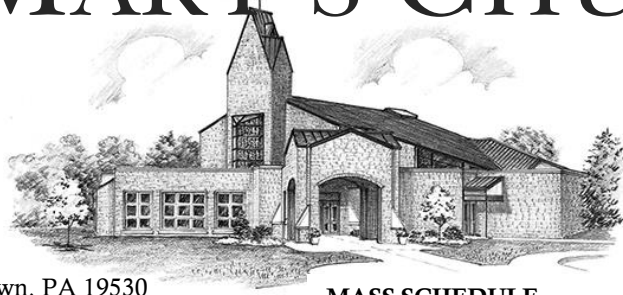


ST MARY'S CHURCH



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.

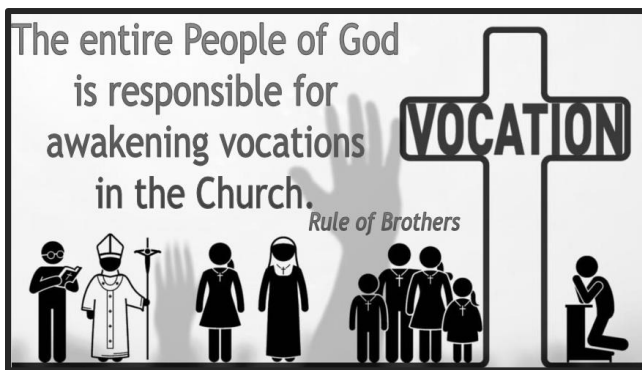
PARISH MEMBERSHIP - Welcome to St. Mary's Parish! Please contact the Parish Office to meet with Father John and become registered. We also ask those who move to notify the parish

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



Vocations Awareness Nov. 3-9

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, NOVEMBER 03, 2024

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

0195-1

MASS Intentions

Mon	11-04	7:30a	Joseph Andros, Jr.
Tue	11-05	7:30a	Anton and Malini Fernando
Wed	11-06	7:30a	William and Celestina Keller
Thu	11-07	7:30a	Beryl Roche
Fri	11-08	12n	Souls in Purgatory
Sat	11-09	4:30p	Anna and Joseph Soga
Sun	11-10	8:30a	People of the Parish
		11:00a	Wesley Kriebel

Altar flowers in memory of Gerry Foran this week

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun	11-03	31 st Sunday Ordinary Time- Dt 6:2-6; He 7:23-28; Mk 12:28b-34
Mon	11-04	Phil 2:1-4; Lk 14:12-14
Tue	11-05	Phil 2:5-11; Lk 14:15-24
Wed	11-06	Phil 2:12-18; Lk 14:25-33
Thu	11-07	Phil 3:3-8a; Lk 15:1-10
Fri	11-08	Phil 3:17—4:1; Lk 16:1-8
Sat	11-09	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; 1 Co 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
Sun	11-10	32 nd Sunday Ordinary Time- 1 K 17:10-16; He 9:24-28; Mk 12:38-44

THIS WEEK

NEXT WEEK

Music Ministry

4:30p	Spanier, Amelia Casey, Peggy	Sitarik, Anne Moore, Mark
8:30a	Skoronski, N Cebenkeno, S	Spanier, Chris Moore, Mark
11:00a	Pirnot, Tom Skoronski, K	Thomas, Cathy Talarico, Tim

Extraordinary Ministry

4:30p	Klopp, Daryl Skoronski, Joseph	Otruba, Pam Ruh, Mike
8:30a	Cengeri, Tom Sedlack, Tom	Hilburt, Laura Pangrazi, Dana
11:00a	Gallagher, John Jones, John	Pirnot, Ann Wanner, Theresa

Income

OLG

In Church

Expenses

Regular Collection	\$2,784.00	\$4,590.10	\$7,090.47
Building Fund	\$35.00	\$1,000.00	
Capital Campaign	\$30.00	\$65.00	
Parish Partnership	\$255.00	\$840.00	
Hurricane Relief	\$2,784.00	\$4,590.10	
Other Reg. Collections	\$120.00	\$45.00	

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



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

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	Spencer Morris
Andrew Barthol	Ryan Flanagan	Heather
Frank M. Bieda	Kale Follweiler	O'Donnell
John Boyer	Michael Allen Haak	Menaka Nayyar &
Matthew Boyer	Diane Henry	Anthony Pirnot
Jonathan Cardé	Cmdr. Jason Hoch	Jake Schmeck
Eric Cunningham	Joshua Joseph	Phillip Talarico
Timothy DeVall	Dan King	Steve Ziegler
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 11.03 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
End Daylight Savings Time, at 2a
Elementary Religious Education, 9:40a
- Tue 11.05 ELECTION DAY – Polls open 7a-8p
Faith Sharing, 10a
- Wed 11.06 Handiwork from the Heart mtg, 10a
Pastoral Council, 5:30p
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
- Thu 11.07 Finance Council mtg., 6:30p
Music Ministry, 7p
O.C.I.A., 7p
- Sat 11.09 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Capital Improvement

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 11.10 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
2nd Collection – Capital Improvement
Elementary Religious Education, 9:40a
Men of St. Mary's meeting, 10a
Junior High ministry, 6p
- Mon 11.11 VETERAN'S DAY
- Tue 11.12 Faith Sharing, 10a
Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 6p
- Wed 11.13 Altar server training, 5-6:30p
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
- Thu 11.14 Music ministry, 7p
O.C.I.A., 7p
- Sat 11.16 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Parish Partnership

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Submit items for December bulletins at least two weeks in advance. *Thank you!*

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.*

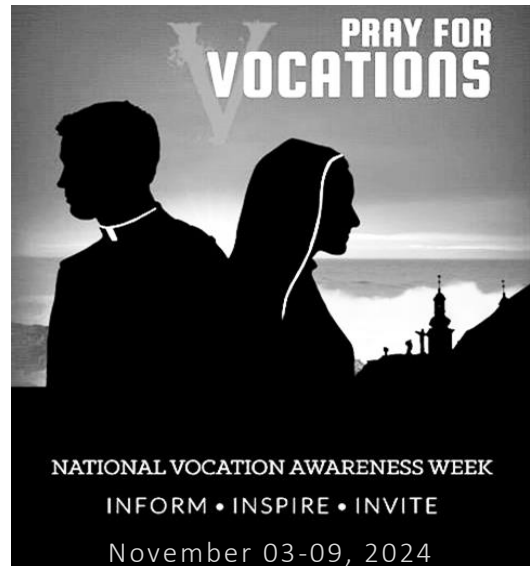
NEXT BAPTISM WORKSHOP 7p, Dec. 03 and 10. Contact Ann Pergosky to register/for info: 610-683-6454

HURRICANE RELIEF COLLECTION: At the direction of Bishop Schlert St. Mary's has a free-will, no envelope collection basket for recovery efforts in the South-Eastern US from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Online Givers may use the fund "Special Diocesan Collection". Catholic Charities will disburse all money received. **Please make checks payable to St. Mary's, by Nov. 03.** Thank you.

GIVING FROM OUR BOUNTY: Look for this *bountiful* project in the Gathering Area beginning **next weekend, Nov 9/10.** Select a gift and/or food item tag (and gift wrap roll/tape) to support those in need this December.



ARE YOU A SNOWBIRD? If you travel south for the winter, inform the parish office (phone/email). We'll put a hold on mailings until you return. Bon voyage!



This week, the dioceses in the US take time to reflect upon God's call to our hearts. All too often, we think of vocations as a "job" to be done by someone else. In fact, we are ALL called to holiness. That is a vocation we can all count upon!

When we accept this call to holiness, it is then that we are best able to discern the particular call to live out that holiness — in love and service to others. That particular call may be to Holy Matrimony, to the consecrated celibate life or to the priesthood.

The Lord's call to serve is a call to sacrificial love — but it is a beautiful call that is rewarding beyond all measure. Pray that our brothers and sisters will respond to the Lord's call to holiness! And please pray for an increase in young men discerning the call to the priesthood!

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FR. JOHN MARIA

Our readings for the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time speak profoundly of the priority of LOVE – the love of God for us, and our mandate to love in return.

When the scribe asked Jesus to name the first of all commandments, he was aware of the many commands of the law, beyond the "top ten" commandments. In His reply, Jesus summarizes and goes to the heart of the law: we are commanded to love the Lord our God with our entire being – heart, soul, mind and strength. He couples this command with the second: to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We all acknowledge the beauty of this teaching. But in recognizing the great mystery, there is a temptation to conceptualize it, and distance it from our everyday lives.

How can we love in such a way? Perhaps we can begin by first reflecting upon the love we have for the human person we hold most dear, whether living or deceased. Does our attentiveness and fidelity to God match our love for that person? Does our desire for the good of our neighbor approach the love we have for our family members?

We are called today to examine our hearts. If we're honest with ourselves in this time of division and conflict, we fall short. Let us seek His mercy and grace – the grace He won for us on the cross - to *expand* the love in our hearts, for Him and for all we encounter!

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

MASS INTENTIONS: As Catholics we believe souls united in Christ remain connected-even after death, seek the prayers of the saints, and pray for the souls of loved ones who have died in Christ. It's a most powerful prayer and act of love to request Mass be offered for the souls of loved ones.

The 2025 Mass book is open for Saturday/Sunday and weekday Mass requests. Contact the parish office to schedule a mass intention. Because of the increased demand for scheduled Masses:

- † The book is open for the whole year until dates are full.
- † Please request no more than 1 weekend Mass per month; 9 weekend Masses per year.
- † There are no limitations on daily Masses.
- † Personal Mass intentions not available for: Holy Thursday, Easter, Christmas, Mothers nor Fathers Day

“Responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in the political life is a moral obligation.”

PA Catholic Conference

BAPTISM WORKSHOP 7p, Dec 03 and 10. Contact Ann Pergosky: 610-683-6454 or reled@stmaryskutztown.com

PARISH BREAKFAST-3RD SUNDAYS THRU MARCH!

Come enjoy Sunday breakfast with parish friends, 3rd Sundays, 8-11:30a in the Social Hall. Or get involved: Tom: 610-207-5831

Plan on it!

A FEW SPOTS REMAIN at Holy Guardian Angels Regional School. (5th & 8th 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. Enroll today: kelpre@hgaschool.org or 610-929-4124.

HGA ENDOWMENT: Why leave anything to chance? Mention HGA Regional School in your will to support the school endowment fund. Info: 610-929-4124

LIVING WITH LOSS: 6 week grief support group, 6-7:30p, begins Nov. 04 at Ludwick Funeral Homes, 333 Greenwich St, Kutztown. Find help and hope and meet others living with loss. Facilitator MaryAnn Hamm. No cost to attend. Please register at 610-683-8111.

DESIGNED WITH PURPOSE, NFP 101- 6:30-8:30p, Nov. 7. What is “Natural Family Planning” and why does the Church promote it? We’ll talk through the science of how “NFP” works and why it’s vital for women’s health. Whether you’re single, engaged, married, or want to learn more about NFP, we welcome you us! Location: Hops at the Paddock, 1945 W Columbia St. Allentown, 18104. Register: allentowndioocese.flocknote.com/signup/185877

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR & FLEA MARKET: 8:30a-1p, Nov. 9 at SS. Cyril and Methodius, 6th & Laural Sts, Reading. Supports St. Cyril and Methodius and St. Peter the Apostle parishes. Christmas décor, Household items, Jewelry and More. Take-out food avail.

HGA BUS TRIP: Dec. 19, see JOY TO THE WORLD at American Music Theater. Departs 10:45a, returns 7:15p. \$75 includes transportation, gratuities and show. *Lunch on your own at Cracker Barrel.* All ages welcome! **RSVP by 11/10:** 610-406-3350

THE TRUTH OF SEX & GENDER: 3p, Nov 17, Assumption BVM, Bethlehem. The topic of gender and sexual identity has become increasingly important in our modern times. The Church provides wisdom for those seeking clarity, as well as guidance on how to express truth in the light of charity. Fr. Brelinsky will discuss what the Church affirms about human sexuality as well as how the faithful can confidently speak on this topic. To register: allentowndioocese.flocknote.com/signup/184048

WOMEN’S ADVENT RETREAT: 9a-1p, Dec. 14 at St. Francis of Assisi, Allentown, FINDING HOPE THROUGH PRAYER hosted by Bishop’s Commission for Women. Register by Nov. 26. \$15 pp; Rtulloch@allentowndioocese.org

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. Save lives. Provide the parish’s Sponsor Code “4547” and receive a blessed St. Januarius medallion. For appointment 800-223-6667 xt 2 or scan code.



Poverty Relief Fund

As we look ahead to Thanksgiving with family and friends, the annual Local Poverty Relief Fund Collection provides an opportunity to help the less fortunate in our Diocese. Funds are used to support parish ministries, local nonprofit organizations, and Catholic school projects which help people in need in the five counties our or Diocese. Learn more: allentowndioocese.org/poverty-relief

Thank you for your support Nov 23/24.

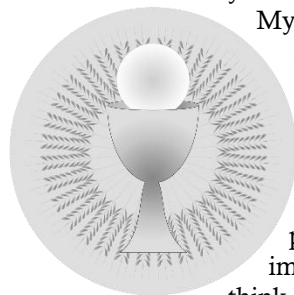
WWW.WREATHSACROSSAMERICA.ORG/PA0893



Gethsemane Cemetery announces participation in this effort to coordinate veteran wreath laying at US cemeteries. Ensure all our veterans receive a wreath this year, help reach 5,000 wreath goal. Visit website or call 610-929-2613.

THE GIFT OF DAILY MASS: The opportunity to receive the Lord each day is a gift beyond all telling. Attending daily Mass has been a life-changer for so many people - including Father John! Please prayerfully consider this gift! Even the saints agree! Daily Mass begins at 7:30a M-F.

"If there were only one church in the world where the Mystery of our altars was celebrated, and where the Host was consecrated, we should doubtless feel a holy envy for those who stood at the doors of that church. But we are the chosen people; we are at the door of that place, so pure and holy, where God is immolated every day! When you think of going to Mass on working days, it is an impulse of the grace that God wills to grant you." - *Saint John Vianney*



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 anyone who has lost a child: We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

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@allentowndioocese.org All inquiries are confidential.

WORD OF LIFE: "Palliative care and hospice are precious and crucial instruments in the care of patients with serious and complex chronic or terminal illnesses, and they help provide comfort to both the patients and their families. While palliative care cannot entirely eradicate suffering from people's lives, it provides an authentic expression of human and Christian care—allowing us to 'remain' at the side of a suffering person, as the Blessed Mother and the beloved disciple remained at the foot of the Cross...The path of accompaniment until the moment of death must remain open, with appropriate care for body and soul customized to the personal needs of the patient." ~ USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities: "*The Witness of the Good Samaritan: Palliative Care and Hospice*"

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS
Visit: www.allentowndioocese.org/about/employment

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

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Sometimes in life knowing what questions to ask makes all the difference. Take for example your question to the specialist doctor: "Is my condition life threatening?" Or to the local grocer: "Is this really fresh produce?" Or lastly, to the new car dealer: "How long is the warranty?" You get the idea.

Once upon a long-ago day, in a far-off country, a young Jewish scholar asked the equally young rabbi we know to be the Son of God a most interesting question: "Which is the first and greatest commandment?" We less than innocent readers of the Gospel want to know the answer also. After all, we must admit our sins against several commandments every time we go to confession.

Fortunately for that Scribe and us as well, he got his answer. So well-known is it that even non-believers are likely to have heard it. In loose translation it is "Love God with everything you've got." But then Jesus quickly added an unexpected second command, the "flip side" of the First, if you will: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

That addition was a bit of a surprise to the unnamed Scribe. I can only imagine his facial expression when he heard it. Much of his life was dominated by the rules of obeying the Most High God. He could permit himself to ponder much abstract thinking. Arguments with others of his kind. "Neighbors" never figured into the discussion. Jesus changed all that for him.

But the whole matter comes right back at us as we read the gospel given to us ultimately by the Holy Spirit. Sure, we want to honor the God who made us with all our minds, hearts, souls and bodies. But what about that unsettling "Part 2" that Jesus proposes?

This "neighbor" designation doesn't just apply to the residents next door to us, although that's a good place to start. But what about the neighbor who doesn't look like you, perhaps with a different skin color? The one who doesn't speak English, or who eats from a different menu and smells as much? Or who favors a different candidate for office than you do? Do you mean to tell me that I must love him or her with the same fervor as I love myself? Yes, yes and yes again!

Of course, there are levels of love. Intimacy is not required. Love here means that we must will his or her good. But I must reach above and beyond a passing glance because Jesus inserted that little word "as" in His statement. "As" you love yourself. We all know the love we bear for the person who looks back at us in the mirror.

I think it's fair to say that true Christianity is one of the toughest religions to practice on the planet. Indeed, "practice" becomes the watchword here because it takes a long time for most of us to acquire our right to the name. Fortunately, there are wonderful exceptions, whom we call "saints." Some of them became such at a young age. Others lived in holiness over lives. We honored them all just last Friday on All Saints' Day.

Buoyed by our Holy Communion with the Lord at Mass, we can live for the day when we will be among their number, "when the saints go marching in."

Meanwhile, we can remember this about neighboring: "A good neighbor is one who will watch your vacation slides all evening without telling you that she has been there too."

God love you and give you His peace.