



*St. Mary* OF THE *Expectation*

CATHOLIC CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON - HOUSTON

FEBRUARY 18, 2024 | THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday | 4:30 PM Live & Streamed  
Sunday | 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, 12:00 PM  
Monday | 7:00 PM  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday | 8:30 AM

## PARISH CLERGY

Rev. John Rooney, OP (Gal/Hou)  
Pastor  
Deacon George Blanford  
Deacon Russ Carroll  
Deacon Fritz Claydon  
Deacon Andy DeYoung

## ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Pre-K Through 8th Grade  
281-332-4014 | stmarylc.org

### Reconciliation

Tuesday | 9:00 - 9:30 AM

See the Lenten Penance Schedule  
on page 5.

### Baptism

Contact the Parish Office or visit our  
website for forms.

### Marriage

Contact the Parish Office for a  
marriage packet and information.

### Communion for the Sick

Contact the Parish Office to make  
arrangements.

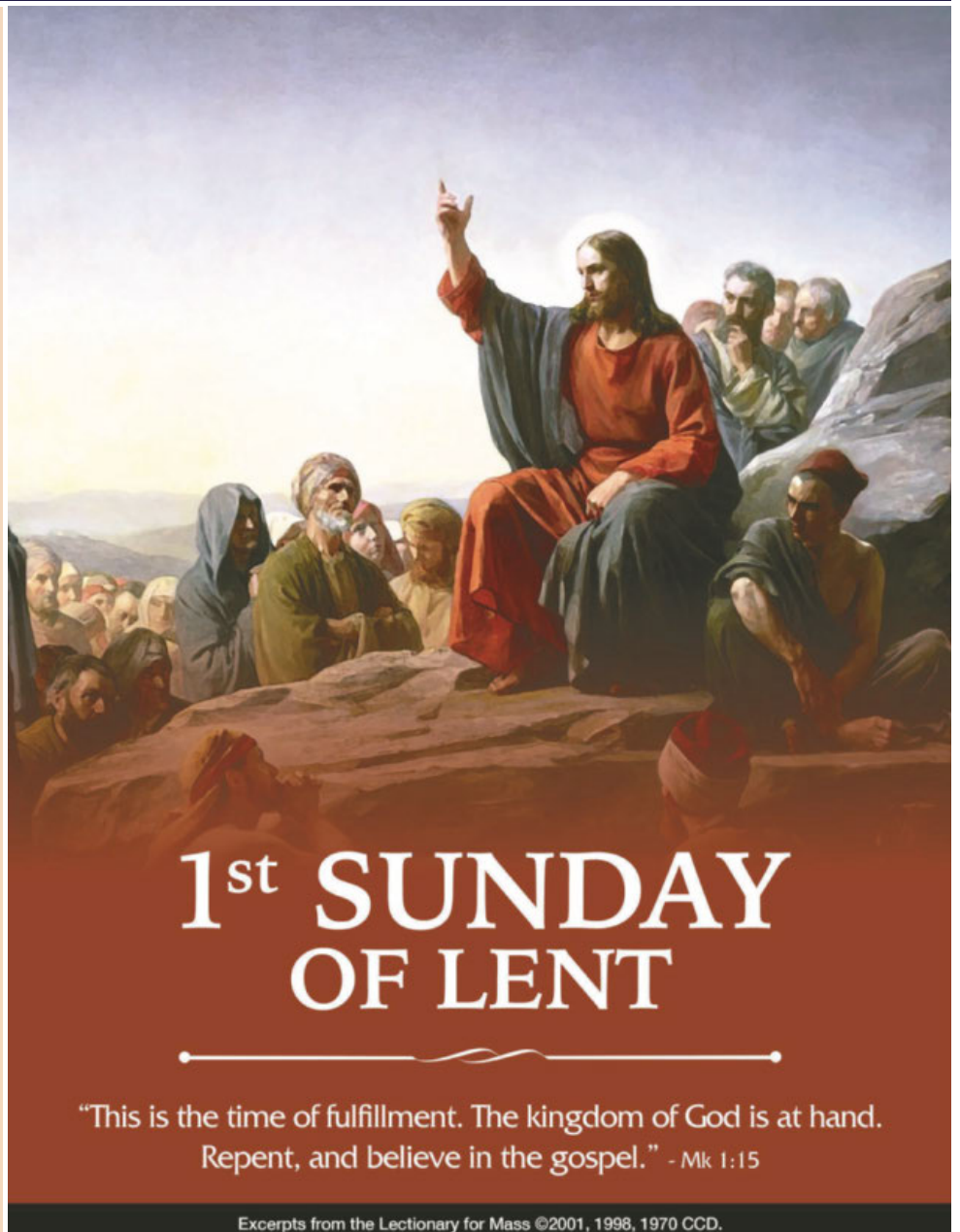
## CONTACT US

### Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Fri | 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### Ministry Office Hours

Elementary FF | Youth Ministry |  
RCIA Mon-Thurs | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM



1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY  
OF LENT

"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand.  
Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



@StMaryExpectation



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@StMaryYCM



@StMaryEXP

1612 E. WALKER STREET, LEAGUE CITY, TX 77573 | 281-332-3031 | SAINTMCC.ORG

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 17, 2024  
4:30 PM - Janet Faye Schaefer †

Sunday, February 18, 2024  
8:30 AM - Dante & Tony Marcuccio †  
10:15 AM - Judge David Garner †  
12:00 PM - M. Cheriyan †

Tuesday, February 20, 2024  
8:30 AM - Steve & Sherry Stich

Thursday, February 22, 2024  
8:30 AM - Melba LaBorde †

Friday, February 23, 2024  
8:30 AM - Roy Anderson †

Saturday, February 24, 2024  
4:30 PM - John Eichas †

Sunday, February 25, 2024  
8:30 AM - Ed & Pat Heinz †  
10:15 AM - Keith Marks †  
12:00 PM - People of the Parish  
† deceased

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Willie & Margaret Kelly, Jean Dupuis, John Loring, Ann Frank • Pat & Caroll Duffin • Lesa Gaffey, Bernard Roan, Bessilyn Piazza, Carol Base, Harold Kingham, August Bishop, Elroy Bishop, Kaylee Klyng, Cindy Johnson, Shauna Billingsley • • Charles Brady, Sandra McDermott • Larry Johnston, Tyler Bordelon, Vincent Pistone, Eileen McHale • John Salinas, John Michael Salinas, Judy Duran, Sheri Reznicek • Melanie Granberry Bobrowski • London Dialas, Pam Sowa, Betsy Rimmer, Jean Dupuis • Wayne Wright, Jimmy Sissom, Lisa Parmer • Bill and Anna Demus, Joe Arena • Kayla Sabin, Paul Pratt, Jayden Salinas, Fidela Salinas, Anita Cegelski, Herb Phelan, Eric Brug •

PARISH CALENDAR

MON 19	Parish Offices Closed/No Mass in observance of Presidents Day Yoga Young Adults	9:00 AM 7:00-8:30 PM	Matthew/Mark Luke/John
TUES 20	Bible Timeline Study Legion of Mary RCIA	9:15-11:15 AM 6:30-8:00 PM 7:00-9:00 PM	Matthew/Mark Gabriel Luke/John
WED 21	Lenten Bay Area Deanery of Catholic Women Gathering RCIC-Year 2 K-5 Faith Formation	9:00 AM 5:45-7:00 PM 6:00-7:15 PM	Annunciation Hall School Library School Building
THURS 22	Women's Study Bible Timeline Study	9:15-11:15 AM 6:30-8:30 PM	Matthew/Mark Matthew/Mark
FRI 23	Fish Fry Stations of the Cross	5:00-8:00 PM 7:00 PM	Cargill Hall Church
SAT 24			
SUN 25	K-5 Faith Formation	9:00 & 10:45 AM	School Building

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday  
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15;  
Mt 25:31-46  
Tuesday  
Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19;  
Mt 6:7-15  
Wednesday  
Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;  
Lk 11:29-32  
Thursday  
1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-6;  
Mt 16:13-19  
Friday  
Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8;  
Mt 5:20-26  
Saturday  
Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;  
Mt 5:43-48  
Sunday  
Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18;  
Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34;  
Mk 9:2-10



Mass Intentions are booked quarterly. On Friday, March 1, we will begin scheduling Masses for the second quarter of 2024 (April, May, and June).

You may request two Mass Intentions per household. One of those days can be a weekend Mass and the other a daily Mass. All requests must be made in person at the parish office.

SILENT PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request or would like to be a Prayer Warrior for the group, please call Gary at 281-332-1303.

DSF SPOTLIGHT: WE ARE THE LORD’S



*We are the Lord's*

This week, we invite the Faithful to prayerfully consider giving to DSF and bring Christ to those in our own parish communities, in our neighborhoods, in our towns, and throughout the Archdiocese. Through your generosity, you will live out our Faith in an authentic and inspiring way.

[www.archgh.org/dsf](http://www.archgh.org/dsf)

**SCAN HERE TO MAKE A GIFT** →



Our 2024 campaign to support the Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) has begun. Follow the link below to pray with Daniel Cardinal DiNardo for this year’s DSF campaign. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTxhF6HBTOW](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTxhF6HBTOW)

PARISH REGISTRATION

If you would like to register as a parishioner or update your existing information with the parish, call the office or visit our website’s ‘New to the Parish’ section. We are excited you are here!

BULLETIN REQUESTS

To receive the bulletin by email or to submit items for consideration to be printed in the bulletin, send an email to [bulletin@saintmcc.org](mailto:bulletin@saintmcc.org) with your request. All information must be submitted 10 days before the Sunday you would like to be included.

FINANCE COUNCIL

- Randy Klibert  
[randy.klibert@hotmail.com](mailto:randy.klibert@hotmail.com)

Bob Pool  
[robertpool7@yahoo.com](mailto:robertpool7@yahoo.com)

Greg A. Smith  
[gasmit@icloud.com](mailto:gasmit@icloud.com)

Lee Ann Crowder  
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Michael LaRocca  
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Sharon Mihalski  
[smihalski@comcast.net](mailto:smihalski@comcast.net)

Anna Dietert  
[abdietert@gmail.com](mailto:abdietert@gmail.com)

PARISH CONTACTS

- Pastor

Parish Administrator

School Principal

Deacon

Deacon

Deacon

Deacon
- Ministries and Services**

Maintenance Facilitator

Music Ministry

Director of Elementary Faith Formation

Incoming Director of Elementary Faith Formation

Director of Youth Ministry

Director of Adult Faith Formation

Coordinator of RCIA-C

Coordinator of 1st Communion/Reconciliation

**Administrative Assistants**

Bookkeeping

Sacramental Records • Marriage • Mass Intentions

Bulletin • Website • Livestream • Social Media

Life Teen • Edge • Confirmation

Baptisms • Elementary FF • Adult Ministry • RCIA-C

Safe Environment • Ministry Scheduling • Registration

- Rev. John Rooney, OP (Gal/Hou)

Lisa Sabatier

Laura L. Halbardier

Dcn. George Blanford

Dcn. Russ Carroll

Dcn. Fritz Claydon

Dcn. Andy DeYoung

- Kelley Neschich

John Garza

Cindy Newman

Hannah Richardson

David Harley

Terri Ryan

Tina Fogleman

Anna Dietert

- Michelle Peltier

Dawn Culver

Sherry Pistone

Susan Wood

Analyssa Harley

Rose McGinnis

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[rose.mcginis@saintmcc.org](mailto:rose.mcginis@saintmcc.org)

NO MONEY KEPT ON PREMISES

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

February 11, 2024

Regular Collection.....	\$28,440.75
Faith Direct.....	\$15,851.06
Subtotal.....	\$44,291.81
Budgeted Weekly.....	\$31,319.61
Difference.....	\$12,972.20

FOOD PANTRY

Donations of food items as well as Kroger gift cards to help stock our parish food pantry are always appreciated.

Our food pantry is open:  
WEDNESDAYS  
10 AM - 12 PM



ONLINE GIVING

We are always thankful for your contributions in whatever way you choose to give.

Our online giving options, either one-time or recurring, can be found at [www.saintmcc.org/give](http://www.saintmcc.org/give) or by scanning the QR code.





# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

St. Mary of the Expectation is offering altar server training on:

**Saturday, March 2**  
10:00 - 11:30 AM  
In the church



Interested servers must be in the 3rd grade and above and have received 1st Communion. We look forward to seeing you in this most rewarding ministry!

## ACTS RETREAT TRAINING

All interested ACTS members are invited to attend a retreat training given by ACTS Missions Houston. Details regarding the conduction of an ACTS retreat are the topic of the training.

**Date: March 2, 2024**  
**Time: 8 AM - 4 PM**  
**Location: Cargill Hall**



Cost (Lunch included):

\$50 per person

\$25 (if you already have the manual)

St. Mary's ACTS members to be covered by ACTS CORE Ministry

Registration on the ACTS Missions Houston website:  
<https://actshouston.org/training>

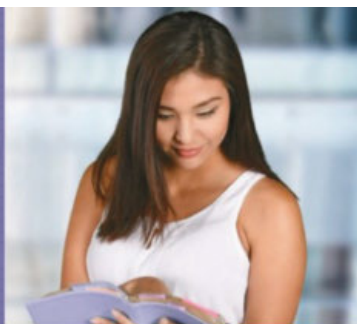
## RESPECT LIFE

A CATHOLIC BIBLE STUDY  
FOR WOMEN SEEKING  
HEALING AFTER ABORTION

**FORGIVEN  
&  
SET FREE**



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF  
GALVESTON-HOUSTON



**VIRTUAL MEETINGS**  
**MONDAYS**  
**STARTING ON APRIL 8, 2024**  
**AT 7:00PM**

REGISTER TODAY AT  
[HTTPS://ARCHGH.SWOOGO.COM/  
BIBLESTUDY](https://archgh.swoogo.com/biblestudy)

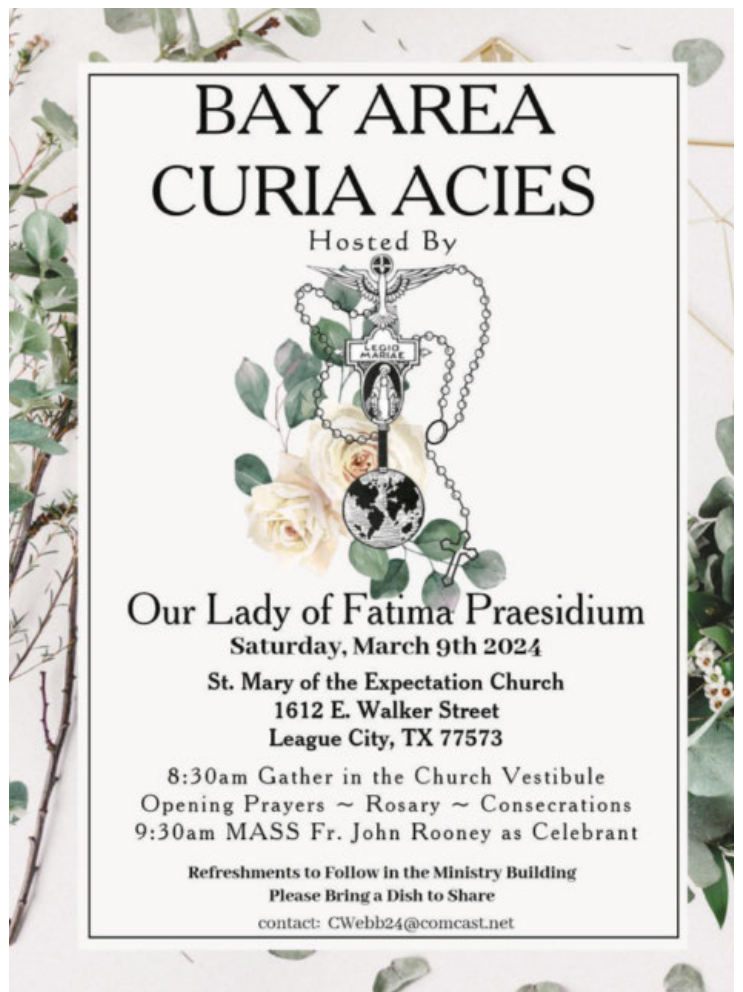
**\*REGISTRATIONS STRICTLY  
CONFIDENTIAL\***

## PARISH HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE



Our parish offices will be closed and there will be no daily Mass on Monday, February 19, in observance of Presidents Day.

We will resume regular office hours on Tuesday, February 20.



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYING STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR SENIORS

All parishioners are invited to our St. Mary YouTube channel to pray the Stations of the Cross for Seniors. The devotion at each of the 14 stations link Christ's passion and death with the trials and challenges our senior brothers and sisters face as they grow older.

A link to this devotion as well as other Lenten resources can be found on our parish website: [www.saintmcc.org/lenten-resources](http://www.saintmcc.org/lenten-resources)

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - NEW SESSION

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life as you grieve a loved one. Our group meets weekly to help and encourage each other after the loss of a loved one.



### WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

February 21 - May 29

(Please see the leader for scheduled days off.)

Registration: [www.saintmcc.org/grief-support](http://www.saintmcc.org/grief-support)

## BAY AREA DEANERY - WOMEN'S GATHERING

All women of the Bay Area Deanery are invited to enrich their Lenten journey with the slaying of the 7 deadly sins! Learn why these sins are deadly and how to defeat them with the seven lively virtues.

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Location: Annunciation Hall

Speaker: Diana Pombier

For more information, contact Marilyn at 713-412-8559 or [yodalnoz@comcast.net](mailto:yodalnoz@comcast.net).

## St. Mary of the Expectation Fun Run

### 9th Annual 5K and Kids' 1K

### SAVE THE DATE

### SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

Proceeds of the event go to support  
our Youth Ministry programs.  
The St. Mary Youth greatly appreciate  
your support and contributions.



*"Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us"*  
-Hebrews 12:1

Visit [saintmcc.org/funrun](http://saintmcc.org/funrun) to register, donate or sponsor.



## Lenten Area Evenings of Reconciliation

SERVICES START AT 7PM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Mary Queen, Friendswood

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

St. Mary, La Porte

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

St. Bernadette, Houston

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

St. Luke, Houston

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

St. Helen, Pearland

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

St. Paul, Nassau Bay

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

St. Hyacinth, Deer Park

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

St. Clare, Houston



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays During Lent at 7PM

(3PM on Good Friday)

Also livestreamed



## Fish Fry-Days

5PM - 8PM

(Until Sold Out)

FEBRUARY 16 - MARCH 22

Location: Cargill Hall - To-Go Orders Available Inside

### Large Plate - \$12

2 Large Fish Filets  
3 Hush Puppies  
Coleslaw  
French Fries

### Small Plate - \$7

1 Large Fish Filet  
1 Hush Puppy  
Coleslaw  
French Fries

### Cheese Pizza - \$6

5" Personal Pizza  
Optional French Fries



Condiments, Iced Tea or Lemonade and a Dessert of your choice are included.  
For credit/debit card or Apple/Google Pay payments, please add \$0.25 to each menu item.



# ADULT FAITH FORMATION

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

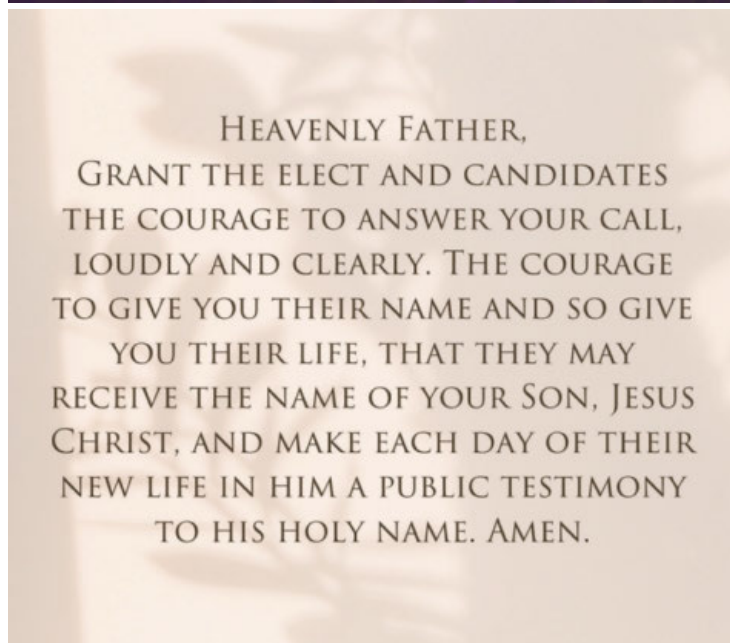
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### Lent and the Flood

I would bet money that somewhere in your church this Lent, there's a bare tree branch draped in purple fabric and an empty bowl filled with rocks.

I'm not poking fun, the desert imagery that surrounds the season of Lent isn't a cliché — or if it is, it's only because clichés are essentially true. Lent is the desert. Lent is the wilderness. Lent is the time of less. But what if Lent was also the flood? It seems counterintuitive, floods are excessive, and we don't think of Lent as a time for superabundance. Lent is when we limit experiences outside of ourselves in order to limit proclivities within ourselves. Lent is not a time for anything to be washing over us, consuming us, carrying us away on a tide. Unless...it is. Consider the flood of the Old Testament. An act of destruction, yes, but also an act of purification. An endurance test for the soul, an epic trust fall exercise between God and Noah in which Noah had to ride the literal waves, clinging to life as God wiped away everything familiar. Everything sinful. In Lent, we relinquish our weaknesses and our infirmities to the flood. It's frightening, certainly. But it's also exciting. Because just as the flood destroys everything, it also makes everything possible. It is a baptism. Lent, like the flood, makes the world new.

*"Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit."* — 1 Peter 3:18 ©LPi



## CURRENT STUDIES:

Registration and further details for our studies are available in the Ministry Building and on our parish website. [www.saintmcc.org](http://www.saintmcc.org)



***The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation***  
*A 24-Part Bible Study featuring Jeff Cavins*

Final 12 Sessions  
**TUESDAY MORNINGS**

9:15 - 11:15 AM

January 16 - April 16

**THURSDAY EVENINGS**

6:30 - 8:30 PM

January 18 - April 18

For information, contact:  
[stlindablackwood@aol.com](mailto:stlindablackwood@aol.com).

### WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP



**33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY - A PREPARATION FOR CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY**  
by Fr. Michael Gaitley

**THURSDAY MORNINGS**

9:15 - 11:15 AM

February 15 - March 21, 2024

For more details, contact:  
[charlapratt@comcast.net](mailto:charlapratt@comcast.net)

**EVERY MONDAY**  
**7:00 - 8:30 PM**

OPEN TO ALL YOUNG ADULTS  
AGES 18-35

**SCAN ME**

FOR CURRENT TOPICS  
& SIGN UP FORM

# YOUNG CHURCH MOVEMENT & FAITH FORMATION

## HOT TAKE

And just like that it is Lent again! What did you give up for Lent? Did you also decide to do something for Lent like read the Bible more or do a few service projects? Do you think it'll last? For a lot of us Lent is like the Catholic version of a New Year's resolution. We give up fried food or say we will workout more and, just like most people who do New Year's resolutions, we either fail or we make it to the end of Lent and then we go back to eating that same food or not working out. What was the point? Honestly, for many people it was pointless. Sure you challenged yourself, but did you grow closer to the Lord? That is what Lent is actually about. If we aren't growing closer to God, then we are missing the point of Lent. Lent is not a time to get healthy or break habits just for the sake of doing so, but rather to unite ourselves closer with God. This is something I struggled with for much of my life. Instead of striving to truly grow in faith, I was striving to benefit my physical or mental health for my own sake. Although those are good things, they are not the purpose of Lent. Last year I had a breakthrough with my Lenten experience. Last Lent, I made prayer a part of my commute to work and I have continued to make it a part of my commute every day since. I believe I was successful in continuing this because I made a specific time and space for God. So let me leave you with one more question, how can you schedule intentional time for God into your Lent? I promise if you do so, you'll gain way more than you ever could from simply not eating chocolate. Be blessed.

-David



## UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB 18	Chosen	5:00 PM	Annunciation Hall
	Life Teen	7:00 PM	Annunciation Hall
FEB 19	NO Teen Leadership *Presidents Day*		
FEB 21	EDGE	6:00 PM	Annunciation Hall
FEB 25	Chosen	5:00 PM	Annunciation Hall
	Life Teen	7:00 PM	Annunciation Hall
FEB 26	Teen Leadership	5:00 PM	Conference Room

## 2024-2025 FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

USE THE QR CODE BELOW TO REGISTER AND RECEIVE THE EARLY BIRD (CHEAPEST) RATE.



## 9TH ANNUAL 5K FUN RUN

Use the QR Code below to register or sponsor our annual 5k Fun Run. All proceeds go to our youth ministry.

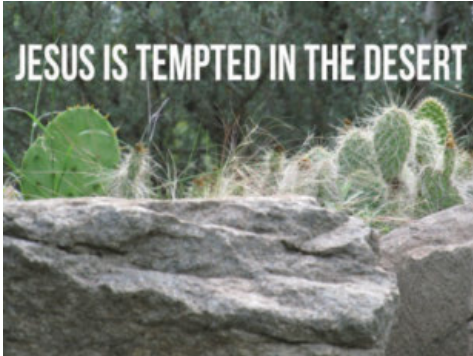


## STAY CONNECTED

-  @StMaryExpectation
-  @StMaryYCM
-  @StMaryEXP



# ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION



## PRAYER FOR LENT

Dear Jesus,

You call us, as members of the body of Christ, to serve one another.

This Lent, may we be your eyes, to see with compassion. May we be your hands and feet, to serve with love. By encountering you in the Bread of Life, may we joyfully share bread for life with all members of our global family.

Amen

Kindergarten—Grade Six  
Classes Resume  
Today 2/18 and Wed. 2/21



## LENTEN PRACTICES

February 4 & 7, “Rice Bowls” were distributed to children in grades K-5. These cardboard boxes are to encourage children and their families to donate to Catholic Relief Services during this Lenten period. It is a time to act on the Catholic traditions of *prayer, fasting and almsgiving*. When we practice these traditions, we unite our hearts with God and with one another.

The CRS Rice Bowls will guide you to Christ through our global family in Uganda, Africa, El Salvador, Central America, and Indonesia, Asia. Our sisters and brothers in these countries are finding ways to overcome hunger and poverty.

Since 1975, millions of Catholics have come together to support the less fortunate—both at home and around the world. Your family can make a difference. Remember Jesus, our bread of life, and be nourished by him in the Eucharist to walk with our global family.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

St. Mark’s Gospel of Jesus being tempted in the desert is very short, only two sentences long. However, it is just as clear from his telling of the story as it is in the longer versions. Jesus leaves the desert with a strong message, “Repent, and believe in the good news.” We need to understand these words to understand what Jesus is asking of us.

“Repent” means more than counting up our sins and saying we are sorry. To repent means to take a serious look at not just what we have done, but the person we have become. Jesus is asking us to pay attention to how we are living our lives. How do we see ourselves? What are we all about? Why do we go to school, to work, do chores, or shuffle to scouts and soccer? What is our purpose? In this world, we are often identified by what we do and what we have. We are a success if we do well in school or at our job, save a lot of money or have a lot of life’s toys.

Jesus asks us to see ourselves as God created us—a much-loved child, uniquely gifted, created to love as God loves. God considers us a success if— with Jesus’ help—we become the person we were created to be, bringing God’s love to the world. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments; they were part of God’s covenant with the chosen people. In the new covenant, Jesus tells us we are God’s children. He let’s us know that we are expected to do more than just follow God’s law. Jesus gives us a new attitude with the Beatitudes. “Blessed are the poor in spirit...” As God’s children we are expected to carry Jesus’ light and his loving, forgiving attitude to the world. That is the gospel Jesus proclaimed. This is the Good News.

What would the world be like if I live as God wants me to? How can I create greater peace and harmony in my home?

Adapted from *Bringing Home the Gospel: Parent Reflections on the Sunday Gospels* • Copyright © 2022 Judith Dunlap. Published by the Pastoral Center, PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission. All rights reserved.







**ST. MARY**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

ENTER TO LEARN, LEAVE TO SERVE.



Pre-K to 8th Grade | 281-332-4014 | stmarylc.org | facebook.com/stmarylc | Principal: Laura L. Halbardier



## PURPOSE

St. Mary of the Expectation Catholic Church invites you to join us for a fun day of golf and fellowship for the benefit of St. Mary Catholic School.



## MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

South Shore Harbour Country Club  
4300 South Shore Blvd.  
League City, TX 77573

## DEADLINES

Sponsorship: 3/2/2024  
Registration: 3/15/2024

## INFORMATION

Time: 7:00 AM Check in and Breakfast  
8:30 AM Shot Gun Start  
2:00 PM Awards  
Fees: \$125 Per Player  
\$500 for a Team of 4  
Format: Shot Gun Start/4 person teams  
Registration includes Tee Time, Breakfast,  
Lunch, Snacks, and Gift Bags.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

## INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM REGISTRATION



## Sponsorship Opportunities







## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here  
and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME**  
**Cindy Laird**

claird@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2614

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Tune Ups • A/C Service • Muffler & Exhaust Work  
Brakes • Computer 4 Wheel Alignment  
24 Hr. Wrecker Service • 281-337-2421  
2604 44th St. M-F 8-6 281-337-5513

## LIGGIO'S

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CAFE y CANTINA

402 Main Street  
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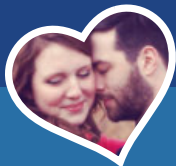


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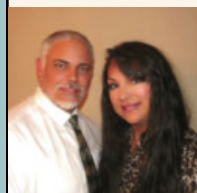
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***Theme: Planted by God***



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**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6**

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