

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

PA Charitable Trust Partnered With St. Mary's Church
337 Center Street – St. Marys, PA 15857

Sacred Heart Parish Office: 814-834-7861 Fax: 814-834-1376 • Sacred Heart Parish Center: 814- 834-4017
e-mail: sacredheartparish@windstream.net • Website: www.sacredheartparish.us
Parish Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Mission Statement

Through our gifts of time, talents, and treasures, we serve our parish as we journey together to the Kingdom of God.

Confessions:

Saturday: St. Mary's Church 3:30-4:15 p.m.

First Friday Week:

Sacred Heart Church Thursday 4:00 p.m.

Till all are heard

Anytime by Appointment

First Friday Week:

St. Mary's Church Thursday 4:00 p.m.

Till all are heard

Anytime by Appointment

Mass Schedule

Sacred Heart Church Sunday - 7:00 & 10:30 a.m.

St. Mary's Church Saturday - 4:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Church Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS FOR ADVENT:

Sun., December 17th 2:00 p.m. St. Joseph Force
Wed., December 20th 6:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Church
Additional Confessions in St. Marys
Saturdays December 23rd & 30th
Queen of the World 4:30p.m.
Saint Mary's 3:30– 4:15 p.m.

Daily Masses

Queen of the World ~ Mon., 7:00 a.m., Wed.,- Sat., 7:00 a.m.

Tues., Communal Service at 7:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart ~ Mon., - Fri., 6:15 a.m.

Saint Mary's ~ Mon., - Sat., 8:30 a.m.

WELCOME AND CELEBRATE THIS GLORIOUS DAY!

Advent Wreath Prayer:

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas.

Amen.



After New Year's

Daily Masses for Sacred Heart Church will be Mon., Wed., & Fri., 6:15 a.m.

Daily Masses for St. Mary's Church will be Tues., Thurs., & Sat., 8:30 a.m.

(Continued Excerpt from Brian Pusateri 4th Day Letter November 27, 2023)

LLC

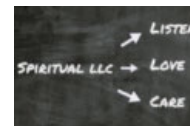
Ownership interests in an LLC are **freely transferable**. An owner of an LLC is free to pass on his/her ownership interest to whomever he/she choose. Likewise, as Christians not only are we free to pass on our faith, but we are called by God to do so. It is our duty to share our faith with others. Jesus gave us this command in Matthew 28:19, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit."

An LLC enjoys **pass-through taxation**. They are a "pass-through" tax entity. Put simply, this means that the LLC's gains and losses flow through to its members. The members report their share of these tax items on their personal income tax returns. Romans 6:4 states, "We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life." Clearly this verse reminds us of the **pass-through** nature of Christ's death and resurrection to all who believe in Him.

In addition to the reasons already given, there are three words that comprise our **Spiritual LLC**. As Christians we are called to love God above all else, but in Matthew 22:39 Jesus tells us, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." How can we do this? By making these three words part of how we live.

*Listen *Love *Care

We are called to go forth to help others. We are called to bring others to Christ. We are called to "be Christ" to others. We do this when we **LISTEN** with the ears of Christ, we **LOVE** with the heart of Christ, and we **CARE** with the compassion of Christ. This is the LLC formula. Let's go forth as a new spiritual LLC by **listening** to those most in need, **loving** others like we love ourselves, and **caring** for others like Jesus would. And finally, let's always keep in mind the words Jesus told us in Matthew 25:40, "**whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.**"



Dec., 16(S): Vigil of Third Sunday of Advent

St. Mary's Church

4:30 p.m. † Helen Herzing (An.) and
Alfred J. Bauer & Robert 'Beagle' Bauer Sr.

Dec., 17: Third Sunday of Advent

Sacred Heart Church

7:00 a.m. †† Mary (An.) & Barney Kronenwetter

St. Mary's Church

9:00 a.m. † Mary Jo Zimmett

Sacred Heart Church

10:30 a.m. Mass For The Parishioners

Dec., 18(M): Third Week of Advent

6:15 a.m. †††† Art (An.), Mercedes & David Krieg

Dec., 19(T): Third Week of Advent

6:15 a.m. † Bernadette Gerg

Dec., 20(W): Third Week of Advent

6:15 a.m. † Ken Bish

Dec., 21(Th): Third Week of Advent

6:15 a.m. † Deceased Members of the
Benedictine Association of Saint Marys

Dec., 22(F): Third Week of Advent

6:15 a.m. L/D of Herbstritt & Schreiber Families

Dec., 23(S): Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent

St. Mary's Church

4:30 p.m. ††† Hal & Pauline Fritz and Frank Fritz
† Donald W. Fleming

Dec., 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sacred Heart Church

7:00 a.m. Mass For The Parishioners

St. Mary's Church

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

Sacred Heart Church

10:30 a.m. † Don Baumgratz (An.)

Christmas Eve Masses

Dec., 24: Sun., Vigil of The Nativity Of The Lord

Sacred Heart Church

4:00 p.m. Patients & Staff of Pine Crest Manor,
Elk Haven Nursing Home & Silver Creek Terrace

St. Mary's Church

4:30 p.m. Mass for the Parishioners

Sacred Heart Church

11:30 p.m. Christmas Music

Christmas Day Masses

Dec., 25:(M) The Nativity Of The Lord

Sacred Heart Church

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass Intention of the Celebrant

7:00 a.m. Intention of all Volunteers of Sacred Heart
and St. Mary's Parishes

St. Mary's Church

8:30 a.m. Private Intention

10:30 a.m. Private Intention

Sacred Heart Church

11:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed especially Thomas A. Krise, Sr. (Brother of Helen Precht) and Sharon Boylan (Sister of Diane Groeger). May God grant them eternal rest and comfort all those who mourn them.



The week of December 17, 2023 the Angel Lamps in the Sanctuary burn for the following intentions:

† **Sister Victoria Marconi, O.S.B**
L/D of John & Catherine Marconi Family

To schedule a particular intention or week, please call the Parish Office at 834-7861. The donation is \$10.

Christmas is on a Monday this year and many are asking...

The Christmas Eve Vigil Mass does not fulfill the Sunday Mass obligation for Sunday, December 24. Please plan to attend two Masses: One on Saturday evening or Sunday morning as well as a Christmas Eve Vigil or Christmas Day Mass.

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ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

will be held in Sacred Heart Church on Friday from 7:00 a.m. until closing with Benediction at 4:00 p.m. **Fridays at 3:00 p.m. the Divine Mercy Chaplet .**

“Understand what you do, imitate what you celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord’s cross.”

-Ordination Rite of Priests-

Gabriel Kraus and	
Deacon Brian Meyers	Deacon Luke Dagher
Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary	St. Mary's Seminary
7880 W. Denton Road	5400 Roland Avenue
Denton, NE 68339	Baltimore MD 21210

“31 DAY” VOCATION CALENDAR - Please

consider joining the Parish “31 Club” for Vocations to the Religious Life. Try to attend a Mass, Holy Hour, Pray a Rosary **OR** pray on your chosen date and offer it for:

- Priests/religious who have served our parish in the **past**.
 - For those priests, religious and deacons serving **now**.
 - To ask the Lord of the harvest for **future** vocations.
- | | |
|------|---|
| 18th | Julie Handwerger, Barb Linder, Bonnie Housler |
| 19th | Mary Ross, Nancy Plows |
| 20th | Gretchen Meyer, Mary Jo Scott |
| 21st | Carl Loeffler, Barb Linder |
| 22nd | Sally Smith, Kathy Reuscher |
| 23rd | Mary Bowser Gee, Heidi Bach |
| 24th | Sylvia & B. G. Kronenwetter |

If you would like to be a part of the “31 Day” Vocation Calendar, please call the Parish Office at 834-7861 #1.

FATIMA PRAYER GROUP

Monday Night Apostolate of Fatima Rosary at Sacred Heart Church will be held at **4:00 p.m.** "Pray the Rosary everyday for Peace in the World".

PRAYER LIST - Let us remember all the sick especially Chrissy Aikens, Henry James Farkas, Alice Feldbauer, Don Geci, Sara Geitner, Irene George, Louise Georgevich, Kathleen Glatfelter, Dennis Maffei, Darlene Nappe, Dave Nellis, Tammy Pearsall, Asher Quinn, Kathleen (Daisy) Rowley, Emily Saline, Dave Schneider, Matthew Sharrow, Ruth "Pug" Sloff, Mary Jo Wheeler, Dominick Herbstritt, Brooks Murphy and Lucy Weis.

SAINT ANNE SOCIETY ~will meet on **Monday, Dec., 18th** at the Sacred Heart Parish Center Social Hall. The Officers will be providing the lunch and will be served at 1:00 p.m. This will be the last gathering for Saint Anne Society until March of 2024. New members are always welcome to join us next year.



THANK YOU~ The Sacred Heart Social Committee would like to extend a huge **THANK YOU** to each and every volunteer that helped in the many ways to make this year's **"Bah Humbug" a SUCCESS!** As always, none of this would not have happened if it weren't for **YOU!** It truly takes many hands to bake all of the **Breads, Cakes, Cookies, Rolls & Chocolate Delights** that were sold. Not to mention **Soups & Sandwiches.** **Merry Christmas and Blessings in the New Year!**

GIVING TREE GIFTS ~ Remember to return your gifts for the Maternity Closet Giving Tree. Just a note, that large packages of diapers do not need to be wrapped. Other gifts can be wrapped. Thank you all for your continued support to the small children of our area and for your support to the Maternity Closet now and always.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES FOR THE MONTH OF
Dec., 17 Support of Our Parish School Children
Dec., 25 Christmas Offering
Jan., 01, 2024 Solemnity of Mary

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mondays Praying the Rosary in Church **4:00 p.m.**
Fridays Rosary in Church **1:00 p.m.**
Fridays Divine Mercy Chaplet in Church **3:00 p.m.**
Dec., 18 Saint Anne Society Christmas Party **1:00 p.m.**
NO Parish Council Meeting

AREA NEWS

BOWLS OF LOVE is a free meal served every **Wednesday** at the First United Methodist Church from **4-5:00 PM.** Everyone is welcome.



ADORATION AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH every **Tuesday** following the **8:30 a.m. Mass.** **Closing: Benediction: 4:00 PM.**



ADORATION AT QUEEN of the WORLD every **Thursday** following the **7:00 a.m. Mass.** **Closing: Benediction: 5:00 PM.**

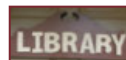


BENEDICTINE GIFT SHOP at 139 Church St, is fully stocked for the Christmas Season. Stop by and see what the store has to offer. And while you're in the area, please take time to stop by our renovated '1886 Chapel' at 315 Church St. (Right beside the St. Mary's Catholic Church).



RELIGIOUS AND PRO LIFE LENDING

Located on the main floor, of the Sacred Heart Parish Center. Opened Mon., thru Fri., 9 am to 4 pm. It's a nice quiet place to sit and read a book or take out a book or items for you to read or view in your own home. Sorry, not open on weekends, Holidays or Holy Days.



PHE PEPPERMINT STICK GIFT SHOP

Hours: Mon., thru Thurs., 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Stop by and check it out!

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS~ Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who gave. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious.



St. Marys Inter-Parish

LIFE TEEN



Faith Formation Calendar

All classes are held at the St. Mary's Church Parish Center (Former Catholic Middle School), 325 Church Street, unless otherwise noted.

Schedule changes as the school calendar changes because of CDC guidelines. You can also refer to the sminterparishfff.com website for updated schedules

Sun., Dec. 17 St. Boniface Whole Family Catechesis 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Middle School Faith Formation 6:00 PM- 7:45 PM

Wed., Dec. 20 Elementary Faith Formation (grade 1-5) 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Grade 1 CGS at Sacred Heart Atrium (5:50 PM – 7:20 PM)

Wed., Dec. 27 No Elementary Faith Formation (Christmas Break)
NO Grade 1 CGS at Sacred Heart Atrium (Christmas Break)

Wed., Jan. 3 Elementary Faith Formation (grade 1-5) 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Grade 1 CGS at Sacred Heart Atrium (5:50 PM– 7:20 PM)

Sun., Jan. 7 St. Boniface Whole Family Catechesis 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Middle School Faith Formation 6:00 PM- 7:45 PM
Confirmation 6:00 PM – 7:45 PM

Middle School Youth Group Meeting Date for December **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

TUES. Dec. 19th 6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM

TOP FLOOR OF THE SAINT MARY'S CHURCH PARISH CENTER
325 CHURCH STREET, St. MARYS, PA

YOUTH GROUP



prayer growing love friends



Where: Dunkin Donuts on the Million Dollar Highway, St. Marys
When: Jan. 3, 2024
Time: 6:45pm—8:15pm
Who: Students in grades 6-12
The drinks are on us!!
Sponsored by: Rooted Youth Ministry



ST MARYS AREA 29th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

**Monday, December 25th, 2023
Deliveries Only
10am to 12:00pm**

First United Methodist Church
140 North St. Marys Street

RESERVATIONS FOR DELIVERIES

**Please call Carol at 814-781-7401
by December 22**

VOLUNTEERS AND FOOD DONATIONS

Please call Ed at 814-594-8063

MONETARY DONATIONS

Can be made to:
**CNB Bank
133 Washington St.
St. Marys, PA**

*We all know someone,
neighbor, family, or friend, who would enjoy
a Christmas dinner!*

ADOPT A GRANDPARENT OR A PERSON IN NEED FOR THE HOLIDAY!!!

Consider sponsoring a person in need by donating a month or two of meals instead of the regular gifts you extend this holiday season! This is an opportunity for who would like to help the people who are not able at some point in their lives to cook their own meals. How nice would it be to sponsor one of our clients for a month and pay for their delivered meals?? If you would like to participate this holiday in giving the gift or a delivered meal, please send a **donation to: St. Marys Meals on Wheels PO Box 302 St. Marys, PA 15857** You can earmark your donation for a specific client or let us select someone who lacks the funds to receive a delivered hot meal to their home.



For questions contact: Wanda at 814-594-5930.



Location:
949 Million Dollar Highway
St. Marys
Phone: 814-834-1308

ADVENT ~ The word “Advent” comes from the Latin word *“adventus,”* which means “a coming, approach, arrival.” When we expect guests to arrive at our homes, we turn the lights on; we anticipate their arrival and welcome them with joy. In Advent, we prepare our homes and churches as we joyfully anticipate His arrival, and the light also gets brighter as we near Christmas day, the day on which the *Light of the World* was born. St. Gregory of Nyssa wrote,



“Today, the darkness begins to grow shorter and the light to lengthen, as the hours of light become fewer. [...] Do you see that the beams of light are more intense and the sun higher than it has been? Realize that the true light is now here and, through the rays of the Gospel, is illuminating the whole earth.”

Advent wreaths and candles are commonly seen in Catholic churches during the liturgical season. Many people also display Advent wreaths in their homes and light a candle each Sunday as families. Read more to learn about the history, traditions, and symbolism behind Advent wreaths and candles and how you can celebrate Advent at home with family and friends.

Advent wreaths

The Advent wreath is a centuries-old Christian tradition. Potentially overlooked by the candles it holds to light the way for the birth of Jesus, the Advent wreath itself symbolizes many themes and beliefs central to the Christian faith. In parishes, Advent wreaths are placed anywhere on the altar, on a side table, or even hung from the ceiling. In the home, you might place your Advent wreath on an entry or dining table or another location where you, your family, and your guests can enjoy the wreath during the Advent season.

History of the Advent wreath

The origin of the Advent wreath has been traced back to Germany, though the exact dates are unknown. Historians have suggested that pre-Christian Germanic peoples would light candles around wreaths in the dark winter months in anticipation of the warmer, lighter months in springtime. This tradition likely evolved into an “Advent wreath” at some point during the Middle Ages, transforming the pagan tradition into a Christian one. Rev. William Saunders explained that “By 1600, both Catholics and Lutherans had more formal practices surrounding the Advent wreath.” Ultimately, the Advent wreath tradition spread beyond Germany and into other areas of the world, namely throughout the western Church.

“Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man.”
Pope Francis

Advent wreath meaning

The circular shape of the Advent wreath symbolizes God’s infinite love for us – it is never-ending, just like the true Light of the World, Jesus, who leads us into eternal life with Him. The materials of the Advent wreath similarly lead us to reflect on the everlasting nature of God; traditionally, Advent wreaths have been made of evergreen leaves, such as pine or fir, which maintain their green color beyond the season in which they are collected. Nowadays, there are many modern interpretations of Advent wreaths that still help us celebrate the traditional meaning of the wreath: preparing the way for the Light of the World, Jesus.

Advent candle weeks, names & colors

Advent week 1 – Hope: Prophecy Candle (purple) “Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world.” – C.S. Lewis

Advent week 2 – Peace: Bethlehem Candle (purple) “May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women.” – Pope Francis

Advent week 3 – Joy: Shepherd’s Candle (pink) “But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’” (Luke 2:10-12)

Advent week 4 – Love: Angel’s Candle (purple) “And in the end, everything else will turn out to be unimportant and inessential, except for this: Father, Child, and Love.” – St. (Pope) John Paul II (From Hallow)

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