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If you would like to join our  
Church, please call the office at  
(814) 653-8586 (SM) or  
(814) 894-2772 (ABVM) and  
request a registration form .

# St. Mary and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes

November 29, 2020 ~ First Sunday of Advent

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday**  
**of Advent**

A Time To  
Remember The  
Future With Hope



**St. Mary Parish**  
607 East Main Street  
Reynoldsville, Pennsylvania 15851  
814-653-8586  
Email: stmaryschurch2@verizon.net

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish**  
20 Shaffer Street (P.O. Box J)  
Sykesville, Pennsylvania 15865  
814-894-2772 Social Hall 814-894-7981  
Email: abvmchurch20@gmail.com

**Pastor – Father William R. Barron**

**Shared contact information:**

**Web address:** [www.stmarysassumption.com](http://www.stmarysassumption.com)

**Parish app:** search "myParish – Catholic" to download app

**Fax number:** 814-653-2769

Mass Intentions

<b>Monday, November 30— St. Mary’s</b> Joseph Caltagarone By Bob & Carol Stetz	<b>5:00pm</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 1—Assumption</b> Albert Canton By Fred & Wilma	<b>5:00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 2– Assumption</b> Marge Varacallo By Tim & Jackie Andrulonis	<b>5:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday, December 3—St. Mary’s</b> Doug Smelko By Mom, Dad, & Sisters	<b>5:00pm</b>
<b>Friday, December 4—St. Mary’s</b> Anthony J. Torrell By Children	<b>5:00pm</b>
<b>Saturday, December 5— Assumption</b> MaryAnn Masisak By Antoinette	<b>8:00am</b>
<b>Saturday, December 5— St. Mary’s</b> Maxine Magas By Brother Dan & Family	<b>4:30pm</b>
<b>Sunday, December 6 — Assumption</b> Peter Manco, Sr. By Family	<b>8:30am</b>
<b>Sunday, December 6— St. Mary’s</b> All Parishioners of both Parishes	<b>10:30am</b>

Sacrificial Giving

<u><b>Nov. 22</b></u>	<u><b>St. Mary</b></u>	<u><b>Assumption</b></u>
Collection	\$2,227.00	\$1,624.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 505.00	\$ 399.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

CSA—Catholic Services Appeal

	<u><b>St. Mary</b></u>	<u><b>Assumption</b></u>
Pledged	\$23,643	\$19,926
Paid to Date	\$20,493	\$17,910

*Thank you for your generosity!*

Sanctuary Candles

**In Memory of:**  
**Doug Smelko**  
By: Mom & Dad  
**Linda Stefanelli**  
By: Toni & Larry

**Special Intention**  
By: Pat Gordon

Information

<b>Prayer Chain</b> St Mary 653-2752 Assumption 661-3894	<b>Anointing of the Sick :</b> Call Fr. Barron 814-503-0028
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Parish Spotlight ~ From the Pastor’s Desk

Advent is a wonderful season. It is a season of hope! It is appropriate that we have as a focal point for Advent the candles of the wreath. Advent is in the darkest time of the year. Yet, it is in the darkness that the light shines most brightly. The candles of the wreath stand out in stark contrast to the darkness around it. This is the way that Christians ought to be – light in a dark world. In these days, there is a lot of darkness. It has been in many ways a very depressing year, 2020. Yet, bad times cannot last forever. Better days are ahead. I sense we still have quite a ways to go before we see those better days, but they will come. We need to light a hopeful candle in vigil and wait for the coming of our Messiah.

The Christmas Mass schedule is listed in today’s bulletin. The Christmas Eve schedule will be a bit hectic for myself and the other liturgical ministers. I added another early Mass to the schedule for Christmas Eve because I think that is the time that most people will want to come to church. Also, we very likely will not have enough seats for everyone if I only celebrate one Christmas Eve Mass at St. Mary’s. Keep in mind that the maximum occupancy for any given Mass at St. Mary’s is 140 (using the closed circuit TV system in the social room for overflow) and 100 at Assumption (also using the new closed circuit TV system in the social room). Seating will be first come, first seated. There is a fair chance that you may have to sit in the social hall for the mass, especially if you come right before the start of the Mass. It will be best if you show up earlier than usual. Of course, there is the chance that no one will show up for the Christmas Mass because of COVID! We will be prepared for all possibilities.

Fr. Bill Barron



Ministers Schedule for December 5-6, 2020

	<b>4:30pm</b> (St. Mary)	<b>8:30am</b> (ABVM)	<b>10:30am</b> (St Mary)
<b>Altar Servers</b>	<b>M. King</b>		<b>D. Mullins</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>L. Shaddock</b>		<b>D. Bowley</b>

## ST. MARY’S / ASSUMPTION’S NEWSLETTER, November 29, 2020

### PARTNER PARISH NEWS

**FRIDAY IS THE FIRST FRIDAY IN DECEMBER.** Anyone who would like to receive Holy Communion that is not already on the list, please call Father Bill at 653-8586.

**2020 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL COMING TO A CLOSE:** Each parish is assessed a certain fundraising goal by the Erie Diocese in support of the annual Catholic Services Appeal. This pledge is taken up around Ash Wednesday and it ends at the end of the calendar year. Both Assumption and St. Mary's Parishes are projected to finish at or above their assessed fundraising goal. Know that whatever CSA payments are remitted by you above this goal will stay here at your parish. Please remember to fulfill your CSA pledge from this past March by the end of 2020. The 2021 CSA pledge weekend will be late February/early March 2021.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:** Mass times are as follows - Monday, December 7th @St. Mary's Parish, 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 8th at Assumption Parish, 7 p.m.

**ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES:** These are cancelled for Advent 2020. The priests of the area are working on a plan to make themselves available at set times during Advent on an individual basis. This will be announced shortly.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:** Thursday, December 24th @St. Mary's Church - 4 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. seating first come, first served. Thursday, December 24th @Assumption Church 6:30 p.m. Friday, December 25th @ Assumption Church - 8:30 a.m.

**NEW YEAR’S DAY MASS SCHEDULE:** Thursday, December 31st @ St. Mary's Church - 4:30 p.m. Friday, January 1st @ Assumption Church - 9 a.m.

**NURSING HOME AND SHUT INS PROJECT:** Items are needed for the Christmas gift bags that are given to the parishioners from Assumption and St. Mary’s that are in the nursing homes and our shut ins. Suggestions are: lotions, lip gloss, Kleenex, tooth paste, hard tack candy, body wash, word search books, tube socks, small lap blankets, etc. There will be boxes in both church entrances and the deadline to donate is **Sunday, December 13th.** Your donations will be appreciated! Thank you!

**LIBERTY AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP** from DuBois, PA meets every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of Our Saviour, 400 Liberty Blvd., DuBois. For more information feel free to call (814) 541-2779 or (814) 590-5729.

**FUNERAL DINNERS:** Effective immediately, the social halls of both Assumption Parish and St. Mary's Parish will be open for funeral dinners after funerals at the respective churches. Please note, however, that the Altar Rosary Societies of both parishes are predominantly made up of people who are the "at risk" part of the population for serious complications from the Coronavirus. Therefore, if you wish to use either social hall for a dinner after a funeral mass, you must provide for your own caterer. We cannot at this time expect the Rosary Society to facilitate your funeral dinner. Whenever that would change, I will let you know. Fr. Bill Barron

**HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES:** Visitation to the Nursing Homes is still limited to clergy assigned to the home. If you have a family member who needs to be visited at Christ the King Manor, please contact Fr. Matias at the Manor. He will be happy to visit and if necessary, provide the sacraments. If your loved one is in another nursing home, please call the parish in the town that that home is located, and ask the pastor for guidance. Fr. Ed Walk is the chaplain at the Dubois hospital, and can make visitation freely throughout the hospital. The hospital has informed me that it may be possible now for me to visit parishioners at the hospital, but only if the nursing staff deems it a situation serious enough to necessitate a visit. That will be determined by them on a case by case basis. Fr. Bill Barron

**LIVESTREAMING OF MASS** - Mass will continue to be livestreamed daily.

**SUNDAY & HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION** - The obligation to attend these Masses is not in effect. No one is required to attend mass in person at this time.

**CONFESSIONS-** Confessions will be available at St. Mary's after Saturday 4:30 Mass and Sunday 10:30 Mass, and at Assumption after Tuesday and Wednesday 5 p.m. masses. Please note that Confessions will not be available before any Mass. Masks are required for Confession. Confessional at St. Mary's is in altar server sacristy, at Assumption, confession is the altar servers’ room.

**FUNERALS AND WEDDINGS** - Please note that you are allowed to have non-family and extended family attend funerals and weddings again. The seating capacity for Assumption Church given social distancing is 60. The capacity for St. Mary's is 85. There is overflow seating with the closed circuit tv in the St. Mary's Social Hall for an additional 40-60 people. We are working on installing a closed circuit tv at Assumption Social Hall that will seat an additional 30 people. All attendees at funerals and weddings, except for bride and groom and those "in the wedding" must wear masks for the duration of the service.

**BAPTISMS** can proceed freely. Please call to schedule a baptism anytime.

**NEW YOUTUBE CHANNEL:** Fr. Bill is posting new YouTube videos giving spiritual guidance and direction during this time of challenge you can find our new channel on YouTube by searching for St. Mary’s and Assumption Parishes on YouTube.

**DROP OF ENVELOPES:** You may drop off your envelopes using the mail slot at the front door of both Assumption and St. Mary's rectories.

**SIGN UP FOR THE PARISH APP:** Text APP to 88202 to download our parish app. 1) Download my Parish App 2) Select our Parish after opening.

**ONLINE GIVING:** Visit our parish website on the homepage and click on your parish icon to take you to the portal for online giving registration, or press the icon on the myParishApp called giving to take you to the portal.

### ST. MARY’S NEWS

**FLOWERS IN FRONT OF THE ALTAR** are in memory of Tom & Betty Moslak by Mary Beth & Tom Stojek.

**ITEMS:** The Rosary and Altar Society is collecting items to give to the residents of Christ the King Manor for Christmas. Items include: body wash, lotion, word search puzzles, chapstick, and Kleenex. The collection will run through Sunday, December 13. Items should not be wrapped and can be dropped off in the box located inside the main entrance of the church.

**TREASURES FOR CHILDREN:** We are once again having the tree at the entrance of the church with tags on it with the age of the child and some of their needs and wishes for Christmas. **You do not need to buy everything on the list, just do whatever you can!** Please bring the gifts, not wrapped, with the tag, to the church no later than Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Please, help if you can!

### ASSUMPTION’S NEWS

**FLOWER MEMORIALS** – This year the Sanctuary of the church will be the only place where we will be decorating for Chirstmas because of the Pandemic. The Birth of Jesus is still the most important time of the year, even if we all can’t gather as a parish family to celebrate so we want to try to make the Chrsitmas season as normal as possible. In your contribution packet there is an envelope designated for Christmas Flowers . Please use this envelope for your Christmas remembrances of Deceased Loved Ones by writing their names on the envelope and dropping it in the mail slot at the Rectory Office or placing it in the basket at the entrance of the church now through December 13<sup>th</sup> . Your remembrances of your Loved Ones will be used as an insert in the bulletin for the weekend of December 20<sup>th</sup> .

**CSA UPDATE** – We have a new total for our CSA Pledges Paid. It is \$17,910.00. There was an accounting error made in adding up the total pledges paid. Our new total brings us much closer to our goal. Sorry for the error made.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE** – Due to the rise in Covid 19 numbers in Clearfield County a decision has been made for the health and safety of the students, teachers and parents that we cancel all Faith Formation classes until January 10<sup>th</sup> . We pray that at this time things will have calmed down and we will be able to return to our in person program. Please follow the procedure for online instruction so that credit may be given for attendance.