

ST MARY'S CHURCH



14833 Kutztown Road ▪ Kutztown, PA 19530

www.StMarysKutztown.com

www.facebook.com/stmaryskutztown

Church, Meeting Rooms, Business & Parish Offices:

Phone : 610-683-7443 ▪ Fax : 610-683-7625

Email: Parish@StMarysKutztown.com

Religious Education Center: 610-683-6454

Email: RelEd@StMarysKutztown.com

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Pastor	Fr John Maria
Pastor Emeritus	Rev Msgr Walter T Scheaffer
Transitional Deacon	Rev. Mr. N. Romero Brelinsky
Pastoral Assistant	Sr. Marie Clark, MSC
Pastoral Assistant	Sr. Patrice Cosgrove, MSC
Coordinator/Religious Educ	Mrs. Ann Pergosky
Director of Music Ministry and Parish Secretary	Mrs. Anne Sitarik

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Auxiliary	Theresa Bieak & Deb Massa
Men of St. Mary's	Mr. Tom Cengeri
Pro-Life Committee	Mr. John Tucker, O P
R C I A	Fr. John Maria
Small Faith Sharing Groups	Mrs. Dottie Boyle

DIOCESAN INFORMATION

Diocesan Policies and Procedures on Youth Protection:

www.allentowndioocese.org

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Wendy S Krisak, Direct Telephone: (800) 791-9209

Office of Safe Environment Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services: Pamela Russo, MSW, MS ; PO Box F, Allentown, 181-5-1538 Telephone 610-871-5200 xt 2204

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or 800-276-1562



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	4:30 pm
Sunday	9:00, 11:00 am
Daily Masses	8:15 am (Monday – Friday) 8:15am (First Saturdays)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Every Wednesday, 7-8 pm *and* First Friday of the Month, 8:45 *until 10am*
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM – Baptism is celebrated at various times, often 11a Mass, the 1st Sunday of the month. Baptisms are also scheduled privately upon arrangement with families. Parents must contact the Religious Ed Office to arrange Baptismal Prep sessions and learn all the details.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - Saturday, 3:30-4:20p, Sundays 8:30-8:50; 10:30-10:50 am, Wednesdays 7:00-8:00p and by appointment

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK – Those who are dangerously ill or facing serious surgery may receive this healing Sacrament. Please contact Father John Maria to make arrangements

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY – Congratulations! Couples must contact Father John at least six months in advance of desired date. Marriage Preparation is required for proper celebration of this Sacrament

PROSPECTIVE GODPARENTS/SPONSORS asked to serve as Baptismal Godparents or Confirmation sponsor must request an eligibility certificate from the parish priest. To serve in this special role parishioners must: Be in full communion with the Catholic Church; Attend Mass weekly; have received Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation & Confirmation; Married individuals need be validly married in the Catholic Church.

Please contact the Parish Office and allow 2 weeks to process
HOMEBOUND – Parishioners homebound and unable to attend Mass please contact the Parish Office to arrange visitation, to receive Holy Communion

HOSPITALIZED - Call the Rectory to notify of someone in the hospital so we can pray for and possibly visit them. Each hospital in our Diocesan boundaries is either covered by a local parish or has a priest on call at the hospital

PARISH MEMBERSHIP - Welcome to St. Mary's Parish! Please contact the Parish Office to meet with Father John and become registered. We also ask those who move to notify the parish
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Education for parish children occurs September through April. Contact Religious Education office: 610-683-6454 for registration by July 1 for discount rate.

Center-based

- Levels K to 5 meet every week, Sunday, 10:20-11:30am
- Level 6-8 meet the 2nd & 4th week, Sunday, 6-8pm
- Youth Group (9-12) Stay tuned for upcoming events.

Home-based

- Contact the Religious Education or parish office or see website

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JUNE 25, 2023

We are a welcoming community called to deepen and share our faith

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JUNE 25, 2023

MASS Intentions

Mon	06-26	8:15a	Paul Vasko, Sr.
Tue	06-27	8:15a	Alice Friel
Wed	06-28	8:15a	In Thanksgiving
Thu	06-29	8:15a	Anniversary of Mike and Jami
Fri	06-30	8:15a	Thomas and Jean Newman
Sat	07-01	8:15a	Jennifer Schappell
		4:30p	Dave Kenney
Sun	07-02	9:00a	People of the Parish
		11:00a	Martin Boyer

Contact the parish office to sponsor altar flowers or Blessed Sacrament candle.

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun	06-25	12 th Sunday Ordinary Time- Jer 20:10-13; Ro 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33
Mon	06-26	Gn 12:1-9; Mt 7:1-5
Tue	06-27	Gn 12:1-9; Mt 7:1-5
Wed	06-28	Gn 15:1-12, 17-18; Mt 7:15-20
Thu	06-29	Solemnity Sts Peter and Paul: Ac 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
Fri	06-30	Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Mt 8:1-4
Sat	07-01	Gn 18:1-15; Mt 8:5-17
Sun	07-02	13 th Sunday Ordinary Time-2 K 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ro 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

THIS WEEK

NEXT WEEK

MUSIC MINISTRY

4:30p	Moore, Mark	Sitarik, Anne
	Casey, Peggy	Casey, Peggy
9:00a	Skoronski, Nathan	Sitarik, Anne
	Cebenkeno, Steve	Cebenkeno, Steve
11:00a	Thomas, Cathy	Moore, Mark
	Talarico, Tim	Skoronski, Katharine

Collection info 06/04 OLG in Church Expenses

Regular Collection	Info not available	at
Building Fund	print	deadline.
Capital Campaign		
Parish Partnership		
Other Regular Income		

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING?

1. Visit our church website at www.stmaryskutztown.com
 2. Click on the Online Giving link
 3. Complete the online registration form
- It's that simple! For more info or help setting up your account please contact the parish office: 610-683-7443



Please Pray for the Sick, and their loved ones:

Logan Alkons	Devon Hanna	Joanne O'Connell
Caleb Bauer	Jacqueline Hartz	Rick Padilla
Christopher Bennett	Linda Haurus	Ed Pilarski
Claudia Berg	Hannah Hayduk	Pat Regensburger
Nadia Cahill	Kathy Henry	Bill Pettit
Drew Cengeri	Joan Hullinger	Megan Roth
Meaghan Clark	Lillian Karch	Nina Hertzog
Colleen Wolff	Michael Karch	Rundle
Jerome Costanzo	Lauren Kavounas	Richard Rusconi
Kim Costanzo	Joanne Kear	Mary Rutkosky
Nancy Devlin-Litinsky	Patricia Keeney	Sr. Mary Sapanara, MSC
Dave Ebling	Jane Kern	Tina Scatamacchia
Floyd Falcone	Milton Kern	Barbara Shidisky
Helen Falcone	Edward & Rosemary Law	Tracy Snyder
Patricia Farabaugh	Harry Lewellen	Nicole Sosik
Paula Fehlinger	Julie Lindsey	Todd Tanis
Kathleen Fink	Eva Malanczuk	Ralph Touch
Ruth Fitterling	Dennis Martinsen	Amy Turko
Joe Galantino	Michael Melnyk	Christine VanDoorn
Michelle Galantino	Barry, Sharon Miller	Phillip Vazquez
Sandra George	Elaine O. Miller	Randall Vresko
Lucy Ginsiorsky	Marilyn Neider	Joseph Wawrzak
Ken Gorski	Nikolette Nolte	Bonnie Wessner
Muriel Hadnagy	Diana Novi	Emily Wickle

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

Please Pray for all those serving our nation


Keenan Albright	Anthony DiPietro	Nick Marakovits
Kyle Albright	Charles Douglass	Melissa Marks
Michael Barron	Joseph Douglass	Laura Miller
Andrew Barthol	Keith Essig	Spencer Morris
Frank M. Bieda	Ryan Flanagan	Heather O'Donnell
John Boyer	Kale Follweiler	Menaka Nayyar & Anthony Pirnot
Matthew Boyer	Michael Allen Haak	Jake Schmeck
Jonathan Cardé	Diane Henry	Phillip Talarico
Ryan Cengeri	Joshua Joseph	Steve Ziegler
Eric Cunningham	Dan King	
Timothy DeVall	James Knight	

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sun 06.25 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Bless Parish Graduates at all weekend Masses
- Tue 06.27 Agape Faith Sharing, 11a
- Wed 06.28 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
- Thu 06.29 Staff meeting, 11a
- Fri 06.30 Mary's Café, 10a
- Sat 07.01 1st Saturday daily Mass, 8:15a
Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Holy Father

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 07.02 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
2nd Collection – Holy Father
Baptism, 11a Mass
- Tue 07.04 Independence Day, Daily Mass at 9a 
Parish Office closed for holiday
- Wed 07.05 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
- Thu 07.06 Monthly Faith Sharing, 3p
Handiwork from the Heart, 7p
Music Ministry, 7p
- Fri 07.07 1st Friday Adoration, 8:45-10a
- Sat 07.08 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Capital Improvements

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE: Submit items for July 2 by 12n June 27 and full-page items two full weeks in advance

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Welcome! Please register for parish membership. Call 610-683-7443 for an appointment. Learn about all the parish has to offer! *Please inform us if moving.*



ST. MARY'S AT THE READING PHILLIES FAITH NIGHT, 7p, Thu. July 27. Fireworks after the game! Green section tickets, \$8 each. Reserve tickets Tom Cengeri: 610-207-5831 *by July 01.*

ST. MARY'S PARISH PICNIC 12:30p, Sun. Aug. 20. To offer to help- call Tom Cengeri: 610-207-5831. We look forward to seeing you there for food, fun and fellowship!

SAVE *the* DATE

theWORD among us® Each Lent, many Catholics make special commitments to grow nearer to the Lord, a beautiful practice! The challenge is to continue that

growth. Spending time with the Lord in Scripture is key to hearing the Good Shepherd's Voice and following Him.

This summer, the parish has invested in a limited number (75) of trial copies of the Word Among Us, to enable readers to spend 5 to 10 minutes each day reflecting on the word of God for your life.

The Word Among Us features uplifting and thought-provoking meditations based on the daily Mass readings. The July issue features articles about St. Paul, entitled: "A Very Human Saint."

Find copies at church exit; 75 available copies in July and August. Draw nearer to the Lord this summer!

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Mk 16:15

ARE YOU WILLING to share your faith? Do you seek to grow closer to the Lord? You can do both when Catechizing Youth of the parish. Pass on the faith to the next generation so they can pass it onward.

We have openings for the coming year, starting September. Prayerfully consider taking on this role. Are you interested? Please contact Fr. John Maria, Sr. Marie Clark or Ann Pergosky. Needed for the coming year:

Grade 2 (Sacrament of Reconciliation) & Grade 4 Catechists (meets Sunday mornings)
Youth Leader—HS Youth Group

BEDTIME BIBLE STORYTIME for Preschoolers! 6:30p June 19, July 10 & Aug 03 in Religious Ed. Center room 117.

We read a Bible Story, sing a song and make a simple craft.

For kids ages 3 to 5 . Wear P.J.s (optional for the little ones). Call 610-683-6454 to sign up! Walk -ins welcome!

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR - HELP WANTED! This event for parish family, friends, neighbors is Saturday, Nov. 04. Many come out to enjoy this great parish fundraiser.

While many are already committed to help, the Ladies Auxiliary **seeks a Bazaar Co-chair!** Responsibilities and roles will be reviewed. Interested? Please call Fr John Maria at 610-683-7443! Many hands make for lighter work!

Share Your Spare

Parishioner Patricia



Keeney is in need of a kidney donor. She hopes and prays for living kidney donation and asks us all to consider this generous gift. Help spread the word of her need. Learn more about Patty, kidney donation and how you could help. www.nkr.org/RMV653

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- Deacon Nikolai Romero B.

"May the word of the Lord be always in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart."

With these or similar words, we make a blessing on ourselves before hearing the Gospel reading at Mass. The practice of making three crosses over the forehead, lips, and breast goes back as far as the Ninth Century or thereabouts. As both spiritual and physical persons, we worship through our bodies. Outwards signs and gestures, like making these three crosses, are ways for us to actively participate in the celebration of the Mass.

For everyone, it becomes easy from time to time to slip into a routine. However, we must be mindful not to let our worship be merely a spectacle or an outward show. Instead, our outward actions help us to commit ourselves inwardly to receiving the word of God with sincerity.

In the Gospel, Our Lord makes a promise to His disciples: when Christians acknowledge their faith outwardly, Jesus promises that He advocates for us before God the Father. Our Lord loves us and is faithful to His promises. Let us not be ashamed to keep the Lord always on our minds, our lips, in our hearts, and to praise Him with our whole selves!

We are a welcoming community called to deepen and share our faith

MARY'S CAFÉ, MORNING EDITION: Friday, June 30 at 10a in the Religious Ed Center, all are invited to join Father John at "Mary's Cafe". Our topic will be "Jesus and the Holy Eucharist in Scripture and the Early Church."



The Most Blessed Sacrament is the source and summit of our lives as Catholic Christians. And yet, this gift is often misunderstood by Catholic and non-Catholic Christians as well. What did Jesus intend? What can be found in Scripture? What were the beliefs of the first generations following the Resurrection of Christ?

Come to the Café. Have your faith deepened, while also learning how to explain this distinctly Catholic gift to others - those who have fallen away, and those who never knew.

"Mary's Café" is a great opportunity to get together with others in the parish, and grow in your faith. The talk is informal and informative, allowing time to ask questions on the topic at hand, and others as well! Light refreshments will be available. Hope to see you Friday, June 30 at 10a in the Religious Ed Center!

A Word About: Peter's Pence Collection

Next week we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection, to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including helping Pope Francis to carry out his charitable works. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more info:

www.peterspence.va/en.html

Your support July 01/02 is most appreciated

BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC ANNUAL APPEAL: St. Mary's parishioners have **contributed \$34,022.00** to the 2023 Because We are Catholic Annual Appeal, **12.73% of our total number of registered families.** With 100% participation, we can make a major impact on the lives of friends, families, and neighbors in need. If you have not made your pledge of support, you may return your pledge form to the parish office or make your gift online. Remember, every gift counts, no gift is too small. Every dollar helps those in need. If you have any questions or would like to make a gift, please call the parish office or visit the Appeal website at BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.

HGA REGIONAL SCHOOL new student registrations now open for 2023-2024 year! We'd love you to join our school family! For info & tour: Head of School, Kelly Prechtl: kelpre@hgaschool.org 610-921-4124

BERKS CATHOLIC HS is accepting applications for the Fall. Please contact Nicky Smith: nsmith@berkscatholic.org with questions. All inquiries are confidential.

COLLECTION for HOMELESS PETS: Once again the homeless pets of our area need our help! The Animal Rescue League and Humane Society are in need of the following items for the dogs and cats in their care:



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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washed T-Shirts • Washed Towels, blankets, sheets • Wash-Cloths/rags • Paper towels • Trash bags, latex gloves • H/E Laundry detergent • Bleach • Spray cleaners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cat litter • Cat and dog treats • Canned/Dry kitten, cat and dog food • Spray cheese/PB • Chew/Scratch toys • <i>No beds/pillows please</i> |
|---|--|

Items will be collected in **REC lot July 23, BEFORE 9 and 11a Masses**, (Sunday only). Questions? Contact Stephanie Stamm: 610-926-1560. Thank you.

RELAY FOR LIFE of KUTZTOWN/E. BERKS CO. took place May 20. If you wish to donate to this year's Relay for Life write a check payable to American Cancer Society and send to Tom Cengeri, 321 Crystal Ridge Rd, Kutztown 19530. Thank you.

COME AND SEE: MEDITATIONS THROUGH ART AND SCRIPTURE- Preorder this book by the Diocese of Allentown Seminarians, some of whom received Holy Orders this year! Seminarians searched favorite Scripture and images and wrote their own questions for reflection. Proceeds support them as they head towards ordination. Preorder: www.BeholdVisioDivina.com/store/p151/Come_and_See

QUO VADIS AND FIAT DAYS-DISCERNMENT RETREATS: The Diocese of Allentown presents this opportunity for young men and young women on July 16-20 at Lehigh Univ. For all HS-aged young men and women (14-18, including just-graduated seniors) may attend WHERE ARE YOU GOING? this discernment retreat to hear to what vocation God might be calling them. Experience fellowship, Mass and Adoration, presentations, talks, and daily activities rooted in prayer for the discernment of their vocations. **Info/Register by June 30:**
<https://www.allentowndiocese.org/quo-vadis> OR
<https://www.allentowndiocese.org/fiat-days>

RETREAT-for Women Religious, Sisters and Lay Women: Aug 6-13, Mariawald Renewal Center, Reading. Slow down, open your mind and heart with prayer and reflection. Led by Anita Wood, spiritual director at Fairfield Univ., formerly of Jesuit Center in Wernersville. Register: 610-777-0135 or mariawaldcenter@gmail.com by July 30, Cost \$550.

HelpOurMarriage.org RETROUVAILLE

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Rediscover the Love in your Marriage. Thousands of couples have healed their marriages at Retrouvaille (*retrou-vee*). Get help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Learn to build communication skills and increase intimacy.

Next weekend session: Aug. 18-20 at the Family Life Center in Malvern. Info or Register: 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. *All inquiries strictly confidential.*
www.HelpOurMarriage.org

ST. JOSEPH IN THE HILLS RETREAT FOR MEN: Aug. 25-27, Malvern Retreat House. Experience refreshment, release, and calm, concentrating on your life, a gift from God. Learn. Reflect and increase your personal communion with the Lord. To register-Anthony: 610-393-4671 or OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com



DIOCESAN GOLF TOURNAMENT: Sept 25, Steel Club, Hellertown. Proceeds benefit seminarian scholarships. For sponsorships or to register Visit www.allentowndiocese.org/golf

WORD OF LIFE: "O God our Creator... we ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith." ~ USCCB; "Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty"

MOTHER VERONICA RESOURCE CTR: ESL and Citizenship



Prep teachers needed. Beginning Sept. 11 ESL classes meet 6:30-8p, Mondays and Wednesdays.

Citizenship Prep meets 12:30-2p either M, T, W, or Th for 12 weeks. Help prepare for USCIS

Naturalization Test. Sr. Cara

Garofalo: 484-516-2138 or

mveronicacenter@gmail.com

BERKS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IS HIRING! *Art Teacher; *Chemistry teacher; *Geometry/Math teacher; *Spanish 2,3,4. Come be part of something special! Please send resume and clearances to: nvilardo@berkscatholic.org

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

Visit: www.allentowndiocese.org/about/employment

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

The well-loved former movie star dies in her Beverly Hills mansion surrounded by her two sons, her publicist and a secretary of 20 years. Emails and texts pour in

full of encomiums and sympathy. But it doesn't take long before the typical American-as-apple-pie question arises: "How much was she worth?"

We Catholic Christians learn today what we are worth in the eyes of the only Person who really matters. Jesus tells His listeners (and us) that we are worth "more than many sparrows." Not that such little birds rank high as modern mediums of exchange, but they do represent a high estimation of our innate value to God.

We tend not to admit God into the equation when it comes to self-evaluation. Nor do we customarily rank ourselves high in His estimation. We know about the saints, from the Blessed Mother on down, as models of both humility and holiness. By that unruly duo of comparison and contrast always show up to confuse us.

What Our Lord came into our world to tell us was something quite different. He proclaimed repeatedly that God our Father loves us. Not that we always deserve it. But it is there for the taking.

Along with this guarantee, Jesus also told us that God will protect and defend us, as the prophet Jeremiah learned. This despite our fears, great and small, that have a way of stalking us, especially as we age.

It had to be a motivating belief and source of courage for the early martyrs of the Church to know that the only fear they should have is not about those who can kill the body, but "those who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna."

Beyond the bodily concerns of violence and crime, there is the erosion of the soul that comes amidst the increasingly hostile secular culture that pushes abortion-on-demand, and advances the latest "woke" and gender ideologies that permit no dissent. There are serious concerns with far-reaching implications.

Sometimes we notice that a friend or loved one has strayed into the path of errors like these and others. If they are worth our love, so should they be worth our attention, guidance and help. They need us also to remind them of their worth, especially to God.

Children have their own scale of values. *Once upon a time a little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal, its throat was very small.*

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher repeated that it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven, I will ask Jonah." The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl answered, "Then you ask him."