

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY

in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's Catholic Church
406 E. Savidge St.
Spring Lake, MI 49456
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

Pastor

Rev. Dave Gross

frdgross@grpriests.org

Emergency Number: 616-604-4105

Business Manager

Maribeth Lawrence

mlawrence@stmarysl.org

Bookkeeper

Irene Barbera

ibarbera@stmarysl.org

Parish Secretary

Barbara Wyant

parishoffice@stmarysl.org

Christian Service

Dorothy Raha

draha@stmarysl.org

Adult Faith Formation & RCIA

Dave Heinert

dheinert@stmarysl.org

K-6 Faith Formation

Cynthia Larson

clarson@slstm.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

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

School Office

School Phone: 616-842-1282

School Fax: 616-842-8048

School Website: www.stmarysl.org

Administrative Assistant

Mary Peel

mpeel@slstm.org

School Secretary

Gera Peel

gpeel@slstm.org

Marketing & Development Director

Carol Payne

cpayne@slstm.org

Preschool Director

Kara Polega

kpolega@slstm.org

Worship in Our Parish

Mass Schedule

Monday, September 28
8:00 a.m. No Mass

Tuesday, September 29
9:00 a.m. +Donald Louis Dubuc
by Her Pantry Pals

Wednesday, September 30
8:00 a.m. No Mass

Thursday, October 01
9:00 a.m. +Ted Corgan
& S.I. Cecilia Corgan
by Jennifer Corgan

Friday October 02
9:00 a.m. +Michael Ey
by Pat & Marleen Perry

Saturday, October 03
4:30 p.m. +Elizabeth Cook
by The Smith Family &
+Chris Vink
by Yvonne Richards

Sunday, October 04
9:00 a.m. +Janet Conroy
by Margo Howard
11:00 a.m. S.I. Elementary Faith
Formation Catechists
by Cynthia Larson

Liturgical Assignments

4:30 pm:

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

9:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Ushers:

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 or phone the parish office, 616-842-1702.

Our First Fruits to God

09/20/2020

Online Giving \$3,809.00
Adult Envelopes..... \$10,826.00
Loose Collection \$195.00
Total Support..... \$14,830.00

Education Center Debt\$385,681.29

Mary, Light of Learning Campaign
Outstanding Pledges \$57,732.11

CSA 2020 Goal \$141,072.00
Pledged to Date \$117,009.00
Online Pledges..... \$20,525.00
Total Pledges \$137,534.00
Need for Goal \$3,538.00
Participating Families 469

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

New Seating Arrangement

At the time I am writing this bulletin article I don't know if the bishop will expand our church capacity for Mass or not, but regardless, we are changing our seating setup to make every other pew available. The distance between two of our pews is right at, or very slightly less than six feet. I hope that you will do your best to continue to make sure that we have sufficient distance between everyone by not sitting directly in front of or behind anyone, if at all possible. The reduced separation also makes it even more important that everyone wear your masks during the celebration of Mass. If you find that you just cannot keep your mask on for at least most of Mass, we are going to designate a seating area in the back corner of the church, near the Mary votive candles, where those who wish to take their masks off once you have reached your seat can do so. I hope that this will help us strike a balance between those who have health concerns and want to feel safe at Mass and those who struggle with the mask requirements. We are all in this together and owe it to each other to keep in mind how our actions affect everyone else!

Catechetical Sunday

This weekend we offer a blessing for our

catechists as we prepare to begin another year of faith formation classes, and we continue to educate our school children in the faith. We are blessed to have many adults who have volunteered their time to help pass the Catholic faith on to the next generation, and a dedicated school staff committed to teaching the faith as part of their daily duties. The pandemic has made the task more difficult and complicated, but our staff has worked hard to provide safe and engaging faith formation instruction to our children at a distance. I hope that all our parishioners who have school age children make it a habit to read Cynthia Larson's articles in the bulletin to make you aware of the many different ways your children can grow in their faith. Please remember that when you chose to have your children baptized in the Catholic Church you were also making the promise that you would make sure that they are educated in the faith as well. I recognize that the ever-changing school landscape has made your task more difficult, but it has also made it more important than ever! Our country and our world need strong Catholics to help spread the Good News of Jesus Christ so that we can overcome the darkness that we see and read about every day on the news.

Blessing of the Pets

The feast day of St. Francis of Assisi is October 4, which this year falls on a Sunday. Therefore, the feast day itself does not get celebrated. However, as it has become our tradition to hold a blessing of the pets on the day in which we remember and honor St. Francis, I will be performing a blessing of the pets at the end of the Masses next weekend. Since it becomes difficult to get your pets physically to the church, especially in the midst of this pandemic, your favorite animals can receive this blessing through our live streamed Masses. As I give the blessing at the conclusion of Mass, just bring your pets to the television or computer screen and they will receive this blessing. If you attend Mass in person, you can play the Mass stream once you return home to get this blessing for your pets. I hope and pray that next year we can return to our practice of blessing the pets on the green space around the gazebo.

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

Fr. Dave

This Week in Our Parish

At a Glance

Monday, September 28
8:00 a.m. Adoration & Holy Hour
7:00 p.m. RCIA
Tuesday, September 29
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
Wednesday, September 30
7:30 a.m. Reconciliation **CANCELLED**
5:30 p.m. Reconciliation **CANCELLED**
Thursday, October 01
9:00 a.m. Food Pantry
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
Friday, October 02
8:30 a.m. MCC Retreat
Saturday, October 03
3:30-4:10 p.m. Reconciliation
Sunday, October 04

Music Notes



The coronavirus has certainly impacted our church music. We are wearing masks, staying six feet apart and limiting the music to a keyboard and cantor. We look to the next months with hope that the virus will ease up and we can restart our choirs at St. Mary's.

With that thought in mind here is a tentative schedule for **students**, knowing that it may change at any time. There will be ½ hour increments for any students (grades 4 through 8) on Tuesdays starting at 4:00 with ½ hour spaces between students (i.e. 4:00 – 4:30; 5:00 – 5:30; etc). I can accommodate 4 students at a time safely, thus I would need to know who is interested, committed to choir, and what time they could come. Our tentative starting date would be **October 13**. Please email or text me for more information or to sign up: dmurray@stmarysl.org

The adult **Senior Choir** will remain on hiatus at this point we hope to know more about rehearsal safety and possibilities for seating as time progresses. We are proud of our Senior Choir and grateful for all the time and talent they share. Please let us know if you are new to the parish and would like to join this ministry. Also, if this is something you have considered doing for our church for some time, let us know.

Feel free to stop and talk to me after Mass or contact me any other way with thoughts, concerns and possibilities.

Diane Murray (cell phone: 616-638-0707)



JOY

St. Mary's School is committed to helping students learn in a joyful environment filled with Christ's beauty, goodness and truth. Our dedicated faculty members are encouraged to be creative in their instructional approach to ensure students retain their lessons through a love for learning and life.

Scholarships are available.
Contact us today! 616-842-1282 -
schooloffice@slstm.org



Scrip Scoop

Please remember to help support local businesses that participate in the Scrip program. The Cash and Carry box have the following local gift cards available for purchase: Chow Hound, Culver's, Frank's Meat Market, JW's, Orchard Market, Small Town Sandwich, Stan's Bar, Sweet Temptations, TED'S, and Village Baker. We can special order Citgo, Fields Fabrics and Mama Mia's gift cards.

For more information about the Scrip program, please visit our website, or call the Scrip office

Scrip is on sale in the parish office M-F 8am-4:30pm (closed for lunch 12:30-1pm)

Jennifer Grossman
St. Mary's Scrip Coordinator
616-842-1702, ext. 260 scrip@slstm.org
www.stmarysl.org/scrip

Last Chance to Sign up for the 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.**

Scripture Readings 10.04.20

Is 5:1-7 Ps 80: 9, 12-16, 19-20
Phil 4:6-9 Mt 21:33-43

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.

"Together with the frail and elderly, the handicapped and marginalized, the dignity of all human life must be protected, beginning with the unborn child in the womb. Rampant gun violence, mal-treatment of the sick and disabled, and the loss of over 60 million children due to legalized abortion illustrate the need for a more just and violence-free society. Will the candidate oppose direct threats to human life, such as abortion, racism, assisted suicide, euthanasia, the death penalty, embryonic stem cell research, and violence."

www.micatholic.org/2020Election

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

Evangelization Clip

In today's Gospel, Jesus calls out the chief priests and elders for their intolerance of the coming of the Kingdom of God. Some in our society are intolerant of religion, and specifically of the Catholic Church. Archbishop William E Lori said in the September 2020 *Columbia* magazine, "Our first response (to this intolerance) might be to react with anger, but anger never brings hope and healing, but only further division. Rather, as followers of Christ, we are called to defeat hatred with love, evil with goodness, and division with peacemaking. What our society desperately needs today: the ability to discuss difficult topics and decide sensitive matters on the basis of fact, mutual respect, and an authentic spirit of tolerance." Jesus calls us to stand up for the faith we believe in.



Please pray for the family of Scott Benkert.

May he rest in peace in the arms of the Lord. Bring comfort and support to this family as they grieve in the days and months ahead.



Faith Formation, ETC.

Faith Formation K-6

Dear Parents,

Today my invitation is to you the parents, the primary teachers of the faith to register your children for Faith Formation ONLINE classes to assist you in raising your children in the Catholic Faith.

This year due to the many restrictions and for the safety of your children we are beginning our year online with a program called Lakeshore Academy for the New Evangelization... For short LANE. This program has been thoughtfully put together to meet all curriculum guidelines set forth by the Diocese for your children to ENCOUNTER Jesus, to build their relationship with Him and understand the teachings of the church. Go to the Faith Formation page to register. Don't forget to fill out the forms on this page as well and either email them back to me or mail them or drop them to the Church office. If your child is in 2nd grade and you desire First Communion for your child this is where you sign up for weekly preparation classes. There will be some separate information for parents in this sacramental year to follow later this fall.

There are two options for your families in this program. Your child may take part with their catechist in a weekly zoom meeting or you at home as the parents may be the ones to assist your children with the material. This allows you with your busy lives to have time set aside to teach the faith and flexibility in choosing that time if needed. Your child's grade appropriate catechist and I are here to assist you in teaching the faith to your children.

We pray that as we progress through the year we will again be able to gather in person for classes. This program allows us also to easily move into the classrooms when it becomes safe us.

Cynthia

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

Youth Ministry

God has opened a new door in my life. I have accepted a new position outside of youth ministry. This was a very hard decision that took my family and I to our knees in much prayer and reflection over the last month.

I pray that I have introduced you to my best friend Jesus in a way that is real. Over the last seven years at St. Mary's, I have seen amazing growth and a deep desire to serve God's people here at home and around the country. This was only possible by our youth and adults responding to the call. Without your response and dedication, God's mission would have not been moved forward. The lasting impact you have started with Hand in Hand at our local schools and bringing the best ultrasound technology to Positive Options will bring an positive change to your community over many years to come.

I leave with amazing memories and many friends that will last a lifetime.

My last day at St. Mary's was Wednesday, September 23, 2020.

My forwarding address is chrisiwan@ameritech.net

God bless you all and stay safe and healthy,

Chris

Adult Faith Formation

Bible study: We will be meeting downstairs in room D, on **Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 am**, starting **September 29 & Oct. 1**. Space is **limited to 9 students**. Both classes are full. Masks will be required. We'll be doing the Salvation series found on Formed.

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 **early November**. Acts will be **Sundays at 6:30 pm**. It will be virtual and we hope to be able to gather together by the time we finish up.

RCIA: We are meeting downstairs in room D on Mondays at 7:00 pm. If you know anyone wanting to become Catholic, then please have them contact me or Fr. Dave.

RCIC: If for any reason you have a child that has missed a sacrament, then please send me an email.

Blog: Megan wrote about "**Why I'm still attending Mass again even with a dispensation.**" Read about why Megan and her family are going to Mass even though it has some ups and downs. It's inspired my family to dust off our 3-year-old and start bringing him. Please, follow the link to read more and hopefully be inspired as well: www.stmarysl.org/news-adult-ff

Men's Ministry: Some men in the parish started **Exodus 90** on September 9 and will finish on the Immaculate Conception, December 8. Please, keep these men in your prayers as they move toward deeper ascetic practices.

Women's Ministry: We have leaders and are working on getting started. Visit walkingwithpurpose.com for more information.

Dave Heinert
Director of Adult Faith Formation
616-842-1702 | dheinert@stmarysl.org | www.stmarysl.org

St. Mary's Christian Service



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** is just 7 days away. You still have time to sign up. Check online for a variety of things, walker envelopes, recruitment activities, strategies and resources: www.crophungerwalk.org/grandhavenmi. If you would like to drop off your donation at the pantry give me a call and we will arrange a time.

St. Mary's Central Food Pantry is an ongoing weekly ministry which appreciates and needs your support. This week our list includes laundry soap, bar soap, dish soap, ramen noodles, canned tomatoes and tomato sauce. We appreciate gluten free & diabetic foods also. On behalf of those served, we thank you.

St. Mary's Christian Service Ministry
Smiles and Blessings Dorothy E. Raha
draha@stmarysl.org | 616-842-2602

As a Prayerful Community

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

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.

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

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
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
Teresa Rivera
Steve Rosso
Helen Rozneck
Michael Rozneck
George Sadowski
Esperanza Sanchez
Kathie Saurbaugh
Christopher Schippers
Tony Schippers
Nancy Senkowicz
Cathy Staeven
Linda Traynor
Charles VanderLaan
Ric VanWeelden
Alan Walczak
Eileen Westerhoff Young
Alan Williams
Richard Wilson
Sara Wolcott Family
Zachary Zimmerman