

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY

*in Ordinary Time*



**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
406 E. Savidge St.  
Spring Lake, MI 49456  
[www.stmarysl.org](http://www.stmarysl.org)  
616-842-1702

The parish directory is available online and can be accessed via our website. Please call the parish office for the code. [www.stmarysl.org](http://www.stmarysl.org)

#### **Pastor**

**Rev. Dave Gross**

[frdgross@grpriests.org](mailto:frdgross@grpriests.org)

**Emergency Number: 616-604-4105**

#### **Business Manager**

**Maribeth Lawrence**

[mlawrence@stmarysl.org](mailto:mlawrence@stmarysl.org)

#### **Bookkeeper**

**Irene Barbera**

[ibarbera@stmarysl.org](mailto:ibarbera@stmarysl.org)

#### **Parish Secretary**

**Barbara Wyant**

[parishoffice@stmarysl.org](mailto:parishoffice@stmarysl.org)

#### **Christian Service**

**Dorothy Raha**

[draha@stmarysl.org](mailto:draha@stmarysl.org)

#### **Adult Faith Formation & RCIA**

**Dave Heinert**

[dheinert@stmarysl.org](mailto:dheinert@stmarysl.org)

#### **K-6 Faith Formation**

**Cynthia Larson**

[clarson@slstm.org](mailto:clarson@slstm.org)

#### **7-12th & Confirmation Prep**

**Chris Iwan**

[ciwan@stmarysl.org](mailto:ciwan@stmarysl.org)

#### **Music Director**

**Diane Murray**

[dmurray@stmarysl.org](mailto:dmurray@stmarysl.org)

#### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

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

#### **Daily Mass**

Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. & Friday 9:00 a.m.

Holy Days: See Bulletin

#### **Reconciliation**

Wednesday 7:30-7:50 a.m.

\*\*Wednesday 5:30-6:00 p.m. (September-May)

Saturday 3:30-4:10 p.m.

#### **St. Mary's School**

##### **Principal**

**Katie Doyle**

[kdoyle@slstm.org](mailto:kdoyle@slstm.org)

##### **School Office**

School Phone: 616-842-1282

School Fax: 616-842-8048

School Website: [www.stmarysl.org](http://www.stmarysl.org)

##### **Administrative Assistant**

**Mary Peel**

[mpeel@slstm.org](mailto:mpeel@slstm.org)

##### **School Secretary**

**Gera Peel**

[gpeel@slstm.org](mailto:gpeel@slstm.org)

##### **Marketing & Development Director**

**Carol Payne**

[cpayne@slstm.org](mailto:cpayne@slstm.org)

##### **Preschool Director**

**Kara Polega**

[kpolega@slstm.org](mailto:kpolega@slstm.org)

## Worship in Our Parish

### Mass Schedule

Monday, September 14  
8:00 a.m. No Mass

Tuesday, September 15  
9:00 a.m. S.I. Janet Cox  
by Cal & Rita Braun  
& Helen Paul

Wednesday, September 16  
8:00 a.m. +Rod Bice  
by The Grumm Family

Thursday, September 17  
9:00 a.m. +Don Currie  
by Yvonne Richards

Friday September 18  
9:00 a.m. +Michael Leslie  
by Marge & Don PfiEFFe

Saturday, September 19  
4:30 p.m. +Michael Ey  
by Joan Leonard

Sunday, September 20  
9:00 a.m. +Bill Paul  
by Helen Paul  
11:00 a.m. +Steve Sherburn  
by His Family

### Liturgical Assignments

4:30 pm:

9:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Ushers:

**All positions are  
volunteer only  
due to  
COVID-19**

Make sure to sign up for the Mass you plan on attending. We are limited to 25% capacity. Use the website to register, [www.stmarysl.org](http://www.stmarysl.org) or phone the parish office, 616-842-1702.

## Our First Fruits to God

08/30/2020

Online Giving ..... \$3,442.00  
Adult Envelopes..... \$11,229.00  
Loose Collection ..... \$220.00  
Total Support..... \$14,891.00

Education Center Debt .....\$385,681.29

Mary, Light of Learning Campaign  
Outstanding Pledges ..... \$67,645.11

CSA 2020 Goal ..... \$141,072.00  
Pledged to Date ..... \$114,229.00  
Need for Goal ..... \$25,843.00  
Participating Families ..... 411

If you are 72 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

### Confirmation

At long last, we are finally celebrating the sacrament of confirmation with our young people who were prepared to receive this sacrament in the spring. It is unfortunate that we cannot celebrate this with the bishop at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew, as has been the practice for many years now, but I feel blessed that I will be able to confer this sacrament and call down the Holy Spirit upon our young people on Sunday afternoon. In the midst of a global pandemic, I am also grateful that we can have this ceremony in person and allow each of our confirmands to have their sponsor and parents present.

Confirmation is often misunderstood, as many people equate it with graduation. This misunderstanding is no doubt perpetuated by our practice to confer the sacrament at the end of 8<sup>th</sup> grade or beginning of 9<sup>th</sup> grade, which is around the time that our formal classroom education in the faith often ends. Our catechists and I do our best to teach our young people that the focus of what we are doing is imparting the gifts of the Holy Spirit upon them and asking God to make them firm in their faith for the rest of their life. Confirmation completes their initiation into the Catholic Church, but it is not a chance for

them to decide for themselves whether or not they are going to remain Catholic. Everyone who is baptized Catholic is Catholic for the rest of their life. This sacrament seals the individual and imparts God's grace upon them to help them choose to live out the faith that, for many of them, was chosen for them by their parents and godparents. Confirmation is also required for anyone to later be ordained as a deacon or priest, and it is also a requirement for a Catholic to get married. While this last requirement can be dispensed if necessary, confirmation imparts gifts and blessings which can help two people live out their marriage vows and should not be neglected!

We pray that our young people will be strengthened to live out their baptismal calling to proclaim Jesus Christ and live according to God's will for them. If you or someone you know who is past the 9<sup>th</sup> grade has not yet been confirmed, please contact me or the parish office to discuss receiving this sacrament. Our date for next spring has already been set to celebrate confirmation in our parish on Sunday, **April 18**.

### RCIA

If you have been attending St. Mary's but are

not Catholic and are interested in becoming Catholic or simply learning more about the Catholic Church, our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) classes begin this week. Please contact Dave Heinert or me for more information.

### Raffle Drawing

Thank you to everyone who bought and helped sell tickets for our raffle this year. I want to especially thank Kathleen and Ken Johnston for once again chairing this effort, and especially to thank Kathleen for organizing and distributing all the tickets. I don't know yet how much we raised for the school, but it was a blessing to have this portion of the fundraiser in a year when we could not have our parish festival. Hopefully, the festival will be back to celebrate on September 11, 2021!

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

Fr. Dave

## This Week in Our Parish

### At a Glance

Monday, September 14  
8:00 a.m. Adoration & Holy Hour  
7:00 p.m. RCIA  
Tuesday, September 15  
Wednesday, September 16  
7:30 a.m. Reconciliation  
5:30 p.m. Reconciliation  
Thursday, September 17  
9:00 a.m. Food Pantry  
Friday, September 18  
Saturday, September 19  
3:30-4:10 p.m. Reconciliation  
Sunday, September 20  
3:00 p.m.



St. Mary's School is a welcoming community where each student feels safe, honored and celebrated. Our mission is rooted in Christ who calls us to value and love all people.

Scholarships are available.

Contact us today! 616-842-1282 - [schooloffice@slstm.org](mailto:schooloffice@slstm.org)

### Scripture Readings 09.20.20

Is 55:6-9 Ps 145: 2-3, 8-9, 17-18  
Phil 1:20c-24, 27a Mt 20:1-16a

### 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.

"When someone is facing great trials, we need to meet them where they are. When a woman becomes pregnant, and her boyfriend threatens to leave if she continues the pregnancy, we need to lovingly walk with her. Jesus knows how to speak to each person's heart; we simply need to follow where he leads."

*USCCB Building a Culture of Life*

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

 **Join us for the inaugural Diocesan Assembly!** Bishop Walkowiak and the diocesan Office of Pastoral Services are inviting Catholics across our 11 counties to take part in a day of virtual prayer and learning **Sept. 26!** Diocesan Assembly 2020: Encounter is an online event in English and Spanish for Catholics that will cultivate opportunities to encounter Jesus Christ and assist in renewing your zeal and commitment for encouraging all to know, love and serve Jesus and the Church. **Registration is free.** For details and to register online, visit <https://grdiocese.org/diocesan-assembly/>.



**Christian Service is actively preparing for Crop Walk.** We need you for this community-led fundraising event to end hunger.

Twenty-Five percent raised will stay in the community. **Sunday, October 4,** will be here before you know it. Please call Dorothy E. Raha at her Office (616-842-2602) to sign us as walker and receive a recruiter envelope. Thank you ☺



**There is a Blood Drive this Sunday September 13.** There are several openings in the afternoon. Please feel free to stop in at the refreshment table after Masses to sign up for the November blood drive. You may also contact Chris Jarvis at 616 402-1598 or you can sign up on line at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

### Evangelization Clip

Today's Gospel is interactive with our very lives. The king's forgiving a great debt of his servant is like God forgiving us our sins. (Yes, you and I are sinners!) That forgiven servant then has the opportunity to forgive a minor debt of a fellow servant...and fails to forgive. What do you do? Do you seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Do you identify your failings in a daily Examination of Conscience? At the beginning of Mass, do you "acknowledge your sins"? And then, do you actively work to forgive others? Sirach tells us, "Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight." What about you? We all know that good physical and mental health is supported by just what Sirach tells us to let go of! A good disciple of Jesus gratefully seeks forgiveness and generously grants it as well.

### Scrip Scoop



Our Scrip "Cash & Carry" has the gift cards you need for your back to school necessities. Pick up Scrip for: Amazon, Bed Bath & Beyond, Kohl's, Land's End, Meijer, Old Navy/Gap, Rite Aid, Target, TJ Maxx, Walgreens, Walmart/Sam's Club, and many more!

There are hundreds of other Scrip gift cards that can be special ordered, including hotels and airlines! You can place all your orders at the parish office. If special orders are placed before 9am Monday morning, they are usually delivered to the parish office/St. Mary's School by Wednesday/Thursday of that week.

Please visit the Scrip website for a complete list of vendors: [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com)

Jennifer Grossman & Marci Hamilton  
St. Mary's Scrip Coordinator  
616-842-1702, ext. 260 [scrip@slstm.org](mailto:scrip@slstm.org)  
[www.stmarysl.org/scrip](http://www.stmarysl.org/scrip)

**Wedding Anniversary Mass** – Together with your families, the Church in the Diocese of Grand Rapids honors the faithful witness to your vocation of marriage and wishes to celebrate with you. Bishop Walkowiak will be celebrating the 10 a.m. Mass on **Sunday, October 11 for the intentions of all couples in the diocese celebrating milestone anniversaries this year.** Because of the current situation, we are asking couples to attend Mass at their own parish that day or to participate from home by watching the regular broadcast of the televised Mass on FOX 17 or the livestream on the diocesan Facebook page.

If you would like your marriage to be included in the Mass intention, please call the parish office no later than **October 1, 2020.**



**Pray For Peace  
In Our World**





## Faith Formation K-6

Dear Faith Formation families,

What a year we have had together. My prayer has been for your families to grow closer to each other and to Christ during this pandemic. We have made the hard decision to start our year online with a new program called Lakeshore Academy for the New Evangelization (LANE). This program has been developed by a master catechist in the Diocese of Grand Rapids and the Bishop has endorsed it and given his blessing. It is very family friendly for you to help your child encounter Jesus. Our start date online will be September 30, 2020.

Our plan is to have your child(ren) log onto a Zoom meeting for their age appropriate class on Wednesdays at 5:30 (this would be our normal time to meet). Your child's catechist will be there to lead them through the first portion of the lesson for about 20-30 minutes. The last portion of the class you will become the catechist. Once a semester I will receive a report letting me know how your child is doing with his/her lessons. I want to assure you this is only to help me be able to guide your child in his/her faith. My job isn't anything but to help you and your family's journey in getting to heaven. There is the option for you not to join the zoom meetings and oversee the lessons yourself at a convenient time for your family. If you choose this, I am happy to be available to you to support you with any questions you may have on this journey.

Our second graders in preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion will, along with Lakeshore Academy Lessons, be using Blessed books to prepare for these sacraments. We will plan a pickup day in the Fall for these items.

Our plan is to have registration by early September on the Faith Formation Website. I pray this information will ease your minds that we are doing all we are able to keep your children in relationship with Jesus and safe. I am available to answer any questions for you.

May God Bless you and your families,

Cynthia Larson

Cynthia Larson  
Faith Formation K-6  
616-842-2840/clarson@slstm.org

## Youth Ministry

### **7th-12th Grade Faith Formation Registration Coming Early Sept.**

The final plans are being put together on the 2020-21 Faith Formation year. As it will look very different from our normal style of learning, we are doing all we can to make it as effective as ever. Our faith is the most important item we can ever develop in our lives. Our Catechists are passionate to make this year the very best we can.

Chris Iwan  
Coordinator of Middle School and High School Youth Ministry  
616-935-6974 /[www.stmarysl.org/](http://www.stmarysl.org/)  
[ciwan@stmarysl.org](mailto:ciwan@stmarysl.org) [www.facebook.com/stmaryslym](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryslym)

## St. Mary's Christian Service

**August Pantry Dates:** We were blessed to serve **96** families (192 adults & 91 children). The month of August was very busy, reaching out to parishioner's and community for fresh vegetables and fruit. Twice we were able to purchase peaches (southern, small and sweet) for between .69 & .99 cents per pound. Recently one of our families showered us with enough green beans for 20 families and ½ bushel of Red Haven peaches for all. We are very grateful to our parishioners for your monetary and food gifts. We do our best to answer outreach requests. We pray Our Lord continue to watch over us as we begin the new month of September.

Blessings, from your Christian Service Board Jackie Koehler-Berry, Rita Brook, Alice Diedrich, Linda Doublestein, Greg Pastotnik, Mueril Tuggle, Gary Willoughby & Dorothy E. Raha.

"**Soup For All**" has begun its planning for 2020. We look forward to receiving the grant application.



**St. Mary's Central Food Pantry is an ongoing weekly ministry which appreciates and needs your support.** This week our list includes: cereal, peanut butter 16-18-ounce, jelly, baked beans, rice, Jell-O, soup, ramen noodles, juice, hamburger helper, shampoo, tooth-paste and deodorant. *On behalf of those served, we Thank You..*

St. Mary's Christian Service Ministry  
Smiles and Blessings Dorothy E. Raha  
[draha@stmarysl.org](mailto:draha@stmarysl.org) | 616-842-2602

## Adult Faith Formation

**Bible study:** We will be meeting downstairs in room D, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Space is limited to 9 participants. Masks will be required. We're still working out more details, more information to come. Thank you for your prayers.

**Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom:** If you are interested in a virtual Bible study by Ascension Press, then please contact me so that we can order you a book. This class will start after the Bible Timeline class that wasn't able to finish in the spring, wraps up. Probably in early November. Acts will be **Sundays at 6:30 p.m.** It will be virtual and we hope to be able to gather together by the time we finish up.

**RCIA:** We will be starting up on **September 14.** We'll be downstairs in room D. If you know anyone wanting to become Catholic, then please have them contact me.

**Blog:** Megan wrote about "**Social distancing allows room for growth.**" She explains how her family benefited from dealing with quarantine and a summer of social distancing. Please, follow the link to read more. <https://www.stmarysl.org/news-adult-ff>

**Men's Ministry:** Some men in the parish started **Exodus 90** on September 9th. and will finish on the Immaculate Conception, December 8th. Please, keep these men in your prayers as they give up live sports and most news during these very active sports and news months.

**Women's Ministry:** We have leaders for the day class and are working on getting that one started. We have a woman willing to co-lead in the evenings. Please contact me if you would be able to co-lead. Visit [walkingwithpurpose.com](http://walkingwithpurpose.com) for more information.

Dave Heinert  
Director of Adult Faith Formation  
616-842-1702 | [dheinert@stmarysl.org](mailto:dheinert@stmarysl.org) | [www.stmarysl.org](http://www.stmarysl.org)

## As a Prayerful Community

*Pray for our Parishioners 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  
Capt. Catherine  
Cassleman, ANG  
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

SSG 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  
Capt. Matteson Smith, USA  
Major Max Smith, USA  
Capt. Ann Trombly, USAF  
PFT Austin Van Strate  
Major L. Brandon Wohlschlegel,  
Army Ranger.

We also pray for all  
first responders and  
law enforcement officers  
who put their lives on the line to  
keep us safe at home.

Jamie Anderson  
Chase Anspach  
Nancy Arzuaga  
Cristy Barnes  
Ron Barnes  
Billy Bergenson  
Marisa Brizzalara  
Janice Bullinger  
Connor Burke  
Gustavo Carrerro  
Carolyn Cibor  
Raymond Cibor  
Millie Conran  
DC  
Danielle  
Mark Dean  
John & Patti DeJonge  
Sharon DeWitt  
Jim Donnelly  
Jennifer Edinger  
Caren Fann  
Joe Fendt  
Vanessa Fox  
Mary Jo Glassner  
Ernie Grabman  
Paul Grantz  
Roger Graves  
Russ Greenbauer

Carrie Baldus Gross  
Janet Hall  
Lee Haslick  
Stephen B. Hess  
Jack  
Keki Jahs  
Karen  
Nicholas Karlsons  
Kathleen Kennedy  
Jean Koehs  
Beatrice Kotecki  
Janelle Martin  
Bill Mason  
Jim McHugh  
Melissa  
Margie Meyer  
Lisa Meyers  
Susan Millett  
Wendy Murray  
Jacob Myers  
Lydia Napieralski  
Janie & Ron P  
Bill Palermo  
Helen Paul  
Jennifer Porter  
Linda Quaine  
Val Race  
Dorothy Raha

Jack Richards  
Amanda Ricord  
Ayden Riggs  
Teressa Rivera  
Steve Rosso  
Helen Rozneck  
Michael Rozneck  
George Sadowski  
Esperanza Sanchez  
Kathie Saurbaugh  
Christopher Schippers  
Tony Schippers  
Nancy Senkowitz  
Cathy Staeven  
Linda Traynor  
Charles VanderLaan  
Ric VanWeelden  
Alan Walczak  
Eileen Westerhoff Young  
Alan Williams  
Richard Wilson  
Sara Wolcott Family  
Zachary Zimmerman