St. Mary of the Assumption

7200 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin, DE 19707

Telephone: (302) 239-7100 Fax: (302) 239-8219
Web Site: www.smachurch.com
Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
(Office closed for lunch from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM)

CELEBRATION OF MASS

Monday – Friday:	8:30 AM
Saturday:	5:00 PM
Sunday:	7:30 AM & 9:30 AM

Live streamed Mass Sunday at 9:30 AM on
St. Mary's website: www.smachurch.com

PASTOR: REV. CHARLES C. DILLINGHAM

Associate Pastor: Rev. David F. Murphy
Weekend Assistant: Rev. James B. Smith
Deacons: John Giacci, Larry Brecht
Joseph W. Jackson, Larry R. Morris

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Janet Aluise, Receptionist	ext. 10
Daniel M. DiGiacobbe, Business Manager	ext. 11
Annette Fad, Parish Secretary	ext. 33
Sandy Fiscella, PREP Coordinator	ext. 18
Flora Giacci, Receptionist	ext. 10
Deacon John Giacci, Director of Liturgy	ext. 32
Pablo Gonzalez, Facility Manager	ext. 41
Matthew Jewell, Director of Music	ext. 16
Cindy Krebs, Director of Religious Ed.	ext. 17
Karen Rombach, Director of Preschool	ext. 34
Denise Troise, Bookkeeper	ext. 14

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

PREP: Grades 1 through 8
Confirmation: Grade 9
Mrs. Cindy Krebs, DRE (302) 239-7100, ext. 17.

ST. MARY'S PRESCHOOL

Ages 2 through Pre-K.
Mrs. Karen Rombach, Director (302) 239-7100, ext. 34.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 PM or by appointment.

BAPTISM

During a Mass or Sunday afternoon
at 1:00 PM.
Baptisms are scheduled the second
and fourth Sundays of the month.
Baptism classes are every other month.
Please call Parish Secretary for details
(302) 239-7100 ext. 33.

MARRIAGE

Contact Parish Secretary before a wedding date is finalized.
The diocese requires one year of preparation.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In an emergency, contact the Parish Office.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Each weekend, Extraordinary Ministers of
Holy Communion to the Sick bring Communion
to those unable to attend Mass on a regular basis.
Contact the Parish Secretary to arrange for this ministry.

ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY

For information, contact Parish Office (302) 239-7100.

February 21, 2021

Weekly Mass Intentions

No 6:30 a.m. Mass Monday through Friday
No 8:30 a.m. Mass on Saturday
No 6:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday

Monday February 22nd
6:30 am Raymond Radulski (offered privately)
8:30 am Kimberly Williams

Tuesday February 23rd
6:30 am Mike Rush (offered privately)
8:30 am Rocco Cavallo

Wednesday February 24th
8:30 am Nancy Feliciano

Thursday February 25th
8:30 am Joseph Captain

Friday February 26th
6:30 am John Joseph Doyle
8:30 am Nancy Arrants

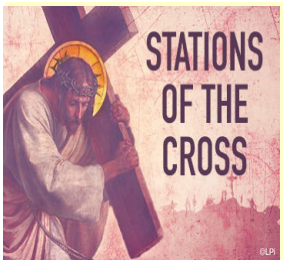
Saturday February 27th
5:00 pm George A. Finn

Sunday February 28th
7:30 am Marian Wanjek
9:30 am John Bishop
11:30 am Parishioners *(offered at the 9:30am Mass)*

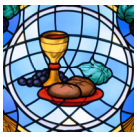
In your charity, please pray for all who have gone before us and all the deceased of St. Mary of the Assumption.

YOU ARE FORGIVEN – Words we long to hear Jesus say to us!

The Adult Faith Formation Committee invites you to participate in its Lenten program *Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession.* While we are not yet able to meet in church, please join us in spirit virtually. Let this excellent, inspiring and informative program help prepare you to return confidently, humbly, and gratefully to Confession and to Mass. This program is offered on FORMED at no cost to you. The first three videos comprise the series and offer people's experiences of confession, both lay persons and priests. They speak directly to the viewer defining what a gift this sacrament of God's mercy and forgiveness is for each of them. Each video runs for approximately 30 minutes. To learn more about this program and to view the trailer go on the parish website at: smachurch.com
Questions?
Contact Joan Fortugno
at joanfortugno@gmail.com

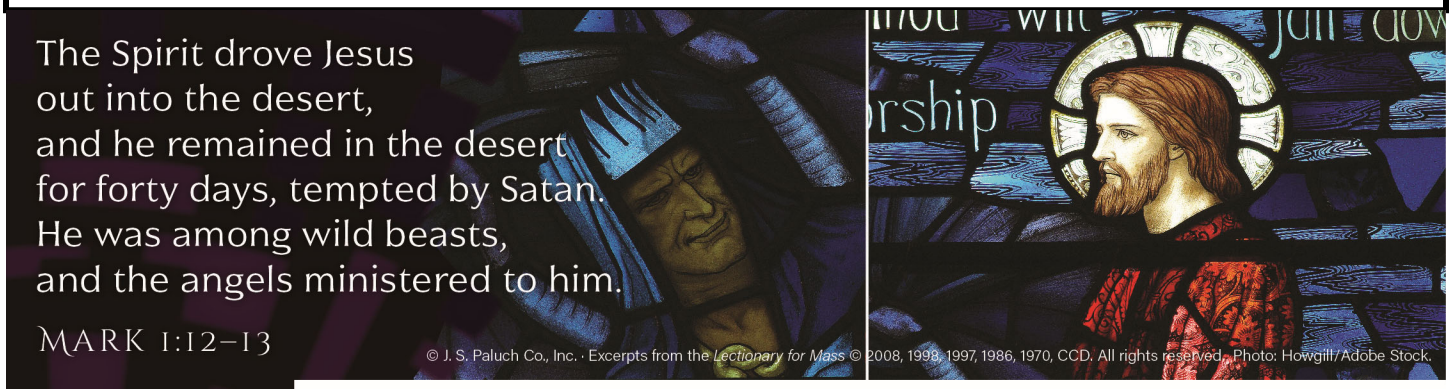


Please join us every Friday at 6:00 p.m. during Lent for The for Stations of the Cross



Jesus, I love You. O my God. I cannot receive You in Holy Communion. Come, nevertheless, and visit me with Your grace. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it. Sanctify it. Render it like unto Your own. Amen.

First Sunday of Lent



The Spirit drove Jesus
out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert
for forty days, tempted by Satan.
He was among wild beasts,
and the angels ministered to him.

MARK 1:12–13

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FIRST LENT

SUNDAY OF

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

BAPTISM

Today's readings suggest two different meanings and experiences of baptism. The second reading (from 1 Peter) makes an analogy between Noah's ark and Christian baptism: just as Noah and his family were saved from death by going through the waters of the flood in the ark, Christians are saved from sin and death by going through the waters of baptism. The first reading, from Genesis, portrays the world after the flood: washed clean of its prior wickedness, embraced by God's promises that the world will never again be destroyed by water. The psalmist expresses a desire to follow the ways of God, as if re-establishing the harmony between God and humanity destroyed by sin. This peaceful scene is very different from the drama and urgency in Mark's description of Jesus after his baptism. Jesus battles demons, receives sustenance from angels, and begins preaching: "Repent. The kingdom of God is at hand."

GOOD MORNING! WELCOME TO LENT!

You probably did not get that greeting from your priest today, and you probably did not expect it. Isn't Lent a time of reflection and repentance? Somber purple, no "Alleluias"? Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving; attending to one's relationship with God?

True enough; however, there are Lenten practices that have a festive air woven into these penitential elements. One example is in the Church's retrieval of ancient Lenten practices that made up the final preparation of persons elected to receive the Easter sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and eucharist. Jesus' urgent preaching in today's passage from Mark comes soon after his own baptism and reminds us that these sacraments still signal a dramatic change in a person's life: they have responded to Jesus' preaching of the kingdom and are now publicly professing themselves to be disciples of the Lord and fully initiated members of his visible church. The prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent were part of that preparation. Repentance was then, and remains today, important also for those already fully initiated; the work of repentance, of prayerfully examining our lives and making changes in anticipation of God's reign, is an ongoing aspect of our life in Christ.

A SECOND CHANCE TO MAKE A FIRST IMPRESSION

Other changes with baptism are more subtle and personal. When Noah and his family emerged from the ark, they saw that the floodwaters had receded after cleansing the world of human sinfulness. Everything was clean and fresh—a new creation, with a rainbow to guarantee God's promise to never again destroy the world with water. So, too, will the newly baptized emerge from the font and be anointed with chrism. Like the earth after the great flood, they are a new creation. Washed clean of sin and anointed with chrism, they are renewed in the embrace of the God of covenant love.

This is why Lent is always a festive anticipation of Easter and always about baptism, just as it is always about the repentance that draws us more deeply into God's kingdom.

TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 9:8–15
Psalm 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9
1 Peter 3:18–22
Mark 1:12–15

February 21, 2021

FORMED

HAVE YOU GOTTEN THE VACCINE?
... No, not THAT one -- the "Catholic Vaccine," delivered to your email in-basket every day! By logging into the St. Mary's website **smachurch.com** and accessing FORMED you can sign up to receive a brief five-minute daily reflection. Type FORMED Daily on the FORMED website to be guided to register, and visit FORMED for the best Catholic content to enrich your faith journey and that of your entire family.

LEGION OF MARY

Did you Know?

Titles of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Litany of Loreto
Mother of Divine Grace

Grace is such a Catholic word! They say you can't see grace because it's invisible, but what do "they" know anyway? I say, you can see the effects of grace. You can see it in a smile, you can feel it in a handshake, you can give it with your helping hand, you can hear it in the kind and gentle and peaceful words of people who walk with Jesus, you can be inspired by it by those who courageously and steadfastly give witness to the Truth. St. Pius X, who had a great love for the Blessed Mother once wrote: "To desire grace without recourse to the Virgin Mother is to desire to fly without wings." So, get it whenever you can: sanctifying grace, sacramental grace, actual grace, charismatic grace, and the state of grace God gives you to carry out your special tasks and responsibilities.

Mother of Divine Grace, Pray for us.
Fr. Francis Hoffman, JCD

Submitted by the Legion of Mary

We are INSPIRED to continue
Our 54-day Rosary Novena to pray for our Church and Nation
Join us through February 23, 2021 daily at 7 p.m. Eastern Standard time on our Legion of Mary Wilmington Curia YouTube Channel (link below)
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn7uDEUrHNg4xPmdf8IBW2Q
Then click on the "LIVE image to view for the day" For more information, call Jane Aniceto 302-898-1058
Sponsored by the Legion of Mary

Weekly Divine Mercy Lenten Holy Hour
In observance of Lent, we invite you to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet plus the Stations of the Cross
every Friday afternoon at ***3 pm Eastern Standard Time***
Join us by watching our Legion of Mary Wilmington Curia YouTube Channel (link below)
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn7uDEUrHNg4xPmdf8IBW2Q
Then click on the "LIVE image for the week"
For more information, call
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First Sunday of Lent

Warner Elementary School Update

Outreach is pleased to announce the creation of the St. Mary's Closet at Warner Elementary School. Working in conjunction with the dedicated teachers at Warner, led by their principal Dr. Newton, a storage area is being converted into a closet that St. Mary's will assist in furnishing. Parishioners can support this partnership with a financial contribution or by purchasing necessary items. Outreach will have a designated Warner Elementary drop box set up in the church vestibule and the office foyer. Items will range from non-perishable foods to school supplies and paper products. Needed items will be listed monthly on the SMA web page.

This is a wonderful partnership that serves children in need and we thank you in advance for your generosity.

St. Mary's Preschool
Enrollment for the
2021-2022 school year
Registration is open and will
run until March 26, 2021

Please call for more information at
302-239-7100, ext. 34

Please visit our website:
www.stmaryspreschoolhockessin.com

Families interested in learning more about our Preschool are welcome to schedule a tour and hopefully attend an Open House in late spring if possible.

St. Mary's Ministries

Mother's Prayer Group

I'm sorry to say that I have never attended the Mothers Prayer Group...Until now!

The Mother's Pray Group is a ministry of spiritual friends who comfort each other with their listening ear and warm heart. They pray for all who are blessed to know them and those who need their prayers. Because of Covid, they had to move from the church chapel to a Zoom call but that didn't stop the interacting and the sharing of our intentions for those we care about. It's very easy to connect to this ministry. I would encourage you to take a moment and pray with this group for someone you love.

Please contact Sandra Cleary, at 302-379-1279
Email: Sandra_Cleary@verizon.net, or
smachurch.com.

Enjoy your Sunday!

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

In January, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist 22 families, providing $7,785 in food, utilities, rent and other bills. God Bless You!

FAITH ENVIRONMENT/SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Did you know that in 2003 in response to the United States Conference of Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children, the Diocese developed a safe environment program entitled For the Sake of Gods' Children? The Bishop, all priests, deacons, seminarians, religious brothers and sisters and all lay employees and volunteers participate in the program to assure that a comprehensive safe environment exists in our parishes, schools and institutions. For more information go to www.cdow.org and click on For the Sake of God's Children.

February 21, 2021

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Ministry Contact list for phone numbers please call our parish office 302-239-7100

Adult Faith Formation, ***Joan Fortugno***
Athletic Association, ***Mike Pietlock***
Church Camp, ***Cindy Krebs***
Cornerstone, ***Mike McDonnell***
Divine Will Prayer Group, ***Linda Riofski***
Emmanuel Dining Rooms S.E., ***Bunny Stike***
Emmanuel Dining Rooms East, ***Mary Ellen Long***
Sojourners, House of Joseph, ***Marcia Berger***
Finance Council, ***Bill Foley***
GIFT, ***Eileen Gaus***
Holy Spirit Prayer Group, ***Rich Deegan***
Knights of Columbus, ***Mike Bailey***
Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary, ***Judy Safranski***
Ladies' Guild, ***Janet Kook & Rosemarie Morris***
Lazarus Ministry, ***Rita Willis***
Legion of Mary, ***Jane Aniceto***
Mary Mother of Hope, ***Kate Morris***
Meals on Wheels, ***Kathy di Girolamo***
Men's Faith Sharing, ***Frank DeGennaro***
Men's Small Group, ***Jim Robinson***
Mother's Prayer Group, ***Sandra Cleary***
Pastoral Council, ***Bill Raiford***
Prayer Line, ***Parish Office***
Pro-Life Committee, ***Ann Courtney***
RCIA, ***Deacon John Giacci***
Refresh Group, ***Deacon Larry Brecht, Mike Bailey***
Safety Committee, ***Bernie McKay***
Sages (50+ Group), ***Nick Mastrocinque***
Scouts (Boy & Cub), ***Greg Weaver***
St. Vincent de Paul Society, ***Mercedes Diaz***
Visitors for Christ, ***Mary Lloyd***
WilCYA, ***Elise Maloney***

Need a Ride???
Fellow Parishioners!!! Do you occasionally need a ride to Church for Mass or perhaps elsewhere? As one of the service organizations of our parish, The Knights of Columbus may be able to help. **Contact Steve Haller, Community Director for the council.** You may contact him at, 302-690-6164 or email: govmuler@hotmail.com

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES:
All Saints: 302-737-2524
Cathedral: 302-656-3323
Gate of Heaven: 302-732-3690

Weekly Scheduled Events

Monday February 22nd
8:30 am Mass (C)

Tuesday February 23rd
8:30 am Mass (C)

Wednesday February 24th
8:30 am Mass (C)

Thursday February 25th
8:30 am Mass (C)

Friday February 26th
8:30 am Mass (C)
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday February 27th
3:30 pm Reconciliation (CP)
5:00pm Mass (C)

Sunday February 28th
7:30am Mass (C)
9:30am Mass (C)

(CF) = Coffee Run, (J) = St. Johns,
(M) = St. Mary, (CP) = Chapel, (C) = Church,
(GS) = Gathering Space, (H) = Hall

Please send all articles for the bulletin 2 weeks in advance.

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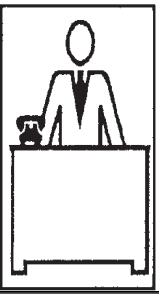
Justin Josell, D.D.S.



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