

**Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2017**

FROM FR. KUNKEL

Today's Readings

4th Sunday of Lent
1 Sm 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13
Eph 5: 8-14
Jn 9: 1-41 or 9: 6-9

Readings for 04/02/17

5th Sunday of Lent
Ez 37: 12-14
Rom 8: 8-11
Jn 11: 1-45 or 11: 3-7

MASS INTENTIONS: MAR. 27 TO APRIL 2, 2017

Monday	9:00 a.m.	Helen Coyne
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Phillip Pizza
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Ector Crocett
Thursday	9:00 am	Communion Service
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Guerriero Family
Sunday	8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory Camille Kiedrowski Helen Dietzenbach

(SI) Special Intentions (B) Birthday (A) Anniversary (H) Health

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Please notify the Church office if

you are in need of prayer, so that we can include you in our Prayer List. Please pray for: Michael Barlow, Brent Bittner, Lawrence Boden, Michelle Bortmes, JoAnn Brenmeman, Roy Broyles, Aaron Carter, Mary Cochran, Kemper (Scoop) Cline, Ginger Corvin, Jean L Dempster, Elaine Donahue, Kathleen Douglas, Steve Ferguson, Don Green, Gorden Gosewich, Jo Anne Heaps, Dorothy Heinks, David Hudson, John Hufnagel, Scott Jackson, Michael Kraus, Bob Krug, Kelly Lally, Candace Webb Lee, Elaine Mann, John Meilnik, Katherine Miller, Jim Mixon, Bart Mohr, Chuck & Susan Pace, Mack Palmer, Genelia Peagler, Joan Rogers, Bob Ryer, Barbara Schroll, Jodie Smithson, Jeanne Berg Stith, Shirley Suggs, Bernice Taylor, Charles & Melissa V., Theresa Wagner, Linda Webb, Michael Webb, James W. Webb, Kimberly Weidner, Marie Weller, Jim & Bev Wilson, Marie Winterling-Fogarty, Barbara Wunner.

SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND OF 4/02/17

Ministry	Sat 4 pm April 1 st	Sun 8 am April 2 nd	Sun 9:30 April 2 nd	Sun 11:15 April 2 nd
Priest	HK	HK	MS	MS
Lectors	B. Mank	J Healy	J Edwards	T Driesen
EM	P Fritz	S Dieter	J Bowman	G Dumer
	L Fritz	T Dieter	M Childress	C Era
	J Poole	F Holtz	L Hall	P Era
		L Surkin	M Scarff	M Rudell
Server	G Arnett	A Engel	J Devereux	E Cassidy
	H Arnett	A Engel	J Devereux	W Cassidy
			K Gesla	J Cassidy
Sacristan			W Eakes	B Oursler

“There are none so blind as those who will not see!” Nowhere is this indictment more evident than in this weekend’s Gospel story about Jesus, the blind man, and some Pharisees. We might imagine how impressed we might be if we saw someone cured on the spot of lifelong blindness. It’s almost irritating that the Pharisees are not moved by this impressive miracle of Jesus. What does it take to convince them that Jesus had divine approval? On the other hand, what does it take to impress any of us?

The rule is that we normally see what we want to see. “Reality” is basically what we choose to perceive. This means that, like the Pharisees, we have a talent for creating blind spots for ourselves. Blind spots prevent us from seeing the truth and affect the way we ascertain the “facts.” A mother, for example, rebukes her daughter, “Didn’t I tell you to be in by midnight?” The daughter responds with utter conviction, “You never told me that!” Blind spots about ourselves can be serious impediments to our growth and happiness; they can also keep us mired in problems and unnecessary pain. A frustrated wife urges her alcoholic husband, “Honey, you need help,” but he firmly insists, “Don’t worry, I have it under control.”

The Gospel is more than a reproach to Pharisees; it is an encouragement for us to be aware of our own blind spots. We must all strive to see more clearly. With a positive attitude in mind we can be more open to what we do not at first see or comprehend, rather than jealously defending our own little corner. The Gospel is a dynamic message leading us always towards the light of truth, which is our risen Lord. Getting there through the thickets of our prejudices, assumptions and misunderstandings is always a very humbling and certainly a very seasonal Lenten experience. Think about it!!

PARISH INFORMATION



**DEVOTION TO THE
DIVINE MERCY**

FOURTH WEEK – THE HOUR OF GREAT MERCY (DIARY #1320) At three o’clock implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy for the whole world.

Information sheets for Preparing for the Divine Mercy and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy can be found in the vestibule of the church.

Formed – The Catholic Faith on Demand

Don’t forget to open your yearlong Christmas gift from St. Mary’s . . . We are excited to announce that St. Mary’s has become a partner in an exciting 24/7 on-line web-based digital formation series called FORMED, produced by the Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press. There are movies, Bible and spiritual studies, audios and books. This series is designed to help adults grow in their faith at all levels – how

we think, how we pray, and how we live. Better yet, access is FREE to all parishioners and their families anywhere, anytime on computers, tablets or phones. There is also content for children!

Go to Formed.org. Enter our parish code C9HQ2N. Create a personal account with your user name / email and password. Then log in by going to www.formed.org. Enter your user name / email and password.

St. Mary's Lenten Mission
"Come to me! says the Lord"
"Come to me, all you who labor and are
burdened, and I will give you rest. Mt. 11:28

Friday, March 31, 7 pm
Join us after the Knights of Columbus Fish Fry
for an evening of spiritual renewal!

Father Okoro has asked that we read and ponder the following Bible verses before the event:

'A voice proclaims: In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!'

Isaiah 40:3

'Above all, let your love for one another be intense, because love covers a multitude of sins.'

1 Peter 4:8

'Lord, you will open my lips; and my mouth will proclaim your praise.'

Psalms 51:17

A free will donation will be taken for Fr. Okoro's' blessing us with his gifts of spiritual transformation.

Fr. Justin Okoro, ordained a priest on July 6, 1996 for the Catholic Archdiocese of Owerri Imo State, Nigeria. He was a pastor, retreat teacher and Director for Life for 17 years in Nigeria. In 2014, he volunteered to serve the Diocese of Gallup in New Mexico, where he gave retreats and conferences for parishes and Charismatic prayer ministries in New Mexico, Texas, Florida, and New Jersey. In 2016, he enrolled in the Health Administration program at Mount St. Mary University. He currently resides at St. Agnes parish in Catonsville. Fr. Justin is the son of Mr. Sylvanus and Mrs. Edith Okoro of Igeria



What Makes Marriage Work
Commitment and Common Values

Some ingredients, if missing, can doom a relationship from the start. Two are commitment and common values. Commitment bonds a couple together when you are tired, annoyed, or angry with each other. Sometimes, remembering your vows can

prompt you to push past these problems and try to forgive and start again.

Common values are important. If you aren't together on basic values such as children, honest fidelity and putting family before work, no amount of learning or effort of the will can resolve the conflict. For example, constant tension will result if one spouse wants to live simply, but the other wants life's luxuries.

Here is a simple, but revealing conversation starter for you: Each of you look at the list of values, think about what they mean to you and rank them in importance.

___ Honesty ___ Commitment ___ Fidelity ___ Loyalty
___ Devotion to Parents ___ Generosity ___ Kindness
___ Peacemaking ___ Living simply ___ Self-control
___ Education ___ Children ___ Sacrifice
___ Friends

Try the dialogue technique from last week's bulletin to discuss!

<https://youtu.be/Nbbn34EJO5A>

Enjoy learning about each other!

Dcn. Gary and Ellen Dumer

RESPECT LIFE
March – 5th month

St. Mary's Respect Life Committee has placed the 5th "Little One" poster in the vestibule of the church. Our "Spiritually Adopted" babies are at the half-way point to being born. Babies at this gestational age have survived a premature birth. Yet these viable infants are at the mercy of outside forces – including their own mothers – as to whether they will live or die. Please continue to pray for your "adopted" Little One!

The following text is on the poster:

Fifth Month (size: about 12 inches)

This month marks the half-way point to birth, and the baby is very active. Sleep habits develop and his mother can feel him move and stretch, particularly when she is resting. He is big and strong enough to kick hard against the outside uterine wall and dent it. Up to now, although he swam with ease in his watery world, he was too small for her to detect because the outside wall of the uterus has no feeling. Babies born at this age have survived.

Good News: The End of Life Option Act (physician assisted suicide bill) in Maryland was withdrawn and the Senate hearing canceled. The bill will not be passed this year.

Praying is a powerful action we can all take. Here are some specific prayer intentions:

1. Pray that presidential cabinet appointments and Supreme Court appointments are people who will promote a culture of life in our nation.
2. Pray that all elected representatives will promote dignity for human life from conception until natural death.

R.C.I.A.

If you know someone who would like to become a Catholic or is looking for a new church, call Janet Young at 443-421-3240 to talk about it.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The Old Testament has many references to tithing.

Numbers 18: 21. The tithe is dedicated to the Levites for the work in the tabernacle.

Treasure – March 19, 2017

The treasure update for March 19th will be in the April 2nd bulletin. As always, thank you for your generosity.

- The message of stewardship is that God's gifts, *shared*, will always be enough. Thank you for continuing to share your gifts with the parish, others and the Lord. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.
- Please consider remembering St. Mary, Pylesville **in your will**. Catholics of generations to come will thank you for your thoughtfulness and remember you in prayer.

Offertory Envelopes/EFT

The parish offers two (2) plans for giving: Electronic Funds Transfer and Church Offertory Envelopes. The easiest and most efficient way is **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**. Your donations are automatically taken out of your checking or savings account or charged to your credit card. No need to think about writing a check, remembering your envelope or being away for a well deserved weekend or vacation. You can have your contributions deducted anytime during the month. How much easier can it be? The **Church Offertory Envelopes** are mailed to you every month. It is required the envelopes be used to have your contribution recorded. If you are unable to attend mass we ask you to please bring your envelope(s) the next weekend you attend mass, mail them or drop them off at the office. Please call the parish office, Ext. 22 if you would like to enroll in one of the giving methods or if you would like to switch from envelopes to EFT. As always, thank you for your continued support of the parish.

****Next Weekend: April 1st & April 2nd**

Weekly Offering: - Provides a regular predictable source of funding so the Church can meet its practical responsibilities; cost of facilities, administration, worship, salaries/benefits, religious education subsidy, ministries, and miscellaneous expenses. **(We encourage all envelope users to please use your envelopes. This will assist in decreasing the posting time.)**

Chaplain at Upper Chesapeake: All Harford County parishes will provide a portion of the salary, housing and benefits for a chaplain to attend to the patients, to anoint the sick, hear confessions and visit the sick at the Upper Chesapeake Medical Center. This **"Special envelope"** can be placed in the regular offertory collection along with your weekly offering envelope.

Poor Box: "Little Sisters of the Poor": The Little Sisters of the Poor have been serving the vulnerable aged in our Archdiocese without interruption since 1869. They humbly beg to fill the gap between what is provided by the residents and/or government and truly what is needed for the residents to have the dignity they deserve.

Celebrations and Congratulations!!

Happy Birthday-80's and over

Joan McCluskey	82	Mar. 25
Vilma Baldwin	87	Apr 8
Ellen Bauer	86	Apr 13
Eugene Marsiglia	85	Apr 22
Francis Miller	87	Apr 26
Charles Sieck	83	Apr 26

Happy Anniversary--25th, 50th & over 50

Michael & Kathleen Douglass	25	Mar. 28
Lawrence & Bertha Mann	25	Apr 9
John & Joan Kusik	57	Apr 14
John & Beatrice Gibson	55	Apr 14
Jeffrey & Leslie Kline	25	Apr 25
George & Helen Ramsburg	54	Apr 27

Happy Birthday-80's and over

Joan McCluskey	82	Mar. 25
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Happy Anniversary--25th, 50th & over 50

Michael & Kathleen Douglass	25	Mar. 28
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If you do not want your name(s), and/or your age in the bulletin please notify Barbara, Ext. 22

YOUTH MINISTRY

Need High School Teens to help us on April 9 from 12:30 – 2 pm in the Youth Room to stuff Easter Eggs for the Annual Easter Egg hunt. Pizza on the house!

Need High School Teens to volunteer on Saturday April 15 @ 10:45 am to help hide the Easter Eggs then help the Children to help supervise the hunts. Meet Mrs. Rachel @ the Youth Room.

April 22 Earth Day Clean up at St. Mary's. Teens meet Mrs. Rachel @ 9am at the Playground. Bring work gloves, tarps, rakes, weed pulling tools. We will be picking up debris, pulling weeds in the playground and do our part to help tidy up the grounds for spring events. If raining, event will be cancelled.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Sunrise Communion Service

St. Mary's offers a Communion Service every Wednesday at 6:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend. For more information please contact, Mike Dodson @ 717-382-4756.

Young Adult Ministry-March 2017

Young Adult Theology on Tap is being sponsored in Harford County by the Harford Area Young Adult Ministries. Any young adults 21 and over are welcome to join us at Main Street Tower (29 S. Main St, Bel Air) for Faith/Fun, interesting speakers, lively conversation and good company. The dates are Thursdays during Lent – Mar. 30 & Apr. 6 – Time 7-7:30pm Social / 7:30-8:00pm guest speaker / 8-9Pm Lively conversation and good company. Any questions contact Hannah Bittner 717-380-7443, Young Adult Ministry Coordinator.

Spring Fried Chicken Dinner –

Our Annual Fried Chicken Dinner will be held on April 29th, 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm. We will need approximately 300 stewards to volunteer and as always we must ask our parishioners to give of your time, talent and treasure. Please sign up if you are going to work the dinner; it helps prevent a lot of headaches and keeps our stress level at ease.

Time: 4 hours at the most but 8 hours would be great.

Talent: Volunteer for any of the many positions to be filled.

Treasure: Buy a dinner ticket (it helps the cause).

Sign up will be after all the Masses as follows: / April 1st & 2nd / April 22nd & 23rd or call Barbara at Ext. 22 / or email her at barbara_stmarys@yahoo.com
Thank you in advance for giving of your time and talent, signing up early and for your continuous support for our parish.

ST MARY'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, March 27, 2017

7:30mKnights of Columbus

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

5:30pm.....CFF 6/7/8 graders Drug Awareness in Hall
6:45pm..... High School Faith Formation
7:45pmHSFF Community Service

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

5:30pmCFF 6/7/8 graders Drug Awareness in Hall
7:00pm.....Fr. Henry's Adult Ed Class
7:00pm.....Contemporary Music

Thursday, March 30, 2017

7:30pm.....Choir Practice

Friday, March 31, 2017

3:00pmK of C Fish Fry
7:00pm.....Lenten Mission

Saturday, April 1, 2017

.....Casserole Pans Distributed
.....Food Bags Collected
.....Chicken Dinner Sign-Up
.....Cake /Candy Boxes Distributed
9:00am.....Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, April 2, 2017

.....Casserole Pans Distributed
.....Food Bags Collected
.....Chicken Dinner Sign-up
.....Cake /Candy Boxes Distributed
6:00pmBoy Scout Mtg

Lenten Fish Fry – Mar. 31

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Lenten Fish Fry on Friday, March 31st from 3:00 – 8:00pm. A fish platter will be available for \$9.00 which will include fish, French fries, apple sauce, coleslaw and a drink. Also available will be a fish sandwich for \$6.00. The Belles of St. Mary's will have desserts available for purchase. Come spend a Friday evening of Lent with friends and family. Carry out will be available.

Easter Candy Yes it's that time of year, Parishioners we will begin asking for donations of pre-wrapped Easter Candy for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held on April 15 at 12 noon. Donation boxes will be in the vestibule of the Church and Hall. Thank you in advance, we need all donations by Sunday April 9th as we will be stuffing eggs on April 9th after the last Mass.

Annual Parish Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Holy Saturday April 15 @ 12 noon for Toddlers thru 8th Graders. Join us for this fun filled event.

St. Mary's Luncheon Bingo

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Join in for a relaxing day of bingo and lunch. Doors open at 10:00 a.m. and the low price of \$10.00 include admission, lunch and a regular bingo packet of 16 games, 3 cards to a sheet. For a small additional fee special games and extra bingo packets can be purchased. Also large print bingo cards will be available upon request. The Menu for April 4th is:

Parmesan Encrusted Baked White Fish
Hash Brown Casserole
Green Beans
Chocolate Cake

The Bingo Jackpot for April is
\$125.00 in 56 numbers or less.

Any special dietary requirements please contact our chef, Cheryl Hoopert 410-371-8357 at least a week in advance. Thank You.

Vacation Bible School – July 17th.

Adult VBS Volunteers are needed to serve as Teachers, Aides, Music, Craft, Outdoor Play, and Environment/Decorating. Help us with this awesome Children's ministry. Call Mrs. Rachel Bittner or email today. Serve Him with a purpose!
410-879-4015 ext. 23 or rbittner@hotmail.com.

Day of Reflection and Prayer Led by Father Michael Schlepner

Making Space for Grace:
Living Our Senior Years Fully.
Conference and Retreat Center at Bon Secours
Marriottsville, Maryland
Saturday, April 8, 2017 9:30 am to 4:00 pm
Presenter: Fr. Michael Schlepner

Are you nearing retirement?
Have you recently or not-so-recently retired?
Are you in or near your senior years, maybe still working fulltime?

On this day, we will

- ✓ Look at ways for dealing well with the transition into retirement
- ✓ Identify any unfinished life issues and discern what to do about them
- ✓ Create a plan for what to do tomorrow.

The purpose is to allow our relationship with Jesus help us to live our senior years fully. Fee is \$60.00 which includes Lunch. For more information or to register, contact retreats@rccbonssecours.com or Jennifer_murphy@rccbonssecours.com.

