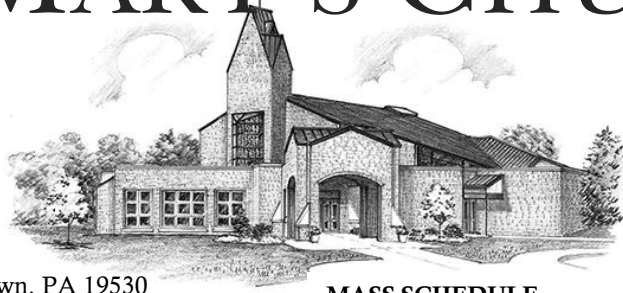


ST MARY'S CHURCH



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

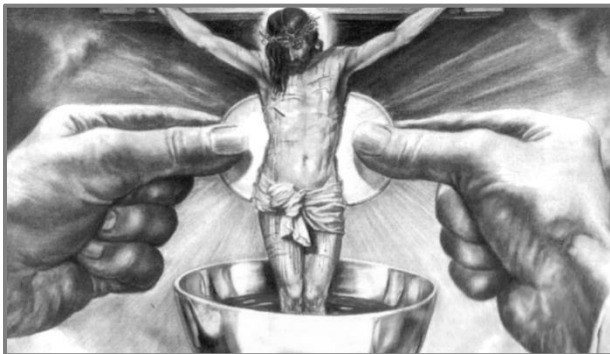
Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

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

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 04, 2024

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

0195-1

MASS Intentions

Mon	08-05	7:30a	In Thanksgiving
Tue	08-06	7:30a	Bradford Bachman
Wed	08-07	7:30a	William and Celestina Keller
Thu	08-08	7:30a	Helen S. Tucker
Fri	08-09	7:30a	Jim Corson
Sat	08-10	4:30p	People of the Parish
Sun	08-11	8:30a	Raymond and Julie Bieak
		11:00a	Wesley Kriebel

Call parish office to sponsor altar flowers in someone's memory

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun	08-04	18 th Sunday Ordinary Time-Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35
Mon	08-05	Jr 28:1-17; Mt 14:13-21
Tue	08-06	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mk 9:2-10
Wed	08-07	Jr 31:1-7; Mt 15:21-28
Thu	08-08	Jr 31:31-34; Mt 16:13-23
Fri	08-09	Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Mt 16:24-28
Sat	08-10	2 Co 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26
Sun	08-11	19 th Sunday Ordinary Time -1 K 19:4-8; Eph 4:30—5:2; Jn 6:41-51

MUSIC MINISTRY

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

Collection info	OLG	In Church	Expenses
Regular Collection	\$3,209.00	\$6,262.00	\$21,414.88
Building Fund	\$35.00	\$1,000.00	
Capital Campaign	\$30.00	\$85.00	
Parish Partnership	\$300.00	\$870.00	
Other Reg. Collections		\$405.00	



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 the parish office.

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



Logan Alkons	Muriel Hadnagy	Diana Novi
Evie Barletta	Devon Hanna	Joanne O'Connell
Caleb Bauer	Jacqueline Hartz	Benedicta Otchere
Christopher Bennett	Linda Haurus	Rick Padilla
Claudia Berg	Kathy Henry	Ed Pilarski
Greg Bradford	Glenn Hertzog	Pat Regensburger
Monica Bradford	Lillian Karch	Rosemarie Reimert
Bradford family	Michael Karch	Bill Pettit
William G. Brady	Joanne Kear	Kerry Rauenzahn
Nadia Cahill	Patricia Keeney	Patrick Ritter
Meaghan Clark	Jane Kern	Megan Roth
David Covey	Milton Kern	Nina Hertzog
Nancy Devlin-Litinsky	Carol Korbe	Rundle
Dave Ebling	John Korbe	Richard Rusconi
Trent Eidle	Cena Knowles	Tina Scatamacchia
Patricia Farabaugh	Henry Kryeski	Jim Sherman
Ashley Geidner	Edward & Rosemary Law	Barbara Shidisky
Farhat	Rick Lewis	Tracy Snyder
Paula Fehlinger	Julie Lindsey	Nicole Sosik
Florentine Firlein	Eva Malanczuk	Arlene Stadalnik
Joey Flecher	Dennis Martinsen	Todd Tanis
Tammy G.	Julie Belle Meares	Ralph Touch
Joe Galantino	Barry, Sharon Miller	Amy Turko
Michelle Galantino	Elaine O. Miller	Christine VanDoorn
Sandra George	Geoff Miller	Paul Vasko
Lucy Ginsiorsky	Shannon Morris	Joseph Wawrzak
Ken Gorski	Nikolette Nolte	Bonnie Wessner
Bijou Greenwood		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 08.04 18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Tue 08.06 Faith Sharing, 10a
Ladies Aux. Holiday Bazaar planning mtg.,
Parish Ctr., 6p
Wed 08.07 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7p
Thu 08.08 Music Ministry, 7p
Sat 08.10 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Capital Improvements

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 08.11 19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
2nd Collection – Capital Improvement
Men of St. Mary's meeting, 10a
Mon 08.12 Baptism Prep. workshop, 7p
Tue 08.13 Faith Sharing, 10a
Wed 08.14 Vigil Mass, Assumption of Mary, 7p
Thu 08.15 SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY
Masses 12n and 7p
Catechist meeting, 5:30p
Sat 08.17 Pray the Rosary, 4p
Special Diocesan Collection – National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception-*free will*

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!

Classes begin Sept. 15.

To get started visit:

www.stmaryskutztown.com/prep-at-st-marys/register
register now!



HOLIDAY BAZAAR MEETING - 6p, Aug. 6 in the Social Hall. 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.

The next **BAPTISM PREP WORKSHOP** is 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.

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.



THE BASILICA
of the NATIONAL SHRINE
of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SPECIAL DIOCESAN COLLECTION- NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

At the 100th Anniversary of the First Mass offered at the Shrine in Washington, D.C., the Diocese of Allentown, and nationwide dioceses, will take a 'no envelope', cash collection August 17/18, part of a larger endeavor to support Shrine Infrastructure Renewal.

THE NEXT PARISH DIRECTORY: For many years, St. Mary's has published 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.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FR. JOHN MARIA

In our readings for the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, we have yet more Scriptural foundation for Catholic belief in the Holy Eucharist, the Most Blessed Sacrament.

In the Book of Exodus, we find God's people journeying through the wilderness to the Promised Land. They had already seen many wonders and signs of God's care, and yet, they were hungry. Their hunger was understandable. Their attitude was not.

They so quickly lost sight of all that was good, and they grumbled against God and His chosen prophet, Moses. Despite their sarcasm and ingratitude, the Lord provided for their physical needs with manna—mysterious bread from heaven. In providing for their needs in the moment, He gave a hint of an even greater miracle to come – the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

Do we fall into times of grumbling, forgetting about the many good things in our lives? This week, take time to reflect upon the great blessings of God, and give thanks. Ponder with gratitude the staggering gift of His Presence in the Blessed Sacrament!

Come and visit the Lord during our weekly Holy Hour of Adoration on Wednesdays, from 7pm to 8pm!

“The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white Host.”

Venerable Fulton J. Sheen

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! Weekly meetings begin in 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!

DO YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS you spare to make pierogies



(for the Nov. 2 Holiday Bazaar) the Sept. Mondays after Labor Day? Help is needed for a few shifts, and everyone is done by 2p. Haven't helped before?? Friends will 'catch you up'. *lunch provided.* Make new friends! Questions? Mary Alkons-610-683-5443



DIVERSE IN CULTURE, NATION RACE: Listen to our new September hymn: *Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race* at www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zBiIBuJSIA

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month.

For political leaders: We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

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

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

THROUGH THE HANDS OF OUR LADY-A Personal Witness: after 9:30a Mass, Aug. 11, St. Theresa, Hellertown. Seminarian Dominic Civitella shares his Catholicism reversion and entry into seminary, and the role of Our Lady and all the saints, especially St. Monica; light refreshments. RSVP: StMonicaministry27@gmail.com

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

ST MONICA MINISTRY HOLY HOUR: 6p Aug 13. Join Dcn. Christopher May, and the St. Monica Ministry petitioning Our Lord to draw our loved ones who've strayed back into the fold, to give strength and wisdom to those who await their return. Monthly meeting and book discussion follows Holy Hour. St. Theresa Church, Hellertown. Info: StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com

SANTO NINO FESTIVAL: Aug. 18. 1:30p Mass followed by a Multicultural Social at Immaculate Conception, Douglassville. All are welcome. To reserve your seats, to volunteer or to perform: 610-670-1429.



BETHLEHEM CATHOLIC GOLF OUTING: Sept 06, Whitetail Golf Club. \$130 pp includes green fees, snacks, soda, catered lunch & *mulligans, pot-of-gold registration, & raffle tickets.* Register by Aug. 23. Benefits BCHS athletic dept. rdowney@becahi.org for more info/sponsorships.

MASS-OUR LADY OF KNOCK: Commemorative Mass, 4:30p, Aug. 24, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall. The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOL) is open to Catholics of Irish descent, by birth or marriage. Embrace friendship, unity and charity. *Donate schools supplies for Diocesan Elementary schools.* Learn more: Maura lehighballeyLAOHprez@gmail.com

HISPANIC MEN'S CONFERENCE (in Spanish) We invite the entire community of Hispanic men to the Men's Conference taking place **7a-3p, Sept. 7**, 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.com, 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

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

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH BISHOP SCHLERT:

Reservations are open 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.

Daily Marriage Tip

Technology is wonderful when it works, but sometimes it robs couples of face time. Use tools like email, Facebook, and texting to connect with each other, not disconnect. A live spouse is better than a virtual one. foryourmarriage.org

AUGUST IS MAKE-A-WILL MONTH. Do you have a bank account? Investments or digital assets? A pet? Are you a parent? Own your own home? A Business? Are you on social media? If yes to any of these, a will is essential.

FreeWill, made available for free by the Diocese of Allentown, is a confidential, online estate planning tool to create or update your legally-binding will, in 20 minutes! Visit: www.freewill.com/allentowndiocese

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

Word of Life: “We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life” (EV 86). ~ Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

KNOW THE FACTS - VOTER REGISTRATION IN PA:

Are you registered to vote? If not, here’s how. Check with your county voter registration office. The last day to register is usually a month before the election. Individuals applying to register to vote must be:

- ✓ **a citizen of the United States** for at least one month before the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.
- ✓ **a resident of Pennsylvania** and the election district in which the individual desires to register and vote for at least 30 days before the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.
- ✓ **at least 18 years of age** on or before the day of the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.

Details about voting in PA: www.votespa.com

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS

Visit: www.allentowndiocese.org/about/employment

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

When I was a pastor, long before such practice had to be done away with, I used to hire high school students to answer the rectory phone on weekday nights. One of them was a rather chubby boy. Over a relatively short time he lost a good bit of weight. That prompted me to ask him how he did it. His ready answer: “I stopped eating bread.”

Most weight conscious people nowadays who want to lower the number on the scale know that eating bread’s a “no-no.” So, when that tempting warm basket of rolls proffered by their server at the restaurant comes to the table, they sense a challenge. They would envy a certain 92-year-old lady I know who gobbles up much of the contents with gusto and she even freely adds to the bunch!

The Israelites in biblical times apparently had no such qualms, at least as we know about. They loved their fresh-baked bread and knew it to be a happy complement to their wine intake. So, when Jesus first talked about the “heavenly bread” He would give them, they might have thought of the manna their ancestors survived on in their desert sojourn. In turn, they blithely asked Him to “give them this bread always.”

When Jesus clarified the subject, they were mostly flabbergasted. Bread His flesh? Wine His blood? Oh no! In our modern lingo the translation might be “You’ve got to be kidding!”

Their imaginations were too challenged. A good number of them, as St. John wrote many years later for his Christian community “turned their backs on Him and no longer went about with Him.” We, good people, never want to be in that group.

Periodically we should remind ourselves of at least 3 “Ifs” we have:

- If Christ is God, His words are not bound by time or local custom.
- If He told us that those who do not eat this bread and drink this cup have no life in them, then we know how best to stay alive.
- If we know any non-practicing Catholics who don’t go to Mass, we have an obligation to give them some straight talk about the Holy Eucharist. Maybe include in our talk a few stories like the following.

There is a priest in China who lives and works as a coolie. By means of pre-arranged sign language, he gets messages around of where he is to be found— usually at the corner of a local market selling soap. Customers who, like the early Christians, give a secret sign, are given a piece of soap, between the wrappings of which is hidden a small, consecrated host. The Chinese Catholic takes his purchase home and usually, after a short family service, receives Holy Communion.

God love you, and keep your faith well fed.