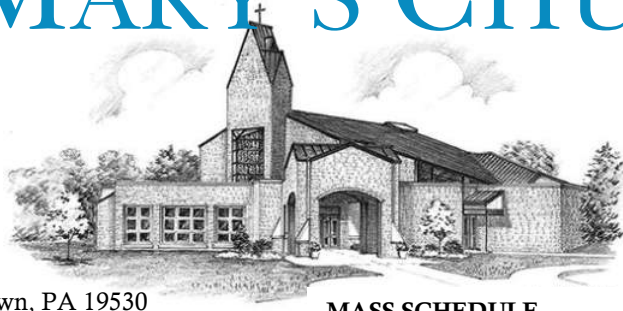


ST MARY'S CHURCH



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

The wise shall shine brightly
like the splendor of the firmament,
and those who lead the many
to justice
shall be like the stars forever.

Dn 12:3

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

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, NOVEMBER 17, 2024

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

MASS Intentions

Mon	11-18	7:30a	Gregory Guiteras
Tue	11-19	7:30a	Jennifer and Christopher Schappell
Wed	11-20	7:30a	John Burger Tyrell
Thu	11-21	7:30a	William and Celestina Keller
Fri	11-22	7:30a	Venceslaus Fernando
Sat	11-23	4:30p	People of the Parish
Sun	11-24	8:30a	Charles Kressley
		11:00a	Andrew and Helen Hazlinsky

To sponsor altar flowers or Blessed Sacrament candle call parish office

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun	11-17	33 rd Sunday Ordinary Time- Dn 12:1-3; He 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32
Mon	11-18	Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Lk 18:35-43
Tue	11-19	Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Lk 19:1-10
Wed	11-20	Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Lk 19:1-10
Thu	11-21	Rv 5:1-10; Lk 19:41-44
Fri	11-22	Rv 10:8-11; Lk 19:45-48
Sat	11-23	Rv 11:4-12; Lk 20:27-40
Sun	11-24	Solemnity Our Lord Christ, King of the Universe- Dn 7:13-14; Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33b-37

THIS WEEK

NEXT WEEK

Music Ministry

4:30p	DeWald, Heather Casey, Peggy	Spanier, Christine Casey, Peggy
8:30a	Talarico, Tim Cebenken, Steve	Skoronski, Nathan Cebenken, Steve
11:00a	Sitarik, Anne Talarico, Tim	DeWald, Heather Skoronski, Katherine

Extraordinary Ministry

4:30p	Zawaly, Joe Zawaly, Sue	Arentz, Bill Zawaly, Joe
8:30a	Ganser, Steve Tucker, John	Ganser, Steve Sedlack, Tom
11:00a	Jones, John Kropf, Walt	Pirnot, Ann Wanner, Theresa

Income

OLG

In Church

Expenses

Regular Collection	\$3,008.00	\$7,557.00	\$17,007.72
Building Fund	\$5.00	\$1,000.00	
Capital Campaign	\$20.00	\$1,224.00	
Parish Partnership	\$10.00		
Other Reg. Collections	\$40.00	\$195.00	

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

Please Pray for all those serving our nation

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

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

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sun 11.17 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
2nd Collection – Parish Partnership
Hoagie Orders are due today
Youth Mass, 8:30a
Parish Breakfast served, 8:30-11a
- Tue 11.19 Faith Sharing, 10a**
- Wed 11.20 Make hoagies, pm**
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
Hoagie pickup, 7-8:30p
- Thu 11.21 Hoagie pickup, 7:30a-9a**
Funeral Mass for Jack Ford, 11a
Music ministry, 7p
O.C.I.A., 7p
- Fri 11.22 Mary's Café, 6:30p**
- Sat 11.23 Pray the Rosary, 4p**
2nd Collection – Diocesan Poverty Relief

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 11.24 SOLEMNITY OF JESUS CHRIST, THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE**
2nd Collection – Diocesan Poverty Relief
Elementary Religious Education, 9:40a
Junior High ministry 6p
- Tue 11.26 Faith Sharing, 10a**
- Wed 11.27 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p**
- Thu 11.28 Thanksgiving Day, daily Mass at 9a**
- Sat 11.30 Pray the Rosary, 4p**
2nd Collection – Christmas Flowers

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.*

PARISH BREAKFAST-3RD SUNDAYS THRU MARCH! Come enjoy Sunday breakfast with parish friends, 3rd Sundays, 8:30-11:30a in the Social Hall. Or get involved: Tom: 610-207-5831. **Next breakfast date: TODAY Nov. 17.**

Plan on it!

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

ST. MARY'S HAS A DONATED FROZEN TURKEY TO SHARE:



If you need assistance preparing for your Thanksgiving dinner and would like it contact Ann Pergosky in the REC office by 11/22 at: 610-683-6454 or reled@stmaryskutztown.com

ST. MARY'S NEXT SOUP KITCHEN project approaches **Dec 21/22**. Watch for donation table in gathering area. **Return All items by Dec 15**. Cook for the soup kitchen on Dec. 19 (10a-3p). Questions? Mary Alkons 610-683-5443



GIVING FROM OUR BOUNTY:

This *bountiful* project is supported by our Junir High Youth, **Nov 10-Dec 08**. Cost of living increases have made an especially difficult time for many.



The organizations that support families in need struggle. Choose gift and/or food item tags in the Gathering Area. Gifts will support Lifeline, Friend, Inc., and Willow Brook.

- ☆Lifeline requests mother and baby items
- ☆Friend, Inc. seeks food donations for Christmas and children's Christmas clothing and toys.
- ☆Willow Brook residents in long-term care can feel isolate. A little cheer goes a long way to boost morale and aid recovery. You may even include a letter or care for a more personal connection.

Please return gift items by Sunday, **Dec 08**, with tags securely attached, into the Gathering Area large boxes. No tag needed for Food Items. Gifts preferred **unwrapped**. *However, gift bags and wrapping paper donations welcomed.*

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 support parish ministries, local nonprofits, and Catholic school projects helping people in need locally. Learn more: allentowndiocese.org/poverty-relief
 Thank you for your support Nov 23/24.

Remember in your Prayers



John "Jack" Ford, of our parish.
 Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
 and let perpetual light shine upon
 him. *Amen*

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FR. JOHN MARIA

Our readings for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time contain many signs, wonders and special effects. In the Gospel, Jesus had entered into Jerusalem for the last time. He would soon go to the cross, and He speaks of things to come. Many commonly assume that these are literal predictions of what will happen at the end of time, but saints and scholars have long differed about that.

The Lord is using images from the prophets to describe world-changing events. Yes, some of it describes the end of time, but some make reference to a cataclysmic event that would happen much sooner: the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple by the Romans in 70 AD. It was the end of the world as they knew it.

Our Gospel passage is complex, but the basic message is simple. Be vigilant and be prepared. Ultimately, it's really not about chronology, but **conversion**. Our task is to strive to grow closer and closer to Jesus, in preparation for the time when we meet Him face to face.

He has conquered sin and death. Let us strive to be united to Him. If we are in His mercy and grace, we have nothing to fear.

MARY'S CAFÉ: On Friday, November 22 at 6:30pm in Room 117/122 of the Religious Ed Center, all are invited to join Father John at "Mary's Cafe". The topic will be "**Channels of God's Mercy.**"



As the liturgical year draws to a close, the "Four Last Things" (death, judgment, heaven and hell) ought to be a sober cause for reflection for all faithful Christians. We must take sin seriously, but also... take the Mercy of God seriously. This talk will focus upon the ways that God's mercy comes to us. In particular, we will talk about "Indulgences" - those sheer gifts of God's healing power. What is meant by plenary and partial? What are the conditions? Why should we seek them?

"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 will be available. Plan to join us, 6:30p, Nov. 22

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

BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC: Thank you to the 136 parish families who've supported this year's drive. You *still* have time to make *your gift* before year's end. Visit: BecauseWeAreCatholic.org and select "Donate Now", and "St. Mary-Kutztown" as your parish. Or visit the Gathering Area BWAC display.

CHRISTMAS OPLATKI: The parish has purchased a limited supply of "oplatki" - the wafer bread included in many family gatherings with East European traditions at Christmas. We ask \$3 per package to cover expenses. First come, first serve! We may order more, if our supply is depleted quickly. To inquire about purchasing, contact Rel Ed. office: 610-683-6454 or reled@stmaryskutztown.com



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!

PLEASE SUPPORT RETIRED & INFIRM PRIESTS OF DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN:

Please take the advantage to offer support to diocesan retired priests and help provide for their care in retirement! Your donation helps serve those who've faithfully served us. You should have received a request letter in the mail recently. You may mail in your gift or place it in collection basket at Mass. Learn more: www.weloveourpriests.org and thank you for your generosity!

HOW TO GIVE TO THE ENDOWMENT FOR THE CARE OF RETIRED PRIESTS

- Make an outright gift of cash.
- You may also make a planned gift to The Endowment through your will or through other means such as a charitable gift annuity that could be a source of income for you.

Please know that any amount you wish to contribute to The Endowment, no matter how great or small, will be accepted with great appreciation. *All gifts to The Endowment are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

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.

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: allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/184048

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE: 5-9p, Nov 22 and 8a-2p Nov. 23, St. Catharine of Siena Church, 4975 Boyertown Pike (Route 562). Find over 50 craftsmen/ artisans. Fri. night turkey dinner. Homemade baked goods, Christmas cookies, homemade foods, St. Mary's Pierogi and a huge basket raffle. Also a special holiday concert by Angelorum choir 6:30p Nov. 22 in the church.

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@allentowndiocese.org

HGAREGIONAL SCHOOL-DINE OUT: 4-7p, Tue. Nov 26 at Jersey Mike's, N 5th St, Reading. Use code HGARS20 and 20% of your purchase supports HGARS.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT/BASKET RAFFLE: 3p, Dec 08
Precious Blood Convent, Welsh Rd, Reading 19607.
Constantia Male Quartet performs; bake sale and raffle
follow concert. Free Will offering. Info 610-777-1624

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.



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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.

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: "We can't imagine loving a child whom
we conceived more than we love Andrew. It is amazing
how he fits our personalities so well... Adopting Andrew
has made us more aware of God's power and of his love for
us. We realize that he always has a perfect plan for our
lives." ~USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "*An
Adoption Love Story*" respectlife.org/adoption-love-story

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS

Visit: www.allentowndiocese.org/about/employment

BERKS ENCORE seeks **VOLUNTEERS** for our **FRIENDLY
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looking for a friend to visit with and check in with once per
week. Make a difference in someone else's life - become a
friendly visitor! You may change your own life for the better
too. For info: Michelle Goodhart 610-374-3195 ext. 225
Read about Friendly Visitors <https://berksencore.org/>

READY.SET.READ! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Tutor 2nd grade
students needing extra support. No previous teaching
experience required. Topton Elementary 3:30-4:20p OR
Kutztown Elementary 3:30-4:30p; One hour/week, Oct.
thru May. Background clearances require; training
provided. Info: Darby Wiekrykas, United Way 610-685-
4574 darbyw@uwberks.org

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

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Two words; six letters are all it takes to know that the
movie's over. If you actually go back to see one in a theater,
you know that then the house lights come up; the audience
stands and steadily makes its return to reality. But the
Scriptures, much more important for our lives, at this time
of year bring up a somewhat frightening question: "What
comes with the end of reality?"

To answer that one best, we rightly turn to the one Person
who knows the answer to all but the date. We hear Him
today talk about a darkening sun and a disappearing moon,
accompanied by falling stars and a quaking universe. Even
if we're not told the day, it's a safe bet that most of us would
prefer to be somewhere else when that happens!

Why would Our Lord tell us these things? And why
would His Church proclaim the unpleasant truths today?
Well, like a loving and practical Mother, the Church wants
us to think of the future when we make some of our
decisions in life.

Right now, we have come near to the end of the Church's
Liturgical year. You might say that next Sunday's Feast of
Christ the King is the Church's "New Year's Eve." We will
have lived another year of reflecting on the all-important life
of Christ in the Sunday celebrations. Today we are invited
to ponder the end time of the world as we know it. Implied
is another reminder that you and I are not "in charge."

All of this is not meant to scare us, or to become morbid.
Just realistic. Especially so when it comes to the matter of
our own lives. The Church is saying in the name of her
mystical Head, Jesus Christ, that it would really be foolish
to live and act as if this life of ours on earth is not going to
end. Even if we are not around when the world ends.

Thinking about our own end has some benefits. It keeps
us humble. You must know that despite all your many
accomplishments here below, many of which can make you
justly proud, it will all come to an end. Knowing that can
put a check on our spending selfishly when we have the
obligation to aid the poor among us. Today just happens to
be "World Day of the Poor" so named by Pope Francis.
Perfect timing for sure.

Meanwhile, we have the truth that Jesus, God's Son,
stands triumphant in Heaven. He offers His blessed
assurance that on the other side of death lies a new world,
replete with an indescribable joy that never ends. Here and
now, he keeps His promise to be with us. He goes so far as
to feed us with Himself in the Holy Eucharist. That
nourishment helps us face our future energized with hope
and confidence. So, all kidding aside, we could say quite
truthfully that "Death is not a period, but a comma in the
story of life."

God love you and give you His peace.

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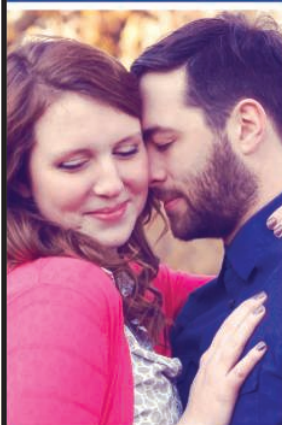
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