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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

December 22, 2019 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent



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

Deacon – Daniel Satterlee

Shared contact information:

Web address: www.stmarysassumption.com

Parish app: search “myParish – Catholic to download app”

Fax number: 814-653-2769

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 23 (St. Mary) 8:00 AM
John Abromavich
By Betty McGreevey

Tuesday, December 24 (St. Mary) 4:30 PM***
Merle & Nellie Snyder
By Family

Tuesday, December 24 (Assumption) 6:30 PM***
Tony Petrucci
By Family

Wednesday, December 25(Assumption) 8:30AM*
Patricia Reiter
By Luttie Rehar

Wednesday, December 25 (St. Mary) 10:30AM*
Bernie Snyder
By Joyce & Family

Thursday, December 26 No Mass

Friday, December 27 No Mass

Saturday, December 28 (St. Mary) 4:30 PM
Tom & Betty Moslak
By Mary Beth & Tom Stojek

Sunday, December 29 (Assumption) 8:30 AM
Mary R. Kickish
By Family

Sunday, December 29 (St. Mary) 10:30 AM
All Parishioners of both Parishes

Ministers Schedule for December 28-29, 2019

	Dec 24 ABVM	Dec 25 ABVM	4:30pm (St. Mary)	8:30am (ABVM)	10:30am (St Mary)
Altar Servers	Z. Enseki	C. Lanzoni	A. Reiter	Z. Enseki	D. Mullins
			R. Whipple		M. Hannah
Lector	K. Witherite	J. Gruda	M. McCluskey	P. Roman	D. Bowley
Eucharistic Ministers	D. Slawson	M. Carlson	P. Pennington	B. Alexander	C. Hannah
	E. Fike	D. Laukitis	L. McGranor	B. Cook	L. Reiter
	J. Pisarcik	T. Laukitis	L. Shadduck	K. Roman	C. McGranor
Samaritan Out- reach				M. Boboige	

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening 4:30 PM
(Jan.-May – Assumption; June-Dec. St. Mary)

Sunday Morning 8:30 AM (Assumption)
10:30 AM (St. Mary)

Sacrificial Giving

<u>Dec. 1</u>	<u>St. Mary</u>	<u>Assumption</u>
Collection	\$2,450.00	\$1,721.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 60.00	\$ 30.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>		

CSA—Catholic Services Appeal

	<u>St. Mary</u>	<u>Assumption</u>
Total Pledged	\$27,775	\$18,420
Total Paid	\$24,330	\$17,623

Sanctuary Candles

In Memory of:
Deceased members Klender Family By Ann Marie
Liz Deegan By Shelly, Bill & Kiersten
Mike Tomasura Sr. By Madelyn
Mike Tomasura Jr. By Mom
Oliver, Josephine, Arlene & Katheleen Meme
By Edward Manco
Angeline & Anthony Canton By Edward Manco
Rose & Joseph Foradori By Edward Manco
Raymond & Irene McGreevey By Family
Mark Ferko, Jr. By Aunt Gina
Louie Fusco By Madeline & Marc
William J Satterlee By Mary & Joe McCluskey
William J Satterlee By K of C #935

Office Information

Prayer Chain St Mary 653-2752 Assumption 661-3894	Office Hours: (located at St. Mary Church) Monday 7:00AM—2:00 PM Tuesday 7:00AM—2:30 PM Wednesday 8:00AM—2:30 PM Thursday 8:00AM—2:30 PM Friday—Closed
Hospital Visits: Call Fr. Barron 814-503-0028	
Blue Army Prayer Cell: Tuesday 3:00pm Madelyn Tomasura’s home	Bingo: Sunday at 6:00pm at St. Mary

The Parish Spotlight ~ When does Christmas end?

We all know that Christmas officially begins on Christmas Eve, but when does Christmas officially end? The answer gets a bit complicated. On January 6th, the Feast of the Epiphany (in most places in the U.S. the feast is transferred to the Sunday between January 2 and January 8), the Church celebrates the biblical event where the Magi, also called the Three Wise Men or Three Kings, traveled from the East to pay homage to the newborn King, Jesus Christ. Many believe that this is the date when the Christmas season officially ends, being the end of the traditional 12 days of Christmas. However, according to the Roman Catholic liturgical calendar, Ordinary Time doesn't officially begin until the Monday after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Another element to throw into the mix is that the "octave" of Christmas ends on the eighth day after Christmas, which is January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Christmas is not celebrated for just 24 hours; it is given the honor of eight days (octave) of celebration which is a custom that traces its roots to Old Testament feasts.

In the older tradition Christmas lasts until Candlemas, or the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Presentation of the Lord, which isn't until February 2nd. This marked the end of a long 40-day "Christmastide" that corresponded to the 40 days of Lent. On February 2nd the Church celebrates the day that Mary entered the temple with the Child Jesus when her days of purification after giving birth were fulfilled, according to the Mosaic law, and when Simeon made his well-known prophecy about Mary and the Child. It is historically called "Candle-mas" because of Simeon's prophecy of Jesus being a light for the Gentiles. Today it is better known as the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord.

When Christmas ends depends on the Rite (Latin or Eastern), the liturgical calendar (Ordinary or Extraordinary), and whether you're looking for the end of the Christmas 'feast' or the end of the Christmas 'season'.

The Christmas feast proper ends on the final day of its octave, which is the feast of Mary, the Mother of God, on January 1st. Keep your feasting, parties, and merriment going for the full 8 days.

The 'peak' of the Christmas 'season' is January 6th—Epiphany—the end of the 12 Days of Christmas. Jesus is now revealed as a light to the Gentile nations. Keep your Christmas decorations, especially your Christmas tree and lights, up at least until this day is over.

The official end of the entire Christmas season on the new liturgical calendar is the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, after which Ordinary Time begins. Keep your nativity scene displayed up through this day, or better yet, until the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd.

These are just suggestions, of course, to help you get the most out of celebrating the Christmas season to the full. The varying Christmas traditions reflect the universal nature of the Church; which has been going strong for 2,000 years.

The most important thing to remember and practice is that Christmas BEGINS on December 25th and is to be merrily celebrated for many days afterward, either 8, 12, or 40!

- Mary Carlson