

St. Mary's Catholic Church
April 7, 2024

1648 FM 340
Hallettsville, Texas 77964-5862
St. Mary's Rectory: 361-798-2128
Open Monday and Wednesday
Mornings 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Rectory: 361-798-5888

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 9:15 a.m.

MARRIAGES

Consult the Pastor six (6)
months in advance before making
any plans or decisions.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our parish family.
Please stop by the rectory or
call to register.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the rectory.

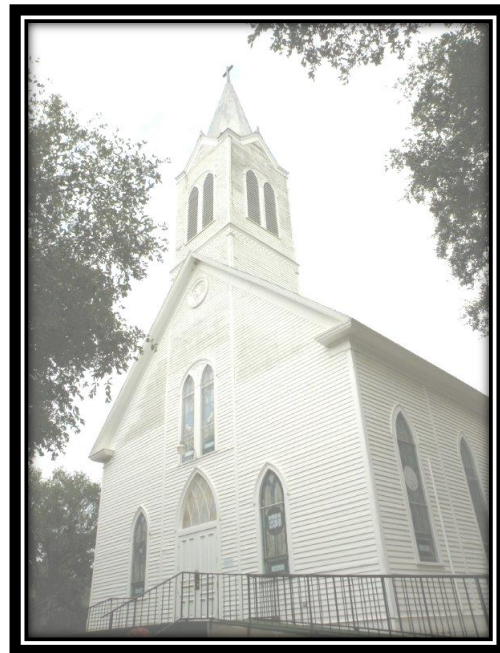
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD – Every Wednesday from
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Contact: Carol Rother (361-798-6856)

WEBSITES

Cemetery: www.victoriadiocese.org
(Click on “Catholic Cemeteries”)
Safe Environment: www.victoriadiocese.org
(Click on “Safe Environment Program,” then
on “eAppsDB”)

EMMAUS CENTER provides counseling as
well as specialized support groups from a
Catholic perspective. For more information or
to schedule an appointment, please call (361)
212-0830.



PASTOR

REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS V.G.

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Rev. John Affum

Rev. Michael Rother

DEACONS

Deacon Joseph (Joey) Targac
Deacon Michael Tankersley
Deacon Lution (Lu) Hill

ST. MARY'S HALL RENTAL

Donald & Judy Opela (361-772-0458)

PARISH BUILDING COMMITTEE

Leon Etzler, Robert Technik, Francis Klekar,
Richard Sommerlatte, & Al Svetlik, Jr.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Joyce Janak, Blasé Konvicka, Jr., Pat Pesek &
Larry Svetlik

CEMETERY: Miranda Henke (798-3731)

EWTN Cable Channel 71 or Dish Channel
261

Bulletin Deadline: *Tuesday, April 30, 2024*
by 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

St. Mary's Catholic Church

April 7, 2024

Mass Intentions:

Sunday, April 7 — Divine Mercy Sunday

9:15 a.m. — Selma & Edwin Shimek

Sunday, April 14 — Third Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m. — Vaclav Motal

Sunday, April 21 — Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m. — Albina, John & Johnnie Sitka

Wednesday, April 24 — Confirmation

6:00 p.m. — Confirmandi

Sunday, April 28 — Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m. — Joe & Lydia Kostelnik

Sunday, May 5 — Sixth Sunday of Easter (First Communion)

9:15 a.m. — Annette Sue Cinadr

Mass is live-streamed on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartCatholicChurchHallettsville> and on the
Radio Stations FM 99.9 & FM 94.3 at 8:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church

HOLY COMMUNION

If someone is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact Deacon Joey Targac or please call the Sacred Heart Rectory at 361-798-5888.

MASS INTENTIONS & BULLETIN SPONSORSHIPS

Those wishing to have a Mass said for a loved one or interested in sponsoring the bulletin (\$50), please call the St. Mary's Rectory at 361-798-2128 on Monday or Wednesday mornings.

Please pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY is today, April 7. We will have a Holy Hour and procession at Sacred Heart Church from 2:00-3:00 p.m. to conclude the Novena that began on Good Friday.

ADORATION CHAPEL – An Adorer is needed on Tuesdays at 1:00 a.m. at the Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel. Please contact Peggy Scherer at 210-897-6387 if interested.

Financial Report for March, 2024

Income:

Sunday's Collections	\$10,015.00
Bulletin Sponsor	0.00
Church Rental	200.00
Hall Rental	1,000.00
Memorials	770.00
Small House	50.00
Silent Retreat Donation	20.00
Catholic Relief Services	112.00
Easter Flowers	130.00
Rice Bowl	980.85
Seminarian Education Fund	172.00
Total Income	<u>\$13,449.85</u>

Expenses:

Administration	\$ 357.00
Church Expenses	265.46
Hall Expenses	825.87
Maintenance	159.91
Office/Rectory	420.00
Utilities	1,115.41
Diocesan Services Fund	9,407.00
Priest Pension Plan	68.00
Medical Insurance	406.00
Catholic Relief Services	112.00
Unbound Sponsorship	570.00
Seminary Fund	2.00
Rice Bowl	980.85
Hallettsville Fire Department	75.00
Chamber of Commerce	75.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$14,839.50</u>
Beginning Balance:	\$94,986.93
Income	13,449.85
Expenses	<u>-14,839.50</u>
Balance	<u>\$93,597.28</u>

The St. Mary's Catholic Family
Extends Heartfelt Congratulations to

Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters

On the 50th Anniversary
Of His Ordination to the Priesthood
April 26, 1974

May God continue to bless and strengthen him in his ministry. We are grateful for his guidance, presence and love.

From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. We will have a Holy Hour from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. It will include a procession around Sacred Heart Church.

This past Friday, Father Michael had rotator cuff surgery on his shoulder. He will mostly be using one hand. Please keep him in your prayers.

SAVE THE DATE! – On September 22, 2024 we will celebrate Msgr. John Peters' 75th birthday, 50th anniversary of Ordination, 30th year as Pastor of Sacred Heart and St. Mary's parishes, 23rd year as Pastor of Ascension of Our Lord in Moravia and St. John the Baptist in St. John as well as his retirement. The celebration will be held at the KC Hall.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH PICNIC **SUNDAY, JUNE 9**

Preparations are being made for our parish picnic. Please save the date so that you will be able to attend and enjoy the day visiting with family and friends. If you are new to the parish or a Sunday Mass attender (and not a parishioner) we would love to have your support. If you want to volunteer a couple of hours to experience the joy and friendship of working together in support of our parish, we welcome new smiling faces.

RAFFLE BOOKS – Anyone wishing to donate to the raffle please contact Rita Migl at 361-798-0971.

Graduating seniors of St. Mary's Parish may apply for the Picnic Scholarship. Forms are available in the foyer of the church and are due by May 6.

CCD NEWS

- **Confirmation** – Wednesday, April 24 – 6:00 p.m. at St. Mary's church
- **First Holy Communion** – Sunday, May 5 – 9:15 a.m.
- **May Crowning** – Sunday, May 5 – There will be a procession to present flowers to our Blessed Virgin Mary before Mass. All children attending the 9:15 a.m. Mass may participate. Flowers will be provided.
- **Baccalaureate** for graduating seniors – Sunday, May 19 – 9:15 a.m.

Easter Flowers Donations

- In memory of Rudy & Bernadette Konarik by Allen & Anita Steffek - \$30
- In memory of Henry Sitka & Randy Sitka by Marvin & Susan Bujnoch - \$25
- In memory of Phillip, Evelyn & Jamie Bujnoch by David & Kathy Bujnoch - \$50
- Raymond C. Sommerlatte & Lucy - \$25

Memorials

St. Mary's Church:

In Memory of Evelyn Kresta

Kubena Funeral Home – Dan, Eugene, Andy & Alison - \$25

James & Amanda Orsak - \$25

John & Evelyn Herman & Family - \$50

Diane Hybner & Henrietta - \$20

Monica & Chris Janacek - \$50

Richard & Ruthie Rouse - \$20

John & Diane Munson - \$15

Roman & Miranda Henke - \$20

Marvin & Susan Bujnoch - \$20

Lucille Klekar - \$20

Allen & Judy Grones - \$25

Glen & Sophie Cernik - \$50

Gary & Beverly Svetlik - \$50

Joyce & Carl Timm - \$40

Connie & Dwayne Burton - \$50

A. J. & Margie Hanslik - \$15

Mike & Helen Technik - \$25

David & Donna Schmidt - \$40

Karen Kresta-Podraza - \$50

In Memory of Mark J. Roeder

E. J. & Leah Janik - \$100

St. Mary's Altar Society

In Memory of Evelyn Kresta

Franklin & Vivian Mozisek - \$15

Allen & Anita Steffek - \$20

Joseph & Dorothy Schneider - \$10

In Memory of Mark J. Roeder

Joyce & Tony Bludau - \$30

St. Mary's Cemetery

In Memory of Mark J. Roeder

Rick & Laurie Braun - \$10

Janice Klekar - \$20

In Memory of Evelyn Kresta

Mary Wagner - \$5

Joseph Bujnoch - \$20

Anthony Matula - \$20

St. Mary's CCD

In Memory of Evelyn Kresta

Dennis & Barb Janak - \$50

Pro-Life Moment: Breaking the Abortion

Cycle – Abortion is a sin that perpetuates evil. The abortion mentality destroys the family by making it more difficult for new Americans who survive beyond the womb to find the family welded together by the indissoluble bond of marriage solely between a man and a woman. Children need families that will nurture them, guard their innocence and develop their personalities. In particular, all children must find within their homes the Faith that enables them to know, love and serve God in this world and be happy with Him forever in the next. As long as the traditional family remains in crisis, we will never sever the power lines that supply the abortion mills. As long as the Faith remains dead in souls, we will never wipe out the moral rot of sexual immorality, which is the contaminated soil where the abortion movement grows and flourishes.

Source: American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property. *10 Reasons to Protect the Unborn.*

Catholic Daughters #797 – Meeting will be on Monday, April 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Family Center.

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA'S 2024 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE "Unshakable Faith" will be Saturday, April 13 from 8 a.m.-4:00 p.m. with an opening Mass with Father Jacob Koether at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral, Victoria. Keynote speaker is Susana Parent at the Cathedral Center. \$40 per person. For info and registration go to www.victoriadiocese.org/2024womensconference.

FREE MARRIAGE RETREAT at Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Shiner the evenings of April 9-10 – Encounter practical ways to transform your house into a holy home, sacred ground, a place to profoundly encounter God, a refuge and respite. **For married and engaged couples.** For details and registration go to: <http://paradisusdei.ticketleap.com/victoriadiocese/>

STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY – For parents of children who have died at any age, **monthly meeting** will be held Tuesday, April 9 at Assumption Catholic Church Hall in Ganado. For more information call Pat Hoelscher at 979-257-9984 or phoelscher@victoriadiocese.org.

Fr. Mathis KC Council #2433 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree Exemplification (installation): Sunday, April 7 following the 10:30 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Church. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. in front of the church. Family Members are welcome to attend the Mass and ceremony as well as the reception at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Center.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

April 8-12 – IOWA Testing

April 10 – National Honor Society induction 2:10 p.m. in the Gym

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Written in the Wounds

For all the condemnation Thomas the Doubter has received in 2000 years of homilies, I think there's something to admire in him.

Thomas is not unique. We all waver at some point, overcome by hesitation, distracted by the clamor of the world which seeks at every turn to shout above the whisper of the divine.

Thomas knows what he saw on Good Friday: his friend nailed to a cross, a sword driven through his body. He saw the blood and the water. He saw these things with his own eyes, eyes given to him by God, eyes which have never failed him before. And God doesn't ask us to suspend reality to believe in Him. He only asks us to be discerning about how that reality is interpreted in our hearts.

Thomas knows the man before him is either a fraud, preying on the hopes and anxieties of the traumatized disciples, or he is the Christ, the Savior of the world, accomplisher of impossible things. But where to look, to tell the difference?

Satan once appeared to the great mystic saint, Teresa of Avila, disguised as Jesus. She knew instantly that he was a fraud. Enraged, he demanded to know where his deception had failed. "You have no wounds," she told him simply.

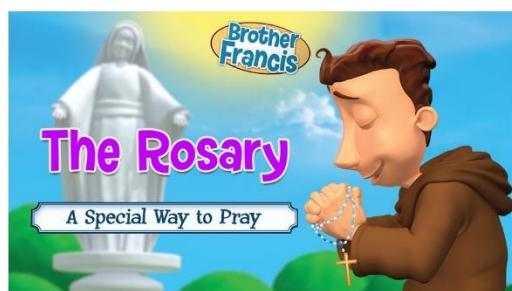
Could we have accepted a savior who did not bleed? I don't think we could, because sooner or later, we would all stand before him and say, "Here is where the world hurt me. Here, and here, and here. What about you?" Christ can point to his hands, his feet, his side. "Here, and here, and here," he can say. "And I overcame them all."

It's the wounds, you see. The truth is in the wounds.

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" — John 20:28 ©LPi

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of April 08, 2024



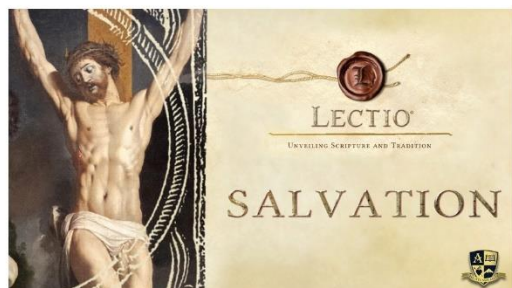
The Rosary: A Special Way to Pray

Join Brother Francis in this entertaining and guidance-filled presentation that will inspire children to deepen their faith by praying the Rosary!



Why Catholics believe in "life everlasting"

The Catholic Church cares about every BODY. Think of relics and funerals—reverence for our bodies and the body's of holy people is part of being Catholic. But why? We find the answer at the end of the Creed: "I believe in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting." That's a pretty strong statement and it's founded on Jesus. Because Jesus rose from the dead, we can look forward to our own body's being raised at the end of time. Pretty cool, right?



Not Just a Legal Transaction | Lectio: Salvation | Episode 5

After the Fall, each person is born not only with the stain of sin on their soul but also with a fallen human nature. Thanks be to God that his gift of salvation not only frees us from Original Sin but also transforms us from the inside out, healing the root of our brokenness: our hearts. As we will see in this session, salvation is not simply a legal transaction by which we are declared righteous, but by the gift of God's Spirit we are actually made righteous.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

April 2024

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Gemma Galgani

Born in Tuscany to a devout family, St. Gemma was attracted to prayer early on, mystically conversing with Jesus, Mary, and her Guardian Angel. Although she was hard working, kind, and a good student, her ecstasies earned her ridicule. She received the stigmata (wounds of Christ) in her body. She lost half her family to tuberculosis and struggled with poor health herself. Although this prevented her from entering the Passionist Order, she was posthumously accepted by them.

We are one Body

On the road to Damascus, Jesus told Saul that when he attacked Christians, he attacked Jesus. "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting" (Acts 26:15). Our Lord cannot be separated from the members of his Body. We stand united with all who suffer for Christ.

"He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:54).

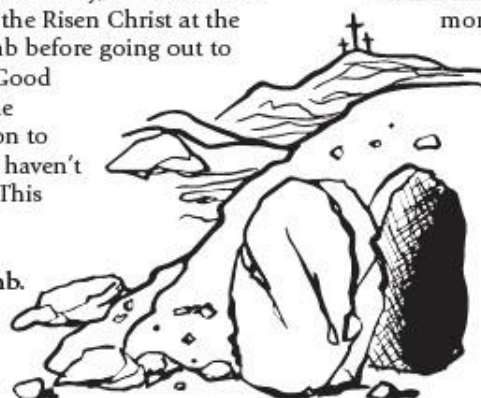


This Easter, meet Christ at the empty tomb

The Resurrection, more than Jesus' other miracles or teachings, shows His divinity and His Lordship over creation, and His victory over death. Every Easter Sunday, we're called to encounter the Risen Christ at the empty tomb before going out to bring the Good News of the Resurrection to those who haven't yet heard. This Easter:

Visit the empty tomb.

Scripture is "living and active" (Hebrews 4:12), so the events of Jesus' life can still impact us today when we pray with them. During the Easter season, read through John 20:1-18, and picture yourself there. Read with an open heart. No one who meets the Risen Christ remains unchanged.



Renew your commitment to Him. Can you remember a moment when Christ called your name and invited you to follow Him? Renew your commitment to follow Christ more faithfully this Easter.

Commit to daily prayer. Offer your errands for the souls in Purgatory. Resolve to go to Confession more often. Don't let anything get in the way of weekly Mass.

"Go to my brothers and tell them"

(John 20:17). Our job is to make more disciples for Jesus

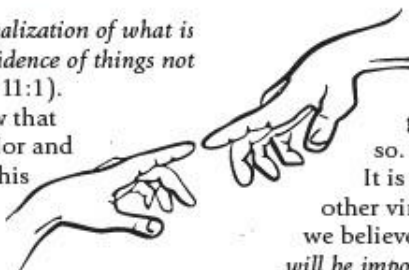
(Matthew 28:19). Invite someone to Mass, pass on inspiring spiritual reading, answer questions about our Faith, be ready to talk about your love for God and your hope for eternity (1 Peter 3:15).

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics need faith?

"Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

Christians know that Jesus is our Savior and our lives are in his hands. We also know that by virtue of his



suffering, death, and Resurrection, we have hope of sharing in his glory in Heaven. He said so.

It is through faith that all the other virtues flow. Through faith we believe, "For with God, nothing will be impossible" (Luke 1:37).

3 Ways to be a better communicator

When people encountered Jesus, they knew they were heard, seen, known, and loved by the Father. A large part of this was how He conversed with them. As Christ's disciples aiming to convey the same message, we can become better communicators with these three skills:

Know which conversation you're having. There are three types of conversations: social, emotional, and practical. Maybe someone offered a solution in which a listening ear was needed or made a corny joke at the wrong time. When in doubt, say something like: "Do you want me to fix this or just listen?"



Ask good questions. Jesus asked questions about people's values, past experiences, and perceptions.

Ask open-ended questions, find out what interests them, ask their opinion on a given topic. Seek to understand them. You don't have to agree.

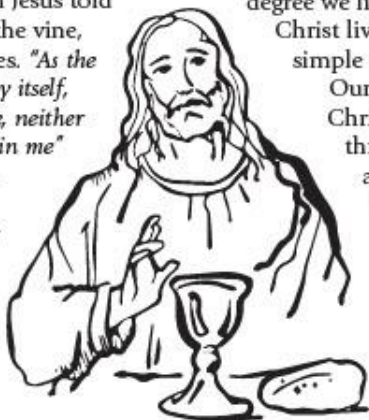
Really listen. Recall the rich young man whom Jesus looked at with love before challenging him to follow Him (Mark 10:21). Avoid checking your phone or thinking about your next response. Give the gift of your full attention.

from Scripture

John 15:1-8, Bearing fruit that will last

This Gospel passage takes us back to the Last Supper, when Jesus told His disciples that He is the vine, and they are the branches. *"As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me"* (John 15:4). This shows the closeness of the friendship and intimacy Christ wants to draw us into.

Yet, this isn't just a luxury for the few, but a vital necessity for all. *"For apart from me you can do nothing"* (15:5). As Jesus is who He says He is (God), then we can only have a truly fulfilling,



meaningful, fruitful life to the degree we live in Christ and Christ lives in us. It really is as simple as that.

Our connection with Christ is nourished through daily prayer and the Eucharist, and is healed in Confession. We are part of the Vine when we humbly obey Christ's commands, carry out our duties and acts of kindness with love, and offer our sufferings to God. Only then will our lives bear lasting fruit.

Q & A What is a Spiritual Communion?

Pandemic lockdowns that prevented us from attending Mass in person prompted the rediscovery of Spiritual Communion, the "ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him" (St. Thomas Aquinas). Thankfully, we have returned to in-person Mass

attendance, but we can still benefit from this devotion. Spiritual Communion keeps us connected to Christ and deepens our awareness of His love throughout the day. Best friends don't only see or speak to each other once a week or when they need something. They stay in contact daily. Certainly, we have no closer friend than God.

The saints encouraged frequent Spiritual Communion because the practice opens us to much-needed graces. St. Alphonsus Liguori encouraged making three Spiritual Communions during Mass – at the beginning, during the consecration, and at the end – even when we receive the Body and Blood.

Spiritual Communion isn't a substitute for Sacramental Communion. Instead, making frequent Spiritual Communion can enrich our experience when we do receive Communion in person.



Feasts & Celebrations

April 2 – St. Francis of Paola (1507). St. Francis founded the Minim Friars who lived an ascetic life. Known as a miracle-worker, he also had the gift of prophecy. He died in Plessis, in a monastery built for him by the king.

April 8 – The Annunciation of the Lord (1st century). The angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary with the extraordinary news of her role as the mother of God. She had confidence in God's grace and trusted His wisdom.

April 24 – St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen (1622). In his native Prussia, St. Fidelis became a lawyer and championed the poor and oppressed. He joined the Franciscans. During the Protestant Reformation, St. Fidelis worked hard to bring people back to the Catholic faith, until his martyrdom.

April 27 – St. Zita (1271). Born in Monsagrati, Italy, St. Zita became the servant of the wealthy Fatinelli family. Famous for her miracles in helping the sick, the poor, and the imprisoned, she is the patroness of domestic workers.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

AMOR MEUS SPIRITUALITY CENTER - located at **Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water Street, Victoria, TX – Workshop – “The Spirituality of Creation: Laudato Si”** by Sister Marian Sturm, OVISS, Saturday, April 13, 10:00am-3:00pm. Sign-in 9:30 a.m.

Area Events:

- ➔ **Step up for a Parkinson’s Walk** – Thursday, April 18, 11:00am – 2:00 pm, LMC walking trail, 361-798-9006. No registration, door prizes. T-shirts by Bob Barrera for purchase.
- ➔ **San Luis, Yorktown** – Annual Jamaica, Sunday, April 28. Carne Guisada dinner \$15, Homemade Tamales, Live & Silent Auctions, Raffle, Country Store, Bingo, Cake Walk, Music, Horseshoe & Cornhole tournaments
- ➔ **Moulton KC’s** – Sunday, April 14, Chicken Fried Beef Steak plates to go only, \$12; George’s Hall, 10:30am-12:30pm. For tickets call 361-772-2617. Benefits Knights to the Rescue Disaster Fund.

ST. MARY’S MINISTRY SCHEDULE – APRIL, 2024

Sunday, April 7		9:15 a.m.
Altar Servers	Jake, Abby & Holly Ressler	
Cantor	Kelly Rother	
Ushers	Stanley Orsak, Scott Blaschke, Marvin Bujnoch, Roman Henke	
Lector	Dedie Dobbs	
Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Janice Rother, Leon & Nancy Etzler	
Rosary Leader	Janice Rother	
Church Cleaners	Mary Jo Bludau, Glenda Tobola, Jamie Gillar, Betty Woytek, Susan Bujnoch	
Sunday, April 14		9:15 a.m.
Altar Servers	Colton & Landon Dierringer, Ava Shimek, Bella Howell	
Cantor	Ruth Rouse & St. Mary’s Choir	
Ushers	Robert Pustka, Gilbert Urbish, Charles Grafe, Eddie George	
Lector	Martha Horecka	
Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Wendy Janak, Billy Gerke, Carol Rother	
Rosary Leader	Anita Steffek	
Church Cleaners	—	
Sunday, April 21		9:15 a.m.
Altar Servers	Macey, Ashlyn & Tanner Pustka	
Cantor	Laurence Bludau	
Ushers	Leon Matula, Tim “Buck” Janak, Francis Klekar, Sidney Jasek	
Lector	Terry Patek	
Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Scott Sommerlatte, Trina Bludau, Dedie Dobbs	
Rosary Leader	Joyce Janak	
Church Cleaners	Helen Janak, Gussie Kelnar, Marty Horecka, Pat Mladenka	
Sunday, April 28		9:15 a.m.
Altar Servers	MacKenzie & Braden Henrichs, Peyton Pasak, Dawson Gutierrez	
Cantor	Ruth Rouse	
Ushers	Robert Sciba, Richard Sommerlatte, Troy Gillar	
Lector	Garrett Henke	
Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Sidney & Barbara Jasek, Richard Sommerlatte	
Rosary Leader	Ruth Rouse	
Church Cleaners	—	
Sunday, May 5		9:15 a.m.
Altar Servers	Elena & Alex Grahmann, Sarah & Jacob Janak	
Cantor	Jacob Jaks	
Ushers	Stanley Orsak, Scott Blaschke, Marvin Bujnoch, Roman Henke	
Lector	Dorothy Schneider	
Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Edward & Sandra Pustka, Janice Rother	
Rosary Leader	Sandy Konvicka	
Church Cleaners	Charlene Klekar, Janice Rother	