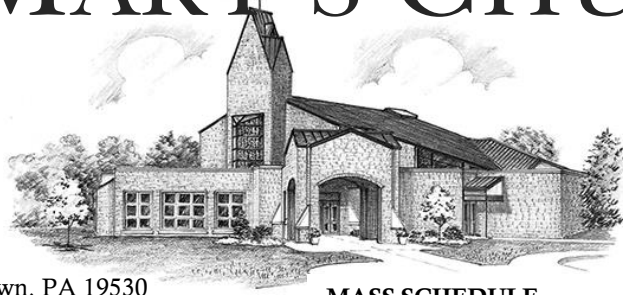


# ST MARY'S CHURCH



14833 Kutztown Road ▪ Kutztown, PA 19530

[www.StMarysKutztown.com](http://www.StMarysKutztown.com)

[www.facebook.com/stmaryskutztown](http://www.facebook.com/stmaryskutztown)

Church, Meeting Rooms, Business & Parish Offices:

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

Email: [Parish@StMarysKutztown.com](mailto:Parish@StMarysKutztown.com)

Religious Education Center: 610-683-6454

Email: [RelEd@StMarysKutztown.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or 800-276-1562

*For just as a body  
without a spirit is dead,  
so also faith  
without works is dead.*  
*James 2:26*

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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

24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

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

0195-1

# MASS Intentions

Mon 09-16	7:30a	In Thanksgiving
Tue 09-17	7:30a	Edward and Mary Ehrets
Wed 09-18	7:30a	Connie Raymond
Thu 09-19	7:30a	William and Celestina Keller
Fri 09-20	7:30a	Melanie Muse
Sat 09-21	4:30p	Jack Sherman
Sun 09-22	8:30a	Intention of John and Judy Mehltrittter
	11:00a	People of the Parish

Call the parish office to sponsor altar flowers in memory

## READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun 09-15	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary time-	Is 50:4c-9a; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35
Mon 09-16	1 Co	11:17-26, 33; Lk 7:1-10
Tue 09-17	1 Co	12:12-14, 27-31a; Lk 7:11-17
Wed 09-18	1 Co	12:31—13:13; Lk 7:31-35
Thu 09-19	1 Co	15:1-11; Lk 7:36-50
Fri 09-20	1 Co	15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3
Sat 09-21	Eph	4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13
Sun 09-22	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time-	Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16—4:3; Mk 9:30-37

## MUSIC MINISTRY

	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
4:30p	Moore, Mark Casey, Peggy	Sitarik, Anne Casey, Peggy
8:30a	Sitarik, Anne Cebenko, Steve	Talarico, Tim Cebenko, Steve
11:00a	Pirnot, Tom Talarico, Tim	Skoronski, Nathan Talarico, Tim

Income	OLG	In Church	Expenses
Regular Collection	\$3,848.00	\$7,393.00	\$11,698.66
Building Fund	\$10.00	\$1,000.00	
Capital Campaign	\$30.00	\$760.01	
Parish Partnership	\$10.00	\$55.00	
Other Reg. Collections	\$75.00	\$388.00	



### HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING?

1. Visit [www.stmaryskutztown.com](http://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	Bijou Greenwood	Diana Novi
Evie Barletta	Muriel Hadnagy	Joanne O'Connell
Caleb Bauer	Devon Hanna	Benedicta Otchere
Christopher Bennett	Jacqueline Hartz	Rick Padilla
Claudia Berg	Linda Haurus	Ed Pilarski
Greg Bradford	Kathy Henry	Pat Regensburger
Monica Bradford	Glenn Hertzog	Rosemarie Reimert
Bradford family	Lillian Karch	Bill Pettit
William G. Brady	Michael Karch	Kerry Rauenzahn
Nadia Cahill	Joanne Kear	Patrick Ritter
Meaghan Clark	Patricia Keeney	Megan Roth
David Covey	Jane Kern	Nina Hertzog
Nancy Devlin-Litinsky	Milton Kern	Rundle
Dave Ebling	Carol Korbe	Richard Rusconi
Trent Eidle	John Korbe	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.	Barry, Sharon Miller	Ralph Touch
Joe Galantino	Elaine O. Miller	Amy Turko
Michelle Galantino	Geoff Miller	Christine VanDoorn
Sandra George	Shannon Morris	Paul Vasko
Lucy Ginsiorsky	Nikolette Nolte	Bonnie Wessner
Ken Gorski		Colleen Wolff

Contact office to update list: [secretary@stmaryskutztown.com](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@stmaryskutztown.com)

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

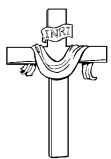
- Sun 09.15 CATECHETICAL SUNDAY**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – Library & AD Times**  
**Catechetical Sunday Mass, 8:30a**  
**Elementary Religious Educ., 9:40a**  
**Parish Picnic, 12:30p**
- Mon 09.16 Kitchen help, Potatoes, 9a**  
**Kitchen help, Pierogies, 11a**
- Tue 09.17 Faith Sharing, 10a**  
**Bake Cookies, 12n**
- Wed 09.18 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p**
- Thu 09.19 O.C.I.A., 7p**
- Sat 09.21 Confirmation Rally at HGARS, 8a-12n**  
**Pray the Rosary, 4p**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – Parish Partnership**

### EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 09.22 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Parish Partnership**  
**Elementary Religious Educ.. 9:40a**  
**Junior High ministry, 6p**
- Mon 09.23 National Migration Week, Sept. 23-29**
- Mon 09.24 Kitchen help, Potatoes, 9a**  
**Kitchen help, Pierogies, 11a**
- Tue 09.25 Faith Sharing, 10a**  
**Bake Cookies, 12n**
- Thu 09.26 Music Ministry, 7p**  
**O.C.I.A., 7p**
- Sat 09.28 Confirmation Rally, HGARS, 8a-12n**  
**Pray the Rosary, 4p**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection, Church in Latin America**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Submit items by Monday prior to Sunday, *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.*



Remember in your Prayers Carol Andre, of our parish. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. Amen

**Thank you!** You may have noticed St Mary's now has an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in the Gathering Area near the doors to the REC. This will enable us to respond to heart-related emergencies in advance of emergency personnel arrival. Many thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary who donated the cost of this machine from the proceeds of the 2023 Holiday Bazaar. Thank you!



**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](mailto:pastor@stmaryskutztown.com) and he will gather a team, and plan a meeting.

**THIS WEEK! St. Mary's Church picnic-12:30-4p**  
**Sept. 15. For parishioners of ALL ages.**  
**Food, Fun and Games! Hot dogs and drinks provided. Bring a covered dish or a back yard game to share (mark w/your name). JOIN US**



**YOUNG ADULT GROUP AT ST. MARY'S!** Attention all

young adults! You've heard the names of Perpetua and Felicity during Mass, but who are they? Starting 6p Sunday Oct. 6 in the Parish Center, join with other young adults and find out more about the saints – most especially those young adults who followed Christ! For more info, contact Sarah: [smwilson0913@gmail.com](mailto:smwilson0913@gmail.com)

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FR. JOHN MARIA** There are many parts of the Gospel that are easy to accept, and delightful to embrace. Last week, we heard the Lord fulfilling the ancient prophecies in coming to bring healing and new life. Sign me up!

But in the Scripture readings for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, we hear the challenge of following Christ as Lord. The Gospel passage from Mark chapter 8 marks a transition, as He now begins His way to Jerusalem, and to the Cross.

Jesus refers to Himself the Son of Man, evoking the royal figure Daniel saw in his heavenly visions (*see Daniel 7:13-14*). But Jesus' kingship is not to be of this world. The path to His throne, as He reveals, is by way of suffering and death.

The call of the Lord is stark and sobering. The true disciple must take up their cross and follow Him. It is a call beyond mere acceptance of comforting truths to actual obedience. As James writes in our second reading, faith without works is dead. Put another way, "talk is cheap." Our faith must express itself in works of love.

And yet, the Lord is not calling us to do this alone, but rather, by strengthening our union with Him. Go to the Lord, seek His mercy and grace, and follow Him closely! He is the way to true and lasting peace, and eternal life!



Sept/Oct we're busy preparing the delicious food you can purchase at the annual Holiday Bazaar, Nov. 2. Walk-in helpers welcome! Call Mary Alkons for info: 610-683-5443. Here is the food prep schedule:

Mon	Sept 16	9-12, 11-3	Prep potatoes/Make pierogies
Mon	Sept 23	9-12, 11-3	Prep potatoes/Make pierogies
Mon	Sept 30	9-12, 11-3	Prep potatoes/Make pierogies
Mon	Oct 07	10a	Make BBQ
Mon	Oct 14	10a	Vegetable Beef Soup
Mon	Oct 21	10a	Turkey Noodle Soup
Mon	Oct 28	10a	Turkey Rice Soup
Thu	Oct 31	10a	Haluski ( <i>Bring electric fry pan if possible, for Haluski</i> )
Fri	Nov 01	10-3p	Set-up
Sat	Nov 02	7:30a-3:30p	Bazaar kitchen help: sign-up for help thru-out the day

**Holiday Bazaar Cookies:** Rolled, decorated cookies are very popular at the Holiday Bazaar. Here's an *easy* recipe. **Donate cookie dough to REC in time for baking 12n-3p Tuesdays Sept 03—Oct 08.** Call Carm 610-683-5931 or Valetta: 610-926-3910.

ABC Cookies



5 c flour	3 eggs	1 tsp cream of tartar
2 c sugar	1 tsp baking soda	½ tsp vanilla
	¾ lb. melted butter	

Mix all ingredients together and divide into 3 patties. Wrap in waxed paper and chill overnight. Roll out and cut into shapes. Decorate & bake, 350° for 8-10 minutes.

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY-SEPT. 15 -LORD WHEN DID WE SEE YOU HUNGRY? MT 25:37-** annually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Sept., recognizing the gift that catechists give their parish by volunteering their time for the faith formation of children.

**A PRAYER FOR CATECHISTS**

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church. Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you. Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them your wisdom about that is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



**A FEW SPOTS REMAIN** at Holy Guardian Angels Regional School. (*5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades are full*). Join our supportive, family-centered school. We cherish Catholic traditions and nurture our students to love, respect and serve God, themselves and others. A commitment to high academic standards in a diverse and fun-filled environment—every child thrives.

**DIOCESAN-WIDE BLOOD DRIVE:** Miller-Keystone Blood Center and the Diocese of Allentown are hosting a diocese-wide blood drive in honor of Saint Januarius, the patron saint of blood banks. We are encouraged to donate blood at one of MKBC's donor centers beginning on the Feast Day of Saint Januarius, Sept. 19- Dec. 16, one of the miracle dates of his blood liquification. In addition to saving lives, all donors who provide their parish's Sponsor Code at the time of their appointment will receive a Saint Januarius medallion, blessed by Bishop Schlert. Schedule a donation 800-223-6667 xt 2 or scan code.



**MATT MAHER CONCERT:** 7p, Sept 15, Notre Dame HS, hosted by United Hearts Life Mission. Hear this 9-time Grammy nominee. Proceeds benefit United Hearts Life Mission life-affirming care in Lehigh Valley. Tickets: [www.itickets.com/events/479761](http://www.itickets.com/events/479761)

**HGA REGIONAL SCHOOL DINE OUT EVENT:** 4-8p, Sept 18 at Panera, 4229 N 5<sup>th</sup> St Hwy, Temple. Mention HGARS and your purchase supports the school!

**PADRE PIO SHRINE PILGRIMAGE:** *in English* Sept 20, *in Spanish* Sept 28. Includes Mass with the Bishop, Confession; speaker; Eucharistic Procession and more!

**DIocese OF ALLENTOWN GOLF TOURNAMENT:** Sept 20, Steel Club course, Hellertown. Proceeds support seminarians and Catholic schools. Register or sponsor: 610-871-5200 x2282 or [www.allentowndiocese.org/golf](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/golf)

**DIocesAN ANNIVERSARY MASS:** 3p, Sunday Sept 22. Doors open 2p. Each year the Diocese of Allentown offers a Mass for married couples celebrating a milestone anniversary at the cathedral. Couples are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage. Info: [rtulloch@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:rtulloch@allentowndiocese.org)

**PA MARCH FOR LIFE:** On the steps of our state capitol in Harrisburg on Monday, Sept. 23. A 10a concert; an 11a rally; and 12n march. Learn more or register for updates: [marchforlife.org/pennsylvania/](http://marchforlife.org/pennsylvania/)

**ANNUAL MEN'S CONFERENCE:** 8a-3p, Oct. 19, St. Joseph the Worker, Orefield. A day for Catholic men to renew and strengthen your faith. Embrace the mission of the Church and deepen your relationship with God through a powerful day of community, Sacraments, and talks from nationally renowned speakers. Cost \$35 (\$25 earlybird by Sept. 17) Contact: Mark McDevitt, [markmcd@outlook.com](mailto:markmcd@outlook.com)







**KNOW THE FACTS - VOTER REGISTRATION IN PA:**

Registered to vote? No? Check your county voter registration office. The last day to register for November 2024 elections is Oct. 21. Those applying to register 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](http://www.votespa.com)

**READY.SET.READ! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Tutor 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, no experience required, 1h/week. Kutztown ASD schools. Background clearances required; training provided. United Way 610-685-4574 [darbyw@uwberks.org](mailto:darbyw@uwberks.org)

**HELP COMMUNITY NEWCOMERS-** The Mother Veronica Resource Center Adult Ed., Reading, seeks instructors:

- Basic and Intermediate computer classes-daytime
- English as a Second Language (ESL)-day or evening
- Citizenship Preparation-day or evening.
- Substitute instructors welcome

Sr Cara: 484-706-3570 [mveronicacenter@gmail.com](mailto:mveronicacenter@gmail.com)

**Word of Life:** “Throughout salvation history, God has welcomed repentant sinners with special joy. Jesus concludes the parable of the lost sheep with these words: ‘there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance’ (Lk 15:7)\*.” ~ \*NABRE © 2010 CCD. *Used with permission.* USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities; “Life Matters: Forgiveness and Healing After Abortion”

**REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson**

“The lazy, crazy, hazy days of Summer 2024 will officially end next weekend. Looking back, we have our memories hopefully good and perhaps sadly bad. Among the latter that I have are those stories of drownings and shark attacks especially involving youngsters. But above all those others, the one that hit me the hardest as I sat down to write these words came the report back in June of a vacationing couple who were swept away by rip currents leaving behind six children. Do you remember it also? And what about those six sudden orphans? Pain and suffering clouds the summer sky.

The gospel today provides the context to consider the whole subject of human suffering, as Jesus brings up the subject with His chosen Twelve. It hovers over even the best of our days. Just as a hearse passing by a showy, red convertible drives home a point.

The bible tells us forthrightly that suffering entered our world with the arrival of sin. Sin as a deliberate selfish choice to make ourselves little gods in defiance of the One Great God of heaven and earth.

“We will decide what’s right and wrong; what’s best for us; what will make us happy, and You, O God, had best pay attention!” Oh, we never actually phrase it that way, much less say it out loud, but that’s the ultimate source of our sin.

Jesus tells us how to handle our suffering, physical or spiritual. It is to unite ours with His and make it redemptive for the world. That is the partial theology behind the old directive to “offer it up.”

I recently read a biography of Pope St. John Paul II, whom I have no hesitation calling “the Great.” Almost a whole generation has come along since his death in 2005, but they need to know of him and how we were blest with his pontificate. Of his physical sufferings in life, the author wrote the following:

*During his pontificate, he dislocated his shoulder, broke his femur, underwent surgeries for his hip and ankle and to remove his appendix, gallstones, and an orange-sized tumor from his colon. He suffered osteoarthritis in his right knee, and intestinal disorder, the loss of hearing in both ears, Parkinson’s disease, and underwent routine colonoscopies and was given a feeding tube—and this does not even include the injuries he sustained when he was struck by a Nazi truck in Poland, the mono mononucleosis he suffered as a bishop, or the two bullets he took during his assassination attempt. Because he spent no fewer than 164 days in the Gelling Hospital, he started calling it Vatican III (after St. Peter’s and Castel Gandolfo)?*

*After one of his hospitalizations, he said “I accept this trial too from the hands of God, who arranges everything in accordance with His providential plans, and I offer it for the good of the Church.”*

Add to that young Blessed Carlo Acutis’ remark that he offered his leukemia at age 15 “for the pope and the Church” and you begin to see the best interpretation of your sufferings from holy people of all ages.

That thinking makes us more than Churchgoers. We become, however gradually, true disciples. For all four seasons. And a good postscript here is this warning: “Satan is not afraid of a Bible with dust on it.”

God love you and give you His peace.