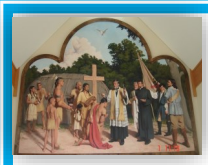


Saint Mary's Catholic Church of Piscataway

13405 Piscataway Road, Clinton, Maryland 20735-4564
301-292-0527 (Parish office)
301-292-2522 (School office)
Church E-Mail Address: parish@stmaryspiscataway.org
Church Internet Address: http://www.saintmaryspiscataway.net
Facebook Address: http://www.facebook.com/StMarysPiscataway
School E-Mail Address: school@smsp.school
School Internet Address: http://www.stmaryspiscataway.org

Pastor:	Rev. Samuel I. Plummer (#101) plummers@adw.org
Permanent Deacon:	Dcn. George B. Ames, Jr. (Ret.)
Permanent Deacon:	Dcn. Stephen McKimmie (Ret.)
School Principal:	Miss Lynsie K. Reavis (#131)
Director of Music/Liturgy:	Dr. Eran Lupu (#106)
Parish Administrative Assistant:	Ms. Michèle Fulk (#100)
Parish Bookkeeper:	Ms. Claudette Kim (#107)

Weekend Masses

Saturday ~ 4:00 p.m., Main Church
Sunday ~ 8:00 a.m., Our Lady's Chapel
9:30 a.m., & 12:00 p.m., Main Church

Weekday Masses

Monday through Friday; ~ 8:15 a.m.

Holy Day Masses

Please refer to the bulletin prior to the Holy Day for the schedule.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Saturday ~ 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. in the Main Church (Jan 1st)
Sunday~ before 9:30 & 12:00 Masses or by appointment

Founded in Colonial Catholic History in 1640
†
Canonically Established in 1830

Welcome to our new parishioners and visitors!

Be sure to introduce yourself to our pastor after Mass. Registration forms are available in the gathering area of the Church, at the Parish Office, and on our website.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN

—Infants: Newborn children of at least one Catholic parent should be baptized as Catholics shortly after their birth. Parishioners with newborns should complete a Baptismal preparation form (available online or hard copy) and call Fr. Plummer at the Parish Office to schedule a preparation class. Baptisms typically do not take place during Mass in the Lenten Season.
—Children younger than 7: are baptized "as infants." See above.
—Children 7 and older: if unbaptized, these typically receive Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the annual Easter Vigil, after preparation. Contact Fr. Plummer at the Parish Office to arrange preparations (301) 292-0527 #101.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

For a valid marriage, no matter who he or she marries, a Catholic must marry in the Catholic Church before a Priest or Deacon and at least two witnesses, unless he or she receives a dispensation from the Church. The bride or groom must be a parishioner of St. Mary's. Call Fr. Plummer at least 6 months in advance to arrange monthly preparation classes. As a Catholic Church, we are bound to observe the Rite of Marriage as prescribed in the Roman Ritual, and to observe additional diocesan and parish policies. Weddings are typically done on Saturdays, starting no later than 1:00 p.m., in either the Main Church or Our Lady's Chapel. Weddings typically do not take place in Lent. Musical arrangements must be made with our Music Director, Dr. Eran Lupu at (301) 292-0527 #106.

FUNERALS

If a Vigil service for the deceased is desired, please arrange for a viewing or wake at the funeral home of your choice. A priest or deacon will gladly come to the funeral home and celebrate the Vigil Service. There are no viewings or wakes in the Main Church or Our Lady's Chapel at St. Mary's.
To prepare a Funeral Mass in either the Main Church or Our Lady's Chapel, please call the Parish Office [(301) 292-0527] in order to arrange an appointment with a priest. As a Catholic Church, we are bound to observe the Order of Christian Funerals as prescribed in the Roman Ritual, and to observe additional parish policies.
For burial arrangements in our parish cemetery, please call the Archdiocese of Washington Office of Catholic Cemeteries at (301) 932-1766. A representative will meet with you at our Parish Office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Required for unbaptized adults who wish to become Catholic. Non-Catholic Christians who wish to be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church, baptized Catholics who wish to receive Confirmation and/or Eucharist, as well as any other inquirers are welcome. Sessions are on Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m., in the Parish Hall. Call Fr. Plummer at (301) 292-0527 #101 to discuss your situation.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)

All parish families' children in grades K-8 who do not attend Catholic school should enroll in this program. Weekly classes begin in September on Sundays from 10:40 a.m.—11:50 a.m.. Please call Fr. Plummer at (301) 292-0527 #101 to register.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

To arrange for a home "Communion call' contact the Parish Office.

EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION/ADORATION WEEKLY TIMES

We are always in need of more adorers to make a "Holy Hour" before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at Our Lady's Chapel. Contact Anne Marie Ramsey (202) 368-7189, to "sign-up" for an hour within the following times:

Wednesday ~ 8:15 a.m. Mass to 7:00 p.m.
Thursday ~ 8:15 a.m. Mass to 7:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet, 6:30 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mondays thru Fridays~ 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

(Closed on most Federal Holidays)

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL OF PISCATAWAY

24 Hour Eucharistic Exposition

First Friday, March 4th to

First Saturday, March 5th

9:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Our Lady's Chapel

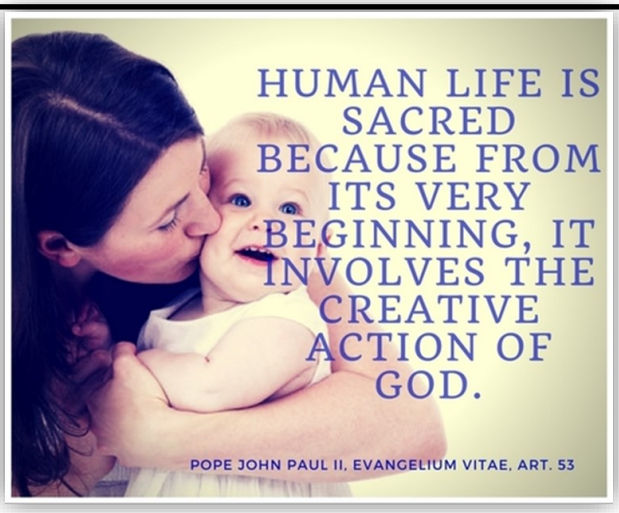
Friday 8:15 a.m. Mass followed by Devotions

Saturday 9:00 a.m. Mass preceded by Devotions

SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE IN THE MAIN CHURCH NARTHEX THIS WEEKEND

St. Mary's Choir—Do you enjoy singing? St. Mary's Liturgical Choir is looking for new choristers to sing at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays. No previous musical experience is necessary, only a love of singing (in tune). Singing is praying to God twice! Practice will occur on Thursday evenings, at 7:15 p.m., in the Main Church. **Next Practice: March 3rd**.
Contact Dr. Eran Lupu at: **eranlupu @icloud.com**

RCIA/Adult Faith Formation— For those inquiring about Catholic teachings and are interested in becoming Catholic, and for Catholics who would like to deepen their knowledge of Catholic teachings. If interested please come to the Parish Hall Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. Brother Charles, OP & Brother Linus OP are the facilitators. No Class March 2nd (Ash Wednesday) Topic for March 9:
Unit 4: United to Christ: "Prudence & Conscience"
Come and be spiritually nourished.



Important Donation Information—We would like to thank everyone who has supported St. Mary's Church and School during this 2021 calendar year with their time, talent and financial contributions. We look forward to the support from all of our members in the new 2021 year ahead. Realizing that some people wait until the end of the year to make sizable donations, we want to remind everyone that contributions are recorded on the date that they are received regardless of the date on the envelope or other source document. **Therefore, for contributions to be recorded for the year 2021, they must be received in the office by December 31, 2021. Contributions received after December 31 will be credited toward 2022.**

Eucharistic Exposition :

† Exposition is in Our Lady's Chapel after Mass (Approx. 9:00 a.m.) until ***7:00*** p.m., Wednesday, and Thursday (Devotions and Benediction).

† We need to be sure to have adorers the whole time the Lord is exposed. At least two people at a time would be ideal.

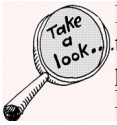
† Save Eucharistic Exposition through your commitment to be in the presence of the Lord for a full hour of adoration.

† We cannot provide this devotion without your participation.

† Please contact Anne Marie Ramsey, at (202) 368-7189, to sign up for an hour. Please, continue wearing your masks and use the hand sanitizer provided. Thank you.

COME SPEND TIME IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD!
We Need Adorers to cover on Wed. from 4-5p.m., & 5-6p.m.
On Thurs., we need Adorers from 10-11a.m., 12-1p.m., & 2-3p.m.

PSR (Parish School of Religion) this weekend
Our next class is Sunday, March 6th.
10:40-11:50 a.m.
In Classrooms



Pamphlets—There are some fantastic pamphlets for you to take home and read. You can find them in our pamphlet rack on the right-hand-side of the Main Church Baptistry when looking toward the Sanctuary.

You Shop. Amazon Gives—AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support St. Mary's Church and School, while shopping for baby shower, birthday, anniversary and graduation gifts. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price (0.5%) to us.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donation. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

It is so easy! You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you'll need to search for "St Mary's Catholic Church" (be sure you type it in just that way and make sure you're selecting the St. Mary's in Clinton, MD) for us to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. They will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at **smile.amazon.com/ch/52-0681710** will result in a donation. Thank you for your support!

Around the Archdiocese

2022 Diocesan 2nd Collection (Archdiocese of Washington)

March 2	**Church in the Developing World**

Church in the Developing World—provides aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe and the ex-Soviet Union to meet the needs of rebuilding the Church. Did you know that more than 20 countries still struggle to recover from Communist rule? Funds from this collection focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral care and catechesis, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Thank you for your generosity! More information **www/usccb.org/ccee**.

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Parish Week Events:

Sunday, Feb. 27 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 a.m., Our Lady's Chapel 9:30 a.m., & 12:00 p.m. Masses, Main Church PSR —10:40 a.m. to 11:50 a.m., In Classrooms
Monday, Feb. 28 Weekday	Morning Mass—8:15 a.m., (OLC)
Tuesday, Mar. 1 *Shrove Tuesday*	Morning Mass—8:15 a.m., (OLC) Pancake Supper—6:00 p.m. (Parish Hall)
Ash Wednesday, Mar. 2 *Fast & Abstinence*	Morning Mass—8:15 a.m., (OLC) Eucharistic Exposition—9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., (OLC) NO RCIA/Adult Faith Formation—Next one March 9th at 7:15 p.m. (Parish Hall) Evening Mass—7:00 p.m., (OLC)
Thursday, Mar. 3 Weekday	Morning Mass—8:15 a.m., (OLC) Eucharistic Exposition—9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., (OLC) Choir Practice—7:15 p.m., (Main Church)
First Friday, Mar. 4 Weekday	Morning Mass—8:15 a.m., (OLC) 24 Hour Eucharistic Exposition Begins (OLC) 9:00 a.m. SCHOOL: Progress Reports and 12 noon Early Dismissal
First Saturday, Mar. 5	24 Hour Eucharistic Exposition Ends (9:00 a.m.) (OLC) Morning Mass—9:00 a.m. with devotions (OLC) Confessions—2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m., (Main Church) Vigil Mass—4:00 p.m., (Main Church)
Sunday, Mar. 6 1st Sunday of Lent	8:00 a.m., Our Lady's Chapel 9:30 a.m., & 12:00 p.m. Masses, Main Church PSR —10:40 a.m. to 11:50 a.m., In Classrooms

Mass intentions are filled on a first come, first served, basis.

Customary Donation: Mass Intention–$10 per Mass.

Current Week's Mass Schedule—Ordinary Time/Lent	
Mon., Feb. 28	**Weekday**
8:15 a.m.	Albert Gerard Smith (+)
Tues., Mar. 1	***Shrove Tuesday***
8:15 a.m.	Wallace McNeal (+)
Wed., Mar. 2	***Ash Wednesday***
8:15 a.m.	Maggie Anderson
7:00 p.m.	Elease Hall (+)
Thur., Mar. 3	***St. Katherine Drexel***
8:15 a.m.	Joe DiRocco (+)
1st Fri., Mar. 4	***St. Casimir***
8:15 a.m.	Ammie Laguilles
Next Weekend's Mass Schedule	
1st Sat., Mar. 5	**Saturday after Ash Wednesday**
9:00 a.m.	Regina Mena
1st Sat., Mar. 5	**Sunday Vigil**
4:00 p.m.	Judy Bednar (+)
Sun., Mar. 6	***First Sunday of Lent***
8:00 a.m.	St. Mary's Parishioners
9:30 a.m.	Robert Blandford (+)
12:00 p.m.	Nico Quinto (+)

The names listed next to a specific Mass indicate an act of love for a living or deceased member of a family or a friend. If you would like to schedule a Mass for a specific date, or intention, please contact Michèle Fulk, in the parish office at (301) 292-0527, or **parish@stmaryspiscataway.org**.

SANCTUARY LIGHT: For the week of *Sunday, February 28, 2022 to Saturday, March 5, 2022*

The Sanctuary Light will burn this week in the Main Church for the repose of the soul of Joan Sartori.

The Sanctuary Light will burn this week in Our Lady's Chapel for the repose of the soul of Angela Barbara Stark Matthews.

EXPOSITION CANDELABRA: For the week of *Sunday, February 28, 2022 to Saturday, March 5, 2022 Wed., Thurs.,*

The Left-side Candelabra will burn this week in Our Lady's Chapel for the intentions of all families of unborn babies.

The Right-side Candelabra will burn this week in Our Lady's Chapel for the repose of the souls of all unborn babies.

Customary Donation: Sanctuary Light or Adoration Candelabra–$10 per Week

MEMORIAL FLOWERS: The Tabernacle Flowers are donated by Rose Gazarek. *(Due to the closing of Sharper Florist, we now ask that you order and pay for your arrangements directly with your chosen florist. We ask that you contact the parish office to discuss the dates.)*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK: Sixto Acap, Mary Allen, Brian Ashby, Catherine Beck, Ed Bednar, Brendamarie Smith-Bottorf, Fr. Michael Bryant, Harry Burton, Leonard Carter, Paul Carter, Jr., Steven Carter, Myrtis Cline, Scot Cuozzo, Darlene Davis, Dawn De Chance, Nancy Cyr, Shari Deeb, Michael L. DeMoulin, Anju Diggs, John Diggs, Mary Ann Estes, Brice Ewing, Justin Faulkner, Ernestino Figueroa, Jr., Anita and Joe Foley, Theresa Fox, Bill Gates, June Gates, Harry Gorman, Amy Gray, Cathy Gwiazda, Mable Henson, Carol Hickey, Rusty Hickey, Merrill Horner, Normita Ijadunola, Soddye Johnson, Carol Kapitan, Karl Athanasius Kim, Enid King, David Kisan, Steliana Kruer, Jerry Laguilles, Jr., Frank Loeffler, Jr., Felis Luña, Judy Manion, Ruth Mararac, Bill Maxwell, Mary McNeice, Diane Miles, Janet Miller, Joseph Murphy, Jules Olive, Wendy Onsted, Melanie Pedri, Carmelita Penaflor, Walter Raley II, Eddie Randall, Shanda Reecks, Jim Ritchie, Susan Ritchie, Marco Rodriguez, Heather Rosales, James Rudasill, Michael Russell, Azucena Santiago, Greg Scheirer, Leanette Marie Schiliro, Grace Schlosser, Gabrielle Sellers, Michael Sellers, Veronica Shourdes, Joseph Sienkiewicz, Eva Sikora, Eric Simon, Priscilla Simms, Katherine Smith, Shirley Smith, Kathy Tesi, Lorraine Thompson, Thelma Tilman, James Conrad Townes, Gil Vigneault, Kim Walls, Rena Walzel, Paul Watson, John Weaver, Donna Webb, Samuel Willett, Marie C. Williams, Joyce Windsor, Beverly Woods. and those with the Coronavirus. ***Names will remain on the prayer list for at least 60 days.***

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD: We are honoring the anniversary of all of our beloved dead who died in the month of February, from 1999-2022. Carolyn Corrine "Carnie" Babich (85), Mary Ellen Beyer (84), Anita Catherine Bland (72), David Christopher Blandford (43), Edward Stephen Boyle (56), Mary Rose Boyle (80), Merle Van Brooks (63), Bradley Alan Brown (17), Mary Louise Burns (90), Alfred Bernard Claggett (49), Francis Jerome Countiss, Jr. (53), Donald Joseph Cuozzo, Sr. (85), Christine Marie Delcoco (89), Catherine Agnes Devine (94), Joseph Anthony DiRocco (79), George Carleton Harris (69), Marion G. Jenkins (89), Philip E. Jones (75), Walter J. Kalis (80), Nancy Kasterko (80), Brunhilde Marie Knott (92), Margaret P. Knowles (89), Ada A. Lee (93), Su Jen "Jean" Lee (83), Uraiwan Lee Leiding (68), Ada Lipps (91), Frank Steven McKetta, II (54), Stephen Joseph McKimmie (79), Roberta T. Merkle (92), Joyce Ann Miller (55), Monina Palma (69), Theresa Diane Payne (54), John David Ready (86), Mary Frances Rigby (86), Charles Francis Sauer, Jr. (72), Francisco A. Sembria (84), Michael K. Simpson (44), Bernice B. Smith (94), Irene C. Stewart (79), Monroe Ralphew Swann, Jr. (46), & Frances C. Tilch (91) NOTE: All of the names that were here originally, are now on the Prayer List Page on our website https://saintmaryspiscataway.net/prayer-list.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY HERE & AWAY: PFC Eric Bean, U S Army; Staff Sargant Brandon Fournier, USAF; LT. Laura Carts Hills, USCG; CPO Mary Patton, USNR; CWO2 Christopher Ramsey, USMC; and Major Stephen Voglezon, US Army. Please contact us if you have relatives in the military serving overseas.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL OF PISCATAWAY

Collection for Little Sisters of the Poor

St. Mary's Sodality of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be accepting items for the Little Sisters of the Poor after all Masses during the following Sundays in February: February 13—20—27

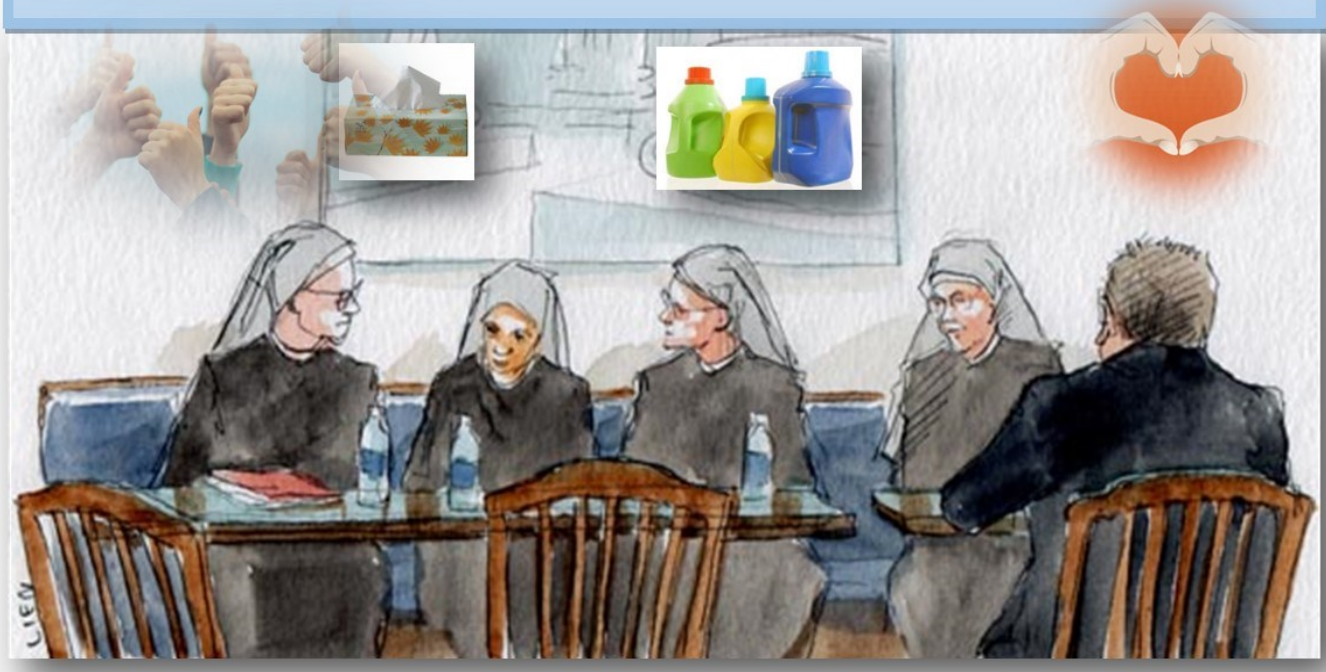
Wish List of Items for the Jeanne Jugan Residence includes:

- Body Wash
- Surgical Face Masks
- Polident
- Poligrip
- Lysol Spray
- Fabric Softener
- Coffee
- Dish Soap
- Dove Soap
- Laundry Detergent (i.e. Tide)
- Body Lotion (i.e. Eucerin and Lubriderm are favorites)
- Mouth Wash
- Paper Plates and Cups
- Tissues (i.e. Kleenex, Puffs)
- Face Shields
- Batteries, C,D,9 volt
- Jams, Jellies (sugar Free/regular)
- Cookies
- Snacks
- Candies
- Breakfast Cerals
- Diet Coke, Ginger ale, Root Beer
- Paper Soup Bowls
- 2022 Calendars

Please leave items in the basket labeled "Little Sisters of the Poor", as you exit the Church.

Point of Contact: Karen Macaluso (301) 248-6242 or (301) 648-9145.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



Morning of Grace™

An Invitation for YOU
to cultivate authentic, holy friendships and connect with like-minded Sacred Sisters!

"A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he that has found one has found a treasure. There is nothing as precious as a faithful friend, and no scales can measure his excellence." (Sirach 6:14)

Dear Women of Grace,

Bring your spiritual weapon, the rosary, and join us in a Sacred Sisterhood to Reconnect, Renew, and Reflect! Our focus is on true friendship and the theme is "Mary has been chosen by God for a unique mission and purpose in the life of His people and His Church."

Date: March 5, 2022
First Saturday

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Piscataway Catholic Church
13405 Piscataway Rd, Clinton, MD

Come Early! St. Mary's offers
24 hours of Eucharistic Adoration
following First Friday Mass

9:00 a.m.	Mass in Our Lady's Chapel
10:00 a.m.	Morning of Grace in St. Mary's School Hall

Come with a receptive heart
to receive a precious gift of grace!

May Our Blessed Mother bless you with the Abundant Life of Her Son, Jesus Christ!

WOMEN of GRACE®

Authentic Femininity™
"...for such a time as this."

1-800-558-5452
www.womenofgrace.com

Women of Grace® seeks to transform the world one woman at a time by affirming women in their dignity and vocation as daughters of God and in their gift of authentic femininity through ongoing spiritual formation. Connect with us at connect.womenofgrace.com.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL OF PISCATAWAY

SAVE the DATE

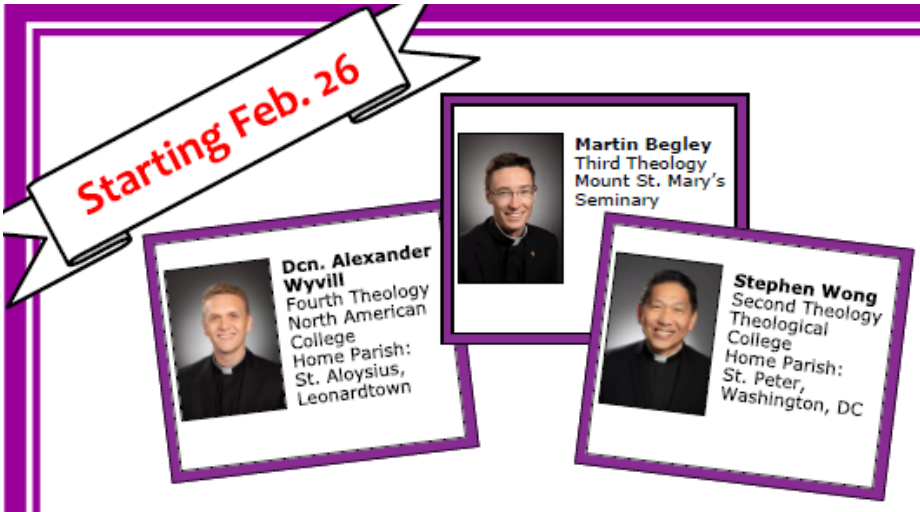
SACRED RELICS OF THE SAINTS:
TREASURES OF THE CHURCH
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

St. Joseph Parish presents a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics on Tuesday, February 22 at 6:30 pm in the church. Father Carlos Martins, a Vatican-appointed expert on relics will be here with an extraordinary Vatican collection of over 150 relics, some as old as 2,000 years. Among the treasures will be relics of St. Joseph, St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Knowalska There will also be a portion of the Veil of Our Lady and one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world. Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. Throughout history, many healings have been worked in the presence of relics; and thousands have occurred through this ministry. Do not miss this opportunity. You are encouraged to bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members, which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Please spread the word.

"Vocations Tree" coming soon!

What's a "Vocations Tree?"
Shortly before Ash Wednesday, you'll find a "tree" in the church foyer covered with cards. Each card features a seminarian of The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington. We invite you to choose one card, or several, and commit to praying a short prayer for that seminarian each day during Lent. This is a great activity for families, too!



Lenten Vocations Tree
Coming Soon

Pick a seminarian card from the Vocations Tree starting Feb. 26 and pray for that seminarian each day during Lent. Simple and powerful — It's a great Lent tradition!

All the seminarians are very grateful for your prayers and <u>you</u> will be blessed, too.

Look for it!

St. Mary's Catholic Church & School

Founded in 1640 ✦ Faithful to the Present

Dear Friends in Christ,

The turning of the calendar to February means Lent is just around the corner. This also means it is the time of year when I will again ask you to make a gift to the Annual Appeal in support of the many charitable works of our Archdiocese.

You have been generous in providing for our parish needs. Your support of the Annual Appeal is in many ways an extension of your parish support. It is a critical source of funding for everything from seminarian formation to life and family ministries to pastoral and social outreach, all of which directly or indirectly impacts our parish and local community.

At the same time that the Annual Appeal strengthens our parish life, it also unifies us as the Church of Washington in caring for the spiritual and other needs of those beyond our parish boundaries and even outside our Catholic faith. We are able to accomplish together what we could not do on our own.

Your gift will be credited towards our 2022 Annual Appeal parish goal of $335,600. I am pleased to inform you that starting this year, **50% of Annual Appeal funds raised over our parish goal will be returned to the parish to enrich our parish ministry life**.

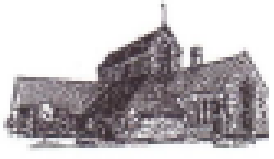
As in every year, 100% of your gift to the Annual Appeal will be restricted to the ministries that are a part of the Annual Appeal and will not be used for any other purpose. Learn more about the 2022 Annual Appeal at appeal.adw.org.

Thank you in advance for your prayerful commitment to the 2022 Annual Appeal. Your steadfast generosity during this time of hardship is not only a source of inspiration for me but also a force for good.

I pray that God will continue to bless you and bring you peace and joy.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Rev. Samuel I. Plummer



13400 Piscataway Rd., Clinton, MD 20735-4564

301-292-0527 (Parish Office) † 301-292-2522 (School Office)

www.saintmaryspiscataway.net † parish@stmaryspiscataway.org

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Sunday: Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

Monday: 1 Pt 1:3-9/Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 and 10c/Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: 1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [cf. 15b]/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Sunday: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday

Thursday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

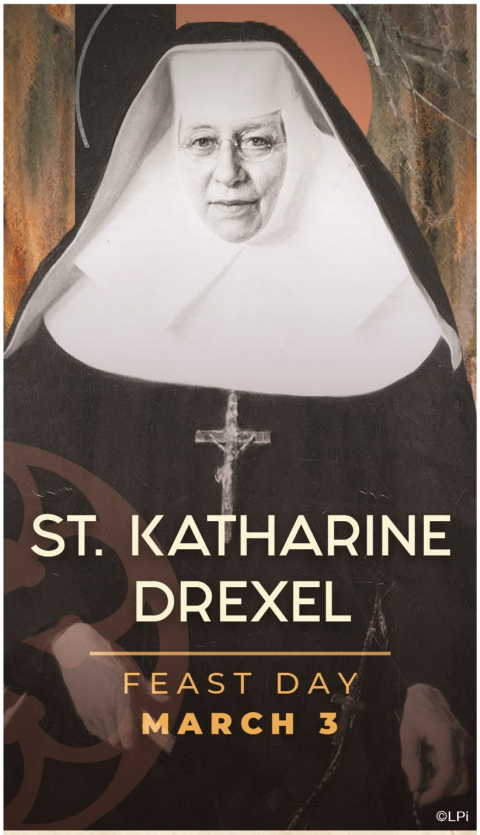
Friday: St. Casimir

Next Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

"From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." What we say reveals so much about who we are. It discloses what is really going on within us: our integrity, priorities, depth of conscience, level of compassion and understanding of mercy. People whose speech is judgmental or overly critical usually reveal an interior life that is angry, unsettled, defensive, and shallow. Our speech communicates our sense of right and wrong, the strength of our relationship with God and how we feel about our fellow human beings. We are also quick to point out the faults of others, concentrating on their shortcomings and wrongdoings before our own. Only God fully understands what is going on inside the human heart. Only God can see the depth of a human soul. Perhaps it would do us well to consider what may be happening inside our brothers and sisters and temper our critical speech of what we see occurring outside. Looking within will also help us identify our own sins and weakness so that we can be better positioned to offer the type of wisdom and compassionate guidance that can really be of help to our friends.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

With a family like hers, it's no wonder that St. Katharine Drexel (November 26, 1858 – March 3, 1955) grew up to become one of the first American-born saints.

Born in Philadelphia in 1858, her mother passed away when she was only five weeks old. Her father, a renowned banker, remarried a wonderful woman, and together they raised St. Katherine Drexel and her two sisters in a life of privilege. Both financially and spiritually well-endowed, the Drexels were devout Catholics and set an excellent example of true Christian servitude with prayer and care for the poor.

After her father's death, St. Katharine Drexel gave up her inheritance and instead devoted her life to the material and spiritual well-being of black and native Americans. Mother Drexel, as she would become known as, established the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored, and together they opened a boarding school in Santa Fe, the first of 50 missions for Native Americans in 16 states.

At 77, she suffered a heart attack and was forced to retire from active ministry. She spent the next 20 years of her life in quiet yet intense prayer. She died at the age of 96 and was canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

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FIRST READING

Praise no one before he speaks,
for it is then that people are tested.
(Sir 27:7)

PSALM

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.
(Ps 92)

SECOND READING

But thanks be to God who gives
us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
(1 Cor 15:57)

GOSPEL

"A good person out of the store of
goodness in his heart produces good,
but an evil person out of a store of evil
produces evil;
for from the fullness of the heart the
mouth speaks." (Lk 6:45)

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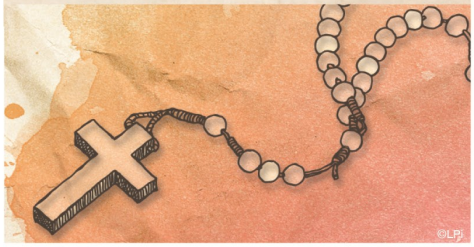
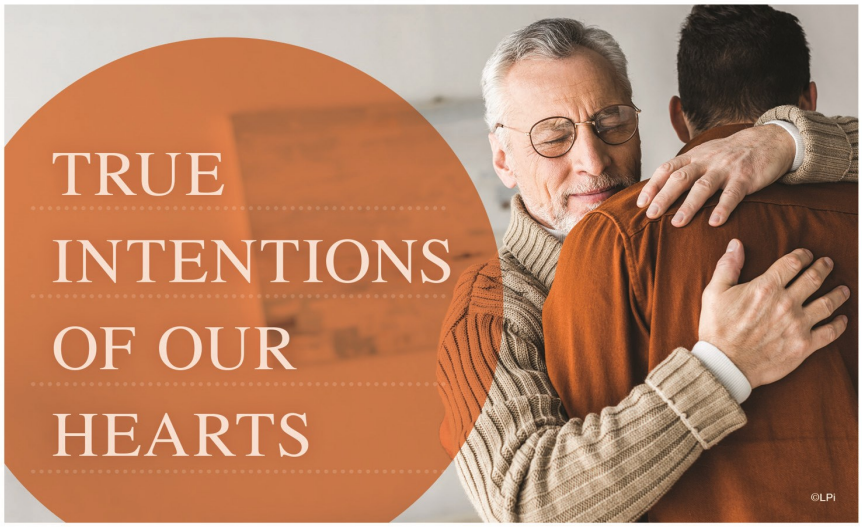


WORSHIP & MEDITATION



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What we say and how we say it reveals the true intentions of our hearts. The content and manner of our speech is a window into the recesses of our souls. Our consciences, attitudes, sentiments, weaknesses, and motives are displayed. As much as we think we can hide the truth of our lives from others, we cannot. Who we really are is not only expressed on our lips but is written on our faces. Jesus says precisely this, "For every tree is known by its own fruit." What does the fruit of our lives say about us?

Because we like to play the game of hide and seek with ourselves, in pretending that we are hiding we deflect attention others may give to us by becoming more critical of others. After all, the more time one can spend analyzing others' behavior the less time one has to look at his or herself. Often, the behaviors we abhor most in others are the very ones we are guilty of ourselves. We just don't know it yet. The more we put ourselves in the role of a judge, the more satisfaction and control we seem to achieve. Yet, what about ourselves? In focusing our attention on the beams in others' eyes, the aridity and barrenness of our lives goes unchecked. St. Ambrose reminds us that "no one heals himself by wounding another." Bringing our brothers and sisters down by being overly critical, serves no positive purpose.

But the one who knows how easy it is to fall into sin and weakness and how quickly errors in judgment can be made, knows the depth of true compassion, mercy, and kindness. Having recognized our own poor choices, misguided opinions, negative emotions, and ability to do horrendous things, we can be more sympathetic and understanding of where others may be. We are designed to be mentors and guides to one another. In walking the journey together, we can help each other become the best we can be. Humility is the order of the day and the primary virtue that prevents us from being hypocrites.

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING to the Call

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Planted in the House of the Lord

Grocery delivery apps are all the rage these days, and I can't deny the convenience of tapping your finger a few times and seeing your week's shopping dropped on the doorstep. But there is one aspect of this trend that seems to make a lot of shoppers nervous — fruits and vegetables.

A lot of us have strong opinions on our fresh produce and aren't ready to delegate this highly subjective selection process to a total stranger. My father was a produce manager and I remember as a child learning about the complexities of choosing correctly. Getting a bad bag of under ripe tomatoes after shopping on an app could easily sour one on the whole idea.

Forrest Gump said life is like a box of chocolates. I say, we're all like grab-bags of produce dumped on someone's doorstep — but if we're Christians who live our faith publicly, we're stamped with the name of God. If your thumb is green enough, you know that you can tell a lot about a gardener from the produce he grows. We who are planted in the house of the Lord — what do we reveal about our Gardener?

What do our actions show of His teachings? What do our words reflect of His voice? What does our strength reveal of the soil from which we sprang and the life-giving waters that nourished us?

When we open ourselves up to those we encounter, let's make a special effort to show the care we have had — lest our peers come away from the experience thinking God doesn't know how to garden, when in reality, it's us who don't always know how to grow.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question:
Are near-death experiences real?

Answer:
There is a lot of curiosity and fascination with the idea of an afterlife and communicating with those who have died. In movies, television shows, and numerous books, people make claims about their ability to communicate with the dead, or having had a near-death experience. There is no objective way to verify any of this. While details about people and events can be surprisingly accurate, it is just circumstantial evidence that might be explained in other ways. On the other hand, when people have unusual experiences, sometimes called near-death or out-of-body, it is real to them. They react with the emotions and thoughts that one would expect. At times, they report details they could not have known any other way, such as bits of conversation, or meeting people they had never known in this life. So certainly, to the person, they experience something. We believe in a life after death, we believe in the communion of saints. These things are not a contradiction to faith, but we should not base our faith on them, nor change our beliefs. They are unexplained and will likely remain so.

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"How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye."

- Lk 6:42

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LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

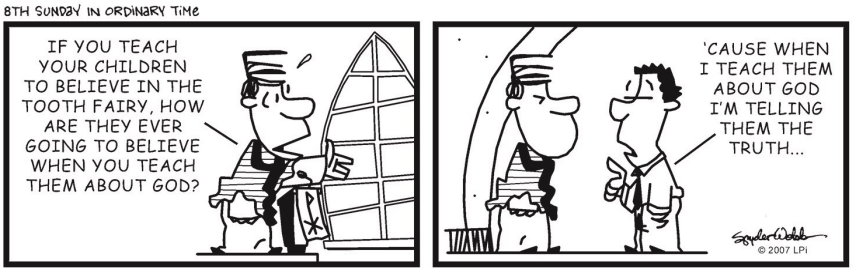
Sirach teaches that much is revealed about someone in how they speak. How conscious are you about weighing your words with others?

Second Reading

Paul speaks of Jesus' resurrection taking away the "sting" and "victory" of death itself. In what ways have you experienced this reality in the death of loved ones in your life?

Gospel Reading

Jesus challenges his disciples to exercise humility towards others and to bear good fruit with their lives. Can you cite examples of how you follow these commands of Jesus in your own life?



READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Let's pretend we're looking through a "blind" eye with a log stuck in it. You see how good you are compared to everybody else. You see other people stuck in sin, and you avoid them or hurt them with your words. Now let's take that log out and look through a good eye. You see your own sins, and you know you need God's kindness and forgiveness. You see other people stuck in sin, and you show God's kindness and forgiveness to them.

PRAYER

God, keep my eyes open to see my sins and your kindness. Give me a good heart.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

When you catch someone in sin (stealing, lying, using hurtful words) be kind. Remember your own sins, and show God's forgiveness.

KIDS CORNER

Unscramble the words from today's Gospel:

~~blind~~	lead	log
heart	words	eye
good	bad	fruit

bildn — b l i n d

leda — ____ ____ ____ ____

lgo — ____ ____ ____

eey — ____ ____ ____

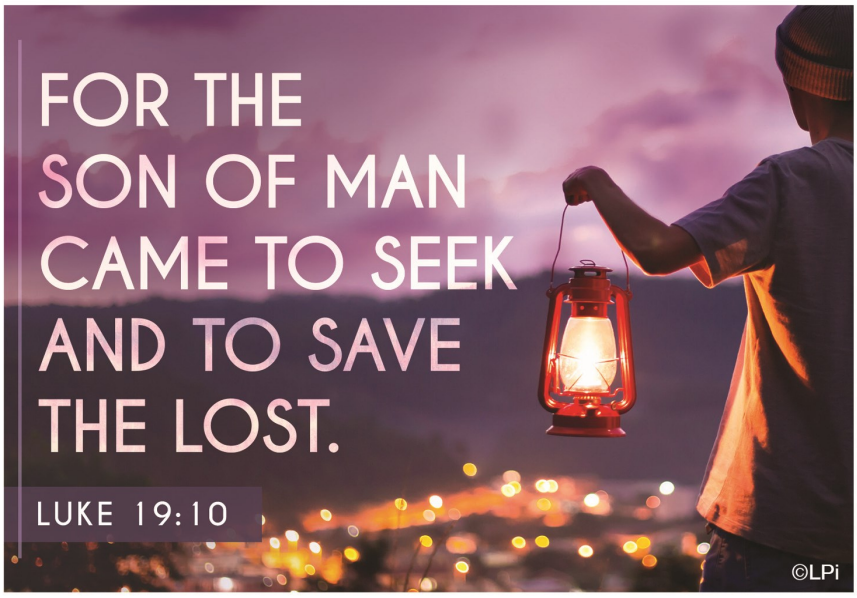
bda — ____ ____ ____

godo — ____ ____ ____ ____

firtu — ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

wrosd — ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

harte — ____ ____ ____ ____ ____



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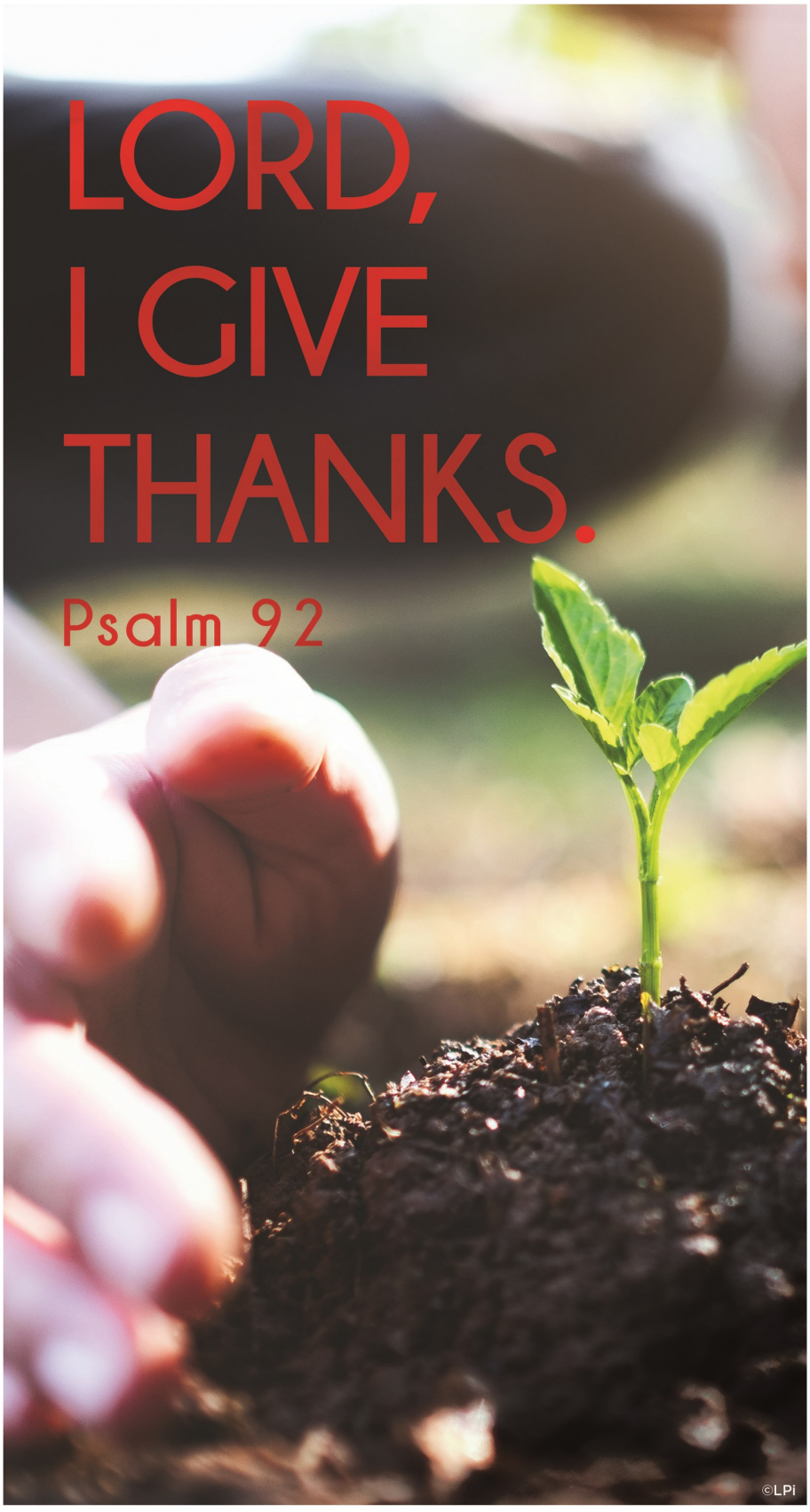

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

- Lk 6:43, 45

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