

Prayer List

Epiphany – Rudolph & Maria; Tammie Ayer's; Howard Baker; Edward Banks, Kaleigh Bennett; Ashly Carlson; Sharon Eye and Family; Robin Highlander; Chuck Hitt; Bob Hurst; Jonny Kisamore; Diane Janthgato; Katie Johnson; Rick McMiuan; Nora Murray; Jo Oliver; Jeanne Porreca; 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; Kim Kline; 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; Darleen Secrist, Liz Simpson, Elizabeth S. A. Sites, Alice Veach; Mary Wood

Lenten Project

If you are looking for a Lenten Project, consider donating items to Grant Memorial Hospital's Infusion and Cancer Center, which serves communities in Grant, Hardy, and Pendleton Counties. Many of you may have a family member, friend, or neighbor who has been affected by cancer or an illness that requires regular infusion therapy. Being able to receive treatments without long-distance travel helps save time and minimizes gas needed for transportation. Items that can be donated for the Chemo/Infusion Care Bags are:

- Reusable Water Bottles
- Non-Skid Socks/Slippers
- Puzzle Books - Crossword, Word Search, etc
- Adult Level Coloring Books
- Colored Pencils/Crayons
- Lotion
- Chapstick
- Soft Bristle Toothbrushes

There will be a collection box at each church that will be picked up at the end of the Lenten Season. Any contributions are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Calendar

Monday 02/27
St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday 02/28
Bl. Daniel Brottier
Is 55:10-11
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday 03/01
St. David of Wales
Jon 3:1-10
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday 03/02
St. Agnes of Bohemia
Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25
Mt 7:7-12

Friday 03/03
St. Katharine Drexel
Ez 18:21-28
Mt 5:20-26

Saturday 03/04
St. Casimir
Dt 26:16-19
Mt 5:43-48

Sunday 03/05
St. John Joseph of the Cross
Gn 12:1-4a
2 Mt 1:8b-10
Mt 17:1-9

February 26, 2023 **First Sunday of Lent**

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Rom 5:12-19
Mt 4:1-11

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 March 12 for Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund.

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.

Announcements for St. Elizabeth

- Can needs for the month of Feb. Includes air brushes, combs, and toothbrushes.

Announcements for St. Mary's

- Darlene Secrist will stay at E. A. Hawse Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Baker for another few weeks. Please keep her in your prayer.
- 3 Lenten Luncheons will be held on Feb. 22, March 15, and April 5. Our responsibilities include:
 - Feb 22: making ham salad and desserts;
 - March 15: making desserts;
 - April 5: nothing.Luncheons are \$5.00. CWU needs help serving and cleaning up. For any questions, please see Joyce.
- If you know of someone at home who might be in need of Communion visits, please let Liz know.



Forty Days = Your Entire Life

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. Matthew 4:1-2

"Forty" is a significant number. In Scripture, it is used more than 145 different times. For example, the rain during the Great Flood lasted forty days and forty nights. Each time Moses went up Mount Sinai, he remained there for forty days and nights. The Israelites wandered in the desert for forty years. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples for forty days before ascending into Heaven. And there are many other uses of "forty" throughout the Bible. Interestingly, forty is even significant within human nature, in that we develop within our mother's womb for forty weeks before being born.

The "forty" that we commemorate today is the forty days and forty nights that our Lord spent in the desert being tempted by the devil while He fasted and prayed. Forty is used to symbolize a time of testing, purification, trial or probation. For that reason, it should also be seen as a symbol of your entire life here on earth. In Saint Matthew's version of Jesus' temptation in the desert, He specifically uses the wording "forty days and forty nights." Saint Bede, in commenting upon this, points out that this period of time not only symbolizes our entire lives, but the "days" represent the many graces and blessings we receive, while the "nights" represent the crosses we endure.

As we begin our Lenten journey, it is important to once again apply the lessons of Jesus' time in the desert to our entire lives. Let's consider two lessons we can take from the passage quoted above. First, we see that Jesus was "led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." This teaches us that Jesus not only endured temptation, He confronted it. He was not afraid of the devil and did not fear his attacks. Instead, He willingly faced those temptations, being led by the Spirit, so as to not only overcome them in His life but also to enable us to confront, in our lives, every temptation by the power and initiative of the Holy Spirit. We must never be afraid to confront temptations directly and confidently when the Holy Spirit is in the lead.

A second important lesson is that Jesus voluntarily fasted during this time in the desert. This illustrates the importance of the virtue of temperance in life. If we see this period of forty as a symbol of our whole lives, then we will understand that temperance must always be part of our lives. When we experience the joys and blessings of life (the forty days), we must certainly celebrate them. But we must always do so with a certain self-denial, in that we must never allow the passing things of this world to become the primary satisfaction we seek. Saint John of the Cross teaches that we can even become overly attached to spiritual consolations. Conversely, when we experience the crosses of life (the forty nights), we must also practice a certain self-denial, in that we must not allow the difficulties we endure to discourage us or to distract us from seeking

out and fulfilling the will of God. Fasting, meaning our acquisition of the virtue of temperance, must lead us always through the ups and downs of life, helping us to keep our eyes on the truths God has revealed to us and rejecting the lies of the devil.

Reflect, today, upon the importance of embracing the virtue of temperance with courage throughout life. Throughout life's many ups and downs, joys and sorrows, blessings and crosses, we must allow ourselves to be led by the Spirit, confronting every circumstance with courage and self-control. Reflect upon any ways that you struggle with the crosses you endure or excessively cling to the consolations of life. Seek to embrace the road of virtue this Lent in imitation of Jesus' forty days and nights in the desert.

My temperate and courageous Lord, You confronted all temptation with courage and strength. You fasted throughout the forty days and forty nights so as to teach us how to navigate the ups and downs of life. Please give me the virtues of temperance and courage, and bestow the Holy Spirit upon me so that I may follow You into the desert of my own life. Jesus, I trust in You.

Announcements

We will be collecting used Religious items that are no longer needed throughout the month of February. Items include:

Vestments including Chasubles, Stoles, Albs, etc. (even if they are soiled or tattered, as we have them professionally cleaned and/or restored if possible so they can be worn, we can also use them to make new vestments, rosary cases or missal covers, we accept any style, color, vintage)	Prayer books/Bibles/Breviaries (Please No Story Type/Regular Books or Pamphlets/Magazines/DVD's or VHS Tapes)
Crucifixes	Monstrances
Statues (any size)	Altar Stones
Rosaries (damaged ok)	Altar Books/Missals/Lectionaries
Chalices (Pottery ok but please not by mail)	Holy Medals
Altar Ware	Holy Cards
Candle Sticks	Linens
Tabernacles	Paraments
	Framed Pictures, etc.
	Used Instruments
	Relics

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: Fay Steele

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: Joe Mohr

Everyone is invited to 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.

Ministry List for March 05, 2023

