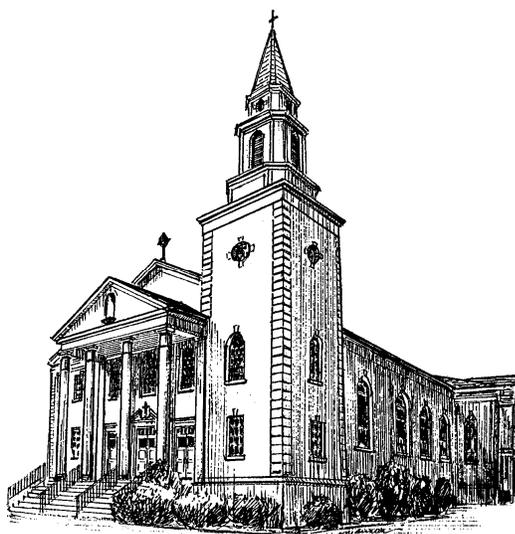


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

St. Mary's Church

November 15, 2020

*Thirty-Third
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. Thomas Pendrick, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Patrick W. Donohue, *In-Residence*
Deacon John L. Sylvester, *Permanent Deacon*
Mr. Joel Condon, *Director of Music Ministry*
Mrs. Kathleen Sylvester, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCLIA*
Dr. William J. Mascitello, *Pastoral Associate for Catechetics*
Mr. John Weiss, *Business Administrator*
Beth Miloscia, *Youth and Young Adult Ministries*
Dory Weiss, *Parish Secretary*
Mrs. Mattea Truppe, *Pastoral Council Chairperson*
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

e-mail: religioused@stmarysdumont.org

Director of Music:
email: music@stmarysdumont.org

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, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm, in the lower church.

Sacrament of Penance

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

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.

God's Plan for Giving - Tithing

Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God. We ask half of this, or 5%, for your parish Church. The other 5% goes to your favorite charities.

A Note from the Not-Pastor's-Desk

In the article *A Guide to Transforming Faith Formation*, religious educator John Roberto maps out strategies for Religious Education in the era of COVID-19. In order to help understand our current situation, Roberto refers to an article entitled *Leading Beyond the Blizzard* which speaks of three different ways to describe what we are going through together: *blizzard*, *winter*, and *ice age*. A *blizzard* is a short-term event; the expectation is that the hostile conditions and the need to shelter due to zero visibility will be over soon. *Winter* persists for a bit longer- one can go out, but not for extended periods. Winter is inhospitable and requires adaptations such as protective clothing, but it is a season and as such it is generally predictable. An *ice age* is more persistent, there is no certainty with regard to its duration. An ice age requires us to think of new ways of doing things beyond protective clothing and seeking temporary shelter to the extent that an ice age is “in many ways more far-reaching than merely hunkering down for a few days or weeks...”

Perhaps you sense where we are going with this analogy. Religious Education is in a state of flux, as is education in general. Stopgap measures have been put in place; we have emerged from the pandemic *blizzard* and are working through the *winter*. At this point we need to consider our uncertainty about the resolution of our current scenario. Roberto feels we need to plan as if we are entering an *ice age* as we do not know when we will be back to “normal”, and whether (if ever) every aspect of our day-to-day lives will return to just the same as it was nine months or a year ago.

Whether we are about to enter another *blizzard*, will go through an extended *winter*, or are at the threshold of an *ice age*, what the future holds out for Religious Education in our Church throughout the world and here at St. Mary's is on the front burner right now, and I am writing this week to ask for your help.

We at St. Mary's have appreciated the ways that so many of you have continued to generously support the parish, our food drives, and fundraisers throughout the COVID-19 *blizzard* and *winter*. I would love to write something like “yes, the *blizzard* has passed and everything will be just as it was any day now!” — but this is simply not the case. We need to ask for your support of our Religious Education efforts. Reach out to family members, neighbors, and friends who should be a part of our efforts. It is not too late to contact us and enroll into our program which will be 20 weeks in length. The “virtual” program as it is being offered has glitches, is far from ideal, and it is going to be under constant evaluation and revision. But just as in other aspects of our Church and personal lives, we are adapting to survive the pandemic *winter* in anticipation of discovering where we are being led as a community.

Our catechetical documents state again and again that our primary aim is to put our families and their children “*not only in touch, but also in communion and intimacy, with Jesus Christ*”. Whether we feel that we are nearing the end of the pandemic and its restrictions, or sense that we are entering the COVID-19 *ice age* of indefinite length, this is no time to pull back from Religious Education and our goal! If anything we need to re-focus to emphasize the importance of *communion and intimacy with Jesus Christ* even more in our families, communities, and world.

Dr. William J. Mascitello
Pastoral Associate for Catechetics



PACT/Religious Education Updates

PACT/Virtual Religious Education Update

Please watch your e-mail for more information regarding our PACT/Religious Education Program. Our virtual Religious Education program has officially begun, but it is not too late to register your family. Contact us if you need a registration form. Families who have not been receiving important e-mails from us, call (201) 384-0557 ext. 20 or e-mail us at religioused@stmarysdumont.org

New Family and Grade 1 Religious Education Registration

Families new to our parish with children who should be in our programs for Religious Education and Sacrament Preparation should contact us at this time to come to the office for information and to register. Call (201) 384-0557 extension 20 or e-mail religioused@stmarysdumont.org

Catechists and Volunteers

For more information regarding volunteering to help with Religious Education efforts at St. Mary's, please e-mail us at religioused@stmarysdumont.org or call (201) 384-0557 ext. 20. Volunteers will be required to complete a volunteer application and a background check, and attend a *Protecting God's Children* seminar.

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Advent Giving Tree – The Nurturing Place (York Street Project)

Normally around this time of year, we are getting ready to let you know what Christmas gifts we would be asking for you to donate to send to the children of the *Nurturing Place* and their moms. This year, as everyone knows, is not "normal". Below is an excerpt from the email they sent to us as about how we can help them celebrate Christmas this year:

*I am reaching out today with regards to Christmas. YES! I did say CHRISTMAS! It seems so, so far away, but is just around the corner. This year, due to very restrictive regulations, we are approaching the holiday season very differently. It saddens me greatly that we will not be able to provide in the same way this year to our families who so look forward to the beautiful and thoughtful gifts you all provide. We want to keep some sense of the holidays here for our families, so our goal is to still assist with a little "Christmas Magic" the best way we can. Our only reasonable solution to meeting the very strict health and safety regulations is to not seek gifts as we have done for so many years in the past, but instead provide **gift cards** to the families. We know and understand that this definitely puts a very different feeling to the spirit of giving and we absolutely understand if this year you decide not to organize and donate. However, if you are able to assist us, we would truly be grateful. We are fortunate that so many of our families have returned and are back in our care. We would like to prepare them as soon as possible for the holiday season.*

Based on the past generosity of the people of St. Mary's, we agreed to ask for gift card donations so that we may help the Nurturing Place prepare for Christmas this year. The following is the list of suggested gift cards we are asking you to provide (any amount which you feel is affordable is appreciated):



We greatly appreciate any donation you can give us. Please drop off your donation(s) marked Giving Tree to the parish office or to the collection boxes by **Wednesday, Dec. 9th**.



J-Walk – St. Mary's Youth Ministry
2020 Christmas Wreath and Grave Blanket
Place Orders by Monday, November 23rd



Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ - _____ - _____

Email: _____

Drop form at parish office or email Beth Miloscia at youthmin@stmarysdumont.org



ITEM A
Natural Décor Wreath
12 inches
Decorated with
pinecones and berries



ITEM B
Holiday Ball Décor Wreath
12 inches
Decorated with pinecones,
berries and Christmas balls



ITEM C
Grave Blanket
16 inches by 32 inches
Decorated Balsam Fir

<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
A		\$25.00	
B		\$25.00	
C		\$35.00	

Total Amount Due \$ _____

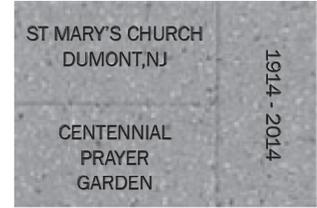
Please enclose payment with form. Checks may be made out to St. Mary's Church.

Contactless Drive-Thru Pickup at the Rectory Garage
Saturday, December 5th between 10am and 12pm



St. Mary's Church

Prayer Garden Memorial Brick



Memorial bricks for the St. Mary's Prayer Garden may be purchased in memory of a loved one, or to commemorate a special occasion. Bricks are ordered annually and placed in our garden in the spring. If you would like to order a brick, please complete the form below:

Engraving Information

Your brick can have up to **3 lines** of wording and numbers **20 characters per line** (this includes spaces and punctuation)

Please make sure your engraving information is spelled correctly
(Please print clearly)

Brick #1

Brick #2

Brick #3 - For more than 3 bricks, please make another copy of this flyer

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

_____ Bricks @ \$50.00 each = _____ (Brick size 4 X 8")

Make Checks Payable to: St. Mary's Church

Mail completed form and donation to: St. Mary's Church, 280 Washington Ave., Dumont, N.J. 07628
Or drop in collection box or at the Rectory.

Deadline to submit the form is December 31, 2020.