

Prayer List

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

St. Elizabeth - Susan Adams; Tom DeByl; Deacon John; Kim Kline; Fr Mario; Don Mundy; Deacon Rue Thompson; Residents of Pendleton Manor.

St. Mary's –Cleo Alt; Maxine Bissell; Paul Borrer; David Brosh; Jerry Fetch; Dick Henderson; Jim Hughes; Mary Frances Idleman; Tommy Kimble, Nola Lawrence; John Lutz, Susan and Steve Mongold; Richard and Toni Ours; Roy Reynolds; Darlene Secrist; Liz Simpson; Elizabeth S. A. Sites;; Alice Veach; Mary Wood; Gavin Yonce

Announcements for St. Elizabeth

- St. Elizabeth desperately needs Eucharistic ministers. Anyone interested should contact Deacon John.
- Fr. Mario would like to thank all of you for the prayers, visits, cards, and phone calls while he was in the hospital and nursing home following a fall. He has returned to his home and he was at Mass this past Sunday. He looks good. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.
- Sympathy is extended to the family of Jim Hughes who passed away this week.

Announcements for St. Mary'S

- Thank you to everyone who has provided desserts for Birthday Sunday. Additional volunteers are always appreciated to help with refreshments. Sign up individually or with a buddy. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.
- If you would like to join in the music ministry in some way, please see either of the guitarists after Sunday Mass. Talents can include vocalists, musicians, percussionists and anyone who is enthusiastic about this part of the liturgy.

Calendar

Monday 10/16
St. Margaret Mary
Alacoque
Rom 1:1-7
Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday 10/17
St. Ignatius of Antioch
Rom 1:16-25
Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday 10/18
St. Luke
2 Tm 4:10-17b
Lk 10:1-9

Thursday 10/19
Sts. Isaac Jogues,
Jean de Brebeuf, and
Compaions
Rom 3:21-30
Lk 11:47-54

Friday 10/20
St. Paul of the Cross
Rom 4:1-8
Lk 12:1-7

Saturday 10/21
St. Hilarion
Rom 4:13, 16-18
Lk 12:8-12

Sunday 10/22
St. John Paul II
Is 45:1, 4-6
1 Thes 1:1-5b
Mt 22:15-21

October 15, 2023 **Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Is 25:6-10a
Phil 4:12-14, 19-20
Mt 22:1-14

Pastor: Fr. Dan Pisano

General Office email address: stmarypetersburgwv@gmail.com

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

Joined Parishes website: www.potomachhighlandscatholic.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.

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 October 22 for the World Mission Sunday Collection.

Mass Intentions

Members of the Parish Every Sunday

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.

Reminder

Epiphany: Home Bound members - Ruth Buker, Helen Chambers, Joe Dodd, Patty Gapp, Karolina Yarworth;

St. Mary's: Home Bound members - Cleo Alt, Susan Mongold, Toni Ours, and Alice Veach at the Grant County Nursing Home –Maxine Bissell, Jerry Fetch, Darlene Secrist. John Lutz at 1 Baltimore St., Appt. 5710, Cumberland, MD 21502

St. Elizabeth:
Don Mundy at 800 J.D. Anderson Dr., Room 228A, Morgantown, WV 26505

Keep them in your prayers.



Reality vs. Appearance

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come." Matthew 22:1-3

Do you refuse to come? Jesus spoke this parable to the chief priests and elders of the people because, even though they gave the impression to others that they were true followers of the will of God, they were, in fact, among those who refused to come to the wedding feast of the Lamb of God. The chief priests and elders of the people were masters at portraying themselves as something they were not. They knew how to look good in the eyes of the people, how to avoid public criticism, and how to appear as holy men. But they were none of the above. Inside they were hypocrites, liars and murderers.

In this parable, three invitations are sent forth. The first two are given to the invited guests. Though these "invited guests" refer especially to the people of Israel who were raised in the faith handed down from Moses and the prophets, we should also see in it those who have been raised within the Christian faith today. After the first invitation, those invited refused to come. After the second invitation, some who were invited reacted with indifference, while others reacted with hostility. These responses are common today.

When Jesus sends forth His invitation to share in His wedding banquet today, there are many different responses. Some are indifferent to our Lord. These are those who are so consumed with worldly endeavors that they give little time and attention to God. For them, the practice of the faith, such as daily prayer, attendance at Mass and ongoing works of charity, is not important. Making money, obtaining material possessions, indulging in entertainment and other secular pursuits are far more the focus of their time and energy. Others, like the chief priests and elders, are good at playing the part and acting as if they are faithful followers, but they are actually hostile to the will of God. They are concerned only about their appearance and not about the reality of their souls. If they are challenged in any way, they respond with anger and attack. They are not open to the truth of the Gospel and remain self-justified by attacking anything or anyone

who dares to call into question the direction they have taken in life.

When the third invitation was sent forth to all people, some responded. How completely do you respond to Jesus' invitation? To answer that question properly, we must "read" the invitation and know what we are invited to participate in. The invitation given to us is an invitation to share in the wedding feast of the Son of God. But to attend that banquet, we must be clothed in the garment of charity. Charity is the form of love that is sacrificial, selfless, and total. This form of love begins by making God the center of our lives and concludes by making His will the sole purpose of our lives. True charity will have the effect of purging all selfishness from our lives. This is why some were hostile to the invitation. When God invites us to a life of charity, we will be faced with a need to change. For some, this is very difficult. They react either with indifference or become defensive and lash out in hostility so as to protect the life of sin they have chosen.

The parable concludes with one of the invited guests being cast "into the darkness outside, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth" because he doesn't have on a proper wedding garment. But this wedding garment is a symbol of true charity that flows from an authentic worship of God.

Reflect, today, upon how charitable you are toward others, for that will determine whether you are fit to share in the banquet of the Lord. True charity always seeks to lavish the greatest good upon others. It seeks to do everything necessary to help others grow in love of God. True charity never leads a person to gaze upon themselves. It is always outwardly focused and selfless in its choices. As you reflect upon your charity, or lack thereof, be open to the purifying invitation from Jesus and do not react in hostility. Welcome His invitation to change and allow your wholehearted worship of Him to transform you into a gift of love for others.

Lord of perfect charity, You have invited all people to share in the glorious banquet of Heaven. The only requirement is that we allow all sin and selfishness to be purged from our lives so that we are covered with the garment of charity. I accept Your invitation this day, dear Lord, and commit myself to the purifying fires of Your perfect love. 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

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

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

Liturgies

Tuesday at 12:00 Noon
Sunday 12:00 Noon

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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

Liturgies

Wednesday at 12:00 Noon
Sunday 10:00AM

Ministry List for October 22, 2023

Lector: Lynn Vandevander

Lector: Brian Vance

Priest in Attendance: Fr. Mario Claro
Home 304-902-9118 and Cell 304-668-1929

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.

Eucharist Minister: Barb DiBenedetto and Lisa Vance

Please join us for Rosary Prayer on Sunday at 9:30 AM. 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.
