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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 8, 2019 ~ Second 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 9** (St. Mary) 8:00 AM
Linda Jones
By Larry & Deborah Foradori
- Tuesday, December 10** (Assumption) 9:00 AM
Peter Manco
By Family
- Wednesday, December 11**(Assumption) 9:00 AM
Linda Jones
By Dave & Diane Reiter
- Thursday, December 12** (St. Mary) 8:00 AM
Mary Coates
By Gerry & Family
- Friday, December 13** No Mass
- Saturday, December 14** (St. Mary) 4:30 PM
Leslie, Braden & Todd
By Family
- Sunday, December 15** (Assumption) 8:30 AM
Lynn Johnson
By Steve, Bobby & Danny Mehok
- Sunday, December 15** (St. Mary) 10:30 AM
All Parishioners of both Parishes

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>Nov. 24</u>	<u>St. Mary</u>	<u>Assumption</u>
Collection	\$2,539.00	\$1,942.00
Electronic Giving		\$ 60.00

Thank you for your generosity!

CSA—Catholic Services Appeal

	<u>St. Mary</u>	<u>Assumption</u>
Total Pledged	\$26,855	\$18,420
Total Paid	\$23,795	\$16,998

Sanctuary Candles

In Memory of:
Brian Borelle By Cricket Kaizer

Anut Lu & Uncle Bob
By Betsy & Jeff

Ministers Schedule for December 14-15, 2019

	4:30pm (St. Mary)	8:30am (ABVM)	10:30am (St Mary)
Altar Servers	A. Reiter R. Whipple	Z. Enseki	D. Mullins M. Hannah
Lector	B. Stover	P. Roman	M. Pothoven
Eucharistic Ministers	P. Pennington L. McGranor L. Shaddock	A. Bonavita B. Cook B. Alexander	C. Hannah D. Dennison L. Reiter
Samaritan Outreach		A. Bonavita	

Office Information

- Prayer Chain**
St Mary 653-2752
Assumption 661-3894
- Hospital Visits:**
Call Fr. Barron 814-503-0028
- Blue Army Prayer Cell:** Tuesday 3:00pm
Madelyn Tomasura's home

- 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
Bingo: Sunday at 6:00pm at St. Mary

The Parish Spotlight ~ The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception This feast honors Mary, the Mother of God, and celebrates the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary in the womb of Saint Anne.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is also the patronal feast of the United States as well as Argentina, Brazil, Korea, Nicaragua, Paraguay, the Philippines, Spain, and Uruguay. It is also a Holy Day of Obligation. In the United States and other countries, the bishops have received permission from the Vatican to abrogate (temporarily waive) the requirement for Catholics to attend Mass on certain Holy Days of Obligation when those Holy Days fall on either Saturday or Monday. Because of this, some Catholics have become confused about whether certain Holy Days are, in fact, Holy Days of Obligation. However, if December 8 falls on a Sunday (as in, for instance, 2019), the celebration of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9. This is because Sundays in Advent take precedence over any other feast. When the celebration is transferred, rather than naturally falling on a Monday, the obligation to attend Mass does not transfer with it.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, in its oldest form, goes back to the seventh century, when churches in the East began celebrating the Feast of the Conception of Saint Anne, the mother of Mary. Today, we also celebrate the conception, and nine months later, on September 8, we celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

As originally celebrated (and as still celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Churches), however, the Feast of the Conception of Saint Anne does not have the same understanding as the Feast of the Immaculate Conception has in the Roman Catholic Church today. The feast arrived in the West probably no earlier than the 11th century, and at that time, it began to be tied up with a developing theological controversy. Both the Eastern and the Western Church had maintained that Mary was free from sin throughout her life, but there were different understandings of what this meant.

After Duns Scotus's defense of the Immaculate Conception, the feast spread throughout the West, though it was still often celebrated at the Feast of the Conception of Saint Anne. On February 28, 1476, Pope Sixtus IV extended the feast to the entire Western Church, and in 1483 threatened with excommunication those who opposed the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception. By the middle of the 17th century, all opposition to the doctrine had died out in the Roman Catholic Church.

On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX officially declared the Immaculate Conception a dogma of the Church, which means that all Christians are bound to accept it as true. As the Holy Father wrote in the Apostolic Constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*, "We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful."

ST. MARY'S / ASSUMPTION'S NEWSLETTER, December 8, 2019

PARTNER PARISH NEWS

REMINDER: Partnered Parish Christmas Party this year will be held at Assumption Parish Social Hall today, Sunday, December 8th at 12:00 p.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - This celebration is transferred to Monday, December 9th (usually Dec. 8th) but this year superseded by 2nd Sunday (Advent). This celebration is not a holy day of obligation this year. It is also the parish feast day for St. Mary's Parish. All are welcome to come and celebrate at the 8 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS Christmas Party will be held on Monday, December 9th at the DuBois Diner Banquet Room at 6:00 p.m.

SCRIPTURE SHARING: The Sisters of Mercy from the Rural House of Mercy invite anyone who desires to explore and enter into the Scriptures, particularly the Gospels, to gather with them in the St. Mary's Religious Ed building on the second Wednesday of each month at 10:15 am for an hour of Scripture Sharing. The reading for this month's gathering on Wednesday, December 11 will be Matthew 2:1-23. Anyone is welcome!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE - The partner parish Advent Penance Service will be at **Assumption Parish** on Monday, Dec. 16th, at 7 P.M. Local clergy will be available to hear your confession.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES - 2019

Sunday, Dec. 15th, 3pm – SSCD, Punxsutawney
Monday, Dec. 16th, 7pm – Assumption Parish, Sykesville
Tuesday, Dec. 17th, 7pm – Immaculate Conception, Brookville
Thursday, Dec. 19th, 7pm -St. Tobias, Brockway
Sunday, Dec. 22nd, 3pm - St. Catherine, DuBois

SHALOM: Central is hosting the SHALOM Christmas concert this year. You are invited to join us as we welcome and celebrate the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ with music at the 2019 Shalom Christmas Concert. It will be held Sunday December 22 at 2:00 in the afternoon. The concert will be in DuBois Central Catholic School's Auditorium (at 200 Central Christian Road DuBois, PA 15801). The Admission is free. For more information, contact Judy Smart at 814-637-5930 or Rich Kenawell at 814-771-7932.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE - same as last year - Christmas Eve - 4:30 P.M. @St. Mary's; 6:30 P.M. @Assumption; Christmas Day - 8:30 A.M. @Assumption; 10:30 A.M. @St. Mary's

SATURDAY 4:30 MASS is hosted in different locations during the course of the year. It is shared between St. Mary's and Assumption Parishes. Be aware that, from January to May, Saturday 4:30 Mass will be at Assumption Parish, Sykesville. There will be no Saturday evening Mass at St. Mary's during this time. The Saturday evening Mass will return to St. Mary's Parish in June.

DEACON DAN has informed me that he will need more rest to recover from his blood clots. For the foreseeable future, he will be serving only at 10:30 Mass on Sunday morning. This is the Mass that I need the most help with setting up and cleaning up afterwards. Deacon Dan will preach once a month. When he preaches, he will preach all the Masses. When he preaches on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, 8:30, he will be present to greet the people, preach the homily, and do the intercessions. He will then depart. Please keep Deacon Dan in your prayers as he continues to recover. Fr. Barron

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL: The Catholic Services Appeal runs from April to December each year. *If you have made a pledge and have not paid it in full, please do so by the end of 2019.* We have collected pledge money in excess of our goal at St. Mary's Parish. The goal is \$20,414. Every dollar you give to the CSA will stay here in the parish, and unlike increased offertory, increased CSA gifts will not raise our annual assessments. **We have not** gotten enough pledges from Assumption Parish to cover our CSA goal, which is \$19,323. We need to collect another \$3,000 in CSA pledge money in order to pay this assessment, or we will need to make up the difference out of our savings account. Thank you for your financial support of your parish.

ST. MARY'S NEWS

TREASURES FOR CHILDREN: Please bring the gifts, not wrapped, with the tag, to the church at any of the weekend Masses no later than Sunday, December 15th.

ASSUMPTION'S NEWS

FLOWERS MEMORIALS – In your packet of contribution envelopes you will find an envelope designated for Christmas Flowers . Please use this envelope for your 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 collection basket at any weekend Mass now through December 15th . Your remembrances of your Loved Ones will be used as an insert in the bulletin for the weekend of December 22nd.

CAROLING IN THE PARK – Community Caroling will take at Sykesville Stahl Park beginning at 6:30 pm on Sunday, December 15th, Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome! Hope to see you there!

OPLATKI – Oplatki will be distributed the weekend of December 14/15th. Oplatki prayer and 4 wafers will be for you to celebrate the beauty of Christmas in one of its most beautiful forms.

COFFEE & DONUTS will not take place the last Sunday of December due to the holiday season. We will begin the last Sunday of the month in January!!