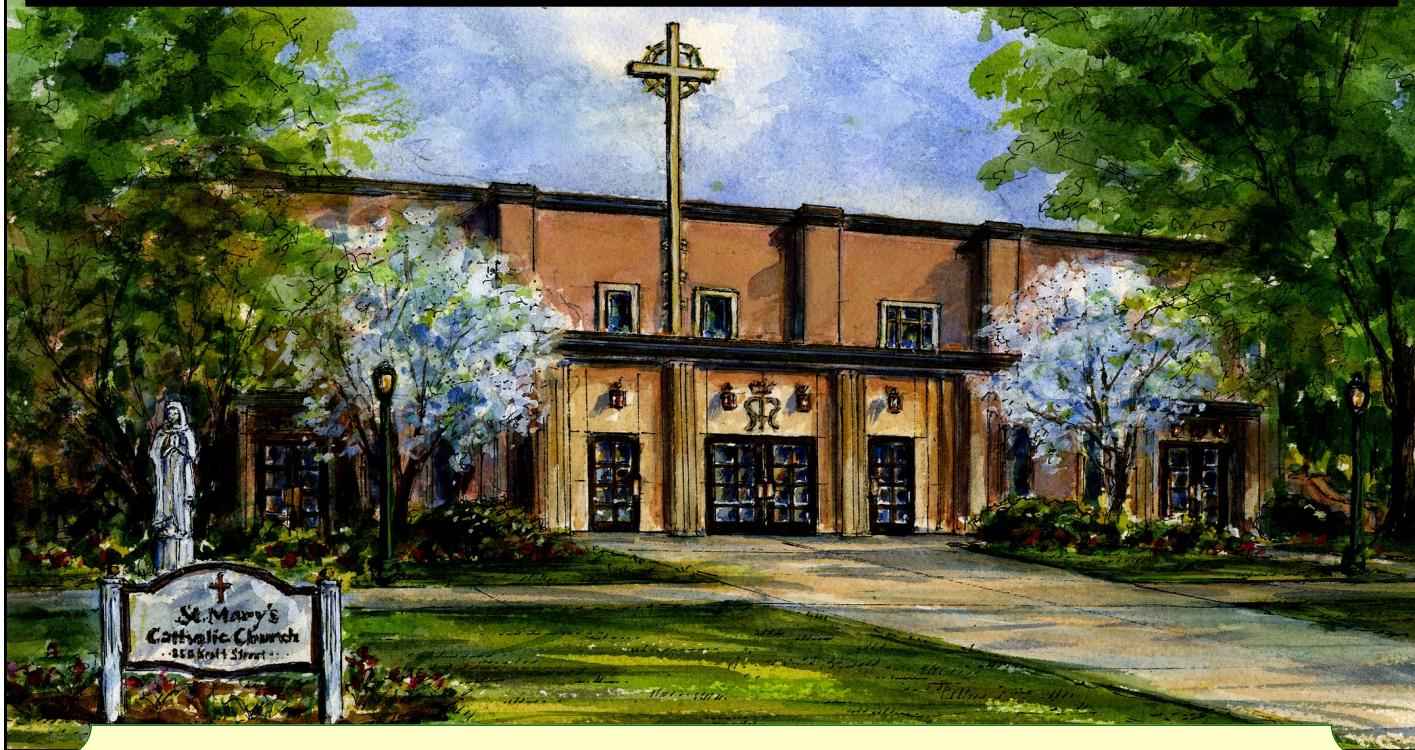


Saint Mary Parish

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

Mrs. Lisa DeCore, 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

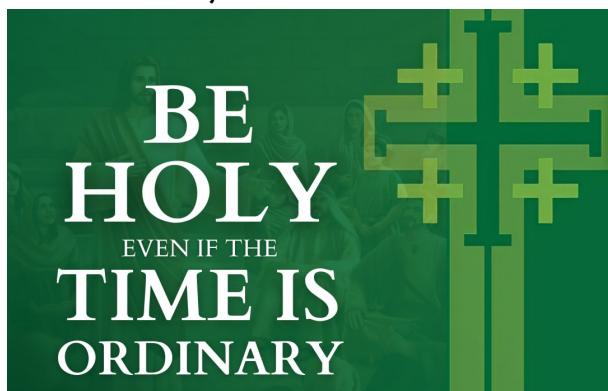
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 29, 2023

Like the artful quilter or ingenious cook, God can take what seems to be useless, what should be discarded, and craft into something beautiful or nourishing. May we see with God's eyes. [Living the Word 2023]

Old Testament prophets are usually placed into two opposing categories: either critic or consoler. They call out the comfortable and powerful while comforting the suffering and hopeless.

Much of today's prophet, Zephaniah, is devoted to critique, and often very harsh of Jerusalem's leaders, before Israel's fall to the Babylonians. Today's reading, however, seems to be more on the consoling side; urging the people to seek God, humility and justice. And if they do, they will "perhaps" be spared of God's anger.



Paul addresses the Corinthians in today's Second Reading, who have considered themselves wise

and not just wise, but thinking of themselves as the source of wisdom and thereby giving them status before God. Not so, Paul writes, one cannot take credit, even for faith, for "*it is due to [God] that you are in Christ Jesus.*" Then he nails them with how God chooses the "*foolish, weak, lowly, despised and those who count as nothing, to abolish those who are something.*"

Today's Gospel is the most familiar Sermon on the Mount and the well-known Beatitudes. "*Blessed are those who are . . .*" and like St. Paul, Jesus upends Jewish beliefs about God's blessings. Each of these nine beatitudes starts with asserting the present blessedness of what would not normally merit praise (*i.e. the upending of Jewish belief*) and moves them to a future reward. "*Blessed are they who now mourn, for they will be comforted.*" "*Blessed are the now poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*" "*Blessed are now the meek, for they will inherit the land,*" and so on, until the final beatitude, when Jesus switches to the second person. "*Blessed are you,* and then the list of those things/actions that make you "blessed" – insults, persecution, slander – all which reflect the conflict Matthew's audience was experiencing.

In all, the Beatitudes mirror the life of faith. It is often counter-cultural and so subject to opposition. Its reward often becomes evident only later. Yet Jesus urges us to persist.



This Thursday, February 2nd, the church celebrates the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**,



a feast originating in 4th century Jerusalem that came to be celebrated in Rome by the middle of the 5th century. It is also known as **Candelmas Day**. Forty days after His birth, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple for the rites of purification and dedication as prescribed by the Torah, which included the offering of a sacrifice — a lamb for a holocaust (burnt offering) and a pigeon or turtledove for a sin offering, or for a poor couple who could not afford a lamb, two pigeons or two turtledoves.

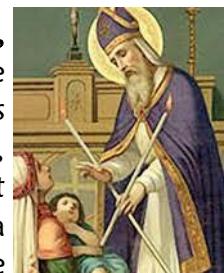
As we consider the feast of the Presentation, we remember that our parents presented us at church for our baptism. We were dedicated to God, and given the name, “Christian.” We, too, received a lit candle from the paschal candle, at which the priest said, *“You have been enlightened by Christ. Walk always as a child of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in your heart. When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet Him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.”*

Therefore, as a light, each of us must bear witness to Our Lord. We must be the beacon that guides others to Christ. Also, we must realize that we, too, will be “a sign that will be opposed,” especially on issues of the sanctity of human life, marriage and the family.

Jesus, the “Light of the World” is presented and so it is fitting that on this day the church blesses candles for our churches.

Take some time today, gather with your loved ones, light a candle and pray to take His light as your own in words and deeds.

This Friday, February 3rd, the church celebrates the memorial of **St. Blasé, bishop and martyr**. There are few facts known about St. Blaise except that he was a fourth-century bishop in the city of Sebaste, Western Armenia, and died as a martyr. A physician, he was regarded as a righteous man and, at an early age, elected bishop by the citizens of Sebaste. Beyond those few facts, much of what we know of Blaise comes from legends. Legend holds that en route to prison, a mother pleaded for Blaise to cure her son who was dying from a fish bone lodged in his throat. Blaise prayed over the boy, and the child was healed.



In his memory, throats are blessed this day. Come to Mass on Thursday, for the throat blessing.

Thank you everyone for your time, talent and treasure, all of which is a blessing from God and a grateful gift to support the Church and School. **THANK YOU!**

Fr. John

Ministry Schedules

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 5, 2023

Mass	Lector	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
4:00pm	J Cassidy	(H) Deacon Tom, C Causey, S Lewis, A Mastandrea	J Haas
7:30am	C Lindsay	(H) Deacon Tom, M Dober, V Dober	M Dober
9:30am	G Irvin	(H) C Pacer, P Pacer, E Pacer, K Zanotti	J Irvin
11:30am	T Morgan	(H) D Bajc, J Bajc, J Savinsky	A Beringuel, M Beringuel

Mass Intentions For the week

Sunday	January 29	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00pm	James & Norma Milby	Cheryl Spanulo
7:30am	Geri & Ray Ilko	Amy Pecoraro
9:30am	In Gratitude for Kathy Z.	Theresa Everiss
11:30am	Joan Neuwar	Family
Monday	January 30 Weekday	<i>Heb 11:32-40 / Mk 5:10-20 (323)</i>
9:00am	30th Wedding Anniversary: John A. Kuzman & Sarah Jane Zupan	
Tuesday	January 31 Saint John Bosco, Priest	<i>Heb 12:1-4 / Mk 5:21-43 (324)</i>
9:00am	In Memory of Angelina Bianchi	Mary Ferrante
Wednesday	February 1 Weekday	<i>Heb 12:4-7, 11-15 / Mk 6:1-6 (325)</i>
9:00am	Kathleen Barendt	Family
Thursday	February 2 The Presentation of the Lord	<i>Mal 3:1-4 / Heb 2:14-18 / Lk 2:22-40 oir 2:22-32 (524)</i>
9:00am	Phyllis Murphy	Mary Ann Freas
Friday	February 3 Weekday	<i>Heb 13:1-8 / Mk 6:14-29 (327)</i>
9:00am	Special Intention for: Madison Kaman	Jackie Madey
Saturday	February 4 Weekday	<i>Heb 13:15-17, 20-21 / Mk 6:30-34 (328)</i>
4:00pm	For All St. Mary Parishioners	
Sunday	February 5 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>Is 58:7-10 / 1 Cor 2:1-5 / Mt 5:13-16 (73)</i>
7:30am	Thomas Knapp	Special Intention
9:30am	Mike Abraham	Family
11:30am	Fred Rauscher	Family

Anniversary Wishes

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



Bulletin Prayer List

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

Mary Ann Abraham
Mary Anne Bialosky
Mary Terese Blaseg
Tom Cieker
Candy Corbett
Kathleen Dorsey
John Owens Dumm
Sharon Fisher
Joan & Gerry Foust
Nancy Grau
Gary Johnston
Madison Kaman
Zora Koukis
Donna Liberge
Marcel Liberge

Jan Lindenmeier
Steve Martinez
Rose Reilly
Marilyn Serrao
Bret & Bart Smith
Guy Sperk
Frances Ann Stock
Donna Squires
Chet Talarczyk
Linda Kathleen Verholz

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



SCHEDULE OPEN FOR MASS INTENTIONS - 2023

AS WE BEGIN 2023 – REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A MASS INTENTION
DAILY & WEEKEND MASSES OPEN FOR 2023.
SUNDAY & DAILY MASSES OPEN IN FEBRUARY

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT (440) 243-3877 OR SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST IN WRITING OR VIA EMAIL:

jabraham1@stmaryberea.org

PLEASE INCLUDE A PHONE NUMBER IN CASE WE NEED TO CONTACT YOU. WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR REQUESTS.

Request for 2022 Contribution Statement

If you would like a 2022 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 18th.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____



In Your Charity

In your charity, please remember the repose of the souls of Loretta Schade and Jennifer Gibbons.

May they rest in eternal peace.

Music Ministry & Liturgy Notes

By Angela Kovic, Director of Music and Liturgy

HUMILITY IN LOVE

All three of this weekend's readings really hone in on a very important aspect of faith: all are welcome in God's kingdom. God is not calling the best of the best to join him in heaven; he is asking for the best of each of our own personal bests! There is no amount of money or social status that can earn this right, but rather it is based on the quality of our hearts. Those who are humble and put their energy towards helping and loving others are the ones who are worthy of heaven, because as Matthew will say further along in his Gospel with the parable of the vineyards, 'the first will be last and the last will be first.' Our preparation hymn 'O How Blessed (The Beatitudes)' is a more recent hymn published by Dan Schutte in 2015 that perfectly encompasses the concept of these 'attitudes of being' with a beautiful flowing melody. I hope that you enjoy hearing new songs every once in a while!

The prelude for this weekend is also very important when you read through the antiphons; those who humble themselves and seek help from the lord are the children of God! 'The Road of Mercy,' written by Maureen Briare, tells us exactly what it takes to be one of these children. Again, getting into heaven is not based on material things or pride but rather what we do with our time and items on earth to help those without! I will be bringing this song back during Lent for everyone to sing, and so I hope that you are able to connect with the message of the text as well as with the steady and warm musicality. Next week we will be singing 'Here at this Table' again, and then that, too, will be brought back during Lent.

Traditional Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in the choir loft. Youth Choir can be reestablished with interest. Contact me via phone (440.243.3877 ext. 27) or email (musicministry1@stmaryberea.org) for anything involving our Music Ministry!

Mother Teresa



Be faithful in small things, because it is in them that your strength lies.

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



"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 2023 – Homelessness

On the weekends of January 21st/22nd and 28th/29th, 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.

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.stmaryberea.org

[Click on the VANCO Link to get started!](#)

THE PARISH STAFF IS HERE TO HELP

[Contact the Office if needed.](#)



St. MARY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

On Sunday, January 29th St. Mary will be celebrating our Catholic school during our annual Open House from 12:30p.m.-3:30p.m. The theme of this year's Catholic Schools Week is Faith Excellence, Service. The theme encompasses the core products and values that can be found in Catholic schools across the country. Not only are we teaching our students to become future servant leaders, faith-filled disciples and enriched citizens in our communities, our teachers are growing with them. In Catholic schools, we are all learners, servants and leaders. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools work. They are what make Catholic schools succeed.

The theme also focuses on key elements of Catholic education: faith development, academic excellence and dedication to service. These elements set Catholic schools apart from other educational options. They are why families make sacrifices to provide their children with a Catholic education.

Whether you are considering a Catholic education for your child for the 2023-2024 academic year or are a parishioner interested in seeing how your support of St. Mary Parish helps the students in our school, we'd love to have you stop in during our Open House.

Blessings to you and your families ~~~
Mrs. Lisa DeCore, Principal

Important Dates to Remember:

- 1/29/'23 – Annual SMS Open House / 12:30p.m.-3:30p.m.
Registration packets will be available
- 1/30/'23 – SMS celebrates our students/SMS Spirit Wear Day
- " " " SMS Prayer Service / 2:00p.m.
- " " " SMS PTO/Family Skate Night 6:30p.m.-8:30p.m.
Brunswick Skate Station
- 1/31/'23 – SMS / Celebrate our Nation
(students wear red, white, or blue)
- 2/1/'23 - Students celebrate vocations PreK – 3 / Dress for your future career Grades 4-8 High School &/or college pride attire (over uniform)
- 2/2/'23 - SMS Spelling Bee / Grade 7 & 8
- 2/3/'23 - SMS PTO Family Dance Party /
SMS Gym 6:30p.m-8:30p.m.

Why will you...



Dr. Frank O'Linn
Superintendent
Diocese of Cleveland



LOVE OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Follow the QR code to hear from our Superintendent Dr. Frank O'Linn



dioceseofcleveland.org/exploreourschools



www.smsberea.org

OPEN HOUSE
ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL ~ BEREAL
265 BAKER STREET, BEREAL, OHIO 44017
January 29, 2023
12:30 pm to 3:30 pm
www.smsberea.org

RAFFLE & GIVE AWAYS

OPEN FOR REGISTRATION GRADES PK-GR.8
Contact Us : 440-243-4555
to schedule a personal tour!

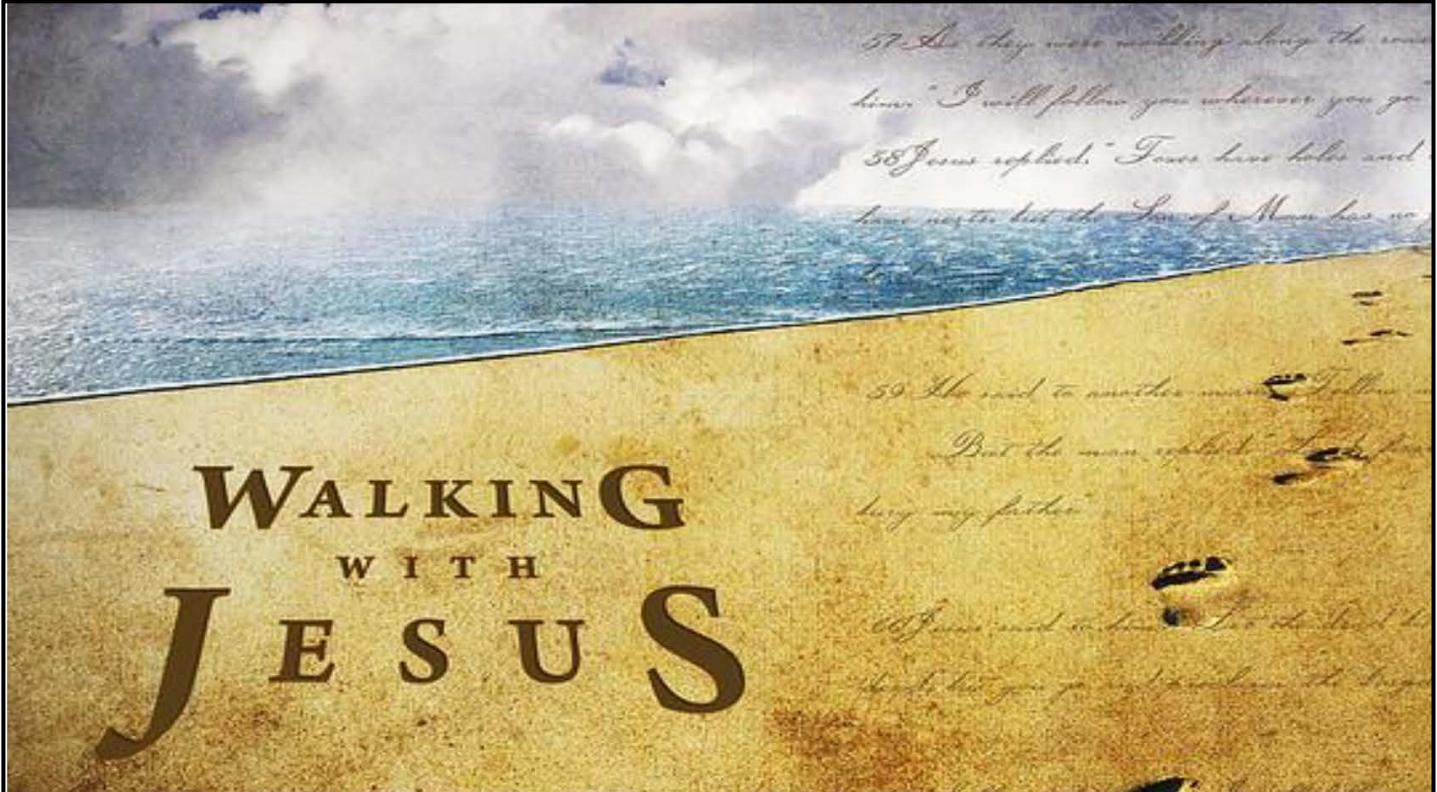
About Us

The Best Catholic School in Bereal,
Where We Educate Minds & Nurture Souls

Our Advantage

- Academic Excellence
- Faith-Based
- Affordable Cost & Scholarship Opportunities
- S.T.E.A.M. Program/ Discovery Hall
- AM & PM Care & Year Round Day Care
- Summer Programs
- Etc...





WALKING WITH **J E S U S**

St. Mary's Adult Series for Lent Walking with Jesus

Each night includes a free, light meal and fellowship with other parishioners

Our speakers will strengthen your relationship

Walking with Jesus

Sundays • 5:30-7:00pm • The Garrity Center

Feb 26, Mar 5, Mar 12, Mar 19, Mar 26, & Apr 23

Each session at the Garrity Center AND
Childcare will be provided (with RSVP)

RSVP (for meal planning purposes) to the Parish Office - 440-243-3877

For questions, contact Deacon Tom at dtom@stmaryberea.org