

The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

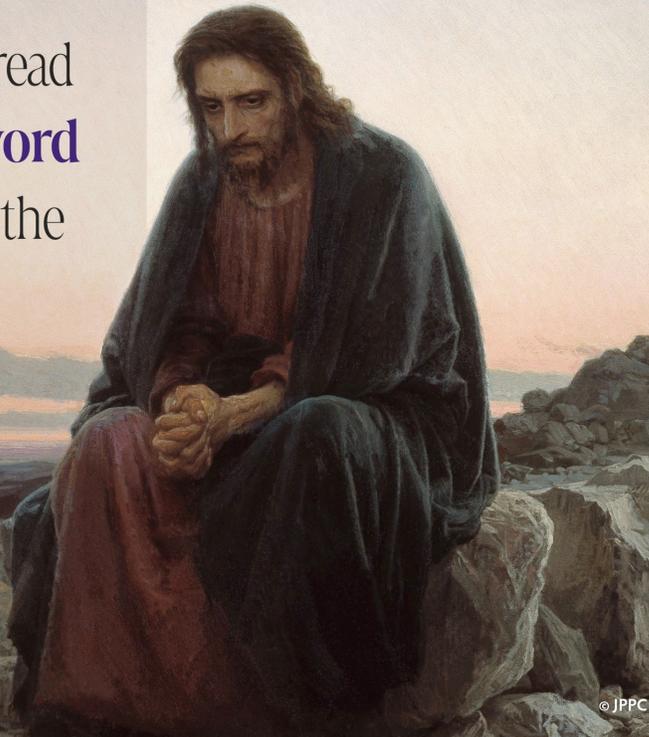
St. Mary's Church

280 Washington Avenue, Dumont, NJ 07628 Parish Office: 201-384-0557

One does not live by bread alone, but by **every word** that comes forth from the **mouth of God.**

MATTHEW 4:4

*February 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent*



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

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Stephen A. Carey, *Pastor*
Rev. David W. Milliken, *In-Residence*
Deacon John L. Sylvester, *Permanent Deacon*
Mr. Luis Chavez, *Director of Music Ministry*
Mrs. Kathleen Sylvester, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/OCIA*
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*

TRUSTEES

Mrs. Janet Kaine, *Parish Trustee*
Mr. Lawrence Miloscia, *Parish Trustee*

CONTACT US

Parish e-mail: info@stmarysdumont.org
Parish Website: www.stmarysdumont.org
Religious Education Office: 201-384-0557, Ext. 20
email: religioused@stmarysdumont.org
Director of Music: email: music@stmarysdumont.org
Altar & Rosary: email: rosaryaltarsociety@stmarysdumont.org
Food Pantry: email: foodpantry@stmarysdumont.org

Online giving: WeShare
stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com

EUCCHARISTIC 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!

Weekly MASS Intentions

©JPPC

Saturday 5:30PM	Feb. 21 - Vigil John Daly
Sunday 7:45AM 10:00AM 12 Noon	Feb. 22 - First Sunday of Lent John P. and Michael Daly Betty Duffy and Kathleen Whalen Parishioners of St. Mary's
Monday 7:00AM 8:45AM	Feb. 23 - Lenten Weekday Gryszko Family Pat and Nick Marino
Tuesday 7:00AM 8:45AM	Feb. 24 - Lenten Weekday John Hennessy Catherine Crowley
Wednesday 7:00AM 8:45AM	Feb. 25 - Lenten Weekday Pablo T. Naong Peggy, John and Rev. Dan Cronin
Thursday 7:00AM 8:45AM	Feb. 26 - Lenten Weekday The Barry Family Daniel Markert
Friday 7:00AM 8:45AM	Feb. 27 - Lenten Weekday Gerard Reilly Minda Dy King
Saturday 8:30AM 5:30PM	Feb. 28 - Lenten Weekday Peggy Cronin Rebecca de la Pena
Sunday 7:45AM 10:00AM 12 Noon	March 1 - Second Sunday of Lent Parishioners of St. Mary's Gary Paul Pranzo, Sr. Richard Deiser



The **Bread and Wine** offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of John Daly requested by the Sheehan family.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** will burn in praise of God and in memory of Betty Duffy requested by her great granddaughters.

Recently Deceased

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased James T. McMahon

This Week



Sunday – Feb. 22 First Sunday of Lent 10:00AM OCIA Kids 10:00AM & 12:00PM Choir 11:00AM OCIA Teens 12:00PM Cub Scouts Pack 131 Set-up/Event SH After 12:00PM Mass PALAD EB Meeting FDVRm 4:30PM Rite of Election Cathedral 7:00PM Stations of the Cross Practice UC
Monday – Feb. 23 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 7:00PM Basketball SH
Tuesday – Feb. 24 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 5:00PM Irish Step Dancing SH/LS
Wednesday - Feb. 25 After 8:45AM Mass OLPH Novena and Rosary UC 7:00PM Bereavement Ministry Seton Rm 7:30PM Line Dancing SH
Thursday – Feb. 26 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 5:00PM Children's Choir Rehearsal UC 5:30 PM Irish Step Dancing LS 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal UC 7:00PM OCIA Class 8:00PM Basketball (Tuy) SH
Friday – Feb. 27 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 5:00PM Aramaic School 7:00PM Stations of the Cross 8:00PM Basketball SH
Saturday – Feb. 28 Korean School
Sunday – March 1 Second Sunday of Lent 10:00AM OCIA Kids 10:00AM & 12:00PM Choir 11:00AM OCIA Teens Penitential Rite 7:00PM Stations of the Cross Practice UC

Stations of the Cross



We will celebrate Stations of the Cross in the upper church all Fridays of Lent at 7:00 pm using different meditations each week. Our first session will be Friday, Feb. 20th.

Available 2026 Offerings

Bread & Wine: May 17; Aug. 23 & 30; Nov. 29.
Sanctuary Lamp: July 26; Aug. 2 & 23.



Last week, right after Ash Wednesday, a parishioner asked me if Catholics are still expected to fulfill their Easter Duty. The Easter Duty is a precept of the Church that says every good Catholic should receive communion at least once a year, preferably during the Easter season. The follow up question was, “Do I also have to go to confession first?”

The revised Code of Canon Law maintains that all the Catholics are bound by an obligation to confess serious sins at least once a year. Moreover, the Code also asserted, “It is to be recommended to the Christian faithful that venial sins also be confessed.”

The strongest witness we can give of our awareness of our need for God’s mercy is by going to Confession. Confession, or more appropriately, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, like all sacraments is a celebration of God’s love. It is where we can hear the words that tell us that our sins are forgiven. It is where we are reminded that there is no sin we can commit that God cannot forgive. He loves us too much.

Hoping to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation more accessible, the priests of our deanery are joining together to host a series of Penance Services during Lent. The schedule of these Penance Services are as follow:

Monday, Feb. 23, 7:00pm St. Joseph, Oradell

*Tuesday, March 3, 7:00pm St. John, Bergenfield
(Spanish)*

Monday, March 9, 7:00pm Ascension, New Milford

*Saturday, March 14, 1:30pm Annunciation,
Paramus*

*Wednesday, March 18, 7:00pm Visitation,
Paramus*

Monday, March 23, 7:00pm Mt. Carmel, Tenafly

I will be joining the other priests of our deanery for some of these services and, of course, we will continue to have our regularly scheduled Confessions on Saturday afternoon from 4 to 4:45 pm.

Hopefully, we will all avail ourselves of this healing sacrament during these 40 days of Lent. Lent is an opportunity to grow closer to God. The Sacrament of Reconciliation can help us achieve this goal.

Fr. Carey

Serving in the Military

We ask God to keep in his care all those who are serving overseas in our armed forces. They are listed below and we ask your prayers for them.

Sgt. John Murray...Anthony Dunkin...Joseph Ament
Lorenzo Cortezano...Brandon Barhydt

Pray for Our Sick

John Ramzi...Rose O’Shea...Arvin Erd...Gary Barba
Brian O’Dowd...Margaret Manley...Tom Aquino
John Romaine...Anne Picciano...Lorraine Rolanti
Skylar Frye...Scott Tkacz...Sean Hayes...Antonio S.
N. Diamond...Heather S...Robert Delia...Betty Delia
Anthony Montagnino...John Eckel, Sr...Marie F.
Teresita Ariola...Rolando Ariola...Allan Austria
Dolores Awid...Myra D’Silva...Daniel Thornton
Stacey Juhlin..Peter Halecky...Patricia Adone
George & Gerry Taylor...Anyaa...Ryder Heckman
Karen and Jerry Kastner...Michelle Irimia
Bonifacio Riguerra...Ivan Ordonez...Jonel Tinio
Ryan McHugh...Baby James Thomas Formoso
Wilberto Guilgerto Canlas...Revan Thrawn Wrage
Laura Poznanski Clark...Kris Telesmanich...Tito
Filip Pindulic..Maureen Donohue..Helen de la Pena
Judy Sweeney...Nellie McHale...Jenifer Mayer
Virgilio Malapit...Michael O’Neill...Edgardo Ariola
Jose Nicholas de la Pena...Melie Tiburcio
Baby Teddy Lang..Martha Velasco Rice..Bernie Ang

Sick and Homebound Visit

If you or someone you know can’t come to the church and would like to receive communion, do confession, or would like to talk to a priest, please call the parish office at 201-384-0557. Fr. Carey will be glad to visit you.

Patient Privacy Reminder

A reminder to all parishioners, due to Patient Privacy regulations, hospitals cannot notify us when our parishioners are in the hospital. Please let us know or have someone call us so that one of the priests can visit you. Thank you for your understanding.

Faith Sharing Groups for Lent.

If anyone has an interest in forming a faith sharing group for lent, please call Kathy Sylvester at the parish office 201-788-3152.



PACT/Religious Education Program

St. Mary's PACT/Religious Education Program

PACT Parents: Have you received your PACT e-mail with Family Lenten Resources? If you are not receiving e-mails from us, please e-mail us at religious@stmarysdumont.org

Confirmation Preparation



Our Monday Confirmation Preparation sessions continue on 3/9. Be sure to check that required candidate paperwork is complete at this time. Please continue to pray that our candidates, their families, and our whole parish family will be enlivened by the Holy Spirit.

First Holy Communion

A meeting for parents of First Holy Communion candidates is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3rd. First Communion candidate sessions begin the following week. Parents are asked to check their information letter for more details about meetings and candidate preparation for First Eucharist. Please keep our candidates and their families in prayer.



Last call for 2025-26 year: Empowering God's Children Program



Parents are reminded that this year, we are covering *Lesson 3: Boundaries: You Have Rights! And Lesson 4: Secrets, Surprises and Promises in the Empowering God's Children program.*

An e-mail link was re-sent to parents who opted to cover these chapters at home so they can indicate completion of this year's program. Thank you for helping us to provide safe environments for all of our children.

Stewardship Reflection

1st Sunday of Lent

"It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."
MATTHEW 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.

OCIA Overview



Earlier this year, the RCIA (Rite of Christian of Adults) changed its name to Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. This is part of the on-going revision of all the Liturgical Books, beginning with the Roman Missal in 2011. Since that time, all the official books of the church are being revised, one by one. All Rites are now called "Orders."

At St. Mary's this has been a particularly busy year with the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. We have a total of 15 people involved in this process. Thanks be to God who has brought them here!

There are two young people who will be fully initiated at the Easter Vigil on April 4th: Jade Barrocal and Luciana Khimishman.

There are two adults baptized in another faith tradition who will come into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church on Sunday, April 12, 2026: Zac Daum and Kyara Baker. They will receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

There are seven adults who will complete their initiation with the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist: Ashley Gonzalez and Lauren Zayas, and siblings Geadani Trinidad, Diara Trinidad, Daniquel Trinidad; Denzel Trinidad and Geo Trinidad.

There are 3 Adults who will complete their initiation with the Sacrament of Confirmation: Meagan Sabatini, Sophia Sabala and Gaelisa Reyes.

As these folks enter into their final period of preparation for the Easter Sacraments, let us keep them in our prayers.

Kathy Sylvester

Pastoral Associate for Liturgy and OCIA

Do you want to be a part of the Stations of the Cross this year?



We are looking for 7th – 12th grade teens to lead the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday!

Jesus
Mary
Guards
Pilate
Veronica
Simon
Joseph
Readers
Singers
Lights



Practices on Sundays
7pm – 9pm
Upper Church
February 22
March 1
March 8
March 15
March 29

Practice with Choir
Tuesday March 31
5pm – 7pm

Good Friday Service:
April 3 at 7:30pm

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please email Beth Miloscia at youthmin@stmarysdumont.org



Food Pantry Items For February

For the month of February, the food pantry will be collecting laundry detergent, small size up to 50 oz. Please place your items in the boxes at the doors of the upper church or drop at the rectory during normal business hours. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Please place your contribution in the collection basket in an envelope marked Food Pantry.

We thank you in advance for your continued support!!

**God Bless,
Anna, Denise & Lynne**



St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society



Dear Altar & Rosary Supporters,

We are hosting an Easter Candy Fundraiser through Gertrude Hawk Chocolates. Our Fundraiser starts today and ends on **Sunday, March 1 for online orders** and **Sunday, February 22 for hardcopy order forms.**
Estimated Delivery Date: The week of March 23, 2026

Two ways to purchase:

- 1) **Online: Due by Sunday, March 1, 2026.** Customers can choose to have their order delivered to the church 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). All web orders require credit card payment. See below for directions.

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

- 2) **Order Form: Due by Sunday, February 22, 2026.** Order form packets can be found in the Upper Church or PACT/Rectory offices. Please return the form to the Rectory and keep the bottom copy and brochure for your records. **Hardcopy 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**

Thank you for your continued support!

St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, March 3rd @ 7 pm in Szelest Hall.

**We will pray a Rosary,
discuss new and old business
and to celebrate St. Patrick's Day,
The McLoughlin School of
Irish Dance will perform for us!
There will also be dessert, coffee & tea!
Please join us monthly as we share
our faith, renew our devotion to our
Blessed Mother and find some inner peace.**

Kathy Mullins – President
rosaryaltarsociety@stmarysdumont.org

St. JOHN'S COUNCIL #1345 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

LENTEN FISH FRY DINNER



WHERE: 61 Armour Pl, Dumont NJ
 WHEN: Friday, February 27, 2026, 6 – 8 PM
 INCLUDES: Beer Battered Cod - Steak Fries –Homemade Mac & Cheese – Coleslaw - Tartar Sauce – Pickles –Salad & Bread
 DESSERT: Cake/Cookies/Coffee/Tea
 INCLUDES: DRAFT BEER/WINE/SODA
 Note: Take out orders must be picked up inside
 COST: \$20.00 Adults / \$12.00 Children (\$50 Family Maximum)
 50/50 50/50 50/50

Reservation Details: RSVP via call or text to Ken A. at 516-220-9333 or Email KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com This is a SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAISER for the Council – if you are unable to attend, please consider making a donation to St. John's Council #1345 KOC, 61 Armour Place, Dumont, NJ 07628 . As always, THANK YOU for your support.

God's Plan for Giving

"The measure of your free-will offering shall be in proportion to the blessing the Lord, your God, has bestowed on you."

(Deuteronomy 16:10)

	2026	2025
Collections: Feb. 14 - 15	\$9,082.00	\$8,011.00
Weekly On-Line Giving	1,249.00	1,359.00
Total	\$10,331.00	\$9,370.00

Treasure from our children: \$5.00

Below are some of the good deeds that the children of St. Mary's did as a way of showing their love of God and of our parish. We hope that they will always know how important what they do for God and for us truly is. Even though they are still young, they can give us a wonderful example to follow.

**"I talked with parents about lesson."
 "I helped someone." "I said my prayers."**



Electronic/Online Giving is a convenient no hassle method, of making your Sunday offertory to the church. For more information or to sign up you can visit stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com from WeShare company. You can also contact the parish office for more details.

We greatly appreciate your continued support to St. Mary's.

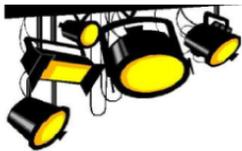
We greatly appreciate your continued support to St. Mary's.

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

We are grateful to share that as of Tuesday, February 17th, we have already received **\$10,405.00** in pledges which is **19%** of our goal—thank you to all who have given so generously! Your support of the 2026 Annual Appeal helps sustain the mission of Christ in our Archdiocese.

Our goal can only be reached through your generosity and sacrifice. If you have not yet made your gift, we invite you to prayerfully consider doing so today. To make an online gift, please visit rcan.org/sharing or scan QR code below. You can also join us at Mass for In-Pew Weekend, March 7th and 8th.

Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your faithful support of our Catholic mission. May God bless you abundantly!



**St. John's Council
 Columbiettes #1345
 PRESENTS**



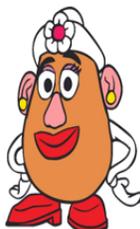
**GIANT POTATO BAR
 WITH ALL THE FIXINS!
 TONS OF TOPPINGS TO CHOOSE FROM!**

Salad, beverage & dessert also included. Cash bar available.

**Friday, March 6, 2026
 6:00pm - 8:00pm
 \$20.00 per person
 (\$10.00 children 12 and under)**

**Knights of Columbus Hall
 61 Armour Place Dumont, NJ**

For reservations call Nina at 201-310-2930 or Laura at 201-788-5971
 email NinaD70@aol.com or labetti250@optonline.net.



*Don't be a COUCH
 Potato!*



Load up your Spud!

St. Mary's Bereavement Ministry

Dates: Wednesdays, February 25, March 4, 11, 18 & 25

Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Place: St. Mary's Parish Office
280 Washington Avenue, Dumont

To register email:

Deacon John at deaconjohn@stmarysdumont.org
or call the parish office at 201 384-0557

