

Prayer List

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

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

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

Announcements for Epiphany

- We need 2 Greeters.
- We are looking for individuals who would like to be a Eucharistic minister or a Reader for Sunday morning. Please leave your name and number on the back table. We will provide training.
- Our Nativity statues at Epiphany were all restored in a year long project by Cathy Hottinger. A special thank you to her talent.
- Mark your calendar for Mardi Gras bingo on Saturday evening, Feb 3 following Mass. we will provide Pizza and salad and ask folks to bring a dessert. We would like to invite everyone from the three parishes to attend.

Announcements for St. Elizabeth

- CAN needs for the month of January are: saltine crackers and cereal.

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.
- Anyone interested in helping with Easter celebration music please contact one of the guitarists after Sunday Mass.

Calendar

Monday 01/29
Servant of God Br.

Juniper
2 Sm 15:13-14, 30;
16:5-13
Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday 01/30
Bl. Mary Angela

Truskowska
2 Sm18:9-10, 14b,
24-25a, 30-19:3
Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday 01/31
St. John Bosco

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17
MK 6:1-6

Thursday 02/01
St. Ansgar

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12
Mk 6:7-13

Friday 02/02
Presentation of the Lord

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

Saturday 02/03
St. Blaise

1 Kgs 3:4-13
Mk 6:30-34

Sunday 02/04
St. Joseph of Leonissa

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23
Mk 1:29-39

January 28, 2024
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 18:15-20
1 Cor 7:32-35
Mk 1:21-28

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.

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.

Second Collection

Next Special Collect is on February 11 for Church Missions within the United States.

Reminder

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

St. Mary's: Home Bound members - Cleo Alt, Jim Sindledecker, and Alice Veach at the Grant County Nursing Home –Maxine Bissell, Jerry Fetch. John Lutz at 1 Baltimore St., Appt. 5710, Cumberland, MD 21502
Mary B. Wood c/o Sarah Ziems at 145 Blackford Road, Buckhannon, WV 26201

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

Keep them in your prayers.



The Subtleties of Grace

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. Mark 1:23–26

It's interesting to note that this unclean spirit immediately knows Who Jesus is. This is because each of two opposites emphasizes the other very clearly. For example, the color black is most clearly seen when it is placed in front of something white. Or something hot is most noticeable after experiencing something very cold. And a loud noise is most jarring when someone is sitting in silence. And so it is with Jesus and evil. Jesus, the Holy One of God, is most clearly seen when He comes in contact with an unclean spirit.

This fact gives us some wonderful insights into our journey toward the heights of holiness. Oftentimes, when one experiences a profound and transforming conversion, it is because they were first living a life of sin. When one who is living in sin encounters the saving grace of God, it is quite noticeable. And that is good.

But there is also another spiritual insight we can take from this. To further the analogy, it is also true that when the color black is put next to something dark blue, or something hot is touched after holding something quite warm, there is less notice taken. So it is with the spiritual life. When we are striving to obtain true holiness of life, and when we are already living the many virtues to which we are called, the next step closer to God might not be nearly as noticeable. Instead, growth in perfection for one who is already striving for perfection will be very subtle. And that is also good.

This is important to understand because sometimes, when a person has gone through a powerful conversion earlier in life, they want to return to the experience they had when they initially converted. But that should not be our goal. Instead, we should continually strive to experience these more subtle changes that take us from a life of holiness to one of even greater holiness. In this case, if you do not sense a powerful contrast of

spiritual experiences within you, that may be simply because there are no serious sins you are trying to overcome. Thus, the ideal for every Christian is to eventually experience less contrasting spiritual experiences and more that are gentle and subtle as our Lord continues to gently perfect you in many ways.

Reflect, today, upon your own spiritual journey toward holiness. If you do see serious sin in your life, know that God wants to profoundly free you and draw you through a major conversion. If you do not see serious sin in your life and if you already strive daily to become holy, then rejoice if your spiritual consolations and communications from God are much more subtle and, at times, undetectable. Keep working at perfection and rejoice that you are on the correct path.

Lord of all holiness, please continue to draw me into the life of perfection. Help me to grow in every virtue and to continually be aware of every gift of grace I am given. Please help me, especially, to be attentive to every small and subtle grace and to respond to those graces with a truly open and grateful heart. 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 4:00PM
& Sunday 8:30AM

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 February 04, 2024

Lector: Mary Stephenson

Priest in Attendance: Fr. Mario Claro (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.

Lector: Kevin McDonald

Eucharist Minister: Jay Bennett and Kelly Kuh

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.

