

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Fr. Thomas Buffer
740-382-2118

Parochial Vicar Fr. Ryan Schmit
740-382-2118

Deacon Dwight Larcomb (Ret.)
808-651-2779

Business Manager Mike Nicolosi
740-382-2118

Religious Education Glenna Celestino
740-382-2262

Director of Music Betsy Iacobucci
740-387-4971

St. Mary School
Jack Mental, Principal
740-382-1607

Youth Ministry Mark Starrs
740-223-8656

Latino Ministry Evelyn Lisiecki
860-997-0627

**Missionary Servants of the Word/
Misioneros Servidores de la
Palabra**
MisionOhioMSP@gmail.com
740-751-7748

Parish Secretary Dolores Zentkovich
740-382-2118

Financial Secretary Vicki Moser
740-382-2118

Pastoral Council President
Gilberto Aguirre

St. Vincent de Paul
740-386-6422

PARISH OFFICE

Parish Office 740-382-2118
Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Fax 740-382-2110

Email Address
stmaryinfo@marionstmary.org

Website
www.marionstmary.org

Bulletin Deadline
Monday, 12:00 noon

FROM THE PASTOR:

Today's Gospel portrays many different kinds of people coming to John the Baptist with the same question. The various groups are described as "the crowds" or "tax collectors" or "soldiers," but they all have the same question: "What should we do?" These various people share a common concern: conversion. They are all aware that they could be living a better life. They are all conscious of a need to change for the better. Advent, like Lent, calls us to conversion. Conversion involves a partnership between ourselves and the Lord. We see this in the words of John the Baptist. A first step in conversion is portrayed by all the people who come to John and ask, "what should we do?" The second step is allowing the Lord to come into our hearts with his cleansing power. This is seen in John's words about one mightier than he who is coming: "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." To assist everyone with their Advent conversion, we have scheduled extra confession time this Saturday, December 22, at 10:00 a.m.



During the past year, we have done much to beautify the interior of our church. Prior to this year's work, we began to restore the beautiful stained glass windows in the church and, thanks to generous donations from families and individuals, all of the windows have been restored except the two largest ones. In 2019, we would like to restore the window in the north transept that depicts the resurrection of Christ. This very large window has a lot of painted detail and will require more work than the other windows that have been restored. We will also need to set up a large scaffold to remove and reinstall it. While the scaffolding is in place, we would also repaint the wooden frame of the window. We are seeking a donation of \$40,000.00 to cover the costs of this work. The donor's name would be acknowledged in the restored window, as we have done with the other windows. If it would be helpful for tax purposes, it would be possible to split up the donation into two payments; for example, one in 2018 and one in 2019. If interested, you may speak with Fr. Buffer or Mike Nicolosi.

Sincerely Yours, in Christ,
Fr. Thomas Buffer



**ADDITIONAL TIME
FOR CONFESSION
THIS ADVENT:**

**Saturday, December 22,
from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.,
or until all Confessions
have been heard.**

Sunday Collection

for week ending,
December 9, 2018:



Offertory: \$ 16,794.60
Online Giving: \$ 2,124.99
Total: \$18,919.59

Thank you for your support!

Religious give thanks.

"This money is pure gift," writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. "It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters." Your gift to last week's collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Thank you for your generosity!

Del Párroco:

El Evangelio de hoy retrata a diferentes tipos de personas que vienen a Juan el Bautista con la misma pregunta. Los diversos grupos se describen como “las multitudes” o “recaudadores de impuestos” o “soldados”, pero todos tienen la misma pregunta: “¿Qué debemos hacer?” Estas diversas personas comparten una preocupación común: la conversión. Todos son conscientes de que podrían estar viviendo una vida mejor. Todos son conscientes de la necesidad de cambiar para mejor. Adviento, como la Cuaresma, nos llama a la conversión. La conversión implica una asociación entre nosotros y el Señor. Vemos esto en las palabras de Juan el Bautista. Un primer paso en la conversión es representado por todas las personas que vienen a Juan y preguntan “¿qué debemos hacer?” El segundo paso es permitir que el Señor entre en nuestros corazones con su poder de limpieza. Esto se ve en las palabras de Juan acerca de uno más poderoso que el que viene: “Él te bautizará con el Espíritu Santo y fuego”. Para ayudar a todos con su conversión de Adviento, hemos programado un tiempo de confesión adicional este sábado, 22 de diciembre, a las 10:00 a.m.

Durante el año pasado, hemos hecho mucho para embellecer el interior de nuestra iglesia. Antes del trabajo de este año, comenzamos a restaurar las hermosas vidrieras de la iglesia y, gracias a las generosas donaciones de familias e individuos, todas las ventanas se han restaurado, excepto las dos más grandes. En 2019 nos gustaría restaurar la ventana en el crucero norte que representa la resurrección de Cristo. Esta ventana muy grande tiene muchos detalles pintados y requerirá más trabajo que las otras ventanas que se han restaurado. También necesitaremos configurar un andamio grande para removerlo y reinstalarlo. Mientras el andamio está en su lugar, también repintamos el marco de madera de la ventana. Estamos buscando una donación de \$ 40,000 para cubrir los costos de este trabajo. El nombre del donante se reconocerá en la ventana restaurada, como hemos hecho con las otras ventanas. Si fuera útil para fines tributarios, sería posible dividir la donación en dos pagos; por ejemplo, uno en 2018 y otro en 2019. Si está interesado, puede hablar con el Padre Buffer o Mike Nicolosi.

Su hermano en Cristo,
Padre Thomas Buffer

December

- 16 Life Teen – 6:00 p.m.
23 **No** Life Teen
26 Candlelight Rosary and Hot Chocolate –
At the life-size Nativity in front of the Knight of Columbus –
7:00 p.m.
30 **No** Life Teen

Life Teen normally meets three Sundays a month from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in the Commons. All high school teens and friends are invited! Dinner served each meeting. Questions? Call or text Youth Minister Mark at 740-223-8656

**PARISH
MEMBERSHIP**

New Members Welcome. Please contact St. Mary Parish Office. Present members, please keep our Office informed of change in name, address and family members.

**REMINDER FOR
VISITATION OF THE SICK**

Please remember that, due to privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify us when one of our parishioners has been admitted. Please notify the Parish Office if you or a loved one is ill or in the hospital by calling 740-382-2118. Thank you.



For a prayer request for the Prayer Line, please call Ellen Distel at 740-389-4551 or Dolores at the Parish Office at 740-382-2118 or email dolores@marionstmary.org.



The Nursery is available at the 11:00 a.m. Mass each Sunday. Looking for a rewarding way to acquire service hours for Confirmation?

Think about helping in the Nursery. Please call Angie at 419-834-5783 if you would like to help out.



St. Mary School News

Wednesday, December 19:
8:30 a.m. – School Mass

Thursday, December 20:
6:30 p.m. – School Christmas program

For more information about enrollment, please call the school at 740-382-1607.



Sundays at 9:15 a.m.
Preschool through 7th Grade
at St. Mary Grade School
2018 Class: December 16

Glenna Celestino CL
(740-382-2262).



2018-2019 CONFIRMATION

9:15-10:45 a.m.,
in the Commons

Class Schedule: December 16

Prior participation

in Religion Classes at St. Mary School or Parish School of Religion (PSR) is required to enroll in Confirmation class.

Each student's religious education must have included 7th Grade Catechesis.

Mary Dutton

(duttonmatter@aol.com
or 740-361-0121);

Lucas Bledsoe (740-244-7401);

Glenna Celestino
(glenna@marionstmary.org
or 740-382-2262)

THIS WEEK IN ST. MARY PARISH

DECEMBER 16-23, 2018

MASS INTENTIONS • DAILY READINGS • EVENTS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT **DECEMBER 16, 2018**

MONDAY – December 17

Gn 49:2,8-10; Mt 1:1-17

TUESDAY – December 18

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

5:00-6:00 p.m. Holy Hour with

**Eucharistic Exposition/
Benediction and Confessions**

6:30 p.m. Mass Intention: †Kent & Peg Cusick



WEDNESDAY – December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

8:30 a.m. Mass Intention: †Michael McNamara

7:00 p.m. RCIA

7:00 p.m. Choir

THURSDAY – December 20

Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

8:30 a.m. Mass Intention: †Virginia Blue

6:30 p.m. St. Mary School Christmas Program
(in gym)

FRIDAY – December 21

Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45

8:30 a.m. Mass Intention: †Ralph T. Nicolosi
and Deceased of Family.

SATURDAY – December 22

1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

7:15-9:00 a.m. Men's Group: Eucharist
(Meet in Commons)

9:00 a.m. Rosary

10:00-11:30 a.m. Confessions

4:00-4:30 p.m. Confessions

5:00 p.m. Mass Intention: †Ray Haines, Jr.

SUNDAY – December 23

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

8:00 a.m. Mass Intention: St. Mary Parishioners

11:00 a.m. Mass Intention: †Leon S. Revilla

1:00 p.m. Spanish Mass

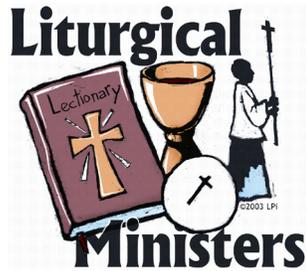


SANCTUARY CANDLE
will burn this week
in loving memory of
Mary Theresa Porter
by Vickie Keener and Mary Lou Williams.

SACRAMENTAL WINE
provided by
the Knights of Columbus.



Healing Blanket Ministry:
Healing Blanket Ministry continues its mission to sew blankets. Would you like to join us in this ministry? We will supply the material for you to sew. *We ask those who give a blanket to a loved one, to please sign the blue binder with your name and the name of the person receiving it.* We need more people to sew the blankets. Please contact Elaine Kelly at 740-389-1018.



ATTENTION, LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

Liturgical Minister Schedules **for JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 2019.**

IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE: If you know you will be out of town, if you want to change your Mass time preference, or if you no longer wish to continue serving in your ministry, please let us know by contacting Dolores at the Parish Office at 740-382-2118 or e-mailing dolores@marionstmary.org **on or before DECEMBER 18th. Thank you!**

PLEASE NOTE: ALTAR SERVERS – LECTORS – EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – USHERS – GREETERS: Help is needed for Christmas Eve/Day Masses. Please call Dolores at the Parish Office at 740-382-2118 or email her at dolores@marionstmary.org. Thank you!



LITURGICAL MINISTERS – WEEKENDS OF DECEMBER 15/16 AND DECEMBER 22/23		
THIS WEEKEND	SERVERS	LECTORS
5:00 p.m.	Gavin Baisden, Dylan Baisden, <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	(I) Bob New (II) Glenna Celestino
8:00 a.m.	Nate Slemmons, Jasmine Flores, Gabriela Flores	(I) Paula Dunn (II) Pat Baldinger
11:00 a.m.	Clare Stevenson, Annika Musser, Mia Chatman	(I) Dean Jacob (II) Fred Dutton
1:00 p.m.	Ashley Alvarez, Betzayda Simon, Andres Alejandre	(I) Emilio Salinas (II) Eduardo Salinas
NEXT WEEKEND	SERVERS	LECTORS
5:00 p.m.	Grace Waldo, Luke Waldo, Ben Waldo	(I) Edward Waldo (II) Joan Shoup
8:00 a.m.	Caitlyn Thiel, Nathan Thiel, Camryn Thiel	(I) Sharon Baldinger (II) Pat Baldinger
11:00 a.m.	Kasey McDaniel, Nicholas McDaniel, Aaron McDaniel	(I) Mark Jankowski (II) Eric Jankowski
1:00 p.m.	Betzayda Simon, Ashley Alvarez, David Arreola	(I) Alma Mendez (II) Martha Esparza

PLEASE NOTE: Liturgical Minister Schedules are posted online at [http://www.marionstmary.org/Bulletin & Liturgical Assignments](http://www.marionstmary.org/Bulletin%20&%20Liturgical%20Assignments). Paper copies are available in the main vestibule and are also posted on church bulletin boards. If you are unable to keep your assignment, please find a substitute. Thank you.

BAPTISM



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

In order to understand and better appreciate this special sacrament, parents must attend a Pre-Baptismal Class. St. Mary offers this instruction four times a year on the second Sunday of the month from 2:00-4:30 p.m. in the Commons. *Preregistration for the class is required.*

THE NEXT CLASS:
January 13, 2019,
2:00-4:30 p.m.
in the Commons.

Please call the Office of Religious Education at 740-382-2262, to register or if you have any questions. Families may schedule Baptisms by calling the Rectory at 740-382-2118.

EL SACRAMENTO DE BAUTISMO

El bautizo es el inicio de nuestra Vida Católica y es el sacramento más importante que recibimos. Si es que su niño es menor de 7 años, y desea bautizarlo, los padres y padrinos deben atender a una clase Pre-Bautismal. Nuestra Iglesia Santa María ofrece estas clases 4 veces al año.

Para más información o si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor llamar a la Sra Evelyn (860)997-0627.

Las próximas clases serán el Las próximas clases serán el **Domingo, 20 de Enero, 2019 a las 2:30 p.m.** en la Casa Blanca (The Commons).

March For Life Trip to Washington, D.C. – January 17-19

Depart St. Mary Thursday, at 12:00 noon. Return Saturday around 1:00 a.m. Cost is \$35.00. Join 8,000 teens in a Youth Rally for Life and Mass at George Mason University prior to the March. Then join hundreds of thousands in walking and praying for the unborn and an end to abortion. Fifteen spots are available for teens. RSVP to Mark ASAP (first 15 to reserve will go). Deadline is January 8th. Pick up a flyer in back of church. RSVP by calling or texting Mark at 740-223-8656.



The members of *St. Vincent de Paul Society* wish to express their sincere gratitude for the generosity St. Mary Parishioners have shown our mission. Together, we have fed approximately nine hundred of those in need of assistance on a monthly basis. The "**Fill a Bag Campaign**" has been a huge success, which has resulted in less cost to us in purchasing the food for our Pantry. The outpouring of food and money collected at the Thanksgiving Day collection surpassed any other!

Thank you for all of your help in fulfilling our mission to serve Our Lord.



The Marion Concert Band Presents "THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHRISTMAS"

Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 3:00 p.m.

At River Valley High School Auditorium

A donation of nonperishable food items would be appreciated to be given to St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry to help those in need this holiday season.

*Sponsored by: The Marion Community Foundation;
The Janis & Greg Sweptson Fund; The Wopat Community Fund.*



Christmas Giving Tree 2018

Please return your wrapped/tagged gift or cookies to the church **this weekend, December 15/16**. Please make sure the tag is firmly attached to the gift. Place your item near the crèche.

We can always use and appreciate your help in delivering the gifts to the nursing homes. We will meet after the Mass in Spanish on Sunday, December 16, at approximately 2:00 p.m., in the church.



Thank you for your help.



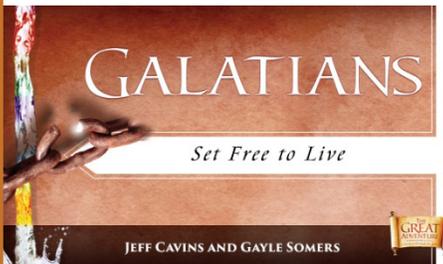
EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES:

Bulletin articles for
Sunday, December 30 must be
submitted by 12:00 noon on
Thursday, December 20th.

Bulletin articles for
Sunday, January 6, 2019, must
be submitted by 12:00 noon on
Thursday, December 27th.

All bulletin articles should be
submitted to
dolores@marionstmary.org.
Thank you for your cooperation.

St. Mary Women's Group Study:



Book of Galatians from Ascension Press (Jeff Cavins)

Mondays,
February 18-April 8, 2019,
in the Commons

This eight-week study session
will follow directly after
the study on the
"Pivotal Players,"
by Bishop Barron.

Participant's book: \$24.95.

Registration for this study
will take place
January 14, 2019.

2019 Religious Art Calendars:

Through the courtesy of **SNYDER FUNERAL
HOMES, GUNDER-HALL CHAPEL**, 2019 calendars
are available for members of St. Mary Parish in the
main vestibule of the church.



We would like to thank Snyder Funeral Homes, Gunder-Hall Chapel for these beautiful religious calendars!

We ask that you kindly please take only ONE CALENDAR per Parish Family, so that each St. Mary family may have a calendar. Thank you!



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. – Vigil Mass

7:00 p.m. – Vigil Mass

Tuesday, December 25th

Christmas Day

12:00 Midnight – Mass with Choir

11:00 a.m. – Mass

ADOPT A TREE

Plant a tree in memory or honor
– a fitting tribute for present and
future generations. We have
10 beautiful Princeton Sentry
Ginkgo trees for \$500.00 per
tree with an engraved plaque at
the base of the tree in memory
or honor of. Please call Mike
Nicolosi for more information
at 740-382-2118.



St. Mary Women's Group Studies:

Join us as we continue to hear from Bishop Barron about the next two **"Pivotal Players"** – those saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church, but changed the course of western civilization. This new program will begin on **Monday, January 14, 2019**, and will feature St. Augustine, the Teacher, and St. Benedict, the Monk. This is a five-week study.

St. Augustine is arguably the best example of how faith in Christ can change a person. And, without St. Benedict, the Christian culture of the west might have perished after the fall of the Roman Empire.

So, please register for this study program and walk with Bishop Barron as he traces the lives and contributions of these two pivotal saints. Please contact Mary Dutton via email at duttonmatter@aol.com or text/call 740-361-0121, or call the Dolores at the Parish Office at 740-382-2118 or dolores@marionstmary.org.

Cost: Leader guide containing answer key to discussion questions is \$29.95; Study Guide without answer key is \$19.95. Please indicate your preference or no Study Guide.

Please Note: Registration deadline is December 31st.