



St. Mary's Catholic Church

160 North Spring Street • Bluffton, OH 45817

LORD'S DAY MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday at 4:00 p.m.
Sunday at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday at 9:00 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - *Closed*
Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE: 419-358-8631

PARISH FAX: 419-358-0647

PARISH STAFF:

Pastor: Fr. Luyen Dau, C.Ss.R ldau2006@gmail.com

Deacon – Rev. Mr. Michael Marcum mmarcum1@yahoo.com

Coordinator of Religious Formation – Kelly Honse khski7@aol.com

High School Team – Jason and Jennifer Swartzlander SwartzlanderJ@bluffton.edu

Jim and Amy Tabler jimamytabler423@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant – Rachel Rader rawelch47@yahoo.com

Preschool – Katie Hohenbrink, Amanda Stechschulte katiehohenbrink@hotmail.com

VISION STATEMENT

St. Mary's Parish is a home for our living a sacramental life, for following Jesus in our service and daily life, and in supporting one another on the journey.

INFANT BAPTISMS: Please call the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: One half hour before Mass on Saturday and Sunday or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Six months notice and marriage preparation classes required. Please call the Pastor for arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please inform us of your needs.

SICK OR HOMEBOUND: Please notify the Parish Office, Basil Meyer at 358-0631, or Deb Buck at 419-348-7266.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: New parishioners, welcome to the Parish. Please register as soon as possible at the office. If moving, please notify us.

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: Welcome to St. Mary's! Fr. Dau is your Campus Minister.

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Fifth Ordinary Sunday

February 6, 2022

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

One part of the human nature is that we can sometimes be fickle. One moment we are in favor of something, or someone, and in another moment we can turn against what or who we defended. Rejection is a part of our lives and of the human experience.

Vincent van Gogh earned a total of \$85 from his paintings during his lifetime, and now after his death, his paintings are worth millions of dollars. Laurence Peters, the author of *The Peter Principle: Why Things Always Go Wrong*, had twenty-nine rejection slips before his book was finally published, selling over eight million copies. Bishop Helder Camara of Brazil used to say that when he and his Diocese gave food to the poor, he was hailed as a saint, but when he told the government that they should feed the poor, he was called a communist. The gospel we hear this Sunday speaks to us about the rejection of Jesus, beginning in His own home town of Nazareth. At first they were astonished by His words and even gave Him their approval. As the gospel states that Jesus has just finished reading from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah which looks forward to the day of salvation when God will inaugurate the long-awaited Day of the Lord. And that is: Good tidings will be brought to the poor, liberty will be proclaimed to captives, recovery of sight will be given to the blind, and the oppressed will be set free. This is the good news that Jews had long been waiting for, and Jesus, after reading the passage, announces that "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

Perhaps if Jesus had stopped there, things would have gone well. But He continues by indicating that at the time of Elijah the prophet, there were many widows and orphans in Israel, but God sent Elijah to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon. And Jesus notes that at the time of Elisha the prophet, there were many lepers in Israel, but God sent Elisha to Naaman the Syrian. In other words, Jesus is explaining that this good news is not just for Jews, but it is also for Gentiles. And so the local people want to kill Him.

St. Luke noticed how the people in the synagogue at Nazareth seemed to turn so quickly from "all spoke well of him" to "all in the synagogue were filled with rage." The best explanation for this is the fact that many of the Jews at the time of Jesus had become accustomed to the school of thought that believed salvation was just for the Chosen People, and the Gentiles were going to suffer punishment.

In citing the prophets Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is opposing that narrow view of salvation that the year of the Lord's favor, was not just for the Chosen People, but would also be extended to the Gentiles. Indeed, Jesus sees and acts in a different way. His whole ministry is one that embraces and includes those who have been marginalized and excluded.

Weekend Masses

Sat Feb 5	4:00 p.m.	Ethan Leiber
Sun Feb 6	8:00 a.m.	For our parish
Sun Feb 6	10:00 a.m.	Ruth Ebbeskotte
Sat Feb 12	4:00 p.m.	
Sun Feb 6	8:00 a.m.	For our parish
Sun Feb 6	10:00 a.m.	Jan Schulte, Jim Alt Kathy Sehlhorst

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,610.00	Loose \$169.00
Children	\$31.75	Total \$2810.75

52 envelopes returned = 33%



*Thank you for your generosity!
Thank you also to those who give
electronically!!*

January E-Giving Total: \$3,140.00

Assignments for February 12 & 13, 2022

Money Counters: Deb Goldenetz, Nick Recker

4:00 p.m.

Cantor: Kevin Vance
Ushers: Dave and Shirley Siefker
Lector: Amy Tabler
E.M.: Diana Bucher
Server: KJ Hohenbrink

8:00 a.m.

Cantor: Kevin Vance
Ushers: Volunteer
Lector: June Miller
E.M.: John Schulte
Server: Will Schulte

10:00 a.m.

Cantor: Kevin Vance
Ushers: Dave and Mary Hoffer
Lector: Anna Schroeder
E.M.: Tricia Herrmann
Servers: Lovett Boys

Readings for February 13, 2022

6th Ordinary Sunday

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:17, 20-26

