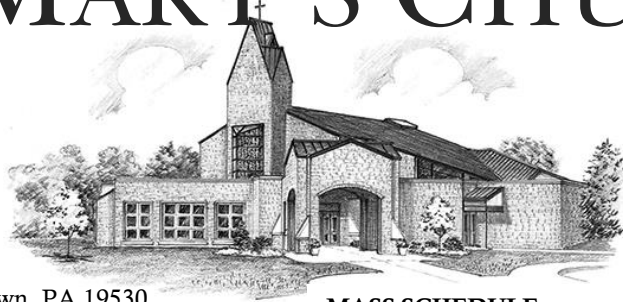


ST MARY'S CHURCH



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
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
O 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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JULY 14, 2024

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

0195-1

MASS Intentions

Mon 07-15	7:30a	Clara Fernando
Tue 07-16	7:30a	Robert Jacob Plumage
Wed 07-17	7:30a	David Mormack
Thu 07-18	7:30a	William and Celestina Keller
Fri 07-19	7:30a	Margaret Nolan
Sat 07-20	4:30p	John R. Adriansen
Sun 07-21	8:30a	Sophie Porambo
	11:00a	People of the Parish

Call the parish office to sponsor altar flowers in memory

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun 07-14	15 th Sunday Ordinary Time- Am 7:12-15; Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10; Mk 6:7-13
Mon 07-15	Is 1:10-17; Mt 10:34—11:1
Tue 07-16	Is 7:1-9; Mt 11:20-24
Wed 07-17	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Mt 11:25-27
Thu 07-18	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Mt 11:28-30
Fri 07-19	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Mt 12:1-8
Sat 07-20	Mic 2:1-5; Mt 12:14-21
Sun 07-21	16 th Sunday Ordinary Time-Jr 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

MUSIC MINISTRY

	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
4:30p	Skoronski, Nate Moore, Mark	Moore, Mark Casey, Peggy
8:30a	Spanier, Chris Moore, Mark	Talarico, Tim Cebenkeno, Steve
11:00a	Thomas, Cathy Talarico, Tim	DeWald, Heather Talarico, Tim

OLG and in church collections from: 06/30 07/07 Expenses

Regular Collection	\$5,125.50	\$4,931.11
Building Fund	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Capital Campaign	\$92.50	\$35.00
Parish Partnership	\$65.00	\$40.00
Holy Father	\$933.00	
Other Reg. Collections	\$45.00	\$50.00

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING?

1. Visit 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



Please pray for the sick of our parish.....
..... and those that care for them



Logan Alkons	Bijou Greenwood	Shannon Morris
Evie Barletta	Muriel Hadnagy	Nikolette Nolte
Caleb Bauer	Devon Hanna	Diana Novi
Christopher Bennett	Jacqueline Hartz	Joanne O'Connell
Claudia Berg	Linda Haurus	Benedicta Otchere
Greg Bradford	Kathy Henry	Rick Padilla
Monica Bradford	Glenn Hertzog	Ed Pilarski
Bradford family	Lillian Karch	Pat Regensburger
William G. Brady	Michael Karch	Rosemarie Reimert
Nadia Cahill	Joanne Kear	Bill Pettit
Meaghan Clark	Patricia Keeney	Patrick Ritter
Colleen Wolff	Jane Kern	Megan Roth
Nancy Devlin-Litinsky	Milton Kern	Nina Hertzog
Dave Ebling	Carol Korbe	Rundle
Trent Eidle	John Korbe	Richard Rusconi
Patricia Farabaugh	Cena Knowles	Tina Scatamacchia
Ashley Geidner	Henry Kryeski	Jim Sherman
Farhat	Edward & Rosemary Law	Barbara Shidisky
Paula Fehlinger	Harry Lewellen	Tracy Snyder
Florentine Firlein	Rick Lewis	Nicole Sosik
Joey Flecher	Julie Lindsey	Arlene Stadalnik
Tammy G.	Eva Malanczuk	Todd Tanis
Joe Galantino	Dennis Martinsen	Ralph Touch
Michelle Galantino	Julie Belle Mearns	Amy Turko
Sandra George	Barry, Sharon Miller	Christine VanDoorn
Lucy Ginsiorsky	Elaine O. Miller	Joseph Wawrzak
Ken Gorski	Geoff Miller	Bonnie Wessner

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

Please Pray for all those serving our nation

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

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

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

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sun 07.14 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
2nd Collection – Capital Improvements
Men of St. Mary's meeting, 10a
- Tue 07.16 Faith Sharing, 10a
- Wed 07.17 Adoratoin of the Blessed Sacrament, *No confessions*, 7-8p
- Thu 07.18 *No music ministry*
- Sat 07.20 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – the Church in Central/Eastern Europe

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 07.21 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Natural Family Planning Week, July 21-27
2nd Collection – Church in Central & E. Europe
- Tue 07.23 Faith Sharing, 10a
- Wed 07.24 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
- Thu 07.25 Music Ministry, 7p
O.C.I.A. Information Night, 7p
- Sat 07.27 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Parish Partnership

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Submit items by Monday 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.*

RELIGIOUS EDUC. REGISTRATION now open!

To get started visit:

[www.stmaryskutztown.com/prep-at-st-marys/register now!](http://www.stmaryskutztown.com/prep-at-st-marys/register-now!)



HOLIDAY BAZAAR MEETING - 6p, Aug. 6 in the Parish Center/Rectory. All involved with the Bazaar should please try to attend. Anyone interested Bazaar help is also welcome. Debbie Massa: dmas106@hotmail.com or Theresa Bieak: tchbieak_5@hotmail.com.

DO YOU HAVE A SOFA? Seeking a clean sofa for the Rel. Ed. Center. If you have a nice, spare sofa to donate call Ann at the Rel. Ed. Ctr.: 610-683-6454 or email a photo: reled@stmaryskutztown.com



PENCIL BOXES NEEDED: The Religious Ed. program needs pencil boxes for students this Fall. Plastic rectangle "to-go" containers from restaurants are an ideal width/length. Please leave them in the special Gathering Area box. Thank you!



THE LORD CALLS EVERY SOUL TO KNOW HIS LOVE AND MERCY. Each of us is called to strive to know Him in the fullness of Truth; not settle for partial truths, passing fads or imitations that won't satisfy our heart's longing.

He founded His Church upon the Rock of Peter to teach with His authority. He sent the apostles forth to baptize in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. He entrusted these truths and graces to the Catholic Church.



Do you have a friend or loved one who is open to hearing this call of Christ, and to being received into the

Catholic Church? **Might YOU** be that someone who's been a friend of St. Mary's parish, but have hesitated to take the step toward becoming Catholic?

Jesus is still calling! St. Mary's parish will host an Earlybird Information Night Thursday, July 25 to discuss the call of Jesus, and explain the process that begins this Fall with weekly meetings starting Sept. There is no pressure or obligation to commit immediately.

The **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)** is a prayer and study journey, culminating in union with Christ at Easter 2025.

For more info, no need to wait 'til Sept! Contact Fr. John Maria: 610-683-7443. We'd love for you to join us!

INVITE ONE BACK: We can all pray for those who do not embrace the fullness of the faith, partake of God's mercy or the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for them, and for guidance in your relationships with them. It all begins with prayer.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FATHER JOHN MARIA

On this 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, the common theme that permeates Sunday's readings is that God chooses His messengers. Sometimes, He chooses those with great natural skill. Most often, the Lord seems to choose unlikely candidates. This was true in the time of the prophet Amos, as well as in the time of the call of the Apostles. In the Gospel, Jesus sent them forth two by two, without material provisions. He was teaching them to rely upon Him, and to strengthen one another, as they went forth to preach repentance, to bring deliverance from the power of evil and to heal the sick.

While some are called to a particular vocation of service, all Christians are called to holiness, and to spread the Good News of Christ, to be salt and leaven in their circles of influence. If you feel inadequate for the task, put your worries aside! The Lord equips those He calls!

Pray for grace and courage, and be open to opportunities the Lord will present. You've never met a person who didn't need a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ!

And of course as always, please pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood in the Diocese of Allentown!

Listen to God's call



CHURCH DIRECTORY

THE NEXT PARISH DIRECTORY: For many years, St.

Mary's has done a parish directory every five years or so. This has been a great way for parishioners to stay connected. To keep this tradition alive, we seek a group of people to help create the next directory. Lifetouch went out of business during the pandemic while working on our 2020 directory, but there are other companies now available.

The directory team will work with a photo directory company to organize photo sessions and content. Fr. John will assist the team by suggesting potential companies and giving input on the directory content. We aim to start in early fall with a release hoped for 2025. As always, extra hands make for lighter work! We seek a small team, including a chair or co-chairs. If interested, please email Fr. John: pastor@stmaryskutztown.com and he will gather a team, and plan a meeting.

A Word About: Churches in Central & Eastern Europe

Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that struggle to recover from former Communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. Learn more: www.usccb.org/ccce.

Your support July 20/21 is most appreciated

Merciful and loving God, we ask you to bless those in Central and Eastern Europe who have suffered oppression because of their faith. Help us to stand in solidarity with them and to be beacons of hope as they renew their faith communities.

May the strength of their faith inspire us to persevere in ours.

For this, we ask the intercession of the Albanian martyrs. When faced with political persecution, these men and women remained faithful and gave their lives for love of you.

May their sacrifice be a witness of the power of the Resurrection.

We ask you to grant us the same spirit of hope that rose up in them.

Bless us with the same spirit of fortitude that was unfailing in them.

Fill us with the same spirit of love that only you can give. Amen.

Your people shall rebuild the ancient ruins; the foundations from ages past you shall raise up; "Repairer of the breach," they shall call you, "Restorer of ruined dwellings." —Isaiah 58:12

As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.

1 Peter 4:10.



GOD'S GARDENERS: Do you have a green thumb? St. Mary's seeks team members to tidy up and weed parish landscape beds. Can you help "Collect the weeds"? *Mt 13:30* Call the parish office for details.



HOLY SMOKES-The Diabolical Strategies against Catholic Men

12n-2p, July 27, St. Mary's Pavilion, Kutztown. The devil wants your souls. Learn about his satanic strategies and how to

combat them the Catholic Way. Guided by Fr. John Maria. Sit back and make new friends.

CONSIDERING A CHANGE FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUC.

EXPERIENCE? HGA Regional School registration is open for 2024-2025, Prek thru 8th Grade. Learn more, email Head of School Kelly Precht: Kelpre@hgaschool.org

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SUMMER FESTIVAL: 5-9:30p July 19 and 20, Mahantongo St, Pottsville. Great food, Games of chance, Games for kids/teens, Pot Luck, and live Music! Info: stjohnpottsville.org

RETROUVAILLE: 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 weekend programs: Aug. 09-11 and Oct. 4-6** at the Family Life Center in Malvern. Info or Register: 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. *All inquiries strictly confidential.* www.HelpOurMarriage.org

REVIVE: A RETURN TO JOY: Aug 09-11 weekend Retreat, St. Francis Retreat House, Easton. Humorous presenter Jeanne Hunt will share that joy is ours for the asking. Meals and private room included. Register by July 26: stfrancisretreathouse.org/retreats/

ITALIAN FAMILY PICNIC: 12:30-2p, Aug. 11, Victor Emmanuel Grove, sponsored by Holy Rosary, Reading. Admission by wrist band only (\$20 pp, under 12 free). Live music. Contact Christine: 610-373-5579

HISPANIC MEN'S CONFERENCE (in Spanish) We invite the entire community of Hispanic men to the Men's Conference that will take place 7a-3p, Sept. 7th, at St Mary's Parish in Hamburg. *This conference will be entirely in Spanish.* The opening 8a Mass will be officiated by Bishop Alfred Schlert. We will also be joined by Fr. Eder Estrada (Franciscan of Maria) of Coatesville, Fr. Eduardo Rodriguez of Reading and Fr. Angel Garcia of Allentown. Register: allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/169404 Info: Freddy Morales, freddymorales1533@yahoo.com, Felix Pereira, borinken.fp@gmail.com.

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

SAVE THE DATE - YOUR LIFE RETREAT Malvern Retreat House. For men (**Sept 06-08**) and women (**Sept. 13-15**) a period of refreshment, support, and reassurance. Learn and focus on the gift of your life—reflect, and improve personal communion with the Lord. Info: Anthony Scarselletti, OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com or 610-393-4671

SAVE THE DATES! The first Diocesan Local Pilgrimage will be to The National Centre for Padre Pio. “MY HEART-A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HEART OF JESUS”.

Diocesan HS Pilgrimage – Thu. Sept. 19, 2024

Diocesan Pilgrimage in English – Fri. Sept. 20, 2024

Diocesan Pilgrimage in Spanish – Sat. Sept. 28, 2024

Includes: Mass with Bishop Schlert; Confession; Engaging Speaker; Eucharistic Procession and much more!

IRELAND IN OCTOBER: Pilgrimage to Ireland with Fr. Hoffa, pastor at HGA. Itinerary: Galway, Our Lady of Knock, Cliffs of Moher, Killarney, Dingle Peninsula and Dublin. Cost \$4,999 includes airfare from *anywhere* in the US. *A few spots remain!* Info: <https://bit.ly/3WrEzfe> or email ahoffa@hgaparish.com

PILGRIMAGE TOUR TO MEXICO: Oct. 5-11, with Fr. Phil Rogers, St. Patrick’s, Pottsville. Visit Our Lady of Guadalupe, Tepeyac Hill, Zocalo Plaza, Tlaxcala, Our Lady of Ocotlan. \$2,150 PP/DO. Info: Debbie 570-622-1802 ext 0.

Daily Marriage Tip

Are you a perfectionist? It’s natural to want to do a good job, but don’t let the perfect be the enemy of the good. Don’t take yourself too seriously.

foryourmarriage.org

Enjoy our parish subscription to Formed.org an incredible online gateway to the BEST Catholic content, all in one place. Find movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks and even eBooks – and grow in your faith as a true follower of Jesus Christ!

It’s EASY and FREE to Register! Just visit formed.org with a web browser, and click on “SIGN UP”, then... Click on “SIGN UP AS A PARISHIONER”. Type in 19530 to find St. Mary’s account, then enter your email & create a password! Enjoy, and grow closer to Christ!



Word of Life: “Adopting Andrew has made us more aware of God’s power and of his love for us. We realize that he always has a perfect plan for our lives.” Read

more: www.bit.ly/AdoptionLoveStory ~ *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities; “An Adoption Love Story”*

DAILY SUBSTITUTES K-8TH GRADE: Work with Holy Guardian Angels Regional School family. Submit cover letter, resume, and all certifications and clearances. Email: kelpre@hgaschool.org

BERKS ENCORE seeks **VOLUNTEERS** for our **FRIENDLY VISITORS** program. Make a difference in someone else’s life - become a friendly visitor!. For info: Michelle Goodhart 610-374-3195 ext. 225 Read about Friendly Visitors <https://berksencore.org/get-involved>

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS

Visit: www.allentowndioocese.org/about/employment

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

The Twelve hear the message of Jesus and are sent forth to preach the Good News. His instructions are a checklist for missionaries that includes how to react to hospitality and its opposite.

“Travel light” is the watchword when you pack not only for a summertime trip but also for any trip any time. For a lot of us, including me, there is always a looming temptation to pack for the unknown event, as well as for the known. Airlines demand that we adhere to weight restrictions. Railroad baggage cars are less strict, but they still have their own rules. Our SUVs permit more luggage than a sedan trunk does, but there are limits.

This weekend’s Gospel from St. Mark finds Our Lord Jesus providing a travel checklist for His first missionary disciples. After all, they depended on what their backs and bare feet could bear. Our Lord even included a strategy for handling hospitality or its opposite.

I believe that traveling light is a good way to ply the task of being Christ’s missionaries. There are imaginary travel restrictions here as well. If, for example, we unwittingly were to pack an immature faith that we never nourished after our elementary school religious education, we could do harm to our message. When so much good information is out there, including the Catholic Catechism and many other sources, misinformation is criminal if not sinful.

Take for example, how you have educated yourself about car insurance or buying a house. Your knowledge of the faith should have kept up if you are to be a knowledgeable Catholic prepared to answer questions from inquiring outsiders.

One obstacle we need to overcome. That’s when we let the devil convince us that we’re not worthy to be Christ’s partners in spreading the Gospel. Or allow him to convince us that we have too much baggage for making our faith journey.

Notice how Amos proclaims that he was chosen for his prophetic task. So does the first and best missionary St. Paul about his being chosen to be full of love. We need to remember that when we start packing.

Of course, packing without a plan can also be a problem. Once upon a time a man named Tom set off on a globetrotting adventure across five countries. He was too busy daydreaming about exotic destinations to remember the most basic essentials. Lo and behold, he arrived at his first destination only to realize he had forgotten his trusty toothbrush. In a desperate attempt to find a replacement, he ended up using everything from his finger to a twig that he found by a riverbank.

God love you and let Him help you pack.