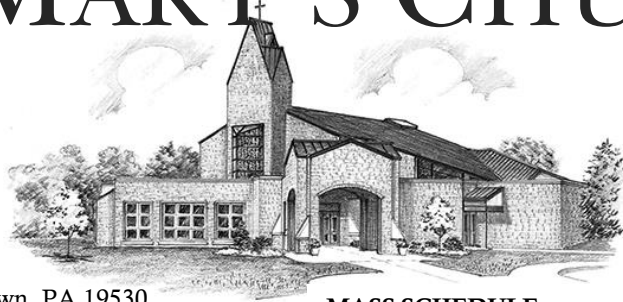


ST MARY'S CHURCH



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

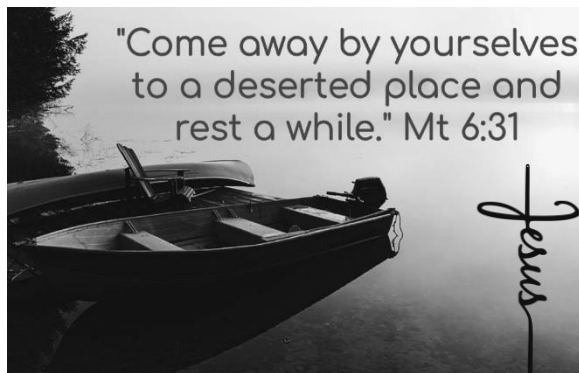
Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JULY 21, 2024

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

0195-1

MASS Intentions

Mon 07-22	7:30a	Mary Voli
Tue 07-23	7:30a	Rose Iannuzzi
Wed 07-24	7:30a	Patricia Laub
Thu 07-25	7:30a	Mary Ann Schepers
Fri 07-26	7:30a	Intentions of Sr. Theresa Lepera, MSC
Sat 07-27	4:30p	Joseph Soga
Sun 07-28	8:30a	People of the Parish
	11:00a	Jean Vasko

*Altar flowers in memory of Mary Voli
Blessed Sacrament Candle in memory of Joseph Soga this week*

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun 07-21	16 th Sunday Ordinary Time-Jr	23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34
Mon 07-22	Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Co 5:14-17; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18	
Tue 07-23	Mic 7:14-15, 18-20; Mt 12:46-50	
Wed 07-24	Jr 1:1, 4-10; Mt 13:1-9	
Thu 07-25	2 Co 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28	
Fri 07-26	Jr 3:14-17; Mt 13:18-23	
Sat 07-27	Jr 7:1-11; Mt 13:24-30	
Sun 07-28	17 th Sunday Ordinary Time- 2 K 4:42-44; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15	

MUSIC MINISTRY

	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
4:30p	Moore, Mark Casey, Peggy	Spanier, Amelia Casey, Peggy
8:30a	Talarico, Tim Cebenکو, Steve	Skoronski, Nate Cebenکو, Steve
11:00a	DeWald, Heather Talarico, Tim	Sitarik, Anne Cebenکو, Steve

Regular Collection	<i>Income publication</i>	<i>info not deadline</i>	<i>available at this week</i>
Building Fund			
Capital Campaign			
Parish Partnership			
Holy Father			
Other Reg. Collections			

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
David Covey	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 Meares	Amy Turbo
Sandra George	Barry, Sharon Miller	Christine VanDoorn
Lucy Ginsiorsky	Elaine O. Miller	Joseph Wawrzak
Ken Gorski	Geoff Miller	Bonnie Wessner
		Colleen Wolff

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 O'Donnell
John Boyer	Michael Allen Haak	Menaka Nayyar & Anthony Pirnot
Matthew Boyer	Diane Henry	Jake Schmeck
Jonathan Cardé	Cmdr. Jason Hoch	Phillip Talarico
Eric Cunningham	Joshua Joseph	Steve Ziegler
Timothy DeVall	Dan King	
Anthony DiPietro	James Knight	

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

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

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sun 07.21 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
- Fri 07.26 Mary's Café, 7p**
- Sat 07.27 Holy Smokes, at pavilion, 12n-2p**
Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Parish Partnership

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 07.28 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY
- Tue 07.30 Agapè Faith Sharing, in REC, 11a**
- Wed 07.31 Finance meeting, 6:30p**
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
- Thu 08.01 No Music ministry**
- Fri 08.02 1st Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8-9a**
- Sat 08.03 1st Saturday daily Mass, 8a**
Pray the Rosary, 4p

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Submit items by the 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!)

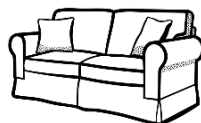


HOLIDAY BAZAAR MEETING - 6p, Aug. 6 in the Parish Center/Rectory. All involved with the Bazaar please attend. Anyone interested in Bazaar help is also welcome. Debbie Massa: dmas106@hotmail.com or Theresa Bieak: tchbieak_5@hotmail.com.

BAPTISM PREP WORKSHOP 7p, Aug. 12 and 19. Contact Ann Pergosky to register/info: 610-683-6454

TRAVELING THIS SUMMER? Visit www.MassTimes.org for nationwide Mass times/locations. Free lookups.

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



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

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!

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.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FR. JOHN MARIA In our readings for the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, we see how the Lord desires to care for our needs, and has appointed leaders to guide His people - in both the Old and the New Covenant. He uses an image familiar to their culture – the shepherd.

In our first reading from Jeremiah, we find the Old Testament people of God at a low point, when their shepherds had failed to keep God's covenant, and instead sought to curry the favor of their worldly neighbors. Remarkably, the Lord promises that the day will come when "I myself will gather" and tend the needs of His flock. The beautiful words of the familiar Psalm 23 echo this: The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want."

And in our Gospel, we see the Lord's promise coming to fulfillment. He had truly come, and His heart is moved with pity, as they were like sheep without a shepherd. In our everyday lives, there is so much noise that threatens to drown out the voice of Jesus, the Shepherd of our Souls. Heed the voice of Jesus, who says, "Come away to a deserted place and rest a while." Seek silence, and listen for the voice of Jesus! He is calling to your heart!



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

This week our special collection supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation helps restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries still struggling to recover from former Communist rule and now the war in Ukraine. Funds support reconstruction, education, formation, and poverty outreach. Thank you for your generosity today. Learn more at www.usccb.org/ccce

Your support this week 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

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.

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



Matthew 5:16

SHARE YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST! The Lord sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to equip His Church to take the Good News to the ends of the earth, and the world would never be the same. His Church here still needs witnesses willing to share their faith. Over 100 parish children/youth—gr. 1-12—will come to us to better know Jesus and our Catholic faith.

We have an opening for Level Five Catechist. Please consider offering your time and talent for this important role! As you nurture the faith of our young, you will learn and grow in your faith as well. Training, materials and support are provided. Learn more: Ann Pergosky: 610-683-6454 reled@stmaryskutztown.com

"Your light must shine before others!" Mt 5:16



MARY'S CAFÉ: Friday, July 26 at 7p in the Religious Ed Center, all are invited to join Father John at "Mary's Cafe". Our topic will be "Diabolical Strategies in the 21st Century."

In these sweltering days of summer, the faithful Christian might naturally wonder: "If we think this is bad, imagine how bad hell would be!" At Mary's Café on Friday, July 26, at 7p, Fr. John will address that, and related questions. What is the Biblical teaching on hell and the evil one? Does the Church still believe and teach it? (Spoiler alert: *Yes*). What are his strategies? How do we fight back?

"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 available, hope to see you Fri. July 26 at 7p in the REC.

CONSIDER A CHANGE FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUC. HGA Regional School registration is open for 2024-2025, Prek thru 8th Grade (*space limited, esp. PreK, 1 & 6*). Learn more, email Head of School Kelly Precht: Kelpre@hgaschool.org



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.

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/

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.* Bishop Schlert will celebrate the 8a Mass. Also present: Fr. Eder Estrada (*Franciscan of Maria*), Coatesville, Fr. Eduardo Rodriguez of Reading and Fr. Angel Garcia, Allentown. Register: allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/169404 Info: Freddy Morales, freddymorales1533@yahoo, Felix Pereira, borinken.fp@gmail.com.

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.

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!

Daily Marriage Tip

Some spouses need to bit their tongues jore; others need to loosen their tongues and share more. Which are you? With time, hopefully, you can find the middle ground that is “just right.”

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!

STRUGGLING WITH SEXUAL ADDICTION? Help is available. There is now a Sexaholics Anonymous Group in central Berks County. For more info or to speak with a member of the Lumen Christi Commission (LCC), the diocesan response to issue of pornography, please contact LCC Commission Chair Fr. Allen Hoffa at 610-921-2729 ext. 2205 or adlumenchristi@allentowndiocese.org All inquires are confidential.

Word of Life: “Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together.” ~ *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; “Married Love and the Gift of Life”*

SUPPORT HGA REGIONAL SCHOOL: Donate \$5 and get **25% off shopping pass** for Boscov's Friends Helping Friends sale date **Oct. 22**. Contact 610-929-4124 or email HolyGuardianAngelsRegionalSchool.square.site

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS

Visit: www.allentowndiocese.org/about/employment

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

“The stage is set,” so to speak, for the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Meanwhile, we see the temporary popularity of Jesus and His wonderful compassion for the people who have followed Him.

Magnets have long fascinated me. The first time I held one and watched a bunch of paper clips fly to it started my interest. Later I saw them hold forth on a refrigerator, where they anchored hand-crafted birthday cards created by a 2nd grader, along with trinkets gained from travel. Today I make them work to hold up doctor's appointments, or seasonal invitations. I even own a powerful pair of hook magnets that I place on both sides of a storm door glass strong enough to hold a heavy Christmas wreath.

By extension, the word “magnetic” comes along to describe another kind of attraction. For example, a popular Catholic radio personality on Sirius XM radio named Gus Lloyd has produced a booklet all about the “qualities of a magnetic Catholic.”

Today's Gospel from Mark highlights the ultimate magnetism that Jesus had for His followers. Soon enough, they got to experience His beautiful compassion for them as He feeds a large crowd with a few loaves and fishes.

Time for us here and now to reflect a bit on this magnetism of Jesus. Obviously, the chief source of it is His divine nature. Even though the people of His time would only learn of it in stages, they will ultimately get to see a side of God not immediately obvious: His compassion. Loaves and fishes multiplied become the sign that will lead the people to ask themselves “What sort of man is this?”

Meanwhile, we who are blest with bibles and faith nurtured by prayer and study will have the answer. Yet we must also determine whether we have allowed the magnetism of our Risen Lord to work on us?

Sometimes I think we have built up some kind of blockage to hold sway. It could be by an unquestioned acceptance of the twisted values of our present First World culture that features a complete disregard for life at either end via abortion or euthanasia. Or the steady devaluation of legitimate civil or Church authority witnessed by the cable news cycle. Or that selectivity about Church teachings popularly known as “Cafeteria Catholicism.” The latter leads to a casual dismissal of the Eucharistic presence of Jesus in the consecrated bread and wine that become His Body and Blood.

The magnetism of Christ is never completely blocked. But God will never force Himself on us. For we always have His gift of free will. I find it always helps when I remember that “the powers-that-be” will someday be “the powers-that-have-been.”

God love you and help you to be a magnetic Catholic.