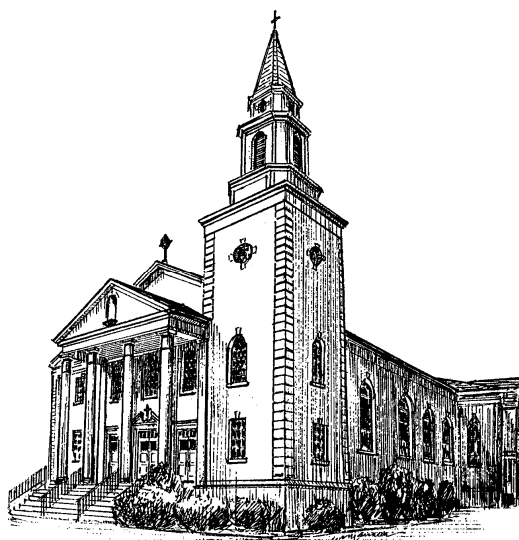


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

St. Mary's Church

February 19, 2023

*Seventh Sunday in
Ordinary Time*



Mission Statement

We the Roman Catholic community of St. Mary's, united in the Eucharist and under the guidance of St. Mary of the Assumption, strengthen our faith by praising God, proclaiming His word, sharing His love with all people and serving those in need.

**St. Mary:
Pray for Us**

Rev. Stephen A. Carey, *Pastor*
Rev. Patrick W. Donohue, *In-Residence*
Deacon John L. Sylvester, *Permanent Deacon*
Mrs. Kathleen Sylvester, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCIA*
Dr. William J. Mascitello, *Pastoral Associate for Catechetics*
Mr. John Weiss, *Business Administrator*
Beth Miloscia, *Youth and Young Adult Ministries*
Dory Weiss, *Parish Secretary*
Sheila Romaine, *Religious Ed. Secretary & Safe Environment Coordinator*

Mrs. Janet Kaine, *Parish Trustee*
Mr. Michael Daly, *Parish Trustee*

Parish e-mail: info@stmarysdumont.org
Parish Website: www.stmarysdumont.org

Religious Education Office: 201-384-0557
Extension 20
email: religioused@stmarysdumont.org

Altar & Rosary:
email: rosaryaltarsociety@stmarysdumont.org

Food Pantry:
Email: foodpantry@stmarysdumont.org

Online giving: WeShare
stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com

Eucharistic Liturgy

Saturday Eve: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 7:45 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm
Holydays (except Saturday): 7:00 am, 8:45 am, & 7:30 pm
Weekdays: Monday - Friday 7:00 am & 8:45 am
Saturday: 8:30 am
Holiday: 9:00 am on Major Civil Holidays

Religious Devotions

Miraculous Medal Novena: Saturday following 8:30 am Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
First Friday of the month, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm, in the upper church.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Private confessions at any time. Please call the parish office.

NO CONFESSIONS ON HOLY SATURDAY

Sacrament of Marriage

Common policy of the Archdiocese of Newark asks that arrangements be made one year in advance. Engaged couples must call to make an appointment to speak to a priest.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents should register for the Baptism Preparation Program at the rectory...even before the baby is born!

Catechumenate

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults (and children who have reached the age of reason) are prepared to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. If you, or someone you know, would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic, please call the parish office.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available to be celebrated with anyone in need. Please do not wait until death is imminent to contact the parish regarding an ill family member. Eucharistic Ministers and others serve our community by visiting and bringing Communion to the sick and homebound. Please call the parish office if you wish such a visit.

From the Pastor

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What does Lent mean to you? Is it a time to give up something we really like? Is it a time to give up some sinful habit? Is it a time to adopt a new spiritual practice? Is it a time to commit to being a more faithful disciple of Christ? Lent can be all of these and so much more.

Each year, as Ash Wednesday rolls around many of us make some Lenten commitment or other hoping that it will help make us better Christians. We may tell others what our Lenten resolution is or perhaps, it is that we share only with God. It may be something great and grandiose or could be a small simple step. Whatever it is, it is supposed to be something that brings us closer to God.

Getting closer to God; that's what the journey of faith is all about. The Church gives us the sacred season of Lent each year to challenge us to take an honest look at our journey of faith. To see how far we have come and to see how far we still have to go. Lent challenges us to work at removing the road hazards the so often impede our progress. Lent challenges us to acknowledge the weaknesses and vulnerabilities that slow us down. Lent calls us to discipline our bodies and our spirits so that we are better equipped to face the road ahead.

Conversion is a life-long process. Lent challenges us to again renew our commitment to process so that when Easter comes, we will be ready to renew our baptismal promises and recommit ourselves to God and his Church.

Fr. Carey

Thank You!!!

Last weekend, St. Mary's hosted a wonderfully successful Beef Steak dinner. Good music, great food and lots of dancing all added up to a fantastic event. Thanks go to all who attended and thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make it a wonderful evening.

Special thanks to Sheila Romaine and Lynne Vietri for going above and beyond to ensure a great time was had by all.

This Beef Steak dinner was really the first social event that St. Mary's has hosted since the Covid Lockdown. Hopefully it was the first of many more to come.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

2023 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, **and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.**

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 26, 2023 to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 4, 2023.**

*Canon 920, §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

Stewardship Reflection

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." MATTHEW 5:44

Love your enemies, easier said than done. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from "me" and moves it towards God and others. It changes my heart and actions, allowing for a little more empathy for "my enemy." When we pray for others, even our enemies, it may soften their hearts as well.



PACT/Religious Education Program

Monday Angels PACT Parent Meeting

The *Monday Angels PACT Parent Meeting* has been changed. The February parent meeting is moved to Monday, March 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the upper church. The February session will remain for PACT students, but the parent meeting is postponed so that parents can attend with their children from our Monday PACT Program on March 6th. The meeting has been changed to facilitate participation in the St. Mary's Parish Mission, a special time in our parish life. *Parents And Children Together* sign in at the door near the choir area.

Sunday Saints: March Schedule Change

The March session for our PACT Sunday SAINTS schedule has been changed to March 5th. PACT Saints families: There will be no session March 26th. PACT Saints and Angels groups will participate in a combined session on March 5th which will be part of our Lenten Parish Mission led by the Redemptorist Fathers.

Preparation for First Holy Communion

We recently celebrated our *Morning With Jesus* with First Communion Candidates and their parents. The next step for our candidates will be to meet for special preparation sessions on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. beginning March 21st. Parents of candidates should have the schedule which lists preparation sessions, practice, and the date of celebration of First Holy Communion for their children.

First Communion Banners



First Communion banner kits were distributed at the *Morning With Jesus*. Be sure to return completed banners at one of our Tuesday *First Communion Preparation Sessions*.

Monday Evening Confirmation Preparation Sessions

Monthly Monday evening Confirmation Preparation Sessions have begun. Candidates meet once per month for preparation, in addition to separate PACT/Religious Education sessions. Pray for our candidates for the deepening of the Holy Spirit in their lives, in their families, and in our parish community.



Confirmation candidates and their parents are reminded to check the St. Mary's e-mail blast each week and PACT/Religious Education e-mails for possible service opportunities. Contact the person running event via the e-mail provided for more information.

Re-engagement in our parish: St. Mary's Religious Education

We are so glad to see parishioners re-engage in parish life here at St. Mary's. Have you considered volunteering (or re-engaging) at Religious Education? People from many different walks of life volunteer as leaders, catechists, substitutes, and aides at our Religious Education once or twice per month on a Sunday morning or a weekday evening. Volunteer requirements include completing an application with a background check and attendance at a *Protecting God's Children* seminar here or at another parish in our Archdiocese of Newark. For more information, call us at (201) 384-0557 ext. 20 or e-mail religioused@stmarysdumont.org.

Protecting God's Children Session February 28th 6:30 p.m.



We are hosting a Protecting God's Children Session for adults here at St. Mary's on Tuesday, 2/28 at 6:30 p.m. in Szelest Hall/the school gym. This session is a requirement for all volunteers and employees throughout our Archdiocese of Newark. No walk-ins are allowed, register in advance at virtus.org. Several other parishes are offering sessions on different dates and times, the list of all sessions available is viewable at virtus.org under our organization: the Archdiocese of Newark.

St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society News

St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society will be hosting an Easter candy fundraiser with Gertrude Hawk Chocolates!

The sale has started and will end on February 27. All families enrolled in our PACT program should have received the information flyer at their classes. All other parishioners can pick up information packets at the doors of the upper church.

Thank you for your support!!

Also, please join us on Thursday, March 9 @ 7 pm in Szelest Hall for our next meeting. Come share your faith with us and renew your devotion to our Blessed Mother.

**Kathy Mullins – President
rosaryaltarsociety@stmarysdumont.org**



ST. MARY'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY

GROUP NAME

Dear Supporters,

We are hosting an Easter Candy Fundraiser through Gertrude Hawk Chocolates. You can shop online with this flyer or pick up a catalog and order form packet in the Upper Church or the PACT office.

Participants who place online orders within the sale dates can choose to have their orders delivered for free with the main shipment. Out of town friends and family can choose to send their orders directly to their home (shipping fees apply). Online orders that are being shipped to a home can be placed up until 3/26/2023. All web orders require credit card payment.

If you are submitting a paper order form, please keep the bottom copy and brochure for your records. Paper order forms should NOT include any online sales. Total dollars sent in should equal Grand Total Amount on the order form.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society.

We are Raising Funds for: St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society

Our Fundraiser is From: TODAY UNTIL FEBRUARY 27, 2023

Our Organization ID # is: 119856

Estimated Delivery Date: WEEK OF MARCH 27TH

TO PURCHASE ONLINE:

- > Go to fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com
- > Select: I AM A BUYER
- > Select: FIND A FUNDRAISER
- > In the CHOOSE ORGANIZATION box, Type Code 119856 (choose St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society, Dumont, NJ) Click NEXT
- > In the CHOOSE SELLER box, Type Saint (choose Saint Mary's) Click GET STARTED

Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!

Please share this information with family & friends!

Food Pantry News

Thank you to all the parishioners of St. Mary's who continue to support the food pantry. Mark your calendars for our next drive-through food donation on Saturday, February 25 from 10 am to 12 noon. And what better way to shop for the drive-through than at the Shop Rite Can Can sales which have already started! A great way to help the pantry stock up on many of our nonperishable items! Cannot make the food drive, no problem! We will gladly accept food donations at any time. Please drop at the rectory between 9 am & 5 pm or leave in the vestibule of the upper church.

PLEASE remember to check the dates on your items. Outdated items cannot be distributed.

If you wish to make a monetary donation, there will be envelopes at the doors of the church the weekends of February 18th & 25th. Please return the envelope to the rectory or place in the collection baskets at mass.

In addition to non-perishable food items, we will be collecting turkeys and hams for Easter beginning March 1. Please bring to the rectory between 9am & 5pm by Friday, March 31.

If you or anyone you know needs groceries, please email the pantry at foodpantry@stmarysdumont.org.

God Bless,
Anna, Denise & Lynne



Spring Food Drive-Thru

Let us do good to everyone
Galatians 6:10



Saturday, February 25th, 2023 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Saint Mary's Church
280 Washington Ave, Dumont NJ**

Items In Need: Cranberry Sauce, Stuffing, Jello, Dried/Canned Potatoes, Canned Vegetables/Fruit, Yams, Turkey Gravy, Oatmeal, Condiments, Tea/Coffee, Cake Mix/Frosting/Brownie Mix, Canned Tuna/Meats, Pasta/Sauce, Bisquick/Syrup, Rice Dishes, Mac & Cheese, Progresso Soups, Shampoo/Conditioner, Soap, Paper Towels, Napkins, Tissues, Toilet Paper

***Frozen Turkeys, *Hams**

Drop off procedures:

Please enter the St. Mary's parking lot from Washington Avenue, follow the driveway around the back of the church and then to the area between the church and the rectory. It is preferable that the driver be the only person in the car. The bag should be placed in the back seat on the passenger side or in the trunk if the trunk can be opened from inside the car.

A volunteer will take the food from the car.

We thank everyone in advance for your generosity

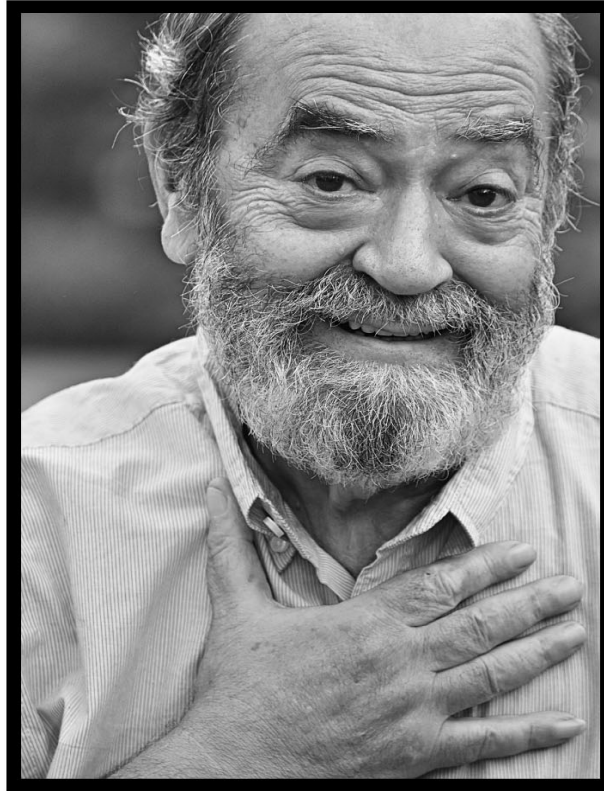
All donated food must be non-perishable (*except frozen turkeys and hams) and in a bag with handles,

Due to the recent bag ban, donation bags will be available in the Church beginning Sunday February 5th, 2023



**Mark
Your
Calendar**

Feeding the Hungers of the Heart



PARISH MISSION
St. Mary's
Dumont, NJ

7:00 PM
March 6th - 8th, 2023



Fr. Jim Wallace, C.Ss.R.



Fr. Francis Gargaini, C.Ss.R.



Fr. Philip Dabney, C.Ss.R.