

St. Mary Catholic Church  
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Volume 11 - Issue 3  
Advent 2018

*Our mission is to  
involve ourselves in  
lay ministries, living  
and spreading the  
gospel message of  
justice and peace.*

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Fr. George Mauck, Pastor

# Voice of St. Mary

Hello,

Ran across this quote attributed to Bill Keane: "Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the **present**."

In this time between Thanksgiving and Christmas, we give thanks for our family and all of our friends as well. The Advent Season reminds us to prepare for the celebration of God's greatest gift (PRESENT) to us: the Son of God, Jesus, the Christ! The gift of Christ never stops giving. We are called to imitate that Christ in our giving of ourselves.

**Let us be aware of God's great gifts that surround us each day.**

Consider a financial gift to St. Mary's this Christmas. We will be challenging ourselves to give this year to repair roofs, etc. Most importantly, be aware of our God who is with us always—*Emmanuel*. Let us pass on the good news with our lives in this present time of waiting for God by waiting on others in service.

Hope you enjoy the newsletter! Lots of snapshots of what is happening at St. Mary. Thanks to Ellen and all for putting it together.

*Peace + Good, Fr. George*



This summer Evelyn Goestenkors, Cheri Mansfield, and Tina Wiegman spent five days with our sister parish, St. Catherine in Guatemala. They stayed at the convent with the Sisters of Charity of Mary Immaculate. They toured the school, which was built through the donations from St. Mary parishioners. Our contributions have provided Father Beltran and the parishes he serves with a truck. The ladies celebrated Mass at five chapels over the weekend and treated to a meal after each liturgy. The roads are bad resulting in long travel times to the various chapels. There is no farm machinery. All planting, fertilizing, and harvesting is done by hand. Evelyn, Cheri, and Tina agree that it was a wonderful experience!

### Calendar

**Fri Dec 7**—Vigil of the Immaculate Conception; Mass 7:00 pm  
**Sat Dec 8**—Immaculate Conception; Mass 7:00 am  
**Sun Dec 9**—Advent Reconciliation Service; 3:00 pm  
**Sun Dec 16**—Christmas Cantata, 7:00 pm; St. Mary Church  
**Mon Dec 24**—Christmas Eve Children's Mass, 4:00 pm  
**Tue Dec 25**—Christmas Masses:  
Midnight Mass and 9:00 am  
**Mon Dec 31**—Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary; 4:00 pm  
**Tue Jan 1**—Solemnity of Mary; 9:00 am  
**Wed Jan 9**—Faith Formation Sessions resume



### Blessing of the Manger or Nativity Scene

God of every nation and people,  
from the very beginning of creation  
you have made manifest your love:  
when our need for a Savior was great  
you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.  
To our lives he brings joy and peace,  
justice, mercy, and love.

Lord,  
bless all who look upon this manger;  
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,  
and raise our thoughts to him,  
who is God-with-us and Savior of all,  
and who lives and reigns forever  
and ever.

R/. Amen.



### Advent Reconciliation Services

Dec 2	St. Damian, Damiansville	1:00 pm
Dec 9	St. Mary, Carlyle	3:00 pm
Dec 11	St. Rose, St. Rose	7:00 pm
Dec 16	St. Francis, Aviston	3:00 pm
Dec 20	St. Anthony, Beckemeyer	7:00 pm

The Holy Eucharist is available to those who are homebound or unable to attend Mass.  
Please contact Fr. George or call the Parish Office at 594-2225.



Youth Ministry's had a Summer and Fall filled with service and fellowship activities. We ended the summer by taking up a collection for St. Vincent de Paul to provide bottled water for the homeless. It feels good to be able to help out those in need. We also had a back to school fellowship gathering at the city pool. Everyone enjoyed spending time with friends and getting to know our new members a little better.

Members also worked the KC breakfast, followed by the parish picnic later that Sunday afternoon. The teens volunteered for double duty that day by clearing tables and serving drinks and attending to the games at the picnic. They sure made the little ones happy at the picnic, especially when they won prizes. Thank you Knights of Columbus for your support!

Teens also worked at the Pork Chop dinner on October 6 that benefitted the Youth Ministry program. We are grateful for the support of Youth Ministry by the parish, families and community. We've recently been discussing attending a Steubenville Youth Rally that will be held in the summer, and this may help to make our dreams of attending a reality!



**Thanks!**

**Pork Chop Dinner** The Parish Council presented Youth Ministry with a check from the proceeds of the Pork Chop Dinner — \$2,193. Youth Ministry would like to thank St. Mary Parish Family for their generosity and hard work.

**Welcome!**

Please join us in welcoming these new members to our St. Mary Parish Family:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Ann & Michael Brandol;<br>Abigail, Emma            | Travis & Stacie Smith<br>Hendrix                      |
| John & Lisa Christeson<br>Ethan, Henry             | Dominic & Lyndsey Timmermann<br>Hailey, Alexander     |
| Kurt & Jamie Kohrmann<br>Kamdyn, Kollette, Kollenz | Clint & Rachel Beckmann<br>Kevin & Sara Frank<br>Dean |
| Brian & Julie Schomaker<br>Emma                    | Ryan & Brooke Myers<br>Huck, Sage                     |
| Courtney Litteken & Avery                          | Christy Lynn  |
| Bob & Kayla Crippen<br>Isabella, Noah              | Mariah Lynn, Haverlee & Ledger                        |



Join our parish for **BEST ADVENT EVER**, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent, you'll receive an email with . . .

- Short inspirational videos from Allen Hunt, Matthew Kelly, and the Dynamic Catholic team.
- Practical tips for your everyday life
- Real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey

To sign up, visit [BestAdventEver.com/Christmas18](http://BestAdventEver.com/Christmas18)

The St. Mary Parish family is sponsoring the annual Christmas Giving Tree project. Our gift recipients are the participants of *Community Link* and *First Steps*. Parishioners choose an ornament from the tree starting the weekend of November 24/ 25. Suggested value of the gifts is \$25. **All gifts should be wrapped** with the nametag attached to the gift.  
Thank you in advance for your generosity.  
**Please return all gifts by December 16.**



**First Reconciliation**  
Thirteen second grade students from St. Mary Faith Formation and ASA celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation with their families on Nov 14.

**Mark Your Calendar**  
On **March 9, 2019**, St. Mary's will once again host the Reverse Raffle at the K of C Hall in Carlyle. Proceeds from the raffle will go toward repairs to the Parish Center. These include repairs to the roof and to the parking area in the back. Tickets will be mailed out to all church families in January. One ticket admits one person into the hall for fried chicken, chips, a chance to visit with fellow parishioners, and a chance at \$2500! Cash bar will be available.  
We are looking for donated items for a silent and an oral auction held during the evening. Useful items are tickets to sporting events, Munny Opera, the Fox or other entertainment venues. Merchants may want to give gift certificates. Boat trips on the lake, condo facilities, a camper for the weekend, limo service, quilts, craft items, or gift baskets are some other ideas. Anyone willing to donate items for the auctions is encouraged to call Nancy Nave at 420-7907.  
**We hope to see you all there!**



Who did you see at the Parish Picnic?