

Prayer List

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

St. Elizabeth - Susan Adams; Lynn Beaty; Jimmy Bennet, Tom DeByl; Jim Hughes; Deacon John; Chad Kimble; Kim Kline; Mary Catherine Loudermilk; Fr Mario; Don Mundy; 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

- Sat Feb 18 we will have. Mardi Gras get together after Saturday eve Mass. light dinner and Bingo. All are welcome. Can anyone make a King Cake?

Announcements for St. Elizabeth

- Please bring in new socks to be donated to the high school students. We have many students who come each day without the added layer of warmth and protection. Colorful, fun patterns are great. Thank you!

Announcements for St. Mary's

- If you know of someone at home who might be in need of Communion visits, please let Liz know.

Calendar

Monday 01/30 **Bl. Mary Angela Truszkowska**

Heb 11:32-40
Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday 01/31 **St. John Bosco**

Heb 12:1-4
Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday 02/01 **St. Ansgar**

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15
Mk 6:1-6

Thursday 02/02 **Presentation of the Lord**

Mal 3:1-4
Heb 2:14-18
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Friday 02/03 **St. Blaise**

Heb 13:1-8
Mk 6:14-29

Saturday 02/04 **St. Joseph of Leonissa**

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21
Mk 6:30-34

Sunday 02/05 **St. Agatha**

Is 58:7-10
1 Cor 2:1-5
Mt 5:13-16

January 29, 2023 **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13
1 Cor 1:26-31
Mt 5:1-12a

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 February 12 for Church Missions within the United States.

Mass Intentions

Members of the Parish Every Sunday

Saturday March 11, Paul & Ruth Crifasi

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 Journey to Perfection

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:1-3

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The Sermon on the Mount begins with today's reading in Chapter Five of Matthew's Gospel and continues through Chapter Seven. This beautiful sermon presents us with many familiar teachings of Jesus, such as the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer and the Golden Rule. Jesus begins His sermon by going up a mountain and sitting down. The mountain is believed to be just north of the Sea of Galilee, just a few miles from Capernaum where Jesus often stayed during His public ministry. Today's Gospel presents us with the glorious and very high calling of the Beatitudes. This teaching on the Beatitudes sets the stage for the many other lessons Jesus taught.

The Beatitudes are certainly a teaching about morality, but the lessons are not the same as many of the moral teachings that the people were familiar with. Up until that time, morality was primarily seen as a list of forbidden practices. "Thou shall not..." was the general tone. However, the Beatitudes take morality to a much higher level. In this new teaching, Jesus did not start with that which was forbidden or that which was a violation of God's Law. Instead, He explained that reaching for these ideals brought forth the greatest fulfillment in life. Morality was not only a list of regulations one needed to avoid. At the heart, morality was now presented by our Lord as a

glorious journey to perfection. The result of this journey was the attainment of the Kingdom of Heaven.

When you consider the moral life, how do you look at it? Do you see it more as a list of things you can't do? Or do you see it as a journey up the mountain of true holiness and fulfillment? The Christian life certainly forbids us to engage in many forms of sin and violations of God's Law. But unless we understand that the highest form of morality is given to fulfill us on the deepest level, then it will be easy to become discouraged by our calling.

Reflect, today, upon Jesus calling you to follow Him up the mountain of the Beatitudes. As you do, begin by considering this journey first from a physical point of view. It would have been much easier for His first hearers of this sermon to simply stay in Capernaum and recline at table, listening to Jesus speak. But the physical journey up the mountain gives insight into the high calling of the moral life. It requires effort and determination. From there, try to imagine yourself listening to Jesus preach. Remind yourself that the Christian life is one of perfection in every way. This is our calling. But the fruit of perfection is the fulfillment in which God wants us to share. The easy life of sin leaves us dry and interiorly dead, but the hard journey to perfection leads us to the deepest fulfillment we could ever attain. Commit yourself to the journey and do not hesitate on the way, and you, too, will be rewarded with the Kingdom of Heaven.

Lord of perfection, You call me to journey with You up the high mountain of holiness. May I always see this journey as one that is glorious and fulfilling. I choose the life of perfection to which I am called and pray that I will always be open to the deepest moral truths You wish me to live. 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

Lector: Don Mundy

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

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: Paul Lawrence & Kelly Kuh

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.

