



ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

7200 Lancaster Pike • Hockessin, DE 19707 • (302) 239-7100

CELEBRATION OF MASS

Monday – Friday: 8:30 AM • Saturday: 5:00 PM • Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

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

PASTOR: VERY REV. JOSEPH J. PIEKARSKI, V.F.

Associate Pastor: Rev. John Enemuo

Weekend Assistant: Rev. James B. Smith

Deacons: John Giacci, Larry Brecht, Joseph Jackson,
Joseph LoPorto, Larry Morris

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Daniel DiGiacobbe, Business Manager	ext. 11
Annette Fad, Parish Secretary	ext. 33
Sandy Fiscella, Director of Religious Ed.	ext. 18
Flora Giacci, Receptionist	ext. 10
Deacon John Giacci, Director of Liturgy	ext. 32
Matthew Jewell, Director of Music	ext. 16
Cindy Krebs, Director of Preschool	ext. 34
Denise Troise, Bookkeeper	ext. 14

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

PREP: Grades 1 through 8 • Confirmation: Grade 9
Sandy Fiscella, DRE (302) 239-7100, ext. 18.

ST. MARY'S PRESCHOOL

Ages 2 through Pre-K.
Cindy Krebs, 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

Contact the Parish Office, (302) 239-7100.

ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY

Contact Daniel DiGiacobbe (302) 239-7100, ext. 11.



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)



August 6, 2023

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.—Mt 17:1-2

From Father Joe

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord on Mount Tabor. In this extraordinary event, Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, James, and John. The evangelists record that our Lord's face shone like the sun and that His clothes became white as light. Moses and Elijah appeared to them and conversed with Christ. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law. Jesus is the New Moses. Elijah paved the way for Christ, announcing the True God is coming. Christ fulfills what the prophets foretold of Him. Then the voice of the Father from a cloud said: "***This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him,***" affirming Jesus' mission.

Both before and after the transfiguration, Jesus told the disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and die at the hands of the elders. The three disciples who saw the glorified Lord were given a vision meant to strengthen them for the difficult days ahead when Jesus would be arrested and crucified.

In this miraculous moment, Jesus shows plainly that He is the King of Glory, the One sent by God to redeem the world. Like St. Peter who noted how good it was to share in Our Lord's transformation, we too must cherish every moment we are in the presence of God; those special times in which we have caught subtle, or not so subtle, glimpses of the glory of our Lord. Perhaps we experienced encounters with God while reading Scripture or in moments that occurred at Mass or in our adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Even unexpected revelations, while meditating, can open our eyes to the grandeur that awaits us.

Pray for Jesus to reveal Himself more deeply in your life. Simply enjoy His presence and peace. Let the Glory of God wash over us and fill us with fortitude to endure present difficulties in order to share in that Glory one day. On the last day, we too will be raised from the dead. Like Jesus on Mount Tabor, our bodies will be transfigured and glorified.



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

+Stephen Joseph Szczerba, cousin of parishioner Paul Pustolski

Mass Intentions

Monday August 7, 2023

8:30 a.m. Kelvin Quiroz

Tuesday August 8, 2023

8:30 a.m. Lillian Stoddard

Wednesday August 9, 2023

8:30 a.m. Teresa A. Flynn

Thursday August 10, 2023

8:30 a.m. Donald Hertsenberg

Friday August 11, 2023

8:30 a.m. Patricia Clarke
Jerry Smith

Saturday August 12, 2023

5:00 p.m. Catherine & Hugh Magee
Parishioners

Sunday August 13, 2023

7:30 a.m. Elizabeth Hurlock
9:30 a.m. James Campbell
11:30 a.m. Maria Minutola



To date, our parish has raised **\$235,817** toward our **Diocesan Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal**

Appeal. We are short of **\$34,000** to make our goal. If you have already pledged, please fulfill your contribution and Thank You for your support. If you have yet to make a gift, please prayerfully consider a donation and help our parish achieve our goal. Money collected over our goal returns to our parish.

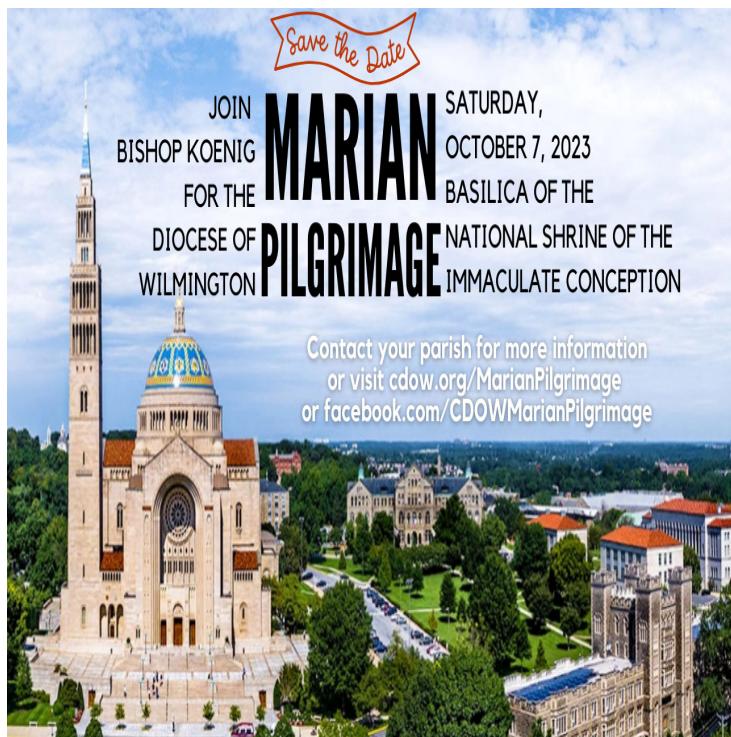
The Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal assists a number of ministries and services throughout Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The seminarians studying for our Diocese, Catholic education, outreach to the needy as well as our diocesan newspaper...The Dialog are some of the areas supported by this appeal. It is through the generosity of our parishioners that these

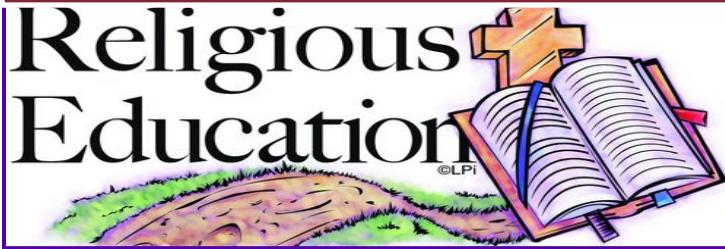
ministries will be able to fulfill the Church's mission. Together, we work toward Shining the Light of Christ.



The Cathedral of Saint Peter, in the historic Quaker Hill section of the City of Wilmington, is the Bishop's own parish and the center of Catholicism in our diocese. It was built over 200 years ago – 50 years before the founding of the Diocese of Wilmington - and continues with a small but dedicated parish community and school. In 2015, the diocese instituted an annual special collection to support the maintenance and ministry of our Cathedral. **This year, the collection will be held on August 12th & 13th.** More information is available at www.cathedralofstpeter.com. You can make a secure, online donation at www.cdow.org/cathedral.

We thank you for your generosity.





Confirmation 2024

All parishioners who are parents of students beginning 9th grade this fall should have received a mailing to begin Confirmation preparation for 2024. If you have not received this mailing, please contact Sandy Fiscella at dre@smachurch.com



Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, August 12th, tune-in for part-two of our two-week salute to Father Roberto Balducelli, OSFS, who passed away 10 years ago, on August 9, 2013. On this episode, we will chat with Dr. Maria Finamore and Sister Margaret Cunneff who both worked closely with Father Roberto at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Wilmington. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. You can listen online anytime at cdow.org/CatholicForum, or by searching "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, or Amazon Music podcasts. You can see videos of select interviews at YouTube.com/DioceseofWilm. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at [@CatholicForum](https://facebook.com/CatholicForum)



Bring your family for fun and baseball! The Wilmington Blue Rocks and the Diocese of Wilmington Office for Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM) present Family Fun Day on Sunday, August 27, 2023 at 1:05 p.m. at Frawley Stadium, 801 Shipyard Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19801. Come and enjoy a baseball game, good times and pregame on-field catch 12-12:15 and kids get to run the bases postgame! For more information and to purchase your discounted tickets, visit cdow.org/CYMFam.

OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Call, The Response, The Journey In Saint John's Gospel, we hear Jesus' invitation "**Come and See.**" If you know of someone who is interested in joining the Catholic Church, or you want to learn more about the Catholic Faith, or if you need to complete the Sacraments of Initiation – Eucharist and Confirmation please call the Parish Office (302) 239.7100 ext. 32 or go to St. Mary's website smachurch.com and click on the link – **Becoming Catholic**. OCIA inquiry sessions start on **Thursday, September 14th at 6pm** in the **St. John's Conference Room** in the Parish Office complex, and please accept Jesus' invitation to "**Come and See.**" Your journey starts on **September 14, 2023**, The OCIA team is ready to share our Catholic faith story with you, and to hear your story as **we walk this journey together**.

"Year of the Eucharist"

St. John the Beloved and New Horizons, your gateway to extraordinary experiences and meaningful connections, is hosting a Power Point Presentation in the Bosco conference room on Tuesday, August 15th at 6:30 pm for their "Year of the Eucharist" Pilgrimage from October 22nd to October 28th, 2023. Experience the wonders of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption including and the world-famous Noah's Ark. Two highlights include EWTN and The Most Blessed Sacrament Shrine for spiritual activities, a live televised show, and a chance to meet Fr. Mitch Pacwa. The Most Blessed Sacrament Shrine and St. John Paul II Center will move your heart and soul. Indulge in delightful experiences like dinner at St. Bernard Abbey, lunch with the EWTN sisters, and cocktails with a stunning sunset view on Burritt Mountain. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, explore spirituality, and create cherished memories. Reserve your spot now with New Horizons, your gateway to extraordinary experiences and meaningful connections! Contact Helen Holroyd for details or a brochure at helenshorizons@gmail.com or 610-213-4141.

Legionary Littleness (Part 1)

The subject about which I have been instructed to talk to you this evening is the one of "Legionary Littleness". The idea is that we are far too conscious of our own littleness in the Legion. We realize our own great defects and our inadequacy. As a result, we become paralyzed and we refuse works and responsibilities and in that way we cripple the whole purpose of the Legion. So now for a few words about that littleness.

Instead of acting as a harness or a brake to our efforts in this way, the thought of our littleness should act as a stimulus to us, and we should actually gain courage from our inadequacy. We can say with Our Lady: "Because of my littleness, God has done great things to me."

Speaking in Rome Pope Paul VI said: "The Legion of Mary knows how to use the little people." That is the wonderful thing about it - its dealing with the little people. The little people are being taken into the ranks of the Legion and are being used - with great results.

If we are depressed by this thought of our littleness, let us consider the entourage of Our Lord Himself. It is really extraordinary to consider how He cast Himself upon the smallest possible stage and amongst not only the ordinary people, but amongst those who were socially well below the average. So humble and so "little" did He make Himself, that He did not enjoy even privacy. He was, it might be said, born publicly, and He died publicly. The name of Nazareth was indeed (like some of our own villages) a term of opprobrium amongst the Jews. It was a sort of jeer. "Can any good come out of Nazareth?" This lowliness was around Him at His birth, was with Him during His whole life, and accompanied Him to His death.

- from Frank Duff's *Gems of Wisdom, Volume 2*

Healing Service with Fr. Rafal Walczyk August 25, 2023, at 7:00PM at Holy Angels Church

Join us Friday, August 25, at 7:00 pm for Praise & Worship, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Healing Prayer Service, and Individual Prayer. This is a special opportunity to encounter Jesus and invite the Holy Spirit to touch you deeply and heal those places that need God's healing graces. This is a FREE event. All are welcome! Fr. Rafal Walczyk, OSPPE (Pauline Fathers) is from the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA and is the Director of Encounter School of Ministry – Doylestown Campus. For questions about the event contact Rich Deegan at deeganrj@gmail.com or (281) 415-2002.

Marriage Moments for August

August has 2 full moons (Aug. 1 & 30) Rare but thought provoking. A full moon symbolizes completion, fertility, abundance, and transformation which are marriage worthy qualities. Ponder these qualities throughout the month.



In the Gospel, the Lord's voice says: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." The disciples were afraid, but Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid."

Know that in making your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you are listening to Christ, and helping others not to be afraid.

Parish Harvest Bonfire Friday, September 15, 2023



Please mark your calendars for a new parish event we will be having on **Friday, September 15th. Beginning at 6 pm** St Mary's will be having a parish Harvest Bonfire here on our grounds. Besides a large bonfire for families to gather around, there will be food trucks, family games, and a bouncy house for children. Dew Point will be providing beverages and there will be a short prayer of thanksgiving. Again, please mark your calendars for Friday, September 15th.

Padua Academy Class of 2023

The following young women from our parish are students of Padua Academy's class of 2023: Anya Battista, Payton Burse, Lauren Duffy, Riley Robertson, Madison Testa. We are very pleased to announce that the Padua Academy Class of 2023 has been Offered merit-based scholarships that total more than \$20 million dollars and was accepted into 199 colleges/universities.

Congratulations!

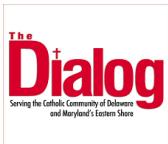
Need a Ride???

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, John Ryan, Community Director for the council. You may contact him at, 302-507-7915.

For St. Mary's Ministry Contact list please visit our website: www.smachurch.com
<https://smachurch.com/ministry-contacts>
 or call the parish office 302-239-7100, ext. 10

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socially connected!**

**Join us every Sunday for the
9:30 a.m. Mass Live-streamed**
<http://www.youtube.com/c/smachurch>



FORMED



Calendar

Monday August 7, 2023

8:30 a.m. Mass
 9:00 a.m. 2023 Summer August PREP Classes
 9:30 a.m. Exposition, Adoration, Benediction (C)
 6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Cardinal Gibbons Assembly Business meeting (CF)
 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Planning Meeting (J)

Tuesday August 8, 2023

8:30 a.m. Mass
 9:00 am 2023 Summer August PREP Classes
 10:00 a.m. Divine Will Prayer Group (CF)
 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Mentoring meeting (M)

Wednesday August 9, 2023

8:30 a.m. Mass
 9:00 am 2023 Summer August PREP Classes
 5:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Business Rosary meeting (CF)
 6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Business Meeting (CP)

Thursday August 10, 2023

8:30 a.m. Mass
 9:00 am 2023 Summer August PREP Classes

Friday August 11, 2023

8:30 a.m. Mass
 9:15 a.m. Legion of Mary (CF)
 9:15 a.m. Mother's Prayer group (CP)
 6:00 p.m. Music Ministry Recitals (M)

Saturday August 12, 2023

3:30 p.m. Confessions

Sunday August 13, 2023

7:30 a.m. Mass
 9:30 a.m. Mass
 11:30 a.m. Mass
 12:00 p.m. CYM Uniform Handouts (Hall)
 12:30 p.m. Junior Praesidium (CF)
 1:00 p.m. Scheduled Baptisms (C)

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

Send information to: office@smachurch.com

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

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES:

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Cathedral: 302-656-3323

Gate of Heaven: 302-732-3690

St. Patrick's Ashland: 302-239-7100

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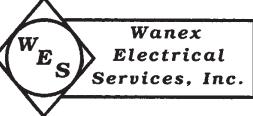
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