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**Please support our  
bulletin sponsors.**

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

**January 2, 2022 - The Epiphany of the Lord**



**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 Stephen D. Rowan**

**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

- Monday, January 3 – St. Mary** 5:00pm  
Mary Smelko  
By Larry, Toni, & Family
- Tuesday, January 4—Assumption** 5:00pm  
Frank Varchetti  
By Fred, Josephine, & Kimmy
- Wednesday, January 5—Assumption** 5:00pm  
Rita Geist  
By MaryAnn Nitsche
- Thursday, January 6—St. Mary** 5:00pm  
Michael Tomasura, Jr.  
By Family
- Friday, January 7—St. Mary** 5:00pm  
Tom & Betty Moslak  
By Mary Beth & Tom Stojek
- Saturday, January 8—Assumption** 4:30pm  
LuAnn Pachetti  
By Suzanne
- Sunday, January 9- Assumption** 8:30am  
All Parishioners of both Parishes
- Sunday, January 9- St. Marys** 10:30am  
Bernard Snyder  
By Joyce & Family

## Sacrificial Giving

<u>Dec. 26</u>	<u>St. Mary</u>	<u>Assumption</u>
Collection	\$4,237.00	\$2,172.00
Electronic Giving	345.00	362.00
Christmas Collection		1,256.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## CSA—Catholic Services Appeal

	<u>St. Mary</u>	<u>Assumption</u>
CSA Goal	\$20,301.00	\$19,312.00
CSA Paid	\$23,041.46	\$19,688.82

**Thank you for your continued support.**

## Sanctuary Candles

### In Memory of:

**Edward Manco**  
By Ken & Carol Meme Pate & Family

**Special Intention**  
By Severia

## Information

**Prayer Chain**  
St Mary 653-2752  
Assumption 661-3894

**Anointing of the Sick :**  
Call Fr. Barron 814-503-0028

## Parish Spotlight ~ The Epiphany

Each year the Pope leads an Epiphany Mass in St. Peter's Basilica and people around the globe take part in celebrations specific to their region. In Spanish-speaking countries, The Epiphany is called Dia de los Reyes, meaning "Three Kings' Day." There are several traditions and names for celebrating the Epiphany, but what is it? The Epiphany is celebrated each January 6 and is a day dedicated to the birth of Christ, which includes the three Kings who came to visit Him.

The word "epiphany" means "an appearance or manifestation, especially of a deity." Appearance is correct, as Christ revealed himself in the form of a newborn babe to the Three Wise Men, who traveled from their countries to pay tribute to the Son of God.

The Gospel of Matthew describes three Wise Men, named Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar, who were told of Christ's birth and set off, following the Star of Bethlehem, to meet the baby Jesus. Each king brought with him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to represent Jesus' elevated position, divine birth and mortality respectively.

Historically, Christmas was celebrated each day from Christmas Eve to the Epiphany, with January 6 being as large a celebration as December 25.

In Spain, children believe their Christmas presents are delivered by the Three Wise Men on January 6, while in Venice, children believe "La Befana," an imaginary old woman in Italian folklore, brings gifts to them on the Epiphany Day.

An old Catholic tradition is the Star Singers, which are groups of people who dress as the Wise Men and carry a wooden star who go door-to-door to sing and collect donations for the poor. In Germany, if the Star Singers (Sternsinger) come to your door, they offer a blessing for your home. If you accept, they write "20 C + M + B + 20" in chalk above your doorway. The numbers represent the year and the letters represent the phrase Christus mansionem benedictat, meaning "God bless this house."

### BLESSING OF THE HOME:

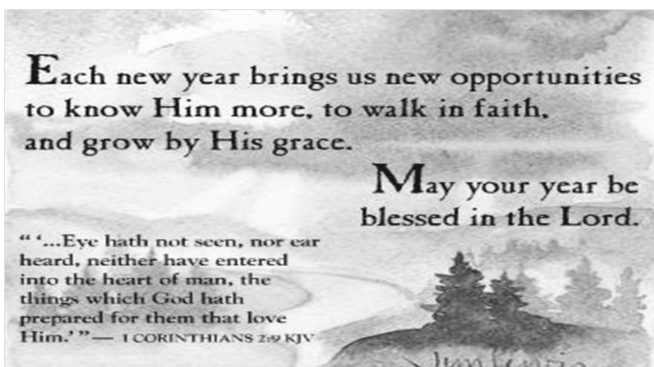
From the altar, the blessing of the Church extends itself on Epiphany to the homes of the faithful. The custom of blessing the home probably grew up on account of the words in the Gospel, "And entering into the house, they found the Child with Mary, His Mother, and falling down they adored Him." The priest blesses the house if he can be present, but if not, the father of the family may do so. He leads the family (and any guests who may have been invited for the occasion) from room to room, blessing each and inscribing the initials of the three Magi above the doors with the chalk that has been previously blessed. The chalk blessing is written as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 20.

Now that you know what Epiphany is, and have several ideas of how to celebrate, enjoy Epiphany by honoring the birth of Christ and the presence of the Three Wise Men.

- Mary Carlson

## Ministers Schedule for January 8-9 , 2022

	4:30pm (ABVM)	8:30am (ABVM)	10:30am (St Mary)
Altar Server			R. Whipple
Eucharist Minister	Deacon Steve	Deacon Steve	C. Hannah
Lector	B. Sonnie	P. Roman	D. Dennison



**NO BINGO TODAY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>.** Bingo will resume on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.

**FRIDAY IS THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JANUARY.** Anyone who wants to receive Holy Communion who is not already on the list, please call the office at 653-8586.

**ROLLER SKATING PARTY** for all the children and their families of both parishes will be held on Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> from noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Reynoldsville Rollerdrome. There is no charge, just come and have fun! Pizza and drinks will be provided. Snacks are always welcome!!!

**SEATING CAPACITIES REDUCED** Because of COVID 19 spread in the community, and the desire on my part to avoid close contact between parishioners attending mass, the seating capacities have been reduced in the church until the spread of the virus in the area declines. Fr. Bill Barron

**LIVESTREAMING** of weekend and holy day masses has resumed and will continue at least until the beginning of March.

**4:30 SATURDAY EVENING MASS CHANGE:** This mass alternates between Assumption and St. Mary's Parishes during the course of the year. Starting on **January 1, 2022, and through May 28, 2022, this mass will take place, at 4:30 p.m., at Assumption Parish.** The 4:30 p.m. Mass will resume at St. Mary's Parish on Saturday, June 5, at 4:30 p.m.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC:** Are you or someone you know interested in becoming a Catholic? If so, please contact Deacon Steve at the parish office by Sunday, December 19th. We will begin instructions for those interested in becoming Catholic very soon.

**VOCATIONS CROSS** - Since 2018, we have been sending around to parish homes a Vocations Cross. This Cross comes with a binder that contains prayers to be said with the Cross. When the Cross becomes available at the beginning of every month, would you please consider taking it home with you? It is a small thing to ask, just some simple prayers that God may bless His church with more seminarians. Thanks for your consideration. Fr. Bill Barron

**CONFESSIONS:** Confessions will be available after all masses at both churches with the exception of Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass at Assumption because I need some travel time and set up time for 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's. Fr. Barron

**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

**NO CCD CLASSES TODAY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>.** Classes will resume on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. Merry Christmas to all of our students from your teachers!

**RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE** will be here at St. Mary's church social hall on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. All donors are welcome.

**THANK YOU** to Snyder-d'Argy Funeral Home for the beautiful calendars they provided our parish with this year.

**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU** to Joe & Mary McCluskey, Ron Hannah, Molly Verona, Denise Dennison, and Jill Bowley for all of your time and talent to make our church look so beautiful for Christmas!!!

**ADDITIONAL FLOWER MEMORIALS:** In Memory of: William Wells, Kelly Wells, Rose Wells, & Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Mancuso by Mrs. Louise Wells.

## ASSUMPTION'S NEWS

**SYKESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY CHICKEN DINNER FUNDRAISER** will be held on Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 4 – 5:30 p.m. Dinners are **pick up only** and you must have a pre-paid ticket. Price for a dinner is \$9.00 and includes the following; Breaded fried chicken, Mashed potatoes/gravy, Hot vegetable, Tossed salad, Bread and butter & Dessert. Dinners prepared by Shannon's Catering. Tickets will be available beginning January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Any questions, please call the Library (814-894-5243).

**KIM & I WOULD LIKE TO THANK** Jaynie Pisarcik & Diane Varacallo for helping with the Christmas Decorations in our church. Without your time and talents every year we could not make the church so beautiful for the Christmas Season. **Thank you once again!**