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: <u>Parish@StMarysKutztown com</u> Religious Education Center: 610-683-6454 Email: <u>RelEd@StMarysKutztown com</u>

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 Mrs. Anne Sitarik

and Parish Secretary

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, JANUARY 19, 2025

MASS Intentions				
Mon	01-20	7:30a	Joseph Soga	
Tue	01-21	7:30a	Carole Gingowicz	
Wed	01-22	7:30a	Intentions of Katherine Saab	
Thu	01-23	7:30a	Mary Hehn	
Fri	01-24	7:30a	Mary and John Voli	
Sat	01-25	4:30p	Mary Hehn	
Sun	01-26	8:30a	Joe Bennett, Jr.	
		11:00a	People of the Parish	

Altar flowers in memory of Joseph Soga this week				
	READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK			
Sun	01-19	2 nd Sunday Ord Time- Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11		
Mon	01-20	He 5:1-10; Mk 2:18-22		
Tue	01-21	He 6:10-20; Mk 2:23-28		
Wed	01-22	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children- He 7:1-3, 15-17; Mk 3:1-6		
Thu	01-23	He 7:25—8:6; Mk 3:7-12		
Fri	01-24	He 8:6-13; Mk 3:13-19		
Sat	01-25	Ac 22:3-16 or Ac 9:1-22; Mk 16:15-18		
Sun	01-26	3 rd Sunday Ordinary Time - Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27; Lk 1:1-4;		

	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK		
	Music Ministry			
4:30p	Sitarik, Anne	Spanier, Amelia		
4.50p	Casey, Peggy	Casey, Peggy		
8:30a	Spanier, Amelia	Talarico, Tim		
	Cebenko, Steve	Cebenko, Steve		
11:00a	Thomas, Cathy	DeWald, Heather		
11.00a	Talarico, Tim	Talarico, Tim		
	Extraordinary Ministry			
4:30p	Arentz, Bill	Ruh, Mike		
4.50p	Arentz, Stephanie	Zawaly, Sue		
8:30a	Pergosky, Ann	Cengeri, Tom		
0.50a	Sedlack, Tom	Skoronski, Joseph		
11:00a	Kropf, Walt	Jones, John		
11.00a	Pirnot, Ann	Wanner, Theresa		

Collection Ingo	OLG	In Church	Expenses
Regular Collection	\$3,474.00	\$4,535.01	\$5,204.13
Building Fund	\$5.00	\$1,000.00	
Capital Campaign	\$100.00	\$1,107.00	
Parish Partnership	\$20.00	\$15.00	
Other Reg. Collections	\$20.00	\$1,715.00	

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING?

- 1. Visit <u>www.stmaryskutztown.com</u> & choose online giving.
- 2. Complete the online registration form. It's that simple! For more info or help setting up your account please contact the parish office.





	XXX TYMX	
Logan Alkons	Lucy Ginsiorsky	Diana Novi
Evie Barletta	Bijou Greenwood	Joanne O'Connell
Caleb Bauer	Muriel Hadnagy	Benedicta Otchere
Christopher Bennett	Devon Hanna	Rick Padilla
Greg Bradford	Jacqueline Hartz	Ed Pilarski
Monica Bradford	Linda Haurus	Pat Regensburger
Bradford family	Kathy Henry	Rosemarie Reimert
William G. Brady	Glenn Hertzog	Bill Pettit
Nadia Cahill	Lillian Karch	Kerry Rauenzahn
Meaghan Clark	Michael Karch	Patrick Ritter
Collene	Joanne Kear	Megan Roth
David Covey	Jane Kern	Nina Hertzog
Nancy Devlin-	Milton Kern	Rundle
Litinsky	Carol Korbe	Richard Rusconi
Dave Ebling	John Korbe	Tina Scatamacchia
Trent Eidle	Henry Kryeski	Tina Schmeck
Cecilia Evangelista	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	ChristinaVanDoorn
Michell	Shannon Morris	Paul Vasko
Sandra George	Nikolette Nolte	Bonnie Wessner
		Colleen Wolff

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com



Remember in your Prayers Anthony Evangelista of our parish. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen

Please Pray for all those serving our nation

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

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sun 01.19 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

 $2^{nd} \ Collection-Parish\ Partnership$

Breakfast served 8:30-11a

Youth Mass, 8:30a

Level 7 Retreat, 9a-1p

Mon01.20 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Tue 01.21 Faith Sharing, 10a

Wed01.22 Women of Grace, 6p

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p

Thu 01.23 Music Ministry, 7p

O.C.I.A., 7p

Sat 01.25 Pray the Rosary, 4p

2nd Collection – Catholic Relief Services

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

Sun 01.26 3RD Sunday in Ordinary Time

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK, 1/26 TO 02/01

2nd Collection – Catholic Relief Services Elementary Religious Education, 9:40a Level 2 Parent meeting #2, 9:45a Junior High ministry, 6p

Tue 01.28 Faith Sharing, 10a

Wed 01.29 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p

Thu 01.30 Music Ministry, 7p

O.C.I.A., 7p

Sat 02.01 1st Saturday daily Mass, 8a

Pray the Rosary, 4p

2nd Collection – Lifeline and Mary's Shelter

Sr. Kathleen White Memorial Spaghetti Dinner, 4:30-6:30p

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Submit bulletin items at least 10 days (& full-page at least 2 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

MAY! Come enjoy Sunday breakfast with parish friends, 8:30-11:00a in the Social Hall **01/19**; 02/16; & 03/16 & not in April, May 18. To help: Lisa: 610-462-9289

ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS: Please pick up your annual giving statement in the Gathering Area after Masses this weekend. After Jan 19 statements can be picked up in the parish office (8a-1p M-F) or mailed *upon request:* 610-683-7443. Thank you for your continuted parish generosity.

ST. MARY'S SPRING HOAGIE DATES: Mark your calendars for the two Spring hoage sale dates: March 12/13 and April 30/May 01. Ask your neighbors and coworkers if they'd like some!

SPAGHETTI DINNER: 4:30-6:30p, Feb. 01.
Only 3 weeks until the Sr. Kathleen White
Memorial Spaghetti Dinner (Dine-in or TakeOut) benefits the Heifer Project. Join for
delicious spaghetti and meatballs in a special
recipe sauce, Italian Wedding Soup, salad, roll and dessert.

All meals one size: Free-Will donation (Suggestion \$8 each).

Please share your talent with this special project. Sign-up in Gathering Area: dinner prep/serving AND dessert donations.

For Take-Out: Pre-order required 610-683-7443/ stmarysspaghetti@gmail.com or visit gathering area or REC

ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY, Sr. Marie Clark was missioned to Province Latina, in Lima, Peru, where she will embrace a mission among our Peruvian MSC Sisters, advancing the sisters' English skills.

On January 5th MSC Sisters in Reading held a short Missioning Ceremony at the end of a Holy Hour with Exposition. Upon receiving her Mission Cross for the fourth time (twice for a Mission in Namibia and once for a Mission in Mexico) Sr. Marie spoke these words:

"I joyfully receive this cross as a sign of my willingness to follow Christ faithfully in service and fidelity to my vows as a Missionary Sister of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. May it remind me always of Christ's great love and of my fellow Sisters' prayerful support."

Hold Sr .Marie in your heart and your prayers as she embarks on this new mission of love. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere. *Excerpt: Sr. Dorothy Fabritze, MSC, Province Leader*

GOD BLESS SARA! On Jan. 04, Fr. John and St. Mary's parish were received Mrs. Sara Appleman into full communion with the Catholic Church. She received her First Holy Comunion as a Catholic, and the Sacrament of Gonfirmation. May God bless Sara and her family! Welcome home!

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FR. JOHN MARIA

Our readings for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time provide a window into the love of God for His people. This week, the Lord presents to us the image of marriage.

The importance of marriage in God's plan runs through Scripture, from beginning to end -- from the Genesis account of Adam and Eve becoming one flesh to the Book of Revelation, where Heaven is described as the wedding feast of the Lamb: the union of Jesus and His Church, the Bride of Christ.

Our first reading from Isaiah describes the love of God for His people as that of a bridegroom rejoicing in his bride. This image is unlike any other religious notion of God! In our Gospel, we read of the miracle at wedding feast of Cana. It is no accident that the first miracle of the Lord's public ministry takes place at a wedding, at the intercession of His Mother Mary.

Let us pray for the renewal of the sanctity of marriage between husbands and wives. And let us pray that each of us, whether married or unmarried, may know the intimate love that God has for us! Mother Mary, pray for us!

ach 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 the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

HGA REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL: St. Mary's parish is proud to be a part of HGA Regional Catholic School on 3125 Kutztown Road in Reading. Fr. John and the three pastors of the other feeder parishes serve as a member of the Governing Board of Pastors.

We live in challenging times. The dominant secular vision of morality is becoming increasingly opposed to traditional Catholic morality. Providing our children with a sound and solid grounding in Catholic values - and an excellent education- is more urgent than ever. HGA Regional School is an outstanding source! For info about receiving an excellent Catholic K-8 education ask Fr. John and visit www.hgaschool.org! For a visit: 610-929-4124

BERKS CATHOLIC HS OPEN HOUSE: 5:30-7:30p, Jan. 30. Feel the energy of our community! Open registration, activity fait, tours, speak with teachers and administrators. RSVP https://forms.gle/VjBULL4E1CDM3fd78

BERKS CATHOLIC HS PARTNER/PREP SCHOOL NIGHT: 6p, Jan. 30-Girls Basketball. All Parther/PREP students admitted free!

ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE at Gethsemane Cemetery: 3p, January 19 in the Chapel of Resurrection will commemorate all those interred or entombed in 2024. All are welcome to attend.

DINE OUT EVENT: Monday Jan. 20 at YOGO Crazy, Austin's and Coastal Grille. Mention Holy Guardian Angels Regional school and a portion of your bill will support the school!

BUS TO NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE: Attend the National Right for Life March on Fri., Jan. 24 departing from St. Jane Frances Church in Easton. Depart at 7:30a; return around 8:30p. Passenger donation \$20.00. Info/reserve a seat, 484-259-7740 or andrewazan3rd@rcn.com

FOLINO'S DATE NIGHT for Engaged & Married Couples: Jan 24, 2025. Cocktail hour, live music, dinner buffet and reflection by Greg and Heather Maigur. Tkts \$100/couple, limited to 25 couples, includes a wine bottle favor! Register: allentowndiocese.org/date-night Questions: rtulloch@allentowndiocese.org

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE: Sunday, Feb. 2. Please pray for all the women and men who have committed themselves to God and His people in the consecrated life. Be sure to thank them for their witness and service on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

SURVIVING DIVORCE: Feb 03 thru April 21, 7-8:30p, St. Benedict's, Mohnton. Find hope and healing. Info: Joe Boylan 610-781-6415/joeboylan@breksfoods.com

DESIGNED WITH PURPOSE NFP INFO NIGHT: 6:30-8:30p, Feb. 06 at Building 24 Kitchen and Bar, Bern Rd, Wyomissing. What is "Natural Family Planning" and why does the Church promote it? Speakers will discuss the science of "NFP" and how it is vital for women's health. For single, engaged, married, or to learn more. Light refreshments provided. Info: allentown.nfp@gmail.com RSVP allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/191358

RETROUVAILLE: Rediscover the Love in your Marriage. at Retrouvaille (retru-vee). Get help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Learn to build communication skills and increase intimacy. Next weekend program: Feb. 14-**16** at the Family Life Center in Malvern. Info or Register: 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries strictly confidential. www.HelpOurMarriage.org

STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH: KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS VIDEO SERIES: Men and women, young and old, strengthen and grow in family and faith with their five short videos called the "Mission of The Family". Find them (free!) at: **kofc.org/en/campaigns/** The *Knights* also offer the original "Into the Breach" video series about what it means to be a man in today's world at the same link.



NUN RUN 5K April 12 at 10:00 AM

Join us to support the mission & lives of our MSCSisters:

> Sponsorships **Live & Virtual Options**

Visit: MSCreading.org CWhitmover@mscreading.org

T-SHIRT DEADLINE 3/17

Save the Date!

PILGRIMAGE FROM PARIS TO LOURDES: April 27-May 06, 2025. Highlights: Mass at Notre Dame Cathedral, tours, dinner in the Eifel Tower, Papal Vineyards wine tasting and visit the grotto of Lourdes. Learn more: Fr. Stokes, Holy Family, Minersville: 570-544-4741

A SIMPLE ACT OF CARE FOR 2025 As we pause and reflect on our blessings after the holidays the Diocese of Allentown invites you to a simple act of care to yourself, your loved ones, and even St. Mary's: creating your will. In thanks for



your support, we partner with FreeWill so you can make a will and find peace of mind f the year ahead. It's completely free to use and takes as little as 20 minutes. Scan the QR code or visit allentowndiocese.mygiftlegacy.org

FATIMA/LOURDES RETREAT: June 07-16,2025 led by Fr. John Frink. Itinerary and details: 206tours.com/cms/frfri

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: "There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled or desperate that life may seem. In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is always and radically incompatible with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image." ~ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; "Living the Gospel of Life," © 1998 USCCB

About Ordinary Time:

Christmas Time and Easter Time highlight the central mysteries of the Paschal Mystery, namely, the incarnation, death on the cross, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time, on the other hand, take us through the life of Christ. This is the time of conversion. This is living the life of Christ.

Ordinary Time is a time for growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. The goal, toward which all of history is directed, is represented by the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Why the word Ordinary? Ordinary, in this context, comes from the Latin term *ordinalis*, meaning 'numbered' or 'ruled'. This title simply refers to the ongoing and rhythmical nature of the season. Just like everyday life, there is a rhythm to the days and the weeks. Sure, we have holidays and special occasions that we look forward to that change the pace, just like we have holy days and feasts in the Church year. But those special occasions aren't the whole picture, just like there is more to the life of Christ than what we celebrate in other liturgical seasons.

When is the season? Technically, Ordinary Time has two parts, but it remains one season. The first part begins right after the feast of the Epiphany and runs until Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday (when Lent begins).

The second part begins the Monday after Pentecost and runs until the First Sunday of Advent. This part is typically about twice the length of the first.

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

<u>DAILY SUBSTITUTES K-8TH GRADE</u>: 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

At whatever age we may be, certain words set up a certain excitement within us. This certainly occurs when we hear "Once upon a time." We "sit up," as it were, and start to pay attention. The story may be familiar to us, and there is a special joy if we are about to tell someone else the tale for the first time.

Such is the case with the simple line that the author of the fourth gospel uses in our hearing this weekend: "There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee." Most of us know what's about to unfold and we line up the characters as we imagine them. A pair of newlyweds, perhaps having overspent on their reception, are about to be caught up in embarrassment because the wine is running out. In those ancient days, wedding celebrations ran for several days. Even the best planning might miscalculate how much wine the guests might consume.

The look of fear in their eyes gets noticed by one special guest. It is the Mother of Jesus, a close friend of the host family. She in turn puts her Son on notice with a simple statement: "They have no wine."

We note some ambiguity in Jesus' response, so mindful was He of His Father's game plan for the timing of His earthly mission. This was paramount in all His own decisions. Mary might be upsetting things.

Yet, there is that motherly power over a loving son, combined with a beautiful faith and trust, which finds her confidently telling the servers words that will turn out to be her valedictory address in all of Scripture: "Do whatever He tells you."

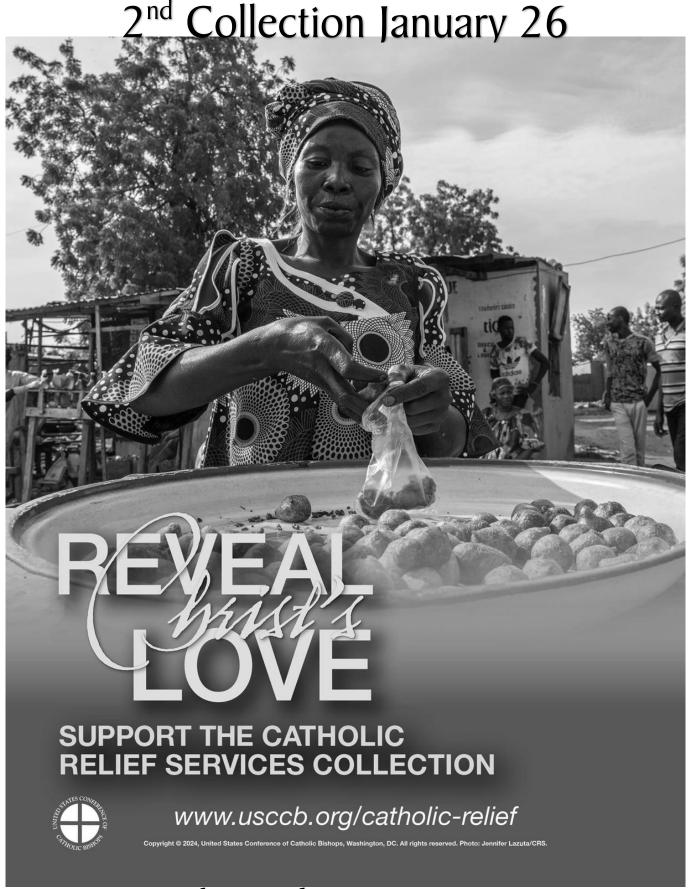
Right then and there we have words to build a life on! Meanwhile the stewards brought the big stone jars of water forward, and when they were full of wine, it was a vintage with a taste that surprised the chief steward.

There are many possibilities for reflection in this beautiful story.

But I believe it is Mary's command to the stewards that should be our takeaway. If only we could obey her words and do what Jesus wants of us 24/7/365! Not likely. But thanks be to God, we always have Mary's help. And we also have the sacrament of Reconciliation with its fine-tuned graces.

Both will help us as our stories move along. For one day, we know not when, our stories will be a matter of "once upon a time."

God love you and give you His peace.



Please be generous