

St. Mary of the Assumption

47 Syracuse St, Baldwinsville, NY 13027 (315) 635-5762
www.stmarysbville.org

March 22, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Lent



**IF YOU
HEAR
HIS VOICE,
DO NOT
HARDEN
YOUR
HEARTS.**

PSALM 95





To Our St. Mary's Community of Faith,

In these difficult and tenuous times, I offer a greeting that is not only familiar in the context of our Eucharist Celebrations but also never more poignant than today....'May the Lord be with you'.

Over the months that lay ahead, we will hear countless stories of parishioners and neighbors who are struggling to meet their financial and familial obligations as a result of the corona virus. This is no longer a possibility but rather a reality.

If this defines your current situation or someone of whom you are aware, please consider the following...

The Offertory or 'collection' from our weekend Masses is the primary source of income for our outreach to those in need, liturgies, ministry team, diocesan assessments, insurance, physical plant maintenance and emergency assistance, to name a few. Your generosity is literally what 'keeps our doors open'! It is also true that you often set aside personal needs to support our parish family at St. Mary's.

Now is our time to support you...

If there is anything that we can do to assist you or your family in this time of need, please let us know.

We don't have the ability to financially assist with everything, but we will help where we can and brainstorm for additional solutions. And while we would be ever grateful to those who are able to continue their weekly contributions during this uncertain time, it is your family's health, well-being and financial security that are paramount. (Footnote #1)

If temporarily suspending your weekly contributions assists you to cover other responsibilities, we urge/encourage you to do so. In like fashion if there is something, we as Parish can do for you please let us know. Our first priority is you and yours.

When the crisis passes and we find ourselves amid a greater sense of normalcy, we can then refocus on the needs of our Community of Faith...and as you have inspirationally demonstrated time and time again, your altruism is unsurpassed!

In addition, while we are presently unable to gather as parish to celebrate Eucharist, we have outlined other ways for us to pray collectively in our own homes. These include watching Mass on line, morning and evening prayer, Recitation of the Rosary, and a daily family prayer. More details are attached/enclosed.

Again, thank you!! Be certain not simply of our prayers but our gratitude. It is your generosity of spirit that inspires us to say to you,

"Where can we help? How best can we serve you?"

May the Lord continue to be with us!

In Prayer and Admiration,

Fr. Cliff

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fr. Cliff".

47 Syracuse Street
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Important information regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) and its impact on our parish community

Please note: As we continue to monitor the coronavirus, these directives may be modified. Please visit our website, stmarysbville.org, for the most up-to-date information.

Bishop Lucia announced that all Masses and other liturgical services have been cancelled until further notice. That means that we will not be having daily Mass, Adoration, Stations of the Cross or Weekend Masses.

****NEW**** The church will be open for private prayer from 12:00pm - 3:00pm on Saturday and Sunday. Entrance to the Church will be available through the North door only (across from the Rectory). Please practice social distancing while visiting the Church (minimum of 6 feet of space between individuals).

****NEW**** The Parish Office will be closed to visitors. Please call the Parish Office during the hours of 10:00am - 4:00pm Monday - Thursday at 315-635-5762 for Mass Intentions or to set up an appointment for confessions or anointing.

All parish programs are cancelled for the time being. This includes Scripture Study, No Greater Love Program, Fish Fry, and Men's Basketball.

Living Stations of the Cross and all Youth Ministry events have been cancelled.

Faith Formation classes, including First Eucharist and Confirmation Preparation and Workshops are cancelled until further notice. If you have questions regarding Faith Formation, please contact Mrs. Mackey at cmackey@syrdio.org.

During this time, our school will be closed to the public. There will be no entry permitted to the school building until further notice.

More information about all programming at St. Mary's will be made available in weekly emails and on our website. If you have not signed up for our weekly emails and would like to do so, you can subscribe on our website.

Please check the Parish Calendar on our website for the most up-to-date schedule of Parish Events.

The Ministry Team will be praying for the health and well-being of the parish at this time. Please keep this faith community in your prayers in this most trying time.

Reflection

By: Cathy Mackey, Director of Faith Formation

We are in the midst of a pandemic. People are frightened, anxious, confused and dismayed. We are navigating waters that have never been traversed and that is anxiety provoking. However, Jesus tells us, "Be not afraid." How can we not be? This is some seriously scary stuff! How can we make it through this, not just physically, but mentally?

There is a Fred Rogers quote going around that says, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'" That is exactly what has always worked for me. I search for people who calm the storms, as Christ did, by a hand outreached, a hand that helps others. And this is what I have seen so far:

My graduate school professor from Rome, Italy has been sharing videos of Italians on their balconies. They go out at the same time each evening and sing and dance, eat their dinners, and pass the time cheering each other up with all of this. They are showing love and unity, while staying safe and obeying the Italian guidelines for the virus.

I have read about a woman who gave up a carton of eggs at the grocery store so that another person could have one. As a gesture of thanks, unbeknownst to the woman, the woman who received the eggs gave the cashier a \$100 bill to pay for the woman's groceries.

I have heard of a man who left a \$2500 tip at a restaurant, knowing that they would be closing at 8:00pm and the staff would now be out of work. He asked for them to split it among them.

I just got a phone call from an employee at my mom's nursing home who said she heard that I missed my mom, am heartsick about not being able to see her and that I wanted to FaceTime with her. So, she had my mom FaceTime with me. I was overjoyed and overcome by this gesture! And here's the crazy part: I never told anyone that I wanted to FaceTime my mom. I didn't even know it was a possibility.

In all of these things, God's hand is at work. I talk about this all the time with my students; angels among us that are doing God's work. We talk about how in times of chaos and crisis, God always raises up people to be the good against the evil. St. Teresa of Calcutta said, "we can do small things with great love." So, are you doing something small, yet extraordinary? Can you help to end someone's nightmare of fear? Can you calm someone's storm? I know this for sure; great joy is had by serving others. It is through doing for others and bringing them solace that peace comes to your heart. During this time of great fear and uncertainty, remember the One that comforts the scared, never abandons, and conquers the demons. And strive to be like Him. It will not just make you feel better, it will make the other person feel better, as well. Nothing can defeat the human heart that is filled with our Lord. Peace be with you.

Novena Prayer for an end to the Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and worldwide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

During this time, Father Cliff will be saying private Mass each day for our intentions.

This week we remember in prayer:

March 23 - 29

Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

Nigem Moses

requested by Jody & Al

Wayne Horton

requested by The Family

Marsha & Robert Schaffer

requested by Ryan Schaffer

Betty Weigelt

requested by Peggy Lathrop

The Greco Family

requested by Sandra & Wayne Klue

Peter D. Pawlikowski

requested by Family

Anna Ponto

requested by Family

Jim Casper

requested by The Pitts Family

Ronald Turnbull

requested by Mary Beth & John Drumm & Family

Catherine Wagner

requested by Mary Beth & John Drumm & Family

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, March 23

No Mass

Tuesday, March 24

No Mass

Wednesday, March 25

No Mass

Thursday, March 26

No Mass

Friday, March 27

No Mass

Saturday, March 28

No Mass

Sunday, March 29

No Mass

SANCTUARY LAMP & DIVINE MERCY LAMP

For a \$10.00 donation you can have the Sanctuary Lamp or the lamp in front of the Divine Mercy Image burn for one week in memory or in honor of someone special or a loved one. To arrange this, call the Parish Office to see which weeks are available.

Readings for the week of March 22, 2020

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/ Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46: 2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11 [8a and 9a]/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 [19a]/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/ Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

This **Lenten Season**
GIVE YOUR GIFTS ONLINE.

IT'S SAFE. IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S CONVENIENT.

Donate today using your debit, credit card, checking, or savings account.

- 1 Visit our parish website and click Give Online.
- 2 Select your donation amount and frequency.
- 3 Enter your account and payment information.

Questions? Contact the Parish Office at
315-635-5762



Parish Support

Weekend of March 14th & 15th: \$7,412.12

Weekly amount needed to meet budget:
\$10,230.77

Thank you for all your support!

Lord Jesus, you taught us to care for the sick
as you did.

Help us, in this time of medical crisis,
to show your love to those suffering
with the Coronavirus.

Give us the strength and the faith
to serve those infected
and show unto them your love and mercy.

Protect us from the virus,
especially those at the most risk,
and bring the pandemic to an end
as quickly as possible.

Give your wisdom and knowledge to the
scientists and doctors searching for cures
and working to create a vaccine.

Assist our leaders as they lead us
through this crisis.

Help them to make wise decisions
that limit the spread of the virus.

Protect the frontline warriors against the virus,
the doctors and nurses working
in understaffed hospitals who are
directly exposed to the virus
and keep them safe so that they will not become infected
and can continue to heal those in need.

Give your healing love to all the victims
of the Coronavirus and their families.

Be with us always, Lord,
and pour your blessing and protection
upon all the human race.

Amen.

Ryan Brady, 9th Grade

**During this time, Sunday Mass will be recorded and
posted to the home page of our website.**

**Here are some ideas for your family to celebrate Mass
at home:**

5 Tips for a Virtual Mass

1. Get dressed up like you are going to Mass
2. Set up "pews" by using chairs (i.e. don't sit on couch)
3. Print the readings to create your own Misslette (readings can be found at usccb.org)
4. Pray a Spiritual Communion, such as, "My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come and I unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen"
5. Have a donut or special treat after Mass



Parish Directory

**Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 9am - 4pm
Friday: Office Closed**

Parish Phone: (315) 635-5762

Parish Staff

Rev. Clifford H. Auth, <i>Pastor</i>	Ext. 202
Rev. Lou Sogliuzzo, S.J., <i>In Residence (St. Augustine)</i>	
Dc. Robert J. Talomie, <i>Deacon</i>	(315) 635-5762
Dc. Joseph R. Casper, <i>Deacon</i>	(315) 720-4727
Sr. Marcia Barry, OSF, <i>Acting Principal</i>	(315) 635-3977
Amy Casper, <i>Pastoral Associate</i>	Ext. 104
Jackie James, <i>Homebound Minister</i>	
Catherine Mackey, <i>Director of Faith Formation</i>	Ext. 110
Teresa Nipper, <i>Parish Office Coordinator</i>	Ext. 100
Patti Pitts, <i>Business Administrator</i>	Ext. 114
Renee Romance, <i>Adoration Coordinator</i>	
Ryan Schaffer, <i>Director of Music</i>	Ext. 112
Kathryne Sparaco, <i>Youth Minister</i>	(315) 729-0286
Joelle Zarnowski, <i>Communications</i>	jzarnowski@syradio.org

Information:

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office (ext 100) to make arrangements.

Marriage: Please call the Parish Office at least six months in advance to make arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick: If a family member is hospitalized or homebound, please call the Parish Office as soon as possible. Privacy laws may prevent a hospital from telling us your loved one is there.

If you are moving: Please call or email the Parish Office with your new address and phone number, or to let us know if you will be leaving our parish.



Parish Updates

Have you received our weekly updates?

We have been sending out weekly emails with important information about upcoming events and general parish information. If you would like to receive this email, please visit our website and click on the link on our main page! You can also contact the Parish Office to provide us with your email address.