

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

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. 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 169 years of Pastoral Service to the Catholic Community of Berea

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 30, 2022

Doing God's will isn't easy, especially when it involves criticizing a people who have become complacent in their faith OR who feel they are above reproach. Jeremiah is an excellent example of a prophet with a difficult assignment.



A little more than one hundred years earlier Isaiah has told Jerusalem they would survive Assyria's invasion because God promised to protect David's city (*Isaiah 29:1-8*). Now Jeremiah must announce the opposite. Because of the Judeans' unrepentant sinfulness God was evicting them from the Promised Land and Babylon was to be the instrument of this justice. Jeremiah's job was to tell a people who presumed they were indestructible that their defeat was at hand. The authorities in Jerusalem considered his words blasphemy and sedition; they attempted to kill him several times (*Jeremiah 11:18 and chapters 20 & 26*). **Today's reading**

shows us God encouraging the prophet to remain steadfast in the face of such pressure.

Jeremiah serves as a type (foreshadowing of) for Christ, who will also face hostile opposition to his message. Today's Gospel is one of the more extreme examples. Here, Jesus' preaching in his hometown of Nazareth goes painfully awry when he declares that the message of salvation proclaimed by Isaiah is fulfilled in his ministry. His own townspeople reject the idea that a carpenter's son in their town could be their savior! The Nazarenes resemble the Judeans who opposed Jeremiah and also those of us today who resist God's will, even when it is preached directly to us.

Both of these readings today challenge us to be aware of and open to God's will, regardless of how difficult it may be to hear. They also encourage us to take up God's message and proclaim it as best we can, whatever the consequences may be [*LTP Sourcebook 2022*].

St. Mary School and all Catholic Schools CELEBRATE Catholic Schools Week January 30-February 4th. Special events are planned for students and families this week to celebrate our many years of excellence! Join your prayers to ours in a spirit of gratitude for the many years of faithful service by Faculty and Staff, Administration and Parish to keep the spirit of quality and distinction alive!



Thanks to every one of you for your faithful and continued generous financial support of our Parish Community and your prayerful and financial support to our School Community as well. We are indeed blessed as we pray for the continued presence of Catholic elementary education in the Berea-Midpark communities!

Fr. John



HEART OF A SHEPHERD

Building for Today. Providing for Tomorrow.

Winter 2022 Campaign Update

Across the diocese, parishes like ours have worked since 2019 to bring the *Heart of a Shepherd* campaign to the faithful members of parishes across our diocese. This \$30 Million campaign is an extraordinary effort to better meet and serve the needs of St. Mary and Borromeo seminaries, current seminarians, and our newly-ordained and retired clergy. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this campaign also raised funds to support parish local needs and projects.

We are so pleased to announce that as of January 2022, the campaign has secured **\$31.5 Million** in commitments for the diocesan campaign and an additional **\$19.63 Million** for local parish projects. Overall, the campaign raised \$51.2 Million to date from **12,806 households** across the diocese. This is outstanding progress and a testament to the generosity of our people.

We did it! Thank you for your generosity and continued support of this effort!

Thank you so much to parishioners who participated in this campaign and thank you to all who continue to pray for the success of this historic effort. We are humbled and inspired by your generosity and your love of our seminarians and priests. ***Your timely pledge payments remain critically important.***

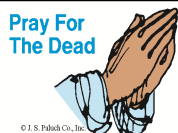
If you have questions about the Heart of a Shepherd campaign, please contact the Campaign Office at (216) 902-1300 or HeartofaShepherd@catholiccommunity.org.

MASS INTENTION FOR THE WEEK



Weekend of January 30		Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00pm	Pat Vanderaar	Natalie Woelfle
7:30am	For All St. Mary Parishioners	
9:30am	Kay Kirchner	Fr. John
11:30am	Jeanne Kay & Jean Matolyak	Children & Husband
Monday	January 31	Saint John Bosco, Priest & Religious
	2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13 / Mk 5:1-20 (393) Founder	
9:00am	Angelina Bianchi	Mary Ferrante
Tuesday	February 1	Weekday
	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b/ 24-25a, 30- 19:3 / Mk 5:21-43 (324)	
9:00am	Daniel Chrzanowski	Tom & Paulette Flandera
Wednesday	February 2	The Presentation of The Lord
	Mal 3:1-4 / Heb 2:14-18 / Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32 (524)	
9:00am	For All St Mary Parishioners	
Thursday	February 3	Weekday
	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 / Mk 6:7-13 (326)	
9:00am	Evelyn Wiechowski	Special Intention
Friday	February 4	Weekday
	Sir 47:2-11 / Mk 6:14-29 (327)	
9:00am	John Rash	Special Intention
Saturday	February 5	Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
	1 Kgs 3:4-13 / Mk 6:30-34 (328)	
4:00pm	For All St. Mary Parishioners	
Sunday	February 6	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Is 6:1-2a, 3-8 / 1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11 / Lk 5:1-11 (75)	
7:30am	Joan Neuwar	Special Intention
9:30am	James Harris	Judy Romaniw
11:30am	Michel Abraham	Family

In Your Charity



In your charity, please remember the repose of the souls of Gerry Cummins, Vern Householder, Frank Kalamasz and Rita Cifani.

May they rest in eternal peace.

Request for 2021 Contribution Statement

If you would like a 2021 Contribution Statement, please complete the information below & return in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office: 250 Kraft Street, Berea, 44017 Attn: Janel

Statements will be ready for pick-up or emailed in the Parish Office starting Wednesday, January 19th.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Anniversary Wishes

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

Jerry & Joan Foust

February 1st - 64 years

Mother Teresa



God loves me. I'm not here just to fill a place, just to be a number. He has chosen me for a purpose. I know it.

Excerpted from: Do Something Beautiful for God - The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa (Blue Sparrow, 2020)

Bulletin Prayer List

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

Mary Ann Abraham
Michael Baran
Patricia Beekman
Mary Ann Bialosky
Kathleen Dorsey
Grace Dye & Family
Gloria Feigi
Sharon Fisher
Nancy Grau
Dorothy Hunter
Rose Marie Jocke
John Koehn
Stefanie Krese

Marcel Liberge
Jan Phillipp
Norbert Phillipp
Rose Reilly
Jim Richter
Emily Schuetz
Bret & Bart Smith
Guy Sperr
Chet Talarczyk
Kevin Whelan

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



Back in Session

The EUCHARIST in SCRIPTURE

The Winter Weather has cancelled a few Monday evening Bible Study Sessions - Two additional dates have been added so all Sessions can be covered.

Monday Sessions:

1/31/22, 2/7/22 & 2/21/22

7:00pm

Wednesday Session:

2/2/22 - 9:30am

ALL Sessions at the Fr. John Garrity Center Meeting Room - And are open to all!

Ministry Schedules

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 6, 2022

Mass	Lector	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
4:00pm	D Vlk	(H) Deacon Tom, C Causey, M Olsen, A Mastandrea	I Zjaba, V Zjaba
7:30am	C Lindsay	(H) M Dober, V Dober, M Dole	M Dober
9:30am	G Irvin	(H) A Laubert, K Laubert, K M Laubert, J Laubert	H Fuehrer, M McGinty
11:30am	K Zanotti	(H) Deacon Tom, B Cully, J Savinsky	A Beringuel, M Beringuel

Music Ministry & Liturgy Notes

By Angela Kovic, Director of Music and Liturgy

SHARING IS CARING

The overall theme for this weekend's liturgy is that God's love is our home and our shield. But in the gospel reading from Luke, we hear Jesus tell the people in the synagogue that 'no prophet is accepted in his own native place.' Hearing this might be confusing or even irritating, as seen by the listener's reactions! I had trouble understanding what this reading meant, and only when I tried to imagine this scenario happening in present times was I able to see the human flaw that makes this possible. Imagine that a person in Berea won some obnoxious amount of money through the lottery, and decided that they were going to help pay off fifty thousand student's educational debt. It's reasonable to say that family members, friends, and other people in the town would want to be first on the list, or even to make that list exclusive to Berea-native students, as a way for this mystery winner to give back to their community. But are these students from Berea special for some reason? Berea's population doesn't even reach twenty thousand, so why would only they be eligible for the offer?

Status and privilege are wrapped in a web of selfish gain for people who are always wanting more. It saddens me that societal rapport is based on the size of a bank account and a house. And this greed is why I can believe why Jesus was chased out of town. Money is a limited resource, and the people in Nazareth are looking for special treatment from their local prophet. God's merciful hand is unlimited and his loving embrace is not something that can be kept away for only a certain few. We must open our eyes to the truth that we are all on this earth as a wrinkly infant, and we all inevitably die. Equal in God's eyes, we are meant to love each other and share abundance with those who are lacking. There is not one type of person who is more deserving of this holy love, and that means that it is also our job to share this love indiscriminately as well.



St. Mary Catholic School News Corner *Educating the Mind, Nurturing the Soul*

Prior to our Christmas break the Knights of Columbus held a poster contest with the theme of "Christ in Christmas" for students in grades 4 - 8. We are excited to announce the winners...**Ana Buehrer** (8th grade), **Vincent Nicoletti** (7th grade), **Emily Schmitt** (6th grade), **Ian Ketvertis** (5th grade), and **Wake Haas** (4th grade). These students were honored and acknowledged during our school Mass on January 14th. All winners received a \$25 Walmart gift card compliments of the Knights of Columbus

St. Ignatius High School is sponsoring their Language Programs. St. Ignatius will be offering French, Latin and Mandarin. These programs are for boys in grades 6, 7, & 8th. The dates for these programs are February 12th through March 5th. Any questions can be directed to the Department of Languages at 216-651-0222 ext. 4253 or you can email Mr. Zebrak at jzebrak@ignatius.edu

Catholic Schools – Faith, Excellence, Service – – – Join us on **Sunday, January 30th** for our **Annual Open House**.

You may ask why should you consider St. Mary Catholic School for your school age child? We would like to share a few reasons why, but also strongly encourage you to come by our Open House ~ ~ St. Mary Catholic School offers an education that combines Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence. We set high standards for student achievement and help them succeed. We instill in students the value of service to others. We prepare students to be productive citizens and future leaders. We cultivate a faculty and staff of people who are dedicated, caring and effective. We emphasize moral development and self-discipline. We provide a safe and welcoming environment for all!



If you have a school age child, Preschool 3 through Grade 8, join us for our "in person" **New Family Open House on Sunday, January 30, 2022 from 1:30-3:00pm**. New families can also call the school office, 440-243-4555, and the staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Important Dates to Remember:

- 01/30/22 - Open House – 1:30p.m. -3:00p.m.
- 01/31/22 - MAP Testing Continues all week
- 01/31/22 - Catholic School Week Student Prayer Service
10:00a.m. @ school / service will be streamed for parents
- 02/01/22 - Jr. High Spelling Bee – 1:30p.m. – 3:00p.m. /
event will be streamed for parents
- 02/04/22 - All School Mass – 10:00a.m. at the church



“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 2022 – Homelessness

On the weekends of January 22nd/23rd and 29th/30th, we will be collecting the items below and monetary donations at all Masses that will be provided to the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless. 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.



Social Justice Ministry

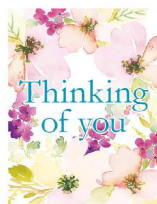
February 2022 - Let's Create Smiles

The Social Justice Committee will lead a project in early February to **Bring Smiles** to our neighbors in local senior care facilities. We ask for your assistance. Please join us!



All – Young and Old – are invited to write out greeting cards that will be distributed to individuals residing in area senior facilities. There will be **two categories** of cards: **"Thinking of You"** and **Valentine's Day** cards. Please write out your cards by signing **your first name only**, and then please add **St. Mary Church**. Please leave the outside of the envelope blank as the centers will add the name of their residents.

Completed cards can be brought to church from January 30th until February 6th. There will be **2 Collection Baskets** for the cards in the Mother Teresa vestibule. One for the **"Thinking of You"** cards (which can be used by the centers throughout the year) and one for **Valentine's Day**. The Social Justice Committee will then distribute them in time for Valentine's Day.



"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me." Mt 25:35-36

Men's and Women's Group

Untold Blessings: Starts January 20th



The Men's and Women's Groups are temporarily joining forces to tackle a six-week series called **"Untold Blessings."** In this study, Bishop Robert Barron leads us through an exploration of what it means to live the Christian life. We will get to know three pathways to holiness:

1. Finding the Center (spoiler alert: Christ is the Center)
2. Knowing you are a Sinner
3. Your life is not about you.

How can we, as Christ's Church here on earth, work together to sustain and spread a mindset built upon these three principles?

We meet at the church from 7:00pm to 8:00pm on Thursday evenings starting January 20th.

Newcomers are always welcome.



What's so Important About the Eucharist



As Catholics there are many beliefs that we share with our Protestant brothers and sisters, among which are the importance of prayer, the sacredness of the Scriptures and certainly the centrality of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. However, one thing that stands us apart from most Protestant Churches is our Catholic belief of the real Presence of Jesus in the consecrated bread and wine of the Eucharist. This is at the very heart of our faith because it is God's greatest gift to us, the gift of Himself. On Wednesday evening, February 16th, Fr. Bob Cole will speak in Church at 7:00pm on how we can better understand and appreciate the meaning of this great sacrament. You are invited to come to his presentation and learn how you can better explain this central Catholic belief to any of your friends who may wonder why we believe what we do and why it's so important to us.