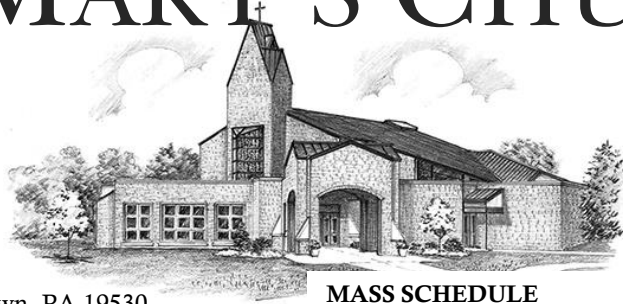


ST MARY'S CHURCH



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
Permanent Deacon	Dcn. Howard Schultz
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

DIOCESAN INFORMATION

Diocesan Policies and Procedures on Youth Protection:

www.allentowndiocese.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 Tele. 610-871-5200 x2204

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	8:30, 11:00am
Daily Masses	7:30am (Monday – Friday) 8:00am (First Saturdays)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Every

Wednesday, 7-8 pm and First Friday of the Month, 8 until 9am

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 8:00-8:20; 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 a valid and Sacramental marriage.

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.

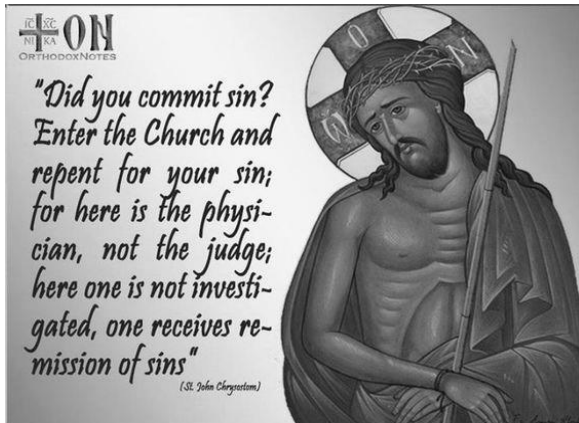
PARISH MEMBERSHIP - Welcome to St. Mary's Parish! Please contact the Parish Office to meet with Father John and become registered. We also ask those who move to notify the parish

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Education for parish children occurs September 10 through April. Contact Religious Education office: 610-683-6454 for registration.

Center-based

- Levels 1 to 5 meet every week, Sundays, 9:40-10:50am
- Level 6-8 meet the 2nd & 4th Sundays, 6-8pm
- Youth Group (9-12) Stay tuned for upcoming events.

Home-based Arrangements may be made for select grade levels, contact Ann Pergosky



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 04, 2024

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

0195-1

MASS Intentions

Mon	02-05	7:30a	Stella and Linda Serdynski
Tue	02-06	7:30a	Yvonne Fenstermacher
Wed	02-07	7:30a	Eleanor S. Painter
Thu	02-08	7:30a	Msgr. Paul Donovan
Fri	02-09	7:30a	William and Celestina Keller
Sat	02-10	4:30p	Assunta Klucsarits
Sun	02-11	8:30a	Gordon Hugo
		11:00a	People of the Parish

Altar flowers in memory of Sr. Kathleen White, MSC, this week

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun	02-04	5 th Sunday Ordinary Time: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Co 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39
Mon	02-05	1 K 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56
Tue	02-06	1 K 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13
Wed	02-07	1 K 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23
Thu	02-08	1 K 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30
Fri	02-09	1 K 11:29-32; 12:19; Mk 7:31-37
Sat	02-10	1 K 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10
Sun	02-11	6 th Sunday Ordinary: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Co 10:31—11:1; Mk 1:40-45

MUSIC MINISTRY

	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
4:30p	DeWald, Heather Casey, Peggy	Skoronski, Nathan Moore, Mark
8:30a	Skoronski, Nathan Cebenko, Steve	Spanier, Chris Moore, Mark
11:00a	Pirnot, Tom Skoronski, Katherine	Sitarik, Anne Moore, Mark

Collections Info	OLG	In Church	Expenses
Regular Collection	\$3,264.00	\$4,934.37	\$4,933.88
Building Fund	\$35.00	\$1,000.00	
Capital Campaign	\$30.00	\$40.00	
Parish Partnership	\$270.00	\$95.00	
Catholic Relief Svcs.	\$230.00	\$1,245.00	
Other Regular Income	\$155.00	\$220.00	

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 of our parish.....
..... and those that care for them



Logan Alkons	Ken Gorski	Diana Novi
Evie Barletta	Bijou Greenwood	Joanne O'Connell
Caleb Bauer	Muriel Hadnagy	Benedicta Otchere
Christopher Bennett	Devon Hanna	Rick Padilla
Claudia Berg	Jacqueline Hartz	Ed Pilarski
Greg Bradford	Linda Haurus	Pat Regensburger
Monica Bradford	Hannah Hayduk	Rosemarie Reimert
Bradford family	Kathy Henry	Bill Pettit
David Byer	Lillian Karch	Megan Roth
Nadia Cahill	Michael Karch	Nina Hertzog
Drew Cengeri	Joanne Kear	Rundle
Meaghan Clark	Patricia Keeney	Richard Rusconi
Colleen Wolff	Jane Kern	Sr. Mary Sapanara, MSC
Jerome Costanzo	Milton Kern	Tina Scatamacchia
Kim Costanzo	Joan Kiwak	Jim Sherman
Nancy Devlin-Litinsky	Carol Korbe	Barbara Shidisky
Dave Ebling	Cena Knowles	Tracy Snyder
Trent Eidle	Henry Kryeski	Nicole Sosik
Patricia Farabaugh	Edward & Rosemary Law	Todd Tanis
Paula Fehlinger	Harry Lewellen	Ralph Touch
Joey Flecher	Julie Lindsey	Amy Turko
Tammy G.	Eva Malanczuk	Christine VanDoorn
Joe Galantino	Dennis Martinsen	Phillip Vazquez
Michelle Galantino	Barry, Sharon Miller	Joseph Wawrzak
Sandra George	Elaine O. Miller	Bonnie Wessner
Lucy Ginsiorsky	Nikolette Nolte	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	Cmdr. Jason Hoch	Steve Ziegler
Eric Cunningham	Joshua Joseph	
Timothy DeVall	Dan King	
	James Knight	

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sun 02.04 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
2nd Collection-Lifeline & Mary's Shelter
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 8:30a
Elementary Religious Education, 9:40a
Baptism, 11a Mass
Level 2 Family Retreat, 1:30-4:30p
- Tue 02.06 Faith Sharing, 10a
Baptism Workshop, 6:30p
- Wed 02.07 WORLD MARRIAGE WEEK, Feb. 07-14
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7p
- Thu 02.08 Music Ministry, 7p
R.C.I.A., 7p
- Sat 02.10 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Capital Improvements
SOUPERBOWL OF CARING-after Mass
Pick up Photo Directory-after Masses

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 02.11 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
WORLD MARRIAGE DAY
2nd Collection – Capital Improvements
SOUPERBOWL OF CARING-after Masses
Pick up Photo Directory-after Masses
Elementary Religious Education, 9:40a
Men of St. Mary's meeting, 10a
No evening Religious Ed. classes this week
- Tue 02.13 Faith Sharing, 10a
Baptism Workshop, 6:30p
- Wed 02.14 ASH WEDNESDAY
Mass times: 7:30a, 12n and 7p
- Thu 02.15 Music Ministry, 7p
- Fri 02.16 Mary's Café, 7p
Lenten Friday-fast and abstinence
- Sat 02.17 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Catholic Home Missions

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Submit items by 12n one week prior to Sunday. *Submit full-page items two full weeks in advance.*

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

Watch/visit WFMZ TV Stormcenter for parish cancellation notices due to winter weather.



BAPTISM WORKSHOP 6:30p Feb. 6/13. Ann: 610-683-6454

A Word about... Lifeline Berks Co. & Mary's Shelter, Reading

Lifeline Berks County and Mary's Shelter serve the needs of pregnant women and their children. Mary's Shelter offers housing and social services addressing pregnancy, parenting and youth homelessness via proactive prevention, crisis intervention and stabilization. Your support next week, **Feb. 03/04** will help so many.

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS! St. Mary's is updating the contact information for all who are part of our parish family. Please take a moment to visit: <https://forms.gle/iFwTC4vt3CDrof4x9> or scan the code to complete the brief form. Look for paper copies in the gathering area if needed. Thanks for your help in this effort!



DRIED PALM COLLECTION- Bring dried, blessed palm from years' past to become ash for use at Ash Wednesday Masses. Ash Wednesday is Feb. 14. Find collection



LENT IS COMING! Join our parish's transformative Lenten journey: CRS RICE BOWL and meet people in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia who are working hard to overcome the challenges of hunger and the impact of climate change. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from the Gathering Area. In the 40 days of Lent, we'll reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ and work together to ensure our sisters and brothers worldwide can thrive. Visit crsricebowl.org



COOKS WITH COLLARS IS ON! Fr. John needs your help! Fr. John will represent St Mary's in this online cooking competition to raise funds for parishes and Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Allentown. Visit www.CooksWithCollars.com to see (and vote for) your favorite diocesan priests' delicious kitchen creations. **Vote early and vote often (deadline Feb. 12)** for our top chef! All proceeds benefit the parish you vote for. Your vote makes Fr. John a winner!

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FATHER JOHN MARIA
Our readings for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time reveal the desire of the Lord to bring hope and healing to fallen humanity. We are a wounded race – subject to wounds of body, mind, heart and soul. All of these trace back to that original wound at the dawn of salvation history – the original sin of our first parents in the Garden.

The Book of Job, from which our first reading is drawn, is unique in the Old Testament. It provides a reflection on the mystery of human suffering, and the drudgery of life without Christ.

In our Gospel, Christ has come & we see His desire to heal. Jesus enters the house of Simon and Andrew and heals the sickness of Simon's mother-in-law. His healing was not done, as He continued to cure many who were sick with various diseases. I think it would be safe to speculate that they were diseases of body and mind. And then, He freed people from the oppression of demons. He healed their souls.

The healing mission of Jesus continues today in his Church, in extraordinary and ordinary ways, through the sacraments of healing: the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. Sometimes our wounds are physical and apparent; sometimes they are hidden, and not fully understood even by ourselves. The Lord knows.

This week, bring your wounds and those of your family to the Lord. He is the Divine Physician!

PARISH DIRECTORY UPDATE: Thanks to several dedicated parishioners, we have a finished directory, and now have a limited release. The first 150 copies are reserved for photographed families.

Directories available in Gathering area Feb. 10 & 11 or contact the parish office to pick up your copy! 50 copies are available—first-come, first-served. We will accept names for the waiting list. Digital copies available upon request. Freewill donations welcome to defray expenses. We look forward to a full version in the coming years!

In 1990, SOUPER BOWL OF CARING began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”

Since then, more than \$170 million has been generated for local charities across the country through SOUPER BOWL OF CARING. It has become a powerful movement that transforms the time around the Big Game into the nation’s largest celebration of giving and caring for those in need.

Through this mission, people learn they can make a positive difference in the world as they collect food, raise money and serve at hunger-relief charities and show caring and compassion in local communities across the country.

Share in God’s love for your neighbors in need and give generously on SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY. All donations collected will go directly to our Tackle Hunger Charity of Choice: the **GREATER BERKS FOOD BANK**. Learn more: TackleHunger.org



Thank you for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection and for **revealing Christ’s love** to those, poor and marginalized, around the world. If you missed the collection, it’s not too late to give. Just visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections to learn more on how to give.

Thank you for your support last week, January 28/29



MARY’S CAFÉ: Friday, Feb. 16 at 7p in the Religious Ed Center, all are invited to join Father John at MARY’S CAFÉ. Our topic will be "The Sacrament of Reconciliation" More details to come. Join us!

HGA REGIONAL SCHOOL new student registrations now open for next school year! We’d love you to join our school family! For info and tour contact Head of School, Kelly Precht: kelpre@hgaschool.org 610-921-4124

SURVIVING DIVORCE—7-8p, Mondays thru March 25 at St. Benedicts, Mohnton. For info on this confidential program offering hope and healing from divorce contact **Joe Boylan, 610-781-6415 or joeboylan17@gmail.com**

ST MONICA MINISTRY HOLY HOUR: 6-7p Feb. 13. Are you heartbroken because family members have left the Church? Join the St. Monica Ministry petitioning Our Lord to draw back into the fold our loved ones who’ve strayed, to give strength and wisdom to those who await their return. Meet monthly at St. Theresa Church, Hellertown. Info: Celest StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com



CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOC MTG: 9:15a, Feb. 17, St. Joseph the Worker, Parish Center. Lenten prayers, repentance and almsgiving is a good time for grandparents to Pass On The Faith. Join the next meeting of the Catholic Grandparents and share and learn Lent traditions.

ST PAUL’S, READING 6TH ANNUAL 1 FAMILY GALA: March 3, celebrating 25th Anniversary of CRIME ALERT OF BERKS CO. at Double Tree in downtown Reading.

Crime Alert has responded to the increasing congestion and crime rate. Feature speaker: Madison Winchester, Berks Co Chiefs of Police President.

5p Cash Bar; 6p dinner. Basket raffle. Tickets: \$75 each, incl. dinner. Tkts available St. Paul’s: 610-372-1531 or stpaulsrchurch@comcast.net - Table sponsorships and patrons sponsors available. **deadline for tkts Feb. 12.**

MONDAY MINI RETREAT: Feb. 19 at St. Francis Retreat House, Easton (and virtual). Discussing: AN OVERVIEW OF SYNOD TOPICS AND PARTICIPANTS. 6p meal; 7-9p Fr. Pat McCloskey talk. Register: stfrancisretreathouse.org (select retreats/mini-retreats) or 610-258-3053 ext.0. Onsite offering \$35 (**deadline 4p Feb. 9**); virtual offering \$20 (**deadline 4p Feb. 14**).

DIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT SERIES-The Mystery of the Eucharist: featuring speakers from our Diocese. Schedule of the night: 6:30-7:30p Adoration, 7:30p presentation, 8p refreshments. The event series is as follows:

- o **Feb 19** - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Roseto, Topic "Healing" by Maggie Riggins
- o **Feb 26** - St. Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven, Topic "Presence" by Lillian Fallon
- o **March 4** - St. Catharine of Siena, Reading, Topic "Sacrifice" by Rob Johnson
- o **March 11** - Ss. Peter and Paul, Lehighton, Topic "Meal" by Kristin Osenbach
- o **March 18** - Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown, Topic "Holy" by Fr. John Trigilio

Sign up: allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/152184

MEN’S LENTEN MORNING RETREAT: 9a, March 02, St. Jane de Chantal Church, 4049 Hartley Av Easton. The Allentown Diocese’s Men’s Commission invites the men in the Diocese to attend their Lenten morning retreat. This year, the theme is “Brothers In Prayer” featuring Bishop Alfred Schlert, Fr. Alex Brown, and Fr. Keith Laskowski. The morning will include Mass, talks, and confession. Register at: www.MenAliveInChrist.org/events

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PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH BISHOP SCHLERT: Reserve your space for the JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY with Bishop Schlert & Fr. Hoffa: **Tue. March 25, 2025-Sat. April 3, 2025.** The first Diocese of Allentown International Pilgrimage will "Follow the Footsteps of Saints Peter and Paul" through Florence, Assisi, and Rome. Sign up: Fr. Allen Hoffa ahoffa@allentowndiocese.org or 610-921-2729 x 2205.





NUN RUN 5K
April 13 at 10:00 AM

Join us to support the mission and lives of our MSC Sisters: Sponsorships Live & Virtual Options

Visit: MSCreading.org
CWhitmoyer@mscreading.org

T-SHIRT DEADLINE 3/20

Fun Walk 2024

Word of Life: "A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned." ~ Pope Francis, Message for the 29th World Day of the Sick 2021; © 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. *All rights reserved*

RETROUVAILE: Rediscover the Love in your Marriage. Thousands of couples have healed their marriages at Retrouvaille (*retru-vee*). Get help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Learn to build communication skills and increase intimacy. **Next program: Feb. 16-18 weekend** at the Family Life Center in Malvern. Info or Register: 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. *All inquiries strictly confidential.* www.HelpOurMarriage.org

Daily Marriage Tip

St. John Bosco is the patron saint of young people. If you are raising adolescents and teens, ask this kindly saint for wisdom... and a healthy sense of humor!

www.foryourmarriage.org/daily-marriage-tips-archive/

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT NEEDS
Visit: www.allentowndiocese.org/about/employment

BERKS ENCORE seeks **VOLUNTEERS** for our **FRIENDLY VISITORS** program. We have several male clients who are looking for a friend to visit with and check in with once per week. Make a difference in someone else's life - become a friendly visitor! You may change your own life for the better too. For info: Michelle Goodhart 610-374-3195 ext. 225 Read about Friendly Visitors <https://berksencore.org/>

READY.SET.READ! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Tutor 2nd grade students needing extra support. No previous teaching experience required. Tipton Elementary 3:30-4:20p OR Kutztown Elementary 3:30-4:30p; One hour/week, Oct. thru May. Background clearances require; training provided. Info: Darby Wiekrykas, United Way 610-685-4574 darbyw@uwberks.org

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Does your bank advertise itself on TV? If not, it may go to other outlets to make sure you know its ultimate message: "You can trust us."

In doing so, the hope is that you will soon open an account with them. In this time of so much thievery going on, either by a masked and hooded thug approaching a victim at gunpoint across a store counter, or by the clever and callous online hacking that uses deceit as a method, pointing out the guaranteed trustworthiness of any institution is a surefire way to promote hope. In this inflationary context, do we not need to trust any entity that manages our money?

If we move over to consider our spiritual lives, which involve both a relationship with God and with our neighbor, we can easily see that we need hope, which is to trust God. That trust, which on His part neither falters nor fails, demands that we do our part to reciprocate. Our major threat is from the devil. The devil you say. Hasn't he been put on the back shelf? Out of place in our technological sophistication? Ah, but never forget that his chief strategy is to convince us that he doesn't exist. Our Lord Himself had no such doubt. He referenced Satan over thirty times in the New Testament.

God knows we see the devil's handiwork all over the place. Look how well he has done with the widespread use of pornography. The ease with which pro-abortion devotees have made the murder of children in the womb into a "women's health issue."

As we read or hear about the miraculous healings Jesus performs, both among His inner circle of friends and with anyone in need, we know He can meet any need we may have of healing. Do not be lulled into doubt by the fact that these stories took place over 2,000 years ago. That kind of thinking only damages our trust. For God a thousand years are like a day. And the Bible tells us that "Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever." If doubt starts to damage your trust, remember that the word "gospel" means "good news." That's such a matter of fact that-pardon the pun-you can "bank on it."

Once upon a time two young girls were talking and one said that she had ten pennies. The other girl looked at her hand and only saw five. She said, "You only have five pennies, silly." Then the first girl replied "I have five and my father told me he would give me five more tonight. So I have ten." She understood that her father's promise was as good as done.

God love you and give you His peace.

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

FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

LOVE BEYOND WORDS

FEBRUARY 7-14

For more information and resources, visit foryourmarriage.org.

  @foryourmarriage



National Marriage Week USA
MARRIAGE IS WORTH IT! • EVERY FEB 7-14



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