoes.

We welcome women and men who would be interested in this program. Come and invite your friends.

The Rosary will be prayed at 12:30 p.m. in the chapel. Business meeting starts at 1:00 p.m.

Family Perspective

Because we believe we can control and create our own world, we attempt to juggle multiple agendas and we pay a price of neglecting those closest to us. Too late we reach the point of asking "Was it worth it?" We really can't serve two masters.

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.

"Whether it lasts for a brief moment or for a hundred years, each of our lives is a good and perfect gift. At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love. ...Every life is worth living."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

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

What an exciting time at Muskegon Catholic Central! Find out why at the Crusader Forum on Monday, **February 27** at 6:30 pm in the 7-12 Cafeteria. Mr. Ken Rasp, President of MCC, will speak about what makes MCC spiritually, academically, and socially a 'special place.' Learn about MCC's re-branding process, the new fresh look of MCC, the future strategic plans and direction of the school. Learn about the 2017-2018 school year registration incentives for 9th-12th grade students. Open to ALL parents, alumni, community members, and visitors.



St. Martin's Kids—Just in time for Lent, St. Martin's Kids will be hosting our *Wilde Thyme* Soup & Bread sale in the Gathering Space after all Masses this weekend and March 11-12. New this year will be veterinarian approved dog treats! Proceeds to purchase additional cows and farm animals for the orphanage.

St. Mary's School raised \$640.47 for their mission project during Catholic Schools Week. **Thank you!!** St. Martin's Kids will match this amount and monies will be used to purchase medicine for the Katandala Hospital where children at the orphanage are treated.

Faith Formation

Youth Ministry

St. Mary's Confirmation Mass, Sunday April 30th 3pm @ St. Andrews Cathedral

Youth Room: Our youth room has moved to the old science room! This has opened up a lot more space and opportunities for us. We look forward to having a regular weekly **Open Youth Room** coming in March!

6-8th Grade "SHINE YOUTH RALLY" Saturday March 25th @ West Catholic High School. Diocesan Middle School Youth Rally includes, great music, skits, games, open gym, pizza and Mass with the Bishop! Transportation: St. Mary's bus (leaving at 12:30pm returns at 9pm) Cost: \$25 per (bring friends no matter what church) This event has always brought in a large crowd. Be sure to sign up ASAP!

Steubenville Conference Update! June 23-25th 2017 Open 9-12th grade as of summer 2017 If you have any interest please let me know ASAP. As of now we are full, but we can put in for more tickets if needed. Please don't delay.

Mission Trip Update, July 11-16th 2017 Open to all 8-12th grade as of summer 2017 **Final payments due April 1st** We have a few openings! Don't miss this trip of a lifetime!

Chris Iwan

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

Faith Formation K-6

ASH WEDNESDAY – There is NO FAITH FORMATION CLASS on March 1. This frees up families to attend, together, the 7:00 PM Mass w/ashes.

LENTEN PREPARATIONS – Reconciliation will be offered to grades 3-6 during Faith Formation class times. Each class has been assigned a particular date. Please check the calendar of the Faith Formation page of our parish website to find out when your child's class will be attending this Sacrament. While on the website, take a few minutes to look over your child's grade updates. Each week the catechists send emails/updates on what they've been doing in class. It's always interesting to go back and see what the kids have learned during the year. We are helping the children understand why we do what we do during Lent. Please help them to make faith based choices on what to sacrifice, do extra and pray about during these next 40 days.

RICE BOWLS– As in past years, we are assisting this worthwhile organization again. Rice Bowls went home last Wednesday. Please help your child to find a special place to keep the bowl and to earn coins to put into the box. There will be additional boxes available at the church entrances. Rice Bowls will be collected after Easter.

KIDS COINS – Jan/Feb collections will be used to purchase a brick (or 2) in the walkway to the new education center.

Yours in Faith,
Wendi Kujawski

Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation
616-842-2840, wkujawski@stmarysl.org

Adult Faith Formation

"Why Be Catholic?" This five part series from Catholic apologist Tim Staples will be presented on Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 AM in Meeting Room B/C February 28 through March 28. This series is designed for people from all faith perspectives; whether one is an atheist or agnostic, a non-Christian, a Protestant Christian or a Catholic, the sessions will offer answers to anyone interested in the question "Why Be Catholic?"

Coming in Lent: EVENING PRAYER, followed by Fr. Albert Haase's video series **"Saying Yes: What is God's Will for Me?"** Wednesday evenings March 8-April 12, 7:00 PM in the church.

PARISH MISSION WITH FR. ALBERT HAASE IN PERSON the evenings of March 19, 20 and 21. St. Patrick/St. Anthony Parish is bringing him here; the mission will take place at St. Mary's due to the construction in their church building. Each evening Fr. Haase will speak in the church from 7:00-8:00 PM, followed by refreshments in the Gathering Space from 8:00-9:00 PM. **If you could donate cookies and/or help serve refreshments on any of these evenings, please contact Jim Penrice at the parish office. CHILD CARE WILL BE AVAILABLE**—Please call Pam Hill at 842-8230 ext. 125 to register ahead of time.

"WALKING TO JERUSALEM" begins Ash Wednesday, March 1. Participants try to walk a collective distance of 2283 miles (the land distance from Spring Lake to Jerusalem) during Lent, with weekly meditations sent by email. To register or for more information email Jim Penrice at jpenrice@stmarysl.org

Bishop Robert Barron's six-part video series **"Untold Blessing: Three Paths to Holiness"** is the the subject of our RCIA sessions the next several weeks. All are welcome, Monday evenings at 7:00 PM in the meeting room next to the sacristy. **Audio recordings of previous RCIA meetings and Sunday Dismissal sessions are available in the Adult Faith Formation section of the parish website (stmarysl.org).**

Jim Penrice, Director of Faith Formation
Phone: (616) 842-1702/jpenrice@stmarysl.org

A Special Event

40 Days for Life Spring 2017 Campaign: March 1 – April 9

Would you be willing to pray for one hour to end abortion? *40 Days for Life* is a grassroots, pro-life effort that consists of 40 days of praying, fasting, and holding a peaceful vigil in front of an abortion clinic. The spring campaign will take place from March 1 through April 9. This will be the 15th campaign in Grand Rapids and it will take place in front of Heritage Clinic for Women at 320 East Fulton Street. This is the only free-standing surgical abortion clinic still operating in our community. Dozens of area churches have adopted a day of prayer.

St. Mary's parishioners interested in praying at the peaceful vigil should contact Mary Bilski at 616-846-5751 or mjbilski@att.net for additional information or visit www.40daysforlife.com/GrandRapids.

Are you willing to pray for one hour to save a life?

As a Prayerful Community

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

Chase Anspach
 Thomas Antekeier
 Vincent Antonich
 Nik Barbera
 Logan Boon
 Tom Burke
 Dan Coulier
 John Dark
 Alice Diedrich
 Jennifer Edinger
 Theresa Farnelli
 Joe & Frank Fendt
 Darci Ferguson
 Don Ferguson
 Chuck Gardner
 Michelle Gauthier
 Jenni Gesiakowski
 James Gibson
 Marilyn Glueck
 Paul Grantz
 Bob Green
 Charlie Hall
 Margo Hall
 Lin Johnson
 Violet Korecki
 Fred Kromer
 Ridge Matthews
 Jeanne McHugh
 Jim McHugh

Michael Mize
 Jacob Myers
 Jamie Noorman
 Bill Palermo
 Ayden Riggs
 Val Race
 Dorothy Raha
 Cindy Richards
 Helen & Larry Rozneck
 Ruth
 Christopher Schippers
 Devon Schwalm
 Nancy Senkowicz
 Edward Siemion
 CDR. Mike Smith
 Marian Stefanich
 Ruth Stevens
 Linda Traynor
 Athena Trombly
 Christine VanAelst
 Eileen Westerhoff Young
 Alan Williams
 Mike Wurm
 Amy Wygmans
 Ted Youn

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

Alice (Harring) Black, CDR USN
 LCPL Benjamin Bosse
 Capt. Ken Brakora, USAF
 Major Jason Braun, USAF
 PVT Brian Brennan, USA
 MA1 Jason Bruemmer, USN
 CWO5 Tracy T. Byers, USMC
 2nd LT Catherine
 Cassleman, USAF
 Major Jim Cassleman M.D., USAF
 LT. Kristi Cassleman, M.D., USN
 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 SPEC Jayson D. Dubuc, USA
 SGT Justin Ebidon, USMC
 SFC Jacob Frame, Green Beret
 SGT Jacob Gardner, USMC
 Airman Jacob Green, USAF
 SGT Spencer Howe, USMC
 MSGT Daniel Kauppila, USMC
 Airman Basic Zachary
 Kennedy, USAF
 SGT Adam Ketner, USMC
 Capt. Devin J. Kolenic, Sr

A Scott Lange USAF, USMC
 SPC Henry T. May, USA
 Andrew McCabe, Coast
 Guard Helicopter Rescue
 LTCOL Tess McCann, USAF
 Lt. Col. William F. Ratledge, USAF
 Major Kenneth Rossman, USMC
 SMSgt. Michael J. Rozneck. USAF
 MMNW Nathan Rudd, N.D. USN
 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
 Major L. Brandon Wohlschlegel,
 Army Ranger.