

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
Pro-Life Committee	Mr. John Tucker, O P
R C I A	Fr. John Maria

DIOCESAN INFORMATION

Diocesan Policies and Procedures on Youth Protection:

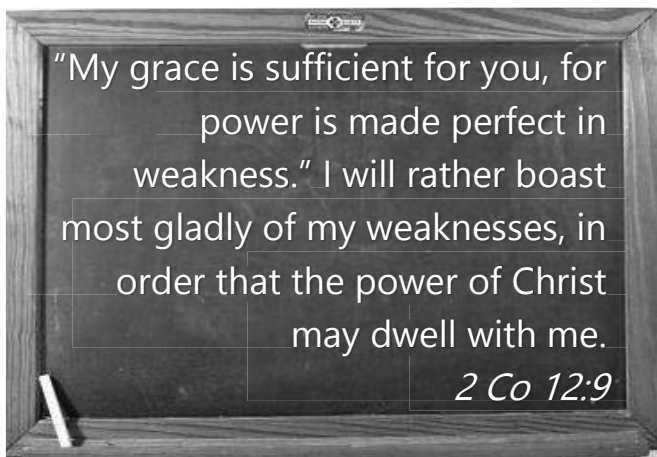
www.allentowndiocese.org

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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, JULY, 07 2024

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

MASS Intentions

Mon 07-08	7:30a	Anne Glogovsky
Tue 07-09	7:30a	Gloria Marie Law
Wed 07-10	7:30a	Bishop Marius Peiris
Thu 07-11	7:30a	Edward and Mary Ehrets
Fri 07-12	7:30a	Dr. John Robertson
Sat 07-13	4:30p	Felix Raymond
Sun 07-14	8:30a	Roy Bellenoit
	11:00a	People of the Parish

Call the parish office to sponsor altar flowers in memory

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun 07-07	14 th Sunday Ordinary Time-Ez 2:2-5; 2 Co 12:7-10; Mk 6:1-6a
Mon 07-08	Ho 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22; Mt 9:18-26
Tue 07-09	Ho 8:4-7, 11-13; Mt 9:32-38
Wed 07-10	Ho 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Mt 10:1-7
Thu 07-11	Ho 11:1-4, 8e-9; Mt 10:7-15
Fri 07-12	Ho 14:2-10; Mt 10:16-23
Sat 07-13	Is 6:1-8; Mt 10:24-33
Sun 07-14	15 th Sunday Ordinary Time- Am 7:12-15; Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10; Mk 6:7-13

MUSIC MINISTRY

	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
4:30p	Spanier, Chris Casey, Peggy	Skoronski, Nate Moore, Mark
8:30a	Skoronski, Nate Cebenko, Steve	Spanier, Chris Moore, Mark
11:00a	Pirnot, Tom Talarico, Tim	Thomas, Cathy Talarico, Tim

Collections last week: **OLG** **Church** **Expenses**

Regular Collection			
Building Fund	<i>Income not</i>	<i>info not</i>	<i>available at</i>
Capital Campaign	<i>publication</i>	<i>deadline</i>	<i>this week</i>
Parish Partnership			
Other Reg. Collections			

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



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



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

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

Please Pray for all those serving our nation

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

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

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

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sun 07.07 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
- Tue 07.08 Faith Sharing, 10a
- Wed 07.09 Handiwork meeting, 10a
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, *No Confessions, 7-8p*
- Thu 07.11 Music Ministry, 7p
Reading Phillis Faith Night
- Sat 07.13 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Capital Improvements

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 07.14 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
2nd Collection – Capital Improvements
Men of St. Mary's meeting, 10a
- Tue 07.16 Faith Sharing, 10a
- Wed 07.17 Adoratoin of the Blessed Sacrament, *No confessions, 7-8p*
- Thu 07.18 *No music ministry*
- Sat 07.20 Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – the Church in Central/Eastern Europe

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Submit items by Monday prior to Sunday. *Submit full-page items two full weeks in advance.*

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Welcome! Please register for parish membership. Call 610-683-7443 for an appointment and find out about all the parish has to offer! Inform us if moving.

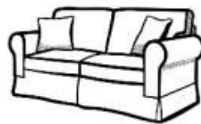
ST. MARY'S WELCOMES FR. RICH BRENSINGER back to residence at Kutztown Univ. Newmann Center ministry. From time to time, Fr. Brensinger will celebrate St. Mary's Mass when Fr. John fulfills obligations as diocesan Director of Vocations. *Please continue to pray for vocations in the diocese.*

RELIGIOUS EDUC. REGISTRATION now open!

To get started visit:

[www.stmaryskutztown.com/prep-at-st-marys/register now!](http://www.stmaryskutztown.com/prep-at-st-marys/register%20now!)

DO YOU HAVE A SOFA? Seeking a clean sofa for the Rel. Ed. Center. If you have a nice, spare sofa to donate call Ann at the Rel. Ed. Ctr.: 610-683-6454 or email a photo: reled@stmaryskutztown.com



PENCIL BOXES NEEDED: The Religious Ed. program needs pencil boxes for students this Fall. Plastic rectangle "to-go" containers from restaurants are an ideal width/length. Please leave them in the special Gathering Area box. Thank you!



THE LORD CALLS EVERY SOUL TO KNOW HIS LOVE AND MERCY. Each of us is called to strive to know Him in the fullness of Truth; not settle for partial truths, passing fads or imitations that won't satisfy our heart's longing.

He founded His Church upon the Rock of Peter to teach with His authority. He sent the apostles forth to baptize in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. He entrusted these truths and graces to the Catholic Church.



Do you have a friend or loved one who is open to hearing this call of Christ, and to being received into the

Catholic Church? **Might YOU** be that someone who's been a friend of St. Mary's parish, but have hesitated to take the step toward becoming Catholic?

Jesus is still calling! St. Mary's parish will host an Earlybird Information Night Thursday, July 25 to discuss the call of Jesus, and explain the process that begins this Fall with weekly meetings starting Sept. There is no pressure or obligation to commit immediately.

The **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)** is a prayer and study journey, culminating in union with Christ at Easter 2025.

For more info, no need to wait 'til Sept! Contact Fr. John Maria: 610-683-7443. We'd love for you to join us!

INVITE ONE BACK: We can all pray for those who do not embrace the fullness of the faith, partake of God's mercy or the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for them, and for guidance in your relationships with them. It all begins with prayer.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FATHER JOHN MARIA

Over the past weeks, we've seen the Lord displaying His power over nature, over evil, suffering and death. He is on a winning streak, until the events we read today for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Jesus seems to have met His match. But it wasn't the forces of Satan that stymied Him. It was the neighbors of his hometown, whose familiarity with Him was an obstacle. He didn't meet the expectations they had. Their hearts were hard, and their faith was weak. This actually prevented Him from working miracles. NOT because He lacked the power, but because God has chosen to make His healing power contingent upon our faith.

If we're honest, we ought to acknowledge that we can also be familiar with Jesus, cherry-picking a few of our favorite traits, and then we fashion an image of Him. Today, Christ reminds us that He is calling us to faith in Him – the entire Christ - the Way, the Truth and the Life, before Whom all will bow in worship.

This calls us to humility. and to a faith that relies not upon our human wisdom or natural powers, but upon the grace of God. As Saint Paul was told when his own desires and prayers went seemingly unanswered: "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."

This week, let us pray for this humility to seek Christ on His terms, and for the grace to respond with hearts open to being conformed to His Sacred Heart!

MASSES FOR THE "PEOPLE OF THE PARISH": You may have noticed that frequently, the Mass intention is offered for the "People of the Parish". Some might speculate that this is used for an otherwise "unfilled slot", but that is not the case! By canon law, a pastor is obliged to apply a Mass for the people entrusted to him on each Sunday and holy day of obligation. There are some alternative options, but the norm is to have one weekend Mass reserved for this purpose.

It is also interesting that this applies to registered parishioners, and ALL those within territorial boundaries, whether Catholic or not. This is because a pastor has a certain spiritual responsibility for all souls within the parish territory.

Offering Mass "Pro Populo" ("for the people") is one of the ways a priest prays for all the intentions people have - a sick mother, a grieving widow, a wayward son, an unemployed husband, etc. Even if you have not asked, rest assured that your needs are being prayed for at Mass.

As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.

1 Peter 4:10.



GOD'S GARDENERS: Do you have a green thumb? St. Mary's seeks team members to tidy up and weed parish landscape beds. Can you help "Collect the weeds"? *Mt 13:30* Call the parish office for details.

BRETHREN OF JESUS In today's Gospel, the English translation of Mark 6:1-5 refers to "brothers and sisters of Jesus." Who are these people? This is often misunderstood and misinterpreted as evidence that the Blessed Mother had other children. Rest assured that this does not at all mean they were other children of Mary. In Hebrew and Aramaic (the language spoken by Jesus), there isn't a specific word for "cousin", so their word for "brother" or "brethren" was used more broadly to include other relatives. The Greek word "adelphos" used by St. Mark had a similar broad meaning. And so, this passage poses no problem for the Church's ancient teaching on the Perpetual Virginity of Mary. The teaching of the Catholic Church is fully rooted in Sacred Scripture! For more information on these relatives of Jesus, check out this article on the web: catholicexchange.com/who-were-the-brothers-and-sisters-of-jesus Or: www.catholic.com/tract/brethren-of-the-lord

Holy Father Prayer Request for July: For the pastoral care of the sick. We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

CONSIDERING A CHANGE FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUC. EXPERIENCE? HGA Regional School registration is open for 2024-2025, Prek thru 8th Grade. Learn more, email Head of School Kelly Precht: Kelpre@hgaschool.org

ST MONICA MINISTRY HOLY HOUR: 6-7p July 09. All are invited to come ask Our Lord's mercy and invoke the intercession of St. Monica for our prodigals. Meet monthly at St. Theresa Church, Hellertown. Info: Celest StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SUMMER FESTIVAL: 5-9:30p July 19 and 20, Mahantongo St, Pottsville. Great food, Games of chance, games for kids/teens, Pot Luck, and live Music! Info: stjohnpottsville.org


RETRouvaille
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES
RETRouvaille: Rediscover the Love in your Marriage. Thousands of couples have healed their marriages at Retrouvaille (*retru-vee*). Get help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Learn to build communication skills and increase intimacy. **Next weekend programs: Aug. 09-11-18 and Oct. 4-6** at the Family Life Center in Malvern. Info or Register: 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. *All inquiries strictly confidential.* www.HelpOurMarriage.org

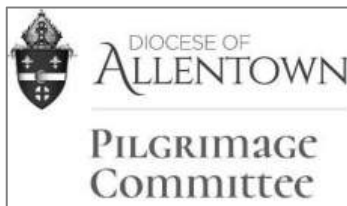
REVIVE: A RETURN TO JOY: Aug 09-11 weekend Retreat, St. Francis Retreat House, Easton. Humorous presenter Jeanne Hunt will share that joy is ours for the asking. Meals and private room included. Register by July 26: stfrancisretreathouse.org/retreats/


Malvern Retreat House
SAVE THE DATE - YOUR LIFE RETREAT Malvern Retreat House. For men (**Sept 06-08**) and women (**Sept. 13-15**) a period of refreshment, support, and reassurance. Learn and focus on the gift of your life—reflect, and improve personal communion with the Lord. Info: Anthony Scarselletti, OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com or 610-393-4671


SAVE THE DATES! The first Diocesan Local Pilgrimage will be to The National Centre for Padre Pio. "MY HEART-A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HEART OF JESUS".
Diocesan HS Pilgrimage – Thu. Sept. 19, 2024
Diocesan Pilgrimage in English – Fri. Sept. 20, 2024
Diocesan Pilgrimage in Spanish – Sat. Sept. 28, 2024
Includes: Mass with Bishop Schlert; Confession; Engaging Speaker; Eucharistic Procession and much more!

IRELAND IN OCTOBER: Pilgrimage to Ireland with Fr. Hoffa, pastor at HGA. Itinerary: Galway, Our Lady of Knock, Cliffs of Moher, Killarney, Dingle Peninsula and Dublin. Cost \$4,999 includes airfare from *anywhere* in the US. Info: <https://bit.ly/3WREzfe> or email ahoffa@hgaparish.com

PILGRIMAGE TOUR TO MEXICO: Oct. 5-11, with Fr. Phil Rogers, St. Patrick's, Pottsville. Visit Our Lady of Guadalupe, Tepeyac Hill, Zocalo Plaza, Tlaxcala, Our Lady of Ocotlan. \$2,150 PP/DO. Info: Debbie 570-622-1802 ext 0.



PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH BISHOP SCHLERT: Reservations are open for the JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY with Bishop Schlert & Fr. Hoffa:

Tue. March 25, 2025-Sat. April 3, 2025. The first Diocese of Allentown International Pilgrimage will "Follow the Footsteps of Saints Peter and Paul" through Florence, Assisi, and Rome. Sign up: Fr. Allen Hoffa ahoffa@allentowndioocese.org or 610-921-2729 x 2205.

Daily Marriage Tip

If a child (or spouse!) has a problem and wants your input, but you are caught off guard, try saying "Tell me more about that" or "What do you think you should do?" Responses like this can give you time to think and respond well.

foryourmarriage.org

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It's EASY and FREE to Register! Just visit formed.org with a web browser, and click on "SIGN UP", then... Click on "SIGN UP AS A PARISHIONER". Type in 19530 to find St. Mary's account, then enter your email & create a password! Enjoy, and grow closer to Christ!



Word of Life: "O God our Creator... through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world,

bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society." ~ *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; "Prayer for Religious Liberty"*

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

BERKS ENCORE seeks **VOLUNTEERS** for our **FRIENDLY VISITORS** program. Make a difference in someone else's life - become a friendly visitor!. For info: Michelle Goodhart 610-374-3195 ext. 225 Read about Friendly Visitors <https://berksencore.org/get-involved>

EXPLORE *NEW* DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS

Visit: www.allentowndioocese.org/about/employment

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

For centuries now the Church has acknowledged that St. Francis of Assisi is so much more than the model for a popular garden statue. In fact, he has been frequently described as "a second Christ" for his exemplary holiness. But like many a saint in the Church's official calendar, he did not have the support of his family for his choice of lifestyle. His own father disowned Francis in front of the whole town because he despised his son's decision.

In this instance Francis mirrored the rejection that Our Lord Jesus experienced from his own kinsmen as described in our Gospel episode from St. Mark today. Any of us who have felt a similar reaction to our lifestyle choices from our families can take comfort from Our Savior. So sad was he that He had to acknowledge that "No prophet has honor in his native place."

In a sense, this incident has echoes in the hostility a young man might experience in our selfish culture if he were to express a desire to become a priest. I know that sounds harsh, but it happens more than we know. The mother might argue: "No! Because I want grandchildren!" The father might say "No! I want you to work for my company!" From my limited perspective I believe such people will face a harsh judgment day with those attitudes

In another sense, I believe that this incident in Christ's life offers solace to all of us who want to stay loyal to Christ and His Church in our present society. A study of Church history will provide plenty examples of what Christ foretold when He said: "In the world you will have affliction." But then He added: "But take courage! I have overcome the world." That's where I place my hope, even though societal trends encourage the opposite. Just take the long and ongoing push in our country to legalize baby killing. Or to normalize unnatural concepts about marriage and gender.

We must concede that all of this is somehow part of God's master plan. His mysterious ways were manifest in the crucifixion of His Son for sure. But so was His glorious resurrection on the Third Day. So, we trust God in good times and in bad.

When Jesus announced the Eucharist, a very tough concept for a simple man like St. Peter. When Our Lord asked him "Are you too going to walk away, as did many early disciples, the humble St. Peter replied, "To whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life." So true! Still so!

Here are two homespun observations that make the point with a dash of sarcasm added: "If a person's character is to be smeared, there's nobody like a relative to do the job. Many people seem to think that distant relatives are the best kind to have."

God love you and give you the peace of St. Francis.

Prayer to Care for Our Common Home



Father of all, Creator and ruler of the universe, You entrusted your world to us as a gift.

Help us to care for it and all people, that we may live in right relationship— with You, with ourselves, with one another, and with creation. Christ our Lord, both divine and human, You lived among us and died for our sins. Help us to imitate your love for the human family by recognizing that we are all connected— to our brothers and sisters around the world, to those in poverty impacted

by environmental devastation, and to future generations.

Holy Spirit, giver of wisdom and love, You breathe life in us and guide us. Help us to live according to your vision, stirring to action the hearts of all— individuals and families, communities of faith, and civil and political leaders.

Triune God, help us to hear the cry of those in poverty, and the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home. Amen.

This prayer from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is based on Pope Francis's Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home. Copyright © 2017, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.

Neighborhood Ozgood's Grill & Bar

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mrichards@jppc.net
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Message and data rates may apply.

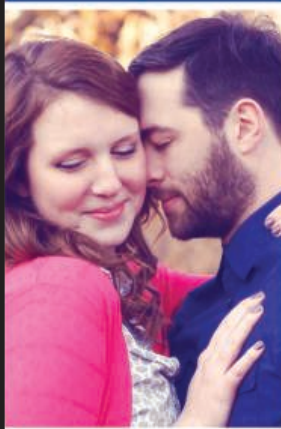
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