

## Prayer List

**Epiphany** – Rudolph & Maria; Tammie Ayer's; Howard Baker; Edward Banks, Kaleigh Bennett; Ashly Carlson; Sharon Eye and Family; Robin Highlander; Chuck Hizzt; Bob Hurst; Jonny Kisamore; Diane Janthgato; Katie Johnson; Rick McMiuian; Nora Murray; Kathy Ratliff; Fransis Rodel; Sam Ross; Bill Santman; Hamme Tahan; Evelyn, Jack Welton, Harley, & Manoles Brian Yarworth

**St. Elizabeth** - Lynn Beaty; Jimmy Bennet, Tom DeByl; Deacon John; Kim Kline; Fr Mario; Deacon Rue Thompson; Ruth Zimmers; Residents of Pendleton Manor.

**St. Mary's** – Luther and Cleo Alt; Maxine Bissell; David Brosh; Jerry Fetch; Dick Henderson; Gina Hinkle; Jim Hughes; Tommy Kimble, Nola Lawrence; John Lutz, Susan and Steve Mongold; Richard and Toni Ours; Roy Reynolds; Becky Rogers; Liz Simpson, Elizabeth S. A. Sites, Alice Veach; Mary Wood

### Announcements for Epiphany

- Sophia Poinska [the mother of Marysia Sellaro] will turn 100 years old on January 4th, 2023. It would be good to send cards and wishes to:  
Sophia Poinska  
70 Crab Apple Lane  
Moorefield, WV 26836

### Announcements for St. Elizabeth

- Deacon John retired this week from Pendleton Manor where he has been a nurse for 31 years. Congratulations!
- Thank you to everyone who has supported CAN during the past year. Your kindness and contributions has been a blessing to all.

### Announcements for St. Mary's

- Thanks to all who beautifully prepared monthly birthday celebrations during 2022. Now we need volunteers for 2023.
- If you know of someone at home who might be in need of Communion visits, please let Liz know.

## Calendar

### **Monday 01/02**

#### **St. Basil the Great**

1 Jn 2:22-28

Jn 1:19-28

### **Tuesday 01/03**

#### **Most Holy Name of Jesus**

1 Jn 2:29-3:6

Jn 1:29-34

### **Wednesday 01/04**

#### **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

1 Jn 3:7-10

Jn 1:35-42

### **Thursday 01/05**

#### **St. John Neumann**

1 Jn 3:11-21

Jn 1:43-51

### **Friday 01/06**

#### **St. Andre Bessette**

1 Jn 5:5-13

Mt 1:7-11

### **Saturday 01/07**

#### **St. Raymond of Penafort**

1 Jn 5:14-21

Jn 2:1-11

### **Sunday 01/08**

#### **St. Angela of Foligno**

Is 60:1-6

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Mt 2:1-12

**January 01, 2023**

## **The Octave Day of Christmas Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God**

Nm 6:22-27

Gal 4:4-7

Lk 2:16-21

**Pastor: Fr. Dan Pisano**

**General Office email address:** stmarypetersburgwv@gmail.com

**Rectory address:** 5 Pierpont St., Petersburg, WV 26847

**St. Elizabeth website:** setonparishwv.org

### Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment

Please call the number for St. Mary's or send an email if there is a need for a hospital or home visit. During the current pandemic, visits are restricted, face mask is recommended as is social distancing.

Any information for the bulletin and Mass intentions should be forwarded to the general office email address, by Thursday evening.

### Second Collection

- Next Special Collect is on January 15 for Church in the Developing World.

### Notes from Fr. Dan

Thank you, everyone, for the cards and all the goodies. There were many tins and bags left for me without names but thank you, whoever you are! God's blessings to all parishioners in the new year.

### Mass Intentions

#### **Members of the Parish Every Sunday**

Saturday January 21, Jack Welton at Epiphany.

This's the 5 O'clock Vigil Mass on Saturdays. Stay for wine and cheese and other goodies following Mass.

Note: Please call the office or email St. Mary's to schedule a Mass Intention for someone. On weekday and weekend Mass, we will begin celebrating the Mass for someone's intention. An offering generally made and that offering will be going into a fund for these who have less than we.

## The Mother of Jesus is the Mother of God

*And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Luke 2:19*

Today, January 1, we complete our octave celebration of Christmas Day. It's an often overlooked liturgical fact that we celebrate Christmas Day for eight straight days. We do this also with Easter Day, which concludes with the great celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday.

On this, the eighth day of the Octave of Christmas, we turn our focus to the unique and beautiful fact that God chose to enter our world through a human mother. Mary is called the "Mother of God" for the simple fact that her Son is God. She was not the mother of her Son's flesh alone, nor the mother only of His human nature. This is because the Person of Jesus, the Son of God, is one Person. And that one Person took on flesh within the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Though becoming the Mother of God was a pure gift from Heaven and not something that Mother Mary merited on her own, there was one particular quality that she had that made her uniquely qualified to fulfill this role. That quality was her immaculate nature.

First, Mother Mary was preserved from all sin when she was conceived within the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. This special grace was a grace that was imparted to her from the future life, death and resurrection of her Son. It was the grace of salvation, but God chose to take that gift of grace and transcend time to impart it to her at the moment of her conception, thus making her the perfect and pure instrument necessary to bring forth God into the world.

Second, Mother Mary remained faithful to this gift of grace throughout her life, never choosing

to sin, never wavering, never turning from God. She remained immaculate throughout her life. Interestingly, it is this choice of hers, to forever remain obedient to the will of God in every way, that makes her more fully the Mother of God than the simple act of bearing Him within her womb. Her act of perfect unity with the will of God throughout her life makes her, also, the perfect mother of divine grace and mercy and perpetually the spiritual Mother of God, continually and perfectly bringing Him into our world.

Reflect, today, upon these most solemn mysteries of our faith. This eighth day of the Octave of Christmas is a solemn celebration, a celebration worthy of our pondering. The Scripture above reveals not only how our blessed Mother approached this mystery but also how we are to approach it. She "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." Ponder these mysteries, also, in your own heart and allow the grace of this holy celebration to fill you with joy and gratitude.

*Dearest Mother Mary, you were graced with a grace beyond any other. You were preserved from all sin and remained perfectly obedient to the will of God throughout your life. As a result, you became the perfect instrument of the Savior of the World by becoming His mother, the Mother of God. Pray for me that I may ponder this great mystery of our faith this day and ever more deeply rejoice in the incomprehensible beauty of your motherly soul. Mother Mary, the Mother of God, pray for us. Jesus, I trust in You.*

### Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church

2029 State Road 55  
Moorefield, WV 26836  
304-434-2547

#### Liturgies

Thursday at 12:00 Noon  
Saturday 5:00PM  
& Sunday 8:00AM

After Christmas, the Sunday mass will begin at 8:30.

### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

545 Walnut Street  
Franklin, WV 26807  
304-358-7012

#### Liturgies

Tuesday at 12:00 Noon  
Sunday 12:00 Noon

**Priest in Attendance: Fr. Mario Claro**  
**Deacon: John Windett**

Lector: Lynn Vandevander

The 3rd Sunday of each month is Birthday Sunday at **St. Elizabeth**. Please stay after Mass and celebrate everyone who has a Birthday that month with some sort of dessert and good conversation.

### St. Mary's Catholic Church

4 Grant Street  
Petersburg, WV 26847  
304-257-1057

#### Liturgies

Wednesday at 12:00 Noon  
Sunday 10:00AM

Lector: Kevin McDonald

Eucharist Minister: Kelly Luh and Loretta Alt

Starting in August, we will have **the First Friday Mass** every first Friday of the month at 11AM.

The first Sunday of each month is Birthday Sunday at **St. Mary's**. Please stay after Mass and celebrate everyone who has a Birthday that month with some sort of dessert and good conversation.

