

## Prayer List

**Epiphany** – Arose family; Rudalph & Maria; Tammie Ayer’s; Howard Baker; Edward Banks, Kaleigh Bennett; Ashly Carlson; Anthony Ciccolella; Marlene Ciccolella; Sharon Eye and Family; Robin Highlander; Chuck Hiztt; Bob Hurst; Jonny Kisamore; Diane Janthgato; Katie Johnson; Rick McMiuan; 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; Sherry Fogel; 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; Jim Sindledecker; 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.
- Please pick up your church envelopes in the back of the church. If you need envelopes, please leave your name, address and phone number.

### Announcements for St. Elizabeth

- CAN needs for the month of February are: canned vegetables, cereal and empty egg cartons.
- Don Mundy will be 91 on 22 Feb. Please sign his Birthday card on the entry table.

### 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.
- 3 Lenten Luncheons will be held on Feb. 28, March 13, and March 27.

## Calendar

**Monday 02/19**  
**St. Conrad of Piacenza**  
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18  
Mt 25:31-46

**Tuesday 02/20**  
**St. Jacinta**  
**and Francisco Marto**  
of St. Joseph  
Is 55:10-11  
Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday 02/21**  
**St. Peter Damian**  
Jon 3:1-10  
Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday 02/22**  
**Chair of St. Peter**  
1 Pt 5:1-4  
Mt 16:13-19

**Friday 02/23**  
**St. Polycarp**  
Ez 18:21-28  
Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday 02/24**  
**Bl. Luke Belludi**  
Dt 26:16-19  
Mt 5:43-48

**Sunday 02/25**  
**Bl. Sebastian of Aparicio**  
Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13,  
15-18  
Rom 8:31b-34  
Mk 9:2-10

**February 18, 2024**  
**First Sunday of Lent**

Gn 9:8-15  
1 Pt 3:18-22  
Mk 1:12-15

**Pastor: Fr. Arul Anthony**

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

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

**Joined Parishes website:** [www.potomachhighlandscatholic.org](http://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 March 3 for Diocesan Priests’ Retirement Fund.

### Mass Intentions

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

Saturday March 09: 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.

### 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 Ministry of Angels

*The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. Mark 1:12-13*

What an amazing event we reflect upon today. Jesus, the Son of God, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity humbled Himself in two ways in the passage quoted above. First, He allowed Himself to endure the temptations of Satan. Second, He permitted His very own creation, the good angels, to minister to Him in His human form.

First of all, recall that Satan is a fallen angel. He was created by God and was created good. But the Book of Revelation (12:4) indicates that one-third of the created angels were cast out of Heaven to roam the earth. These demons act under the direction of the highest fallen angel, Satan. Thus, according to the passage above, it was Satan himself who tempted Jesus in the desert. Additionally, Jesus permitted the good angels to minister to Him in His human nature. These acts reveal the perfection of the virtue of humility within the humanity of our Lord.

According to Saint Thomas Aquinas, angels were created for three primary reasons. The first is for the purpose of worship. Worship of God brings about communion with God and enables perfect love to flow back and forth from God to each angelic being. Second, angels enact the will of God in all things. This includes the implementation of the laws of nature and the imparting of the grace that Christ won on the Cross. Third, God uses angels as messengers. Scripture records various ways that the angels spoke to the prophets, to our Blessed Mother, to Saint Joseph and to others. Saint Thomas Aquinas also believed that each of us is given a particular guardian angel whose role is not only to protect us but also to communicate the will of God to us.

As God, Jesus was the Creator of all angelic beings with the Father and the Holy Spirit. As man, Jesus was the recipient of both the ministry of the good angels and the attacks of the fallen angels. By humbly subjecting Himself to the natural powers of these angelic creatures, Jesus was also teaching us that we must do the same.

One of the primary natural powers of both the good and bad angels is the power of influence and suggestive thought. Angelic beings have the ability to put before your imagination ideas meant to either influence you for the good (the good angels) or to deceive you and lead you into sin (the bad angels). These communications are real, and we should be aware of them. In his book, *The Spiritual Exercises*, Saint Ignatius of Loyola devotes much time and energy to the ministry of angels. He teaches how to distinguish the lies and deceptions of the fallen angels from the consoling direction communicated by the good angels. In many ways, our Gospel passage today, by which Jesus submitted Himself to the temptations and ministry of the angels, lends much support to the importance of trying to understand how these angelic creatures influence us. For more on this, see the book *Probing the Depths: Ignatian Lessons and Meditations Arranged According to the Liturgical Year*.

Reflect, today, upon the amazing truth that both angels and demons are constantly active in your life, seeking to influence you. As you ponder their spiritual role in your life, consider the various ways you can learn more about them. Speak to your guardian angel. Ask for the intercession of the highest of angels. Try to join them in their divine worship. Pray for their protection. Ask them to communicate to you the highest of truths from God. Seek to be attentive to these holy angels so that as you learn to discern their voices, you will be ready to follow the direction they give to you from God.

*My Lord and Creator of All, You created the angelic order for the glorious purpose of love and worship. You also give them the mission of enacting Your holy will and communicating to us on earth. Please help me to be more aware of the deceptions of the fallen angels and the direction of the good angels. Angels of God, pray for me, protect me and guide me into God's perfect will. Jesus, I trust in You.*

(Courtesy of [My Catholic Life!](https://mycatholic.life/upcoming-reflections/#cal) <https://mycatholic.life/upcoming-reflections/#cal>)

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### Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church

2029 State Road 55  
Moorefield, WV 26836

#### 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

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## Ministry List for February 25, 2024

Lector: Lynn Vandevander

**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: Paul Lawrence

Eucharist Minister: Barb DiBenedetto and M.C. Amerman

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.

