



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 Enemu
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.





From Fr. Joe:

How many times, in the course of a given day, have you heard someone protest, "That's not fair!" Children on a playground, siblings doing chores, the "calls" at a game, and of course, at work. Seniority and experience should be rewarded. Therefore, when confronted with a situation such as that put before us in today's Gospel parable of identical wages for different numbers of hours of work, our sense of fairness is provoked. "That's not fair!"

Today, Jesus presents God (the landlord), Whose love and generosity to all of us demonstrates the difference between God's perspective and ours. God looks at us, sees our different needs and meets our unique situations. The parable also shows the gracious understanding of God in allowing those who are later-called to know the Lord, as well as those who discovered Him early in life, to enjoy the same eternal bliss of His Heavenly Kingdom.

Envy has no place in the Kingdom of God where we cannot control or dare pass judgment on the way God blesses others. God is all knowing, absolutely fair and His generous bounty is limitless. Our focus will be only on rejoicing in God's benevolence upon all of us... in spite of our own shortcomings. For now, we need to tap into the inexhaustible Divine supply. We need to follow God's example of understanding and show loving generosity to our neighbor.

A **Gracious Thank You** to everyone who played a part in my installation as pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish last Sunday. We are grateful for Bishop Koenig's presence at the Mass and the blessing of the new portico of the church. May God continue to bless all of us and may Our Blessed Mother keep us ever in Her care.



Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. (Is 55:8)

Psalm:

The Lord is near to all who call upon him. (Ps 145)

Second Reading:

Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or
by death.

For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. (Phil 1:20-21)

Gospel:

"What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?
Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?
Are you envious because I am generous?" (Mt 20:14-15)



The Universal Church is having a **Eucharistic Revival** to regenerate the prominence of the mystical presence of Christ in our Church. To assist our spirituality, St. Mary of the Assumption Parish will celebrate the three-day **Forty our Devotion** from **Sunday, October 15th to Tuesday, October 17th**. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed Sunday after the 11:30 Mass until Evening Prayer and Benediction at 4 p.m. Monday, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed after the 8:30 a.m. Mass until 7 p.m. when the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Program and Benediction will take place with Daniel Pin from the Diocesan Office for Catholic Youth, Young Adults & Family Ministry, followed by light refreshments and camaraderie. The final day on Tuesday will begin with Exposition after the 8:30 Mass and will close at 7 p.m. with evening Prayer and Benediction. Guest speaker for the Evening Prayer Services is Father John Kolodziej OSFS, Provincial of the Wilmington-Philadelphia Province of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. Please take advantage of rekindling the blessedness we are privileged within the Eucharist.

Mass Intentions

Monday **September 25, 2023**

8:30 a.m. Anthony L. Curiale

Tuesday **September 26, 2023**

8:30 a.m. Keith Reed

Wednesday **September 27, 2023**

8:30 a.m. Bette Dillingham

Thursday **September 28, 2023**

8:30 a.m. Stanley A. Kisielewski

Friday **September 29, 2023**

8:30 a.m. Curtis Covelli

Saturday **September 30, 2023**

5:00 p.m. Mary Anne Gannon

Sunday **October 1, 2023**

7:30 a.m. Gerald Lawrence

9:30 a.m. Candy Kolar

11:30 a.m. George Joseph Patterson
Parishioners

The Rosary will be prayed at 8:00 a.m. before daily Mass



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

+Joseph Green, parishioner



SHARE *in the* **SPIRIT**

A COLLECTION FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE

Today's second collection is taken in support of the diocesan tuition assistance program. Monies raised through this collection coupled with the diocese's tuition assistance endowment provide financial assistance to hundreds of deserving families who seek a Catholic education for their children but who cannot afford the full cost of tuition. If you are not prepared to contribute today, you may drop your contribution at the parish office or place it in next week's collection basket. For further information and online giving options, visit the Share in the Spirit website: <https://www.cdow.org/share-in-the-spirit>.

ULSTER PROJECT DELAWARE 2024

Ulster Project Delaware (UPD) is currently seeking adventure-seeking applicants aged 14-16, for its annual month-long peach, service and leadership project in July 2024.

American teens and their families host Protestant and Catholic teens from Northern Ireland as they seek to learn tolerance, build understanding and gain lifelong friendships. All teens participate in day trips to NYC, DC Philadelphia, Hershey Park and the beach; service projects; leadership and team building events; visits to various places of worship; and fun local outings. Teens of all faiths and nationalities are encouraged to apply. The cost is minimal and the experience is priceless!

There will be an informational Session on Sunday 10-1-23 at 1:00 pm at the Brandywine Hundred Library, 1300 Foulk Road, Wilmington, DE 19803. Applications are now being accepted.

Visit www.ulsterprojectdelaware.org for more information and email any questions to applyupd@gmail.com or call Ruth Langrehr at 302-893-1878.

Attention active and retired police, fire, EMT and military: You are invited to the Annual Diocese of Wilmington Blue Mass to honor the work of all public safety personnel and military on **Friday, October 6, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Church, 809 South Broom Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19805.** The Blue Mass is an annual event that honors local, county, state, and federal law enforcement, fire, emergency medical, and military personnel and their families who live and work in the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, which includes Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore. First Responders of all faiths are welcome at the Mass! If you would like to bring an honor guard, mounted patrol, pipe & drum corps, etc., please contact Mike Connelly at mconnelly@cdow.org. Departments, agencies, or other groups, please email Michael Connelly with a final count of attendees.



On **September 27**, the Church celebrates the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, who knew that "God had sent him to bring good news to the poor." Together with your gifts, the members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul continue his work and mission in our parish.

This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to "bring good news to the poor," by assisting 57 families, providing \$10,939 in food, for utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!

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 in ready to share our Catholic faith story with you, and to hear your story as **we walk this journey together.**

THROUGH US, JESUS LOVES HIS MOTHER

I talk about devotion to Our Blessed Lady, and I take as my starting point the True Devotion of St. Louis Marie de Montfort. I ask you to join with me in examining as to whether that Devotion is justifiable. It is a method which is considerably controverted all over the world. In far too many quarters it arouses a sort of antagonism which is not easy to understand. A lot of people are prejudiced against the Legion and refuse to take it up because, they say, it builds its system on that Devotion. So let us have a critical look at the matter.

Slavery of Mary

The True Devotion prescribes a state of dependence on Mary, the committing of ourselves to her by a pact of ownership which takes in everything we have, the spiritual things and the temporal things. It invites us to submit our concerns and actions to her in a way that no earthly slave would be subject to. Note the word "slavery," because that is the alternative name of the Devotion. This gift of ourselves to her is to be made without reservation. This is a wholesale sort of transaction, and so I repeat: Is there any justification for assigning such a place to her?

Let us perhaps approach the question after the manner in which one would plot a position on a map. Lines starting from widely different angles are prolonged, and the point where they intersect is the place one is looking for. I will take a number of aspects of Mary and draw lines of logic from them. Let us see if, and where, they converge. As our first indication, I refer to a previous chapter on the subject of the New Eve. Its contention was that the very earliest, and indeed apostolic, teaching compels us to see Mary as the Mother of the living, distributing the life of grace to her children, not indirectly and remotely as in the case of Eve's giving to her descendants, but a direct communicating to each one, a giving of each individual grace. If that is the case, and so it seems to be, then does it not amount to an intimacy with Mary akin to that proposed by the True Devotion?

**- from Frank Duff's Gems of Wisdom, Volume 2
Submitted by the Legion of Mary**



**Knights of Columbus
Annual Coats for Kids
September 23rd & 24th**

When families struggle to clothe their children with warm winter coats in the winter. St. Mary of the Assumption and the Knights of Columbus help meet this basic need with the Coats for Kids program. In 2022 over 650 NEW coats were purchased and distributed through St. Mary's Outreach program. Please help those in need.

Questions contact: Chris Dougherty by email
cdougher214@yahoo.com

We are unable to accept used coats for this program

Thank you.



**Children's Liturgy of the
Word begins this weekend!**

Each Sunday during the 9:30 a.m. Mass children ages 3-9 (or younger with a parent or sibling) are welcome to join the catechist and be dismissed before the Readings to hear the Word of God at their level. They will return to Mass during the Preparation of the Gifts. Parent Volunteers are needed if you would like to help with this important ministry.

**Knights of Columbus
Coffee Run Golf Outing
October 2nd at Deerfield**



- Registration for Golf or just Dinner—go to www.kofc6768.org click on News & Announcements-use shopping cart format for credit card options
- If you're not a golfer, please join us for Dinner—enjoyable evening –starts at 5:30 p.m. with Cocktail hour, followed by Dinner, Raffle, 50/50, Auction
- If you own a business or have influence at your company, please consider being a Sponsor—levels range from \$150 to \$2500
- Donations for Silent Auction are welcomed (tickets, memorabilia, etc) !
- Contact Mike Brown (mbrown1962@comcast.net) or 302-373-1005 with any questions.



Sponsored by The Knights of Columbus

**October 14th 2023
Parish Hall**



St Mary of the Assumption "Beef & Crab Feast"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th 2023 6 PM TO 9:30 PM

\$60.00 PER PERSON (CHILDREN \$30.00)

DJ Music, Menu Includes Crabs, Roast Beef, Rolls, Kielbasa & Sauerkraut, ColeSlaw, Potato Salad, pretzels, potato chips, BEER & WINE, Dessert with Coffee & Tea

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Music Ministry Open House Rehearsals

St. Mary's Music Ministry would like to invite you to its open house rehearsals. This is a no-obligation opportunity to attend and participate in a rehearsal, and see if you might be interested in joining one of our ensembles. **Tuesday, September 26, 7:00-8:00 p.m.** in the choir loft: Handbell Open Rehearsal. At this rehearsal, you will be able to listen to some of the pieces we are preparing, and see how the group functions together. There will be opportunities for you to try out the bells, and we will show you basic ringing technique. Questions are encouraged!

Wednesday, September 27, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the choir loft: Choir Open Rehearsal. At this rehearsal, you will be able to participate fully with your appropriate voice section. You will be able to see how rehearsals are run, and you can ask as many questions as you like. Light refreshments will be served at the end of each rehearsal. If you are interested in attending one or both of these rehearsals, please email Matthew Jewell: music@smachurch.com.

I have sung in Choral groups during high school, college, and various choirs over the years. I find working on new pieces during rehearsals for Masses and concerts challenging and fun. Hearing the music at Mass enriches my experience of praying during Mass. Singing in the choir is a way I can contribute my gifts and talents to the glory of God. The choir here at St Mary of the Assumption is welcoming and Matthew, our director, is excellent, effectively working with each section. --Margaret Minkwitz, alto

Dear Parishioners,

We are encouraging you to help our local Wilmington VA. The VA medical center in Wilmington is always seeking donations for their patients, and we are encouraging members of St. Mary's to please bring in a donation **by Veteran's Day, November 11th** before Mass to give to the VA. Acceptable donation items include:

- Canned foods
 - Personal hygiene (bar soap, deodorant, etc)
 - Articles of clothing (socks, undershirts, etc)
- Please bring in donations and place them in the marked box by the chapel before Mass, and we will ensure that it gets sent to the VA. Please join us in doing whatever we can to help our veterans. Thank you.

Calendar

Monday September 25, 2023

- 8:30 a.m. Mass (C)
- 6:00 p.m. Monday Nights PREP (H)
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Handbell Choir (C)

Tuesday September 26, 2023

- 8:30 a.m. Mass (C)
- 9:30 a.m. Rosary Novena (C)
- 10:00 a.m. Divine Will Prayer meeting (CF)
- 11:00 a.m. Finance Council meeting (J)

Wednesday September 27, 2023

- 8:30 a.m. Mass (C)
- 9:30 a.m. Rosary Novena (C)
- 10:00 a.m. Ladies Guild meeting (M)
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal (C)

Thursday September 28, 2023

- 8:30 a.m. Mass (C)
- 9:30 a.m. Rosary Novena (C)
- 6:00 p.m. OCIA 2023-24 Inquiry sessions (J)
- 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 803 meeting (H)

Friday September 29, 2023

- 8:30 a.m. Mass (C)
- 9:30 a.m. Rosary Novena (C)
- 9:15 a.m. Legion of Mary (CF)
- 9:15 a.m. Mother's Prayer group (CP)

Saturday September 30, 2023

- 3:30 p.m. Confessions (CP)
- 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (C)

Sunday October 1, 2023

- 7:30 a.m. Mass (C)
- 9:30 a.m. Mass (C)
- Children's Liturgy of the Word (CF)
- 11:30 a.m. Mass (C)
- 12:30 p.m. Junior Praesidium (CF)
- 1:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals

Parish Office and Church Rooms:

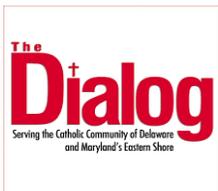
*Coffee Run Room (CF), St. Mary Room (M)
Chapel (CP), Church (C), St. John Room (J),*

For St. Mary's Ministry Contact list please visit our website: www.smachurch.com
<https://smachurch.com/ministry-contacts>

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.

Helping you stay socially connected!

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



Attention all middle school families! Saint Mark's High School will be hosting its Annual Open House on Sunday, October 1st, from 12:30-3:30pm. Stop by to take a tour, meet our amazing faculty and staff, and learn all about the new learning spaces we've created including our NEW robotics lab, NEW broadcast media center and NEW outdoor classroom. To register, call 302-757-8721 or visit our website at: stmarkshs.net/admissions.

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