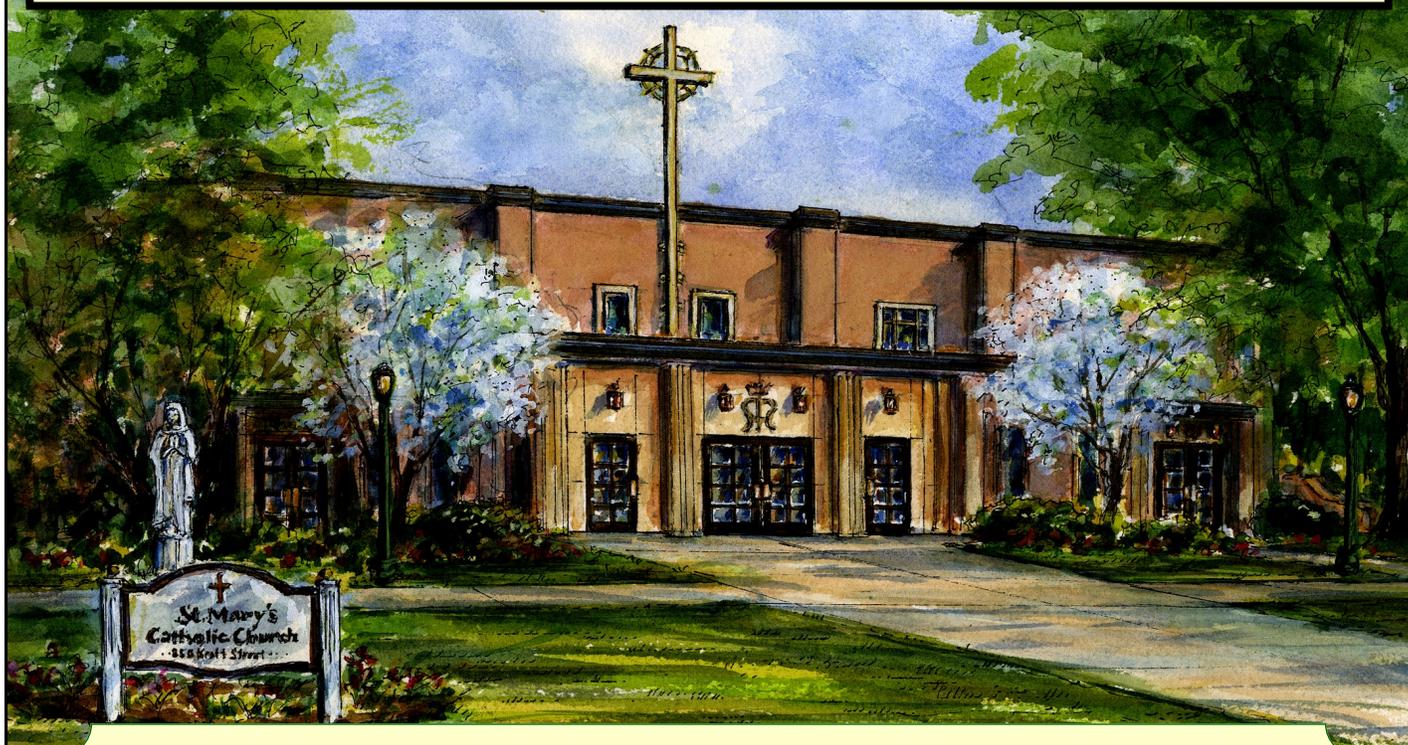


Saint Mary Parish

250 Kraft Street, Berea, Ohio 44017-1499

Rectory: 440-243-3877 · FAX: 440-891-9417 · Website: www.stmaryberea.org



Mission Statement

St. Mary is a faith community which worships together, follows the teachings of Jesus Christ in our everyday lives, evangelizes others by our lives and actions, gives generously of our time and resources in service to others, shows compassion and love towards one another, provides religious education and works for social justice for all.

Parish Pastoral Staff

Reverend John P. Singler, Pastor
Reverend Thomas E. Stock, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Robert J. Cole, Retired, In Residence
Deacon Thomas A. Cully, Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Angela Kovic, Music Director

Parish Support Staff

Mrs. Diana Lipfird, Homebound Coordinator
Mr. John Mastandrea, Adult Faith and Education Coordinator
Mrs. Johanna Garr, Religious Education Coordinator

Parish Office Staff

Mrs. Janel Abraham
Mrs. Lorri Masie

School Administrative Staff

Mr. Andrew Carner, Principal
Mrs. Sandi Ziegler, Program Coordinator
Mrs. Nancy Kaesgen, Director of Development

School Office Staff

Mrs. Mary Beth Hennessy
Mrs. Diana Zjaba

Parish Mass Schedule

Weekday: 9:00am Monday through Friday

Weekend: 4:00pm Saturday Vigil
7:30am, 9:30am, & 11:30am

Holy Day Consult Bulletin

Sacramental Ministries

Baptisms: On Sundays After 11:30am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturdays 3-3:30pm
Seasonal Celebrations

Marriage: Contact Parish Office

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Parish Office
Seasonal Celebration

Communion Calls: Contact Parish Office

Celebrating 168 years of Pastoral Service to the Catholic Community of Berea

The Baptism of the Lord

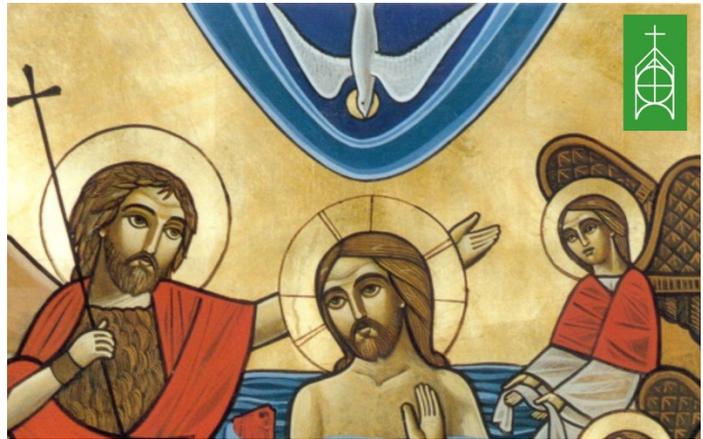
January 10, 2021

Epiphany *may be* the high point of the Christmas Season celebrations, when the Christ Child is seen and adored by the Magi from the East; but it is the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord** that celebrates the appearance of Christ in glory, the Incarnation of God. Yes, the child in whom we delight in seeing in his mother's lap, is seen today embraced by his Father! The Gospel accounts of the baptism speak strongly of the appearance of Christ in glory, in human flesh, of the union between heaven and earth.

The verses from Isaiah culminate the poetic proclamation of the prophet who preached about 550 years before the birth of Christ, in the dark days after Jerusalem's destruction and the exile to Babylon.

The prophet announces that these events were not the end: they were an astonishing new beginning in the story of salvation. **"I am doing something new"** declares the Lord (*Isaiah 43:19*). This prophet revels in the riches of a new version of the Davidic covenant. As David's line was lost during the exile, the prophet announced that the spectacular **"sure love for David"** was now the property of the entire people of God.

Five hundred years later, a man like the ancient prophets came proclaiming God's impending judgment. John preached that his baptism would prepare people for God's rending of the heavens to mete out justice. But his word was fulfilled in a way he did not expect. The one mightier than John did indeed appear when he **"was baptized in the Jordan by John."** The heavens were indeed **"torn apart"**: Mark's use of the Greek word *schizo* (*splitting*) carries a threatening apocalyptic image of judgment (*Mark 1:10*). But what emerged from the heavens was a dove, the Spirit of God in the form of an ancient symbol of God's peace following divine judgment (*Genesis 8:8-12*). The Gospel changed the template of salvation: Now salvation is offered *before* rather than *after* judgment. This remarkable change marks the **"beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God"** (*Mark 1:1*). **"By water and blood"** (*1 John 5:6*) links Jesus' baptism with his death. Jesus himself likened his death to a baptism (*Mark 10:38-39*).



Rising from the Jordan River, Jesus heard: **"You are my beloved,"** and God has proclaimed these words over everyone since that day. Coming to understand the meaning of baptism, accepting the grace and responsibility given to us by that encounter with God's love is the fundamental task of Christian life. The Word of God is a sure guide and so is the liturgy. When we witness a Baptism, we have an opportunity to savor that sacrament and relive our own Baptism.

Today, gathered as a faithful people of God we will **renew our own baptismal promises** and with God's help, continue to live the baptized life.

Do you renounce sin, so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?

Do you renounce the lure of evil, so that sin may have no mastery over you?

Do you renounce Satan, the author and prince of sin?

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life. **AMEN.**



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH
December 8, 2020 - December 8, 2021

Pope Francis declared **2021** to be **The Year of St. Joseph**. An informative **Newsletter** has been published and printed and is available at the Mother Teresa Vestibule Information Cubicle. Included in the Newsletter is Pope Francis's Apostolic Letter, *With a Father's Heart*, The Litany to St. Joseph and information on the granting of a plenary indulgence.

Please take one or two and share the good news of consecrating our lives to St. Joseph this year.

So **YES**, everyone has been affected by the United States Postal Services (USPS) delays this season. Christmas gifts and cards, letters and packages **ALL** have been delayed due to the overwhelming number of people using and relying on the postal service this year. We have received so many calls from you about this and at this time I can only apologize on behalf of the USPS and ask you, in the meantime, to use an envelope of your choice and mark it with your name, address and envelope number (*if you know that information*). That would be VERY APPRECIATED! THANKS for your understanding.



I may sound like a broken record, but **PERHAPS now** would be a great time to consider signing up for our eGiving Program through the Parish website. It is very safe and easy and we have Staff in the Rectory Office to **HELP YOU** through the steps to make it happen. Doing so would be a **HUGE** benefit to both you and us – lower cost of mailing, not dependent on the USPS as well as a regular giving opportunity.

And I do understand that **MANY** of you may not have access to a computer or internet connection. **BUT**, most banks will assist you with automated contributions to your Church. Again, **PERHAPS** now would be a great time to consider a new option for your charitable giving.

Please know that I am **MOST APPRECIATIVE** of your continued generosity and giving, especially during this most troubling year. Your consistent financial support has been **AMAZING** and we have been able to meet **ALMOST** all of our liabilities (expenses). But I know winter is a tough season and I pray that your generosity will continue to help us pay all our bills.

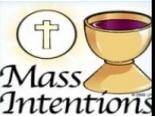
THANKS for EVERYTHING you are and do for St. Mary!

Fr. John

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Weekend of January 10 The Baptism of The Lord		
4:00pm	Dolores Bartlett	Family
7:30am	Ray Garcia	Tom & Paulette Flandera
9:30am	For All St Mary Parishioners	
11:30am	Margaret Noland	Family
Monday January 11 Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time) <i>Heb 1:1-6 / Mk 1:14-20 (305)</i>		
9:00am	Pete & Mary Harnegie	Jan Phillipp
Tuesday January 12 Weekday <i>Heb 2:5-12 / Mk 1:21-28 (306)</i>		
9:00am	Barbara Flangan Irwin	Beth Cunningham
Wednesday January 13 Weekday <i>Heb 2:14-18 / Mk 1:29-39 (307)</i>		
9:00am	Garl (carl) Edward Garber	Durica Family
Thursday January 14 Weekday <i>Heb 3:7-14 / Mk 1:40-45 (308)</i>		
9:00am	Brenda Pedley	Special Intention
Friday January 15 Weekday <i>Heb 4:1-5, 11 / Mk 2:1-12 (309)</i>		
9:00am	Debbie, Ruth, & Frank Szasz	Verbiak Family
10:00am	School Mass	
Saturday January 16 Weekday <i>Heb 4:12-16 / Mk 2:13-17 (310)</i>		
4:00pm	John Goetz	Judy Stull
Sunday January 17 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 / 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 / Jn 1:35-42 (65)</i>		
7:30am	For All St. Mary Parishioners	
9:30am	Robert Buck	Family
11:30am	Daniel DeCaria	Patty McLaughlin



2021 MASS BOOK - OPEN
FOR SCHEDULING YOUR MASS INTENTIONS.

CONTACT THE OFFICE TO SCHEDULE OR SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST IN WRITING - PLEASE INCLUDE A PHONE NUMBER IN CASE WE NEED TO CONTACT YOU. WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR REQUESTS.

In Your Charity



In your charity, please remember the repose of the souls of Gerri Grant, Cy Brabenec, Marie Stec, Jennifer Berardi and Kay Leonard. May they rest in eternal peace.



Welcome - Newly Baptized

Welcome the newly baptized -
Henry Alan Porras

Anniversary Wishes

If you will be having a wedding anniversary in the month of **JANUARY** and would like your names listed in the bulletin, please call the parish office (440) 243-3877 or email jabraham1@stmarybera.org

Mother Teresa

"Thoughtfulness, the beginning of holiness"



Thoughtfulness, the kindly regard for others, is the beginning of holiness. If you learn the art of being thoughtful, you will be more and more like Christ; His heart was kind and gentle, and He always thought of others. Our vocation, to be beautiful, must be full of regard for others. Jesus did good wherever He went. Our Lady at Cana thought only of the needs of others and told Jesus about them.

Excerpted from: *Love: A Fruit Always in Season Daily Meditations by Mother Teresa* (Ignatius Press 1987)

Bulletin Prayer List

Please remember in prayer all who are ill or homebound, especially the following:

<p>Michael Baran Patricia Beekman Christine Burrell Hilda Denk Kathleen Dorsey Nancy Grau Dorothy Hunter</p>	<p>Marcel Liberge Chet Talarczyk Donald Ziehn</p>
--	---

To add a name to the Prayer List, please call the Rectory Office: (440) 243-3877 or email: jabraham1@stmarybera.org

Offertory Collection



Christmas Collection:
\$35,573.00

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Electronic Giving allows our parishioners to give easily and is a safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy - Visit our website:

www.stmarybera.org

Click on the VANCO Link to get started!
THE PARISH STAFF IS HERE TO HELP
Contact the Office if needed.

Ministry Schedules

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 17th

Mass	Lector	Cantor	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
4:00pm	T Morgan	K Zanotti	(H) R Gareau, D Vlk, M Olsen	
7:30am	E Jansen		(H) L Madzy, L Sullivan, P Flandera	
9:30am	Deacon Tom/ M Mucic	D Kovic	(H) P Hultquist, R Straub, Deacon Tom	
11:30am	Deacon Tom/ M Mucic	Pat W	(H) M E Nichols, L Famiano, Deacon Tom	

Music Ministry & Liturgy Notes

By Angela Kovic, Director of Music and Liturgy

HIGH SCHOOL MEMORIES

We've gotten through all of the big holidays, but that doesn't mean that we're done with the Christmas season just yet! While your tree might not make it to the end, at least you have an excuse to keep your lights and other decorations up another week! Looking through the scripture, the first reading from Isaiah reminds me of a song we sang during school masses at Trinity High School. It's titled "Table of Life," by Steve Angrisano; it's not in our hymnal, but you should look it up if you have the chance! I might also include it in my next mini-concert recording, since the song is giving me some wonderful nostalgia. We had a great community and an amazing ministry program at THS, and I hope that it's just as wonderful today as when I was there so many years ago!

Thinking back about my time in high school, it really was the sense of community and togetherness that made worshiping so fulfilling and, dare I say it: fun! Part of the joy of being baptized is feeling included, knowing that you are with so many others on this earth who love Christ so much that they commit to living in his presence! Even as a larger church, and quite distanced at the moment, St. Mary Church has such a lovely sense of community. Keep your spirits bright and your love for each other clear in your hearts as we celebrate this last week of the Christmas season!

Contact me via phone (440.243.3877 ext. 27) or email (musicministry1@stmaryberea.org) for anything involving our Music!

Family Perspective

Today's feast calls to mind the day of our own baptism. John the Baptist proclaims that Jesus will baptize "with the Holy Spirit." What does this mean to you? How have you experienced the actions of the Holy Spirit most in your family? Where in your family life are you in need of the peace of God, which casts out all anxieties, doubts, and fears?

Pope Francis Proclaims "Year of St. Joseph"



With the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from, December 8th 2020, to December 8th 2021.

The pope proclaimed a year dedicated to Mary's husband, Joseph, foster father to Jesus. In his apostolic letter, Pope Francis explains that the aim of this special year is "to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal," describing St. Joseph as a "beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows."

The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.



St. Mary Church
Year of Service 2021

EXPLORING THE ACTS of THE APOSTLES

YOU'RE INVITED to join an
ADVENTURE INTO DISCOVERING THE BIBLE!
This is a **2 part series** – come to ONE, come to them ALL!

Mondays at 7:00pm with Deacon Tom Cully

Wednesdays at 9:30am with Linda Richter

Part I

Session 1 – Overview and Chapter 1–

Who Wrote This Book and Why?

Monday 1/25 at 7:00 pm and Wednesday 31/27 - after 9:00 am Mass

Session 2 – Chapter 2 –

Pentecost and What's the Big Deal?

Monday 2/1 at 7:00 pm and Wednesday 2/3 - after 9:00 am Mass

Session 3 – Chapters 13-5 –

“Just Like Jesus”

Monday 2/15 at 7:00 pm and Wednesday 2/17 - after 9:00 am Mass

Session 4 – Chapters 6-7–

What St. Stephen (*the Deacon*) Has to Tell Us

Monday 2/22 at 7:00 pm and Wednesday 2/24 - after 9:00 am Mass

Session 5 – Chapters 8-9 –

The Conversion of Paul

Monday 3/8 at 7:00 pm and Wednesday 3/10 - after 9:00 am Mass

Session 6 – Chapters 10-12 –

Inviting the Gentiles—No Longer Outsiders

Monday 3/15 at 7:00 pm and Wednesday 3/17 - after 9:00 am Mass

ALL Sessions at the Fr. John Garrity Center GYM

(to allow for plenty of social distancing options)

COST IS \$10.00 - Contact the parish office or dtom@stmarybera.org to
obtain the Study Guide Resources

Come and See! Come and Explore! Come and Learn!



“Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or lacking clothes, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?”

Matthew 25:44

Social Justice Ministry *January 2021 – Homelessness*

On the weekends of **January 16th-17th** and **January 23rd-24th** we will be collecting the items below and monetary donations for the **Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless** Program. Drop off at all Masses in the Mother Theresa Vestibule—**OR** outside under the Portico for a **CONTACTLESS** drop off before, during and 30 minutes after each Mass on those weekends. Please consider bringing in the following items:

Men’s pants/jeans (can be gently used; any sizes)

Winter boots (can be gently used; sizes 8-14)

Socks (heavy/warmer) Sleeping bags

Winter gloves Winter hats

Hand/foot warmers Backpacks

Hoodies (can be gently used) Belts

Tents (4 person tents) Toothpaste*

Toothbrush Deodorant

Soap Hand lotion*

Tissues* Wet wipes*

Wash cloths * Travel sizes only please

Monetary donations including gift cards (e.g. Visa/Mastercard) are welcomed and will be used for emergency housing assistance. Checks will be also be accepted, please make them out to **Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless**. Please designate the donation for the ***Housing Assistance Program***.