

# SAINT MARY'S PARISH

17 MSGR. OWENS PLACE NUTLEY, NJ 07110

WWW.STMARYSNUTLEY.ORG

PHONE: 973-235-1100

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The 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 6, 2020

## New Mass Schedule

### Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00pm

Sunday 7:30am 10:00am 12 Noon

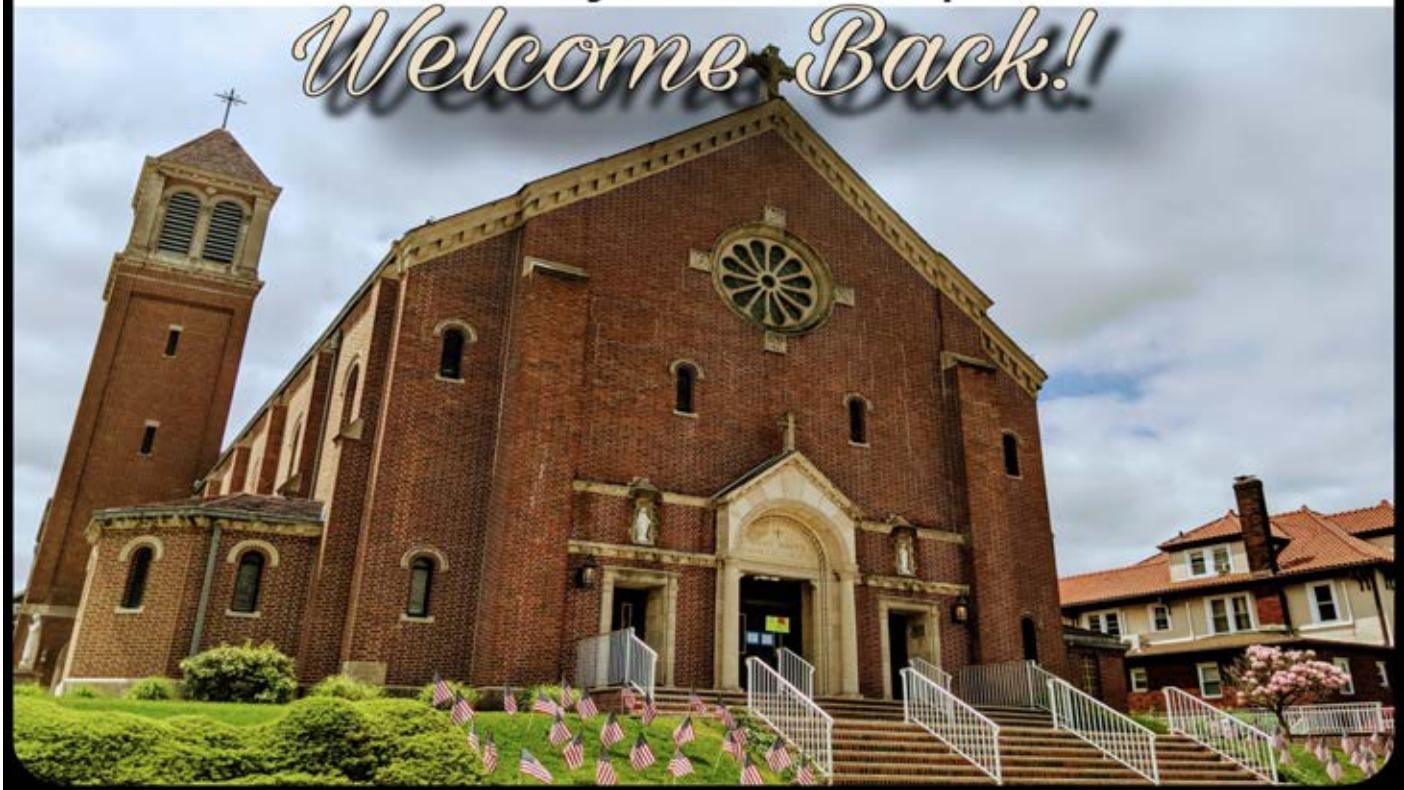
### Weekday Mass Times

Monday-Friday 12:10pm

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00-4:45pm

*Welcome Back!*



## **Coming Back to Mass at St. Mary's Church**

We will formally open the Church on Friday, September 4 at 12:10pm for daily Mass.

Weekend Masses will resume on Saturday, September 5th at 5:00pm for the Vigil Mass for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. On Sunday, September 6th, the Mass schedule will be 7:30am, 10:00am and 12:00 Noon.

On Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day, since it is a civil holiday, we will have one Mass only at 9:00am in the Church

Beginning Tuesday, September 8th Weekday (Mon-Fri) Masses will resume at 12:10pm.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will resume on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Guidelines for the Sacrament will be published online.

**A general dispensation from the Sunday obligation will remain until further notice.** The dispensation for the obligation to attend Mass will remain in effect. No one will be required to attend Mass as public celebrations resume. You will be able to still watch the Sunday Mass online. However due to unforeseen circumstances, we will not be streaming Mass the weekend of Sept 5 & 6.

### **Health and Safety**

**The health and safety of our Parish Community is of the utmost importance. May these steps guide us to sharing in meaningful worship experiences throughout all phases of reopening St. Mary's Church. We thank you for your kindness, understanding, patience and cooperation in these challenging times.**

If you would like to be a part of our Parish Welcoming Team that assists our parish community in coming to Mass on Weekdays or Sundays, please contact Ole Olsen at the Parish Center 973-235-1100 or by email [oleolson@stmarysnutley.org](mailto:oleolson@stmarysnutley.org)

### **For Health and Safety**

- ❖ Openly accessed areas of the Church are being cleaned daily.
- ❖ Appropriate cleaning of the Church is being done before and after each Mass.
- ❖ Holy Water fonts will remain empty until further notice
- ❖ Public Restroom access is restricted to emergency use due to state health mandates. If the restroom is utilized, please use the provided automatic soap and towel dispensers.

## **AS WE GATHER AGAIN TO ATTEND PUBLIC MASS, PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES**

- ❖ Please remember to **WASH YOUR HANDS** for at least 20 seconds before coming to Mass.
- ❖ **ARRIVE EARLY** (20 minutes before Mass) and safely line up outside. Doors will open 15 minutes before Mass. Given the spacing requirement, those who come late may be asked to kindly return at another Mass time.
- ❖ **WEAR A FACE MASK** at all times while on the parish campus (both indoors and outside) and maintain **SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCING** (6 feet).
- ❖ Please Enter Using the Bell Tower door on St. Mary's Place (wheelchair accessible)
- ❖ Upon your arrival, you will have your temperature taken.
- ❖ **HAND SANITIZER** is available and must be used upon entering and exiting. We also encourage you to bring your own so that you may sanitize your hands while in your pew.
- ❖ You will be seated in marked pews to allow for social distancing in the Church.
- ❖ No physical contact during the Sign of Peace.

### **Distribution of Holy Communion**

- ❖ Communion will be distributed to one entire side of the Church and then the other starting from a single, socially distanced line up the center aisle at the front of the Church and middle break.
- ❖ When processing forward to receive, keep mask on and keep a 6-foot distance from the person in front of you.
- ❖ Holy Communion is permitted in the **HAND ONLY**.
- ❖ Once the consecrated host is placed in your hand, step to the side, lift your mask to consume the Eucharist, then immediately reposition your mask and return to your seat.

### **After the Final Blessing**

- ❖ **REMAIN IN YOUR PEW** until a minister or usher instructs you to move; exit the pew when prompted and proceed directly outside.
- ❖ No private prayer or gathering after Sunday Mass is permitted to allow for Church cleaning.
- ❖ Please do not congregate outside

Fr. Tom Nicastro takes the Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity upon assuming an office (Parish Administrator) in the name of the Church. This was done in the presence of Auxiliary Bishop Manuel A. Cruz, D.D., Episcopal Vicar of Essex County.



Dear Parishioners and Members of St Mary's Parish Family,

Praised be Jesus Christ, now and forever! I am thrilled and overjoyed at my appointment as Administrator of St. Mary's Parish, the parish I know and love.

On a supernatural plane, I am most grateful first and foremost to the triune God, the Blessed Mother, Good St. Joseph, St. Gerard and the Holy Souls in Purgatory. On a natural level I am most grateful to our Archbishop, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.S.s.R., for his confidence in me in asking me to take on this new role in my priestly ministry. It was a long time in coming after 30 years of Priesthood! I would like to thank Bishop Manuel A. Cruz, D.D., Episcopal Vicar of Essex County for coming to St. Mary's to witness my taking the Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity upon assuming an office in the name of the Church.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you as we move forward as a community of faith in these trying times. I want to thank Fr. Rich for his seven years of service to our parish as Pastor. We will strive to work together to build on the accomplishments of the past along with the improvements he made to the parish plant and the efforts he made in parish community building, as well as parish life in general. We wish him well in his retirement and Godspeed. We will pray for his continued good health and well-being.

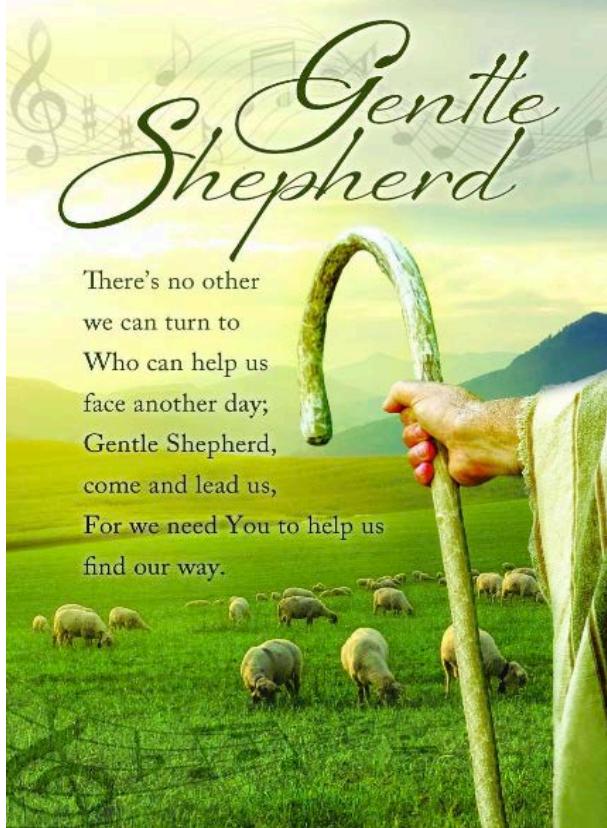
Beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, St. Mary's begins a new chapter in the life of this local Church that began in 1876 with Fr. DeBurgh as its first Pastor and Shepherd. Almost four years ago when we, as a parish family, celebrated our 140th anniversary, I was given a golden opportunity to research and write the history of St. Mary's Parish and bring that history to life with pictures that corresponded with each pastorate in our 140-year history. As a result of the hard work of a few dedicated parishioners, we were able to put together a 90-minute documentary, a pictorial history of our beloved parish. The project was brought to life and preserved on DVD that the parish was given an opportunity to purchase.

Of all the pastors I researched and wrote about, the one that inspired me the most was Msgr. James Owens, the brick and mortar priest, who oversaw the building of the convent, the second Church, the school, the rectory and the third and present Church. He would spend over 40 years shepherding this local Church in Nutley, in what was once called Avondale, or simply Avon. He had a way about him that endeared him to his people, his flock. Today his spirit lives on in the parish life of St. Mary's not only in the buildings he erected and the park and street named after him but also in the hearts of its people. He never wanted to leave St. Mary's and so was the only pastor accorded the honor to be buried at St. Mary's in front of the statue of Our Lady on St. Mary's Place. I have often felt his priestly presence and prayed to him and offered Mass for him during the period I was waiting to hear if I would be named Administrator. Thankfully, his heavenly aid came through when I received the Cardinal's call.



We should recall that the Latin translation for a “shepherd” is the word “pastor”. This signifies the leader of the “...community of believers”, which is “the church”. The Parish Administrator must in essence be a shepherd/servant of the people who are his flock. Just as a shepherd is called to “provide food”, lead the flock to “fresh water, give shelter” he must also “protect against enemies”. For this priest who is shepherd/servant the “food provided” is the “Eucharist”, the

fresh water is “Baptism”, “giving shelter” that is “a place to worship” and “protect against enemies”. (James E. McKarns, “Go Tell Everyone”, Alba House, 1985, Pg. 30). This means teaching the flock the importance of prayer and worship and providing “education”, imparting knowledge in “Spirit and Truth”. This is accomplished through orthodox preaching and teaching in the pulpit and in the confessional. The Shepherd/Servant of every Church is called to be a genuine example according to the role of the Good Shepherd, the “Pastor Bonus” who is Jesus Christ, the great High Priest. Like the Good Shepherd, every shepherd must lay down his life for his flock. Please pray that I will be a good and worthy Shepherd after the heart of the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ. Recall the beautiful words of Jeremiah, the prophet “...and I will give you shepherds, after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.” (Jeremiah 3:15). Lord I pray I am a shepherd under your care watching over them because I am willing and always eager to serve all those entrusted to me. Amen (Based on 1 Peter, 5:2-3)



I am so pleased and elated to begin this spiritual journey, this venture with all of you that I have come to know and love so well. Believe me, I truly understand how difficult the last several months have been since March when the coronavirus pandemic kicked into high gear. Many have suffered, even the loss of a loved one. In March, my dear mother Phyllis passed away and went home to God. My siblings and I were not able to properly mourn her loss in the traditional way because of the intense atmosphere of the pandemic. We were not able to have a wake, a funeral Mass or go to the cemetery. We still wait till we can have a memorial Mass for her.

I'm certain many of you can share similar stories about the loss of a loved one. Many have been in lockdown for months. This has led to loss of hope, complacency, fatigue, depression, weight gain and many other negative results. Many have been longing to return to Church to pray, go to confession, go to daily Mass, Sunday Mass and receive Holy Communion. Added to all this, many have wondered when is St. Mary's Church going to open? I promise you the long wait is over! As a first point of action, I have directed my staff to implement the plan that I have discussed with them since I received my appointment as Administrator. We will formally open the Church on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:10pm for daily Mass. Weekend Masses will resume on Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm for the Vigil Mass for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, the Mass schedule will be 7:30am, 10:00am and 12:00 Noon. On Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day, we will have one Mass only at 9:00am in the Church since it is a civil holiday. Beginning Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> Weekday (Mon-Friday) Masses will then resume at 12:10pm.

We will be following all Archdiocesan guidelines in the phase we are in. One hundred people (maximum), wearing masks and socially distancing themselves will be able to attend each weekend Mass and daily Mass. All Masses, including weekday Masses, will be celebrated in the main Church only; we will not return to weekday Mass in the Parish Center Chapel until we receive guidance from the Archdiocese. I want to reassure each and every one of you that we will follow all the proper protocols to keep you safe as you enter Church. In a separate directive in this weekend's bulletin, we will explain what doors you are to enter and exit through.

We will mark off the pews to follow social distancing. No one will be allowed enter the Church without a mask. We will explain the procedure for safely receiving Holy Communion as well. As your Parish Priest and Shepherd/Servant, I want to welcome all of you back to your spiritual home. I know during this time many have been going to other Churches in the area, but now I want to welcome all of you back to your home, St. Mary's Parish.

During the pandemic, I have offered several Pro Popolo Masses privately in our Rectory chapel for the intentions of the People of the Parish. I cannot wait to see all of you and personally welcome each of you back home where you belong. I deeply desire to celebrate the Holy Eucharist for you so that after this long, very long period of abstaining, you can now receive the Body of Christ! Jesus Christ is truly present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the sacred host.



I also want to welcome in a very special way our newest addition to our Parish family, Fr. Ralph Siendo, who comes to us from St. Aloysius in Jersey City, where he was Parochial Vicar. Thanks to the graciousness of our Spiritual Leader, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.S.s.R., he has assigned Fr. Ralph as St. Mary's new Parochial Vicar. May his priestly ministry and his years at St. Mary's be fruitful, meaningful and blessed! Our clergy staff will include as well, Fr. Matthew, who lives in residence here, from Vietnam, and our two permanent Deacons, Deacon Ron Ronacher and Deacon Carl Lordi, recently ordained, as well as our weekend help, Fr. Jason Makarow, Secretary to Cardinal Tobin, and Fr. Stanley Gomes, Director of Retired Priests and Adjunct

Clergy. St. Mary's is blessed as well with a great lay staff that covers our Faith Formation Program, our Music Ministry, everyone who works so hard in our Parish Center and Maintenance Department. We are truly blessed as we look forward and move ahead in these uncertain times as we navigate through this pandemic. With the help of God, Our Blessed Mother and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, along with the Communion of Saints we will be secure!

Our Spiritual Leader, the Chief Shepherd of our Archdiocese, Cardinal Tobin, put it well in his Newsletter on "Ministry in Time of Pandemic" entitled, "Rejoice in the Lord". He said "...Ministry in time of pandemic is like walking a tightrope. We must keep our distance out of respect for the health and well-being of others, especially those who are most vulnerable. At the same time, we must find ways of being close to our brothers and sisters, and we must search for opportunities to invite all members of the Body of Christ to walk with us (synodality) and to become intimately involved in the Church's life and ministry."

Ancient icon of Christ the Good Shepherd  
c. 220 CE  
Catacomb of Saint Priscilla, Rome



As I reflected on the imagery of the Shepherd/Servant, my mind drifted back to my trips to Italy, in particular, to the Eternal City of Rome to the Catacombs of St. Priscilla in the northern part of the city. Once inside the Catacombs, one can see "...clearly...the artistic illustrations of the faith filled Christians of the second century." There are "...colorful frescoes...still etched on the walls of what was originally an underground cemetery, meeting/area and place of worship." (Ibid pgs. 29) In particular is one painting of the Good Shepherd. The painting goes back almost two thousand years and the colors are still "vivid" after all these years. There you see Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The Shepherd "wearing a rugged loose fitting garment above the knees which extend over his left shoulder, leaving the right side of his body uncovered. He is carrying a sheep on his shoulders and

is "flanked by trees, birds and other sheep." Interestingly, "...his right hand is openly extended, inviting all to Him." This scene is framed with a "nearly perfect red circle with the Shepherd in the center." (Ibid pg. 29)

What struck me the most was the Good Shepherd's open hand extended in a warm gesture of welcome whereby He invites all to Him! Like the Good Shepherd in that ancient fresco, I too your Shepherd/Servant, extend my right hand open to all of you in a gesture of warm welcome – welcome back home from your Parish Priest, your Shepherd/Servant. "Regardless of our various roles and titles in the Church, we are all members of the one flock and have but one Shepherd. He alone is in center place, surrounded by His redeemed creation as pictured in the catacombs. The Lord is my Pastor." (Ibid pg. 30)

The Lord is our Shepherd, our "Pastor Bonus", the Good Shepherd.  
Welcome back home, I can't wait to see all of you, you are truly missed!!

Sincerely, Yours in Jesus Christ and His Mother Mary,  
Your Shepherd/Servant,  
Fr. Tom Nicastro,  
Parish Administrator

*Welcome Back!*

## CELEBRATE THE SUNDAY MASS WITH SAINT MARY'S



### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,  
Come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already there  
And unite myself wholly to you.  
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

#### Reading I: Ezekiel 33: 7-9

The prophet is tasked with becoming a watchman over Israel. He must warn the wicked to change their ways or else the consequences will be deadly. Not to urge them so, in a form of fraternal correction, would bring about the prophet's own death.

#### Reading II: Romans 13: 8-10

Paul teaches his readers that charity always has a role in Christian conduct. Nor is it to be limited to fellow Christians. Love is ultimately the complete fulfillment of the Mosaic law.

#### The Gospel: Matthew 18: 15-20

Matthew has Jesus speak in a way unlike anything else He has said, with references to matters like the Church, which did not yet exist. Still, the teaching about fraternal correction is timeless. Later comes the consoling words of His guarantee of presence in any gathering of two or more made in His name.



### FOLLOW THE SPIRIT

Are you or someone you know being called into God's Family?

Do you want to become Catholic?

Do you need to complete your Sacraments of Initiation: Holy Communion or Confirmation?

We are here to help you begin or continue your journey of faith!

Saint Mary's provides a variety of programs to help you fully enter the Catholic Church. If you need one sacrament or several, we have both adult and children's programs to meet your needs. Please call our parish offices at 973-235-1100 or email info@stmarysnutley.org to get started.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH. WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

You can sign-up for Parish Giving by going to [www.stmarysnutley.org](http://www.stmarysnutley.org)  
It's easy to do and no amount is too small.

You can also drop off your envelopes or donations through the mail slot of the Parish Center or by mailing them to: St. Mary's Church, 17 Msgr. Owens Place, Nutley, NJ 07110

Better days are on the horizon.  
Soon we will all be together again.

During this time, keep your family and friends close  
(figuratively of course), and pray together  
and give each other hope from afar.

Until the time comes that we can gather and worship  
together as faithful servants of God, please consider signing  
up for Parish Giving so we can continue the mission of the  
Church. Visit our website [www.stmarysnutley.org](http://www.stmarysnutley.org)  
to sign up today!

Thank you for your generous support.  
Be safe. Be well. Be hopeful.



**H.O.P.E.**

**Stay Connected with St. Mary's Church**

Although, we cannot gather as a parish family, we can stay connected virtually! Our website will be updated as more information is available. Our Facebook page highlights feast days of saints, articles for reflection, live programs and events.

So check us out and stay in the know about what's going on at St. Mary's Church.

**Website: [www.stmarysnutley.org](http://www.stmarysnutley.org)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stmarysnutley](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysnutley)**

**SUBSCRIBE TO ST. MARY'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOceJGcHuZ1\\_sei860rldug](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOceJGcHuZ1_sei860rldug)

We have been adding music, videos, and reflections on the Sunday readings to our channel as another way for you to experience St. Mary's at home. Be sure to check it out!

It gradually gives us a perfect knowledge of Jesus Christ;  
It purifies our souls, washing away our sins;  
It gives us victory over our enemies;  
It makes it easy for us  
to practice virtue;

# 7 Blessings Of The Rosary

*According To St. Louis De Montfort*

It sets us on fire with love of Our Blessed Lord;  
It enriches us with graces and merits;  
It supplies us with what is needed to pay all our  
debts to God and to our fellow man and  
finally, it obtains all kinds of  
graces for us from  
Almighty God.

**TUNE IN TO THE ST. MARY'S CHURCH FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM**  
**[www.facebook.com/stmarysnutley](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysnutley)**

Our Facebook page has been a great way to not only get information and find links to resources, but to connect to the parish in real time. The great thing about Facebook Live is you don't need a Facebook account to watch the videos! We hope you will join us and many other of your fellow parishioners to pray, reflect and connect!

### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Every Sunday Morning  
at 10:30am

We sit down to proclaim  
the Liturgy of the Word  
with our children to help  
them better understand  
how God is speaking to  
them through the  
scriptures.

**Pray the Rosary**  
**Mondays at 9am**  
Join us in meditating on  
the Joyful Mysteries



### **Windows of Faith** **Wednesdays at 7pm**



A look at the  
stained glass  
windows of  
our Church  
and the faith  
that they  
teach us.



## Faith Formation in 2020-21

I can't believe we have just turned the calendar to September... As you prepare for a new and definitely different school year, we have been developing our program for the upcoming year of Faith Formation.

Thank you to everyone who has registered for classes already. If you have not yet had the opportunity to register or have been waiting for more information, I encourage you to register your family for classes as soon as possible so that we can be ready for everyone.

Click Here to Register Your Child for Grades 1-8: <https://forms.parishgiving.org/form-2666191/>

The Archdiocese of Newark has issued guidelines for all Religious Education programs in light of the pandemic. All programs in the Archdiocese are to be virtual (no in-person classes) at least until January 2021. They will reevaluate where things stand and provide further information at that time.

### What Faith Formation will look like at St. Mary's Parish for September-December of 2020

- Classes for Grades 1-8 will begin on Sunday, September 27th. Unfortunately, this year we will be unable to have a Kindergarten class. We will have a calendar ready very soon.
- Classes will only be on Sunday mornings. There will be 2 sessions: 9am and 11am. We will assign students to a session and class according to their class from last year. Many (not all) of our catechists have moved up with their classes to provide some familiarity and consistency for the students. If your child is assigned to a time that does not work for your family, please let us know and we will make the change.
- Students will have "live" classes every other week. These "live" classes will be conducted using Google Meet and will be only 30-40 minutes long. Following the "live" class, students will read the assigned chapter and complete a chapter review. This assignment can be completed at any time during the week.
- On the weeks that there are no "live" sessions, students will watch a short introductory video, read the assigned chapter and complete a chapter review. This assignment can be completed at any time during the week.
- Students will have hard copies of the student workbooks so that they can use them during virtual class sessions and in case we are able to return to in-person class sessions after January 2021. These will be distributed beginning next week.
- We invite parents to be present with their children during all of our "live" sessions, but especially for our younger students in Grades 1-4. We will also be sending out a code of conduct to all of our families and catechists to provide a safe environment for all.

While this year will be different than most, our goal is to provide quality religious education to our students and families. Many of our teachers (and myself) are still learning this technology so we realize there may be some bumps along the way. We ask for your understanding and patience as we navigate new methods of teaching. We will also be reevaluating things as we move forward and will keep you updated to any changes that need to be made. We hope that during this year of virtual learning, we can help you and your children engage in faith formation in a different way and allow for you as a family to have opportunities for sharing and living out the Gospel message.

For More Information Check Out Our Website: <http://stmarysnutleyccd.blogspot.com/>

## We join together to pray for the needs of our parish family

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list, please email [bulletin@stmarysnutley.org](mailto:bulletin@stmarysnutley.org) with the name and reason for your prayers. Ex: John Smith, who passed away or Jane Doe who is sick. All prayer requests will remain here for two weeks.



We Pray...

For the Church may she forever be committed to doing the work of the Lord...

For the Pope and the Bishops as they work for the coming of God's Kingdom here on earth...

For our leaders that they may work together to protect the freedoms of all people, provide for safety and ensure peace...

For all those affected by the pandemic, the sick and the suffering, the anxious and the fearful, and for those who have lost loved ones that may they see their sufferings and struggles lifted up and redeemed by the cross of Christ...

For our nation, that we may receive the grace to see every human being as a child of God, regardless of race, language, or culture, and respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit to act together to end violence and racism...

For justice and peace in those areas of the world where war makes enemies of neighbors...

For the poor, the homeless, the lonely and the hungry that they may see Jesus in the kindness and generosity of others...

For our planet, that we can appreciate the beauty of God's creation and be good stewards of the environment...

That we may create a parish, community and nation where all feel welcome...

For Christians whose lives are in danger because of the Gospel message that they live and share...

For Fr. Tom and Fr. Ralph as they begin their new ministry at St. Mary's Church...

For Fr. Rich as he begins this new chapter of his life that the Lord may continue to bless him and all the work that he does...

For those who are ill that they and their families receive the healing presence of Christ in their lives...

For our beloved deceased that they may find everlasting peace in the glory of heaven...



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