

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Sunday, April 1, 2018

1648 FM 340
Hallettsville, Texas 77964-5862
St. Mary's Rectory: 798-2128
Sacred Heart Rectory: 798-5888

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 9:15 a.m.
First Friday: 6:00 p.m.

MARRIAGES

Consult the Pastor six (6) months in advance before making any plans or decisions.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our parish family.
Please stop by the rectory or call to register.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

First Friday: 5:30 p.m.
Any time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

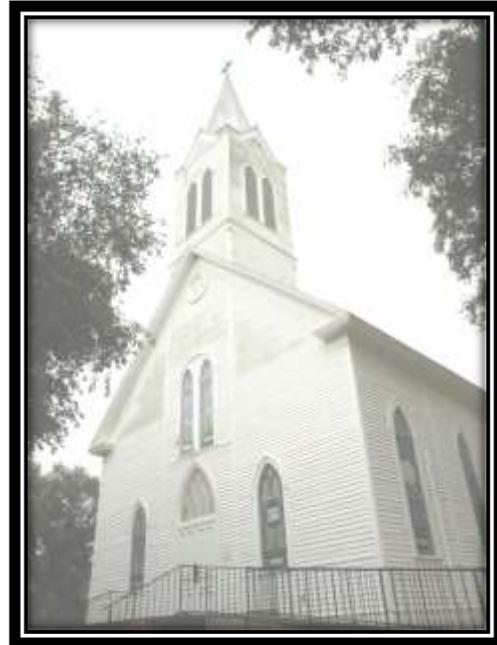
Please call the rectory.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD – Every Wednesday from
6:00 – 7:15 p.m.
Contact: Amy Shimek (772-5224)

WEBSITES

Cemetery: www.victoriadiocese.org
(Click on “Catholic Cemeteries”)
Safe Environment: www.victoriadiocese.org
(Click on “Safe Environment Program,” then on “eAppsDB”)



PASTOR

REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS V.G.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Max Landman

DEACON

Rev. Mr. Joseph (Joey) Targac
Rev. Mr. Michael Tankersley

ST. MARY'S HALL RENTAL

Judy Opela (798-2738)

PARISH BUILDING COMMITTEE

Leon Etzler, Raymond Janak, Francis Klekar,
Richard Sommerlatte, & Al Svetlik, Jr.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Joyce Janak, Blasé Konvicka, Jr., Jerome
Pesek, Pat Pesek, & Larry Svetlik

CEMETERY Miranda Henke (798-3731)

EWTN

Cable Channel 71 or Dish Channel
261

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday, April 30, 2018,
by 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Sunday, April 1, 2018

Mass Intentions:

Sunday, April 1—Easter Sunday

9:15 a.m. – Henry Sitka, Joe & Bessie Sitka

Friday, April 6—First Friday

7:00 p.m. – Henrietta Hermes

Sunday, April 8—Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of

Divine Mercy)

9:15 a.m. – Patricia & Karen Steffek; Joe & Lidia

Kostelnik & Henry

Sunday, April 15—Third Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m. – S. J. and Annie Janak Family

Sunday, April 22 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m. – Confirmation Candidates

Sunday, April 29—Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m. – John Pustka

Friday, May 4—First Friday

7:00 p.m.—Annie & Angela Hermes

Sunday, May 6—Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m. -- Parishioners

April Bulletin Sponsor: In Memory of Laddie & Evelyn Konvicka
by Family and Friends

Eucharistic Ministers

If there is a Deacon present at the Mass, there is need for only three (3) ministers to come up and give Communion.

Czech Choir

St. Mary's Czech Choir sings at the 9:15 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Sunday of every month from September to May at St. Mary's.

****Extraordinary Ministers**, please go up to Altar as soon as the Priest is consuming the Blood!!

**We are in need of a Rosary Leader. If you are interested, please call the Rectory, Monday or Wednesday morning to talk to Pat. Phone # 361-798-2128



Financial Report for March, 2018

Income:

Sunday's Collections	\$4,007.00
Children's Collections	104.00
Hall Rental	1,300.00
Catholic Relief Services	45.00
Rice Bowl	<u>1,070.20</u>
	\$6,526.20

Expenses:

Administration	357.00
Church Expenses	133.02
Hall Expenses	372.19
Maintenance	271.70
Office/Rectory	596.64
Utilities	1,902.63
Aid to Europe	348.80
Diocese of Victoria (D.S.A.)	8,988.00
Medical Insurance	406.00
Priest Pension Plan	94.00
Latin America	<u>20.00</u>

\$13,489.98

Building Fund 845.00

Beginning Balance:	\$98,248.74
Income	6,526.20
Expenses	<u>-13,489.98</u>
Balance	<u>\$91,284.96</u>

AREA NEWS

- ✦ **Stevens Nursing & Rehab** is hosting a Community Bingo on the last Friday of each month. Everyone is invited, prizes will be given—2:00 p.m. in Dining Room A.
- ✦ **St. Mary's Catholic Church, Victoria, Texas**, 194th Anniversary-Parish Festival, Sunday, February 11, 2018, 10:30 a.m-6:00 p.m. Victoria Community Center, Roast Beef, and trimmings, \$9 per plate. Live Auction, Bingo, Raffle and more.
- ✦ **St. Mary's Altar Society will host their Annual Games Party, Tuesday, April 24, 2018**, at the Church's Activity Center, (401 S. Liberty St., Victoria, Texas), 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Admission-\$8.00, which includes lunch and door prizes. Country Store & Raffle. For reservations, call Dorothy B (361-573-3569) or Eunice D (361-576-1856).



Please pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life!

Please pray for the Veterans who have served Our Country and have sacrificed and given so much for our freedom.

From the Desk of Msgr. John

May all of you have a very Happy and Blessed Easter. Hopefully you all prepared yourself well for this great Feast of Easter.

The new Sprinkler System around the Church has now been installed. We are now waiting for the new grass to be put in place. This should enhance the beauty of St. Mary Church

The Diocesan Service Appeal (D.S.A.) report has been sent to all the parishes. The following is St. Mary's report:

St. Mary for 2017

Parish Goal	\$12,058
Number of Parishioners Pledging	26
Total Amount Pledged and Contributed by Parishioners	\$3,070

To meet the 2017 Goal, the Parish owes \$8,988 out of Church Funds.

D.S.A. Goal for 2018 is \$12,234.

During the Lenten Season, we have reflected upon the Seven Last Words of Christ: *Continued...*

I am thirsty.—**John 19:28**—*Lord, Jesus, your death reveals the mysterious complexity of the human heart. Your executioners were happy to watch you die in agony, yet responded to your common discomfort with a drink.*

Sometimes cruelty and mercy, savagery and nobility, sin and virtue dwell side by side within us. Perhaps your divine admission of human vulnerability gives us tacit permission to ask one another for living water of love and compassion.

Truly I tell you, Today you will be with me in Paradise.—

Luke 23:43—*Lord, Jesus, of all the people to whom you might have offered your remarkable pledge of salvation, you chose a common criminal. It is so like you to turn our thinking upside down, we who envy status and angle for position. Give us your eyes to see the heart of a person, for heaven is not a badge of honor, but a blissful communion of saints and sinners. As with all of your gifts, it seems that the last shall be first in line.*

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?—**Mark 15:34**

Lord, Jesus, I am struck by the stark, vulnerable honesty of your prayer. So often I hide such sentiments, not only from God, but from myself. I trumpet my devotion while burying my doubts, fears, and hurts. I long for your mature and childlike intimacy that can pray without pretense or reserve. Heal my prayer from undue anger, but also from artificial piety. Children of God, it seems, are most faithful when they pray from the heart.

It is finished.—**John 19:30**

Lord, Jesus, even in death a comforting sense of fulfillment imbues your words. We have tasted this feeling, but our accomplishments are but a shadow of your triumph. We rejoice over a faithful marriage, but you have wedded heaven to earth. We take pride in constructing a sturdy home, but you have built the house *Continued Column 2*

of God. We know peace after heroically saving a life, but you have saved the world. May we be blessed to finish our lives so well.

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.—**Luke 23:46**

Lord, Jesus, perhaps your final gift to us was the legacy of graceful surrender. Yet, we cling to belongings, youth, and to life itself as if letting go were the ultimate sin. Teach us the art of holy resignation. Help us to know when the time has come to let go of a want, a dream, or a life. Steel our hands to hold the gifts that endure—integrity, truth, and love. Then, as we share your cross, we too may confidently place our spirits in God's loving hands.

THE EMMAUS CENTER-

Counseling in the Catholic Tradition—

Sponsored by the Diocese of Victoria—

1908 N. Laurent Street, Suite 140,

Victoria, Texas 77901. For an

appointment, go to www.emmauscounselingcenter.com

or call 361-212-0830. *Extending a Listening Heart to*

Those in Need.

THE EMMAUS CENTER AND HOSPICE OF SOUTH TEXAS are offering *Grief Support Group on*

Mondays, at Mary's House in Hallettsville. These groups are for those adjusting to life changes, or struggling with the emotional roller coaster of coping with loss. Groups are held weekly for 8 weeks. Limited to 10 people per group. To register to attend, or to help determine if a grief group is right for you, please call our office at 361-572-4300 (Hospice) or 361-212-0830 (Emmaus Center).

THE EMMAUS CENTER has a change of address and information.

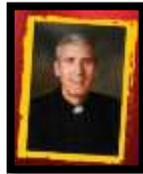
New Address: 1508 E. Airline St, Victoria, TX 77901



FRIENDLY REMINDER TO PARISHIONERS

If you have information for the Bulletin, please be reminded that the Deadline for Bulletin entries is Tuesday at Noon.

The Emmaus Center: Roast and Toast
Saturday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m. at The
Cathedral Center in Victoria.
Help Support The Emmaus
Center: Counseling and Spiritual



Direction in the Catholic Tradition: Join in the fun and festivities on May 12 at 6:30 p.m. in Victoria at The Cathedral Center for the First Annual **Roast & Toast** benefiting **The Emmaus Center**, the Diocese of Victoria's Counseling and Spiritual Direction Center. This year's honoree will be **Father Gary Janak**, on the occasion of his 30th Anniversary of Ordination. The evening will include a delicious meal, entertainment and live and silent auctions, with all proceeds directly benefiting **The Emmaus Center**. Since the Center opened in December 2016, hundreds of children and adults have been assisted through the services offered by **The Emmaus Center**. In order to continue to meet the increasing need for counseling and spiritual direction services currently being offered at substantially lower fees than other counseling centers and individual therapists, **The Emmaus Center** needs your help. **The Roast & Toast** event promises to provide an opportunity to enjoy a great evening and support the Center's continuing efforts to serve others. Call **The Emmaus Center** (212-0830) or The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory (575-4741) for tickets and further information.

EASTER FLOWERS

In Memory of Phillip J. Bujnoch: Evelyn Bujnoch and Family-\$20

In Memory of Daniel Opela and Delores Ann Walker: Doris Opela-\$20

In Memory of Rudy & Bernadette Konarik--\$20

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Alex Janak and Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Dobbs: Glenn & Dedie Dobbs-\$25

In Memory of John & Mathilda Matula; Leo & Viola Henke; Edward Filip; Frank & Anna Klekar; Charlie & Annie Henke: Daniel & Monica Matula-\$30

In Memory of Joe, Lydia & Henry Kostelnik, Sr., Patricia & Karen Steffek; John L. & Mathilda Matula: James & Barbara Matula-\$30

Easter Sunday

The first light of Easter dawn had begun to creep over the horizon. The steadfast women from Friday's gory events are returning again to the body of their Lord. *"Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"* How quickly we return to mundane concerns and how thoroughly God wants to surprise us! Imagine the utter shock upon seeing the stone rolled away, the tomb empty, and a stranger clothed in light proclaiming the impossible. *"You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here."* He is risen indeed and the world will never be the same.

We know from other Gospel passages that Mary Magdalene made haste to the disciples to proclaim the Good News. We know that Peter and John rushed to the tomb to see for themselves. We know that the wonder and awe of the Resurrection permeated the lives of the apostles until their own dying day.

Can we comprehend the utterly world-changing nature of this surprise? The historical reanimation of a dead man is of no real value to us. But we know that Easter Sunday is so much more. By the Resurrection of Jesus, life has triumphed over death for us all. The gates of heaven are opened and the treasury of graces is poured out upon the here and now. This Resurrection Day, let us draw near, amazed yet unafraid, to the risen Christ. Let us recall the words of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, *"Jesus is not a character from the past. He lives, and he walks before us as one who is alive, he calls us to follow him, the living one, and in this way to discover for ourselves the path of life"* (Easter Vigil, April 15, 2006).

2018-2019 SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL **REGISTRATION NOW IN PROGRESS for Pre-K3 – 12**

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year is presently in progress at Sacred Heart Catholic School for Pre-K3—Grade 12 students. Currently enrolled students are to complete the registration forms received in the mail and return them to the school by Friday, March 30, 2017. Extended care is also available until 5:30 p.m. for students in grades Pre-K- 5.



Registration for new and currently enrolled students may be completed at the school office during the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 pm. New students are required to present birth and/or Baptismal certificates, Social Security Numbers and their immunization records.

For more information in reference to Sacred Heart Catholic School, please call the school at 798-4251 or the Rectory at 798-5888 or visit our website at www.shschool.org.

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Gianna Beretta Molla

Born into a large Catholic family in Italy, St. Gianna studied medicine and became a physician. She opened a medical practice in Mesero, where she met her husband. The pregnancy and birth of their fourth child was very difficult, but Gianna was willing to risk her life for the life of the child. St. Gianna gave birth to a baby girl and died a week later. She is the patroness of mothers, physicians, and unborn children.



No guesswork involved

Followers of Christ never have to rely on guesswork to decide what is right. We have a perfect example for our daily lives in Jesus. And to guide us, he gave us the Catholic Church.

“A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh” (Ezekiel 36:26).



Begin a new life after Easter

The promise of the Resurrection is that faithful followers of Jesus will have new life. Whether we had a fruitful Lent or were lukewarm in our resolve, we can begin now to become new creations.

Make an examination. Call on the Holy Spirit to reveal what is keeping you from becoming the person God intends. Make an examination of your life as you live it. Look at your prayer life, your sacramental life, your dedication to spiritual growth. Do you share your faith? Do you serve others with love?

Face the truth with courage. It can be discouraging to look honestly at our

many faults. Remember, though, that God understands we aren't perfect. He asks us to act with integrity and relentlessly fight against sin.

Being a sinner is not the worst condition – remaining one is.

Devise a plan. Decide what needs to change and make a plan. Write it down and commit to it. Sometimes making a brave life change entails leaving bad company behind. Often it means changing entrenched habits. Change may be uncomfortable but growth can't happen without it.

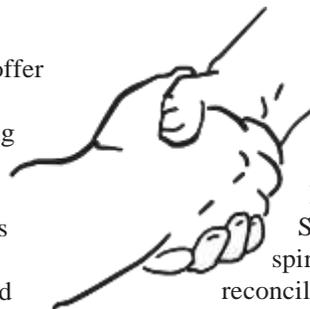
Take the first steps. New life comes through God. Entrust your plan for change to him. Spend at least 15 minutes a day in prayer, asking for inspiration and strength. Then take the first steps toward new life.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics offer the sign of peace?

During the Mass, we offer the Sign of Peace in preparation for receiving Communion. After his Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples in the Upper Room. Although his friends had abandoned him, Jesus



forgave them, saying: *“Peace be with you”* (John 20:19). When we offer each other the Sign of Peace, we imitate Christ. The Sign of Peace is also a sign of spiritual unity. Just as Jesus reconciled with his disciples, we are called to reconcile with each other.

Catholic disciples are called to more

Daily prayer, weekly Mass attendance, and regular Confession form the foundation for a solid Catholic life. Yet, discipleship calls us to more. Discipleship moves us to make a “conscious, firm decision, carried out in action, to be followers of Jesus Christ no matter the cost” to ourselves (U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops).

A conscious decision. Disciples consciously resolve to follow Jesus with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. This governing resolution – renewed every day – controls all other decisions in a disciple’s life.

Demonstrated by action. Our discipleship is visible to others by our devotion to the Church and by the good works we perform. Our charitable actions are offered in obedience to Jesus’ example – and instructions – in the New Testament. The Church suggests the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy as guidelines.

Despite the cost. “So therefore, whoever of you does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:33). To be Christian isn’t always comfortable. Yet, disciples persist out of love, no matter the cost.



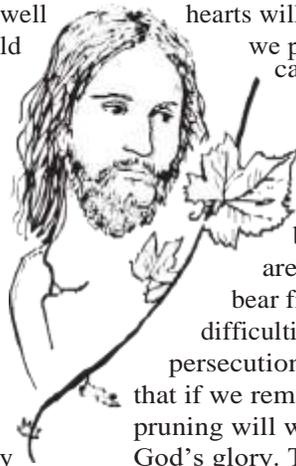
from Scripture

John 15:1-8, Stay faithful to Christ

This Gospel comes from Jesus’ Last Supper Discourse, a kind of farewell speech for his disciples. Jesus told his disciples – and us – that

without him, we can do nothing. He used a familiar image to explain. A grapevine has a main stem and smaller branches growing from it. Just as the main stem is the source of life for the branches, so Jesus is the source of spiritual life for us.

We received this life when we were “grafted onto” Jesus in Baptism. We preserve this life by taking his words seriously and



striving to live by them. Then our hearts will become like his. When we pray in Jesus’ name, we can trust that God will

answer our prayers. There is a “catch” to following Jesus, though. Just as the branches on a grapevine are pruned – cut short – to bear fruit, we will encounter difficulties and even persecution. Yet, Jesus reminds us that if we remain faithful to him, this pruning will work for our good and God’s glory. Then we’ll become the saints we were called to be.

Q & A

What does the Resurrection mean for us?

Jesus’ Resurrection – the most important event in human history – is how we know that what he said and did while on



Earth is true and his promises to us are trustworthy.

During his public ministry, Jesus spoke and acted as God. He promised that if we follow him, we will have eternal life. Either he was God and had the power to make it true, or he was a mere man claiming to be someone he wasn’t.

That Jesus rose from the dead – a fact verified by more than 500 eyewitness accounts – means that his word can be trusted. He warned of the specifics of his own death, predicted his Resurrection, and proved that he really is God. Therefore, his promises of eternal life are real, too.

The Resurrection gives us hope. “By his death, Christ liberates us from sin; by his Resurrection, he opens for us the way to a new life” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* #654). All those who die in God’s friendship will live with him forever.

Feasts & Celebrations

April 3 – St. Richard of Chichester (1253). Born in England, St. Richard studied law at Bologna. Known for his holiness and administrative skills, he was named archbishop of Chichester, but King Henry III refused to let him rule until the pope threatened the king with excommunication. Even as an archbishop, St. Richard lived a humble life. He died in Dover while preaching a crusade.

April 8 – Divine Mercy Sunday (1935). In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the “Feast of

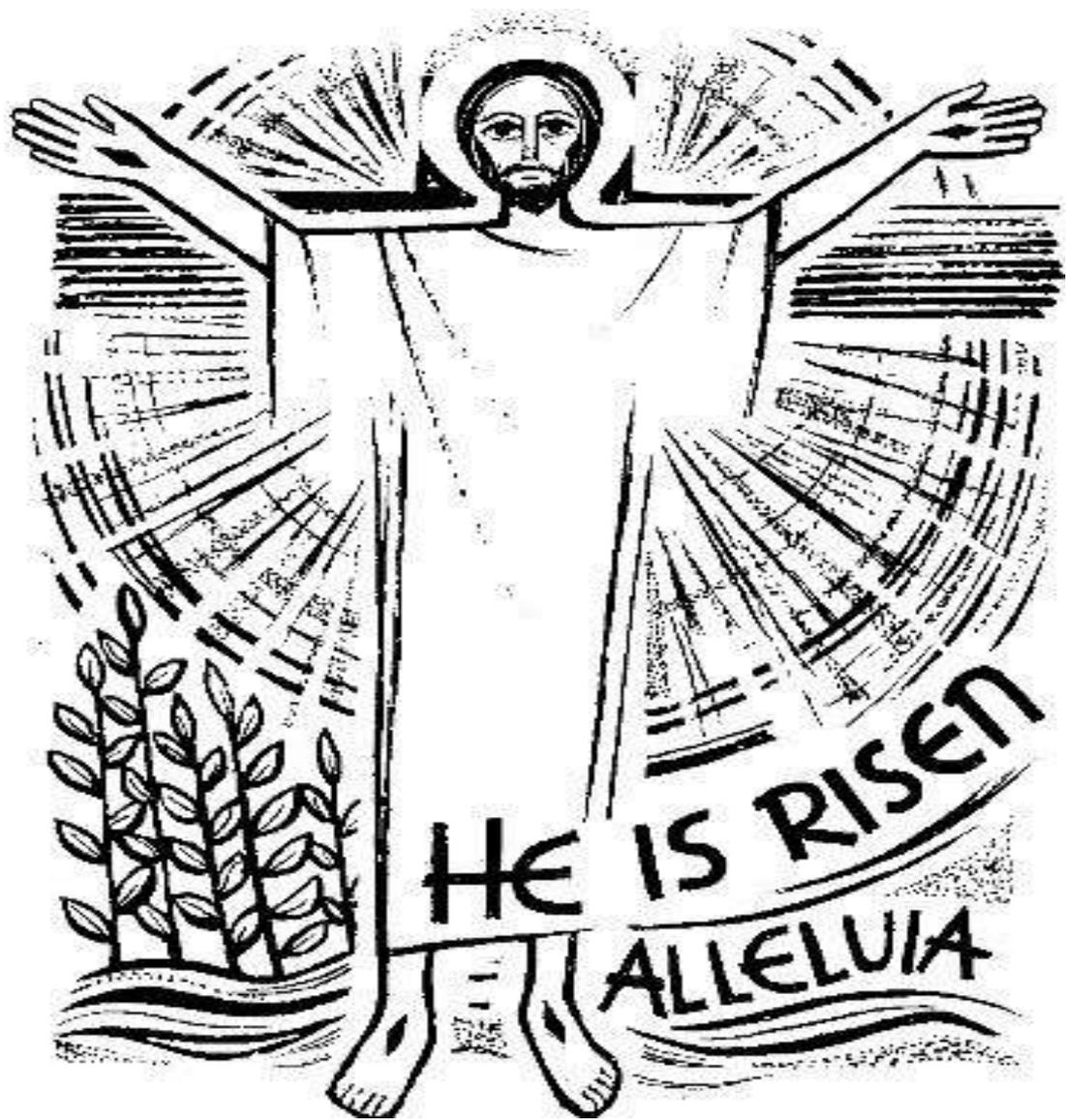
Mercy.” Jesus promised anyone who honors him as King of Mercy and prays the Chaplet of Divine Mercy – the prayer he gave St. Faustina – would receive special graces and great mercy.

April 25 – St. Mark the Evangelist (1st Century). St. Mark wrote the second Gospel largely based on St. Peter’s perspective. Mark accompanied Saints Paul and Barnabas (Mark’s cousin) on their missionary journey through the island of Cyprus and is credited with founding the Church of Alexandria.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)



Happy
Easter

ST. MARY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE –APRIL, 2018

Sunday, April 1 -Easter 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Dalton Grahmann, Elizabeth Grahmann, Elena Grahmann, Paige Wright
Cantor	Kelly Rother
Lector	Dedie Dobbs
Extraordinary Ministers	Edward Pustka, Sandra Pustka, Billy Hrcir, Bev Hrcir
Rosary Leader	Sandy Konvicka
Offertory Gift Bearers	Susan & Marvin Bujnoch
Ushers	Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Gilbert Urbish, Charles Grafe
Church Cleaners	Rosalie Tobola, Glenda Tobola, Marty Horecka, Mary Jo Bludau
Sunday, April 8	
Altar Servers	Kaitlyn Rother, Trace Patek, Jules Janak, Timber Janak
Cantor	Ruth Rouse
Lector	Dedie Dobbs
Extraordinary Ministers	Janice Rother, Vivian Mozisek, Richard Sommerlatte
Rosary Leader	Janice Rother
Offertory Gift Bearers	David Steffek and Family
Ushers	Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar, Sidney Jasek
Church Cleaners	Charlene Klekar, Janice Rother, Sue Cinadr
Sunday, April 15	
Altar Servers	Ryan Mudd, Wyatt Mudd, Robbie Perdziak, Justin Perdziak
Cantor	Kelly Rother
Lector	Daniel Matula
Extraordinary Ministers	Dedie Dobbs, Leon Etzler, Nancy Etzler
Rosary Leader	Laurie Janak
Offertory Gift Bearers	Vic & Katherine Kahanek
Ushers	Russell Sciba, Robert Sciba, Bernard Patek, Richard Sommerlatte
Church Cleaners	Joyce Janak, Anita Steffek, Helen Technik, Ruth Rouse
Sunday, April 22 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Ryan Hermes, Blake Rother, Rynna Orsak, Ryllyn Orsak
Cantor	Pat Mladenka
Lector	Martha Horecka
Extraordinary Ministers	Trina Bludau, Edward Pustka, Sandra Pustka
Rosary Leader	Sandy Konvicka
Offertory Gift Bearers	Confirmation Candidates
Ushers	Stanley Orsak, Scott Blaschke, Gilbert Mozisek, Marvin Bujnoch
Church Cleaners	Sharon Henrichs, Lisa Matula, Laura Ulcak
Sunday, April 29 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Dalton Grahmann, Elizabeth Grahmann, Elena Grahmann, Paige Wright
Cantor	Laurence Bludau
Lector	Joshua Blaschke
Extraordinary Ministers	Carol Rother, Tony Bludau, Joyce Bludau
Rosary Leader	Ruth Rouse
Offertory Gift Bearers	Pustka Family
Ushers	Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Gilbert Urbish, Charles Grafe
Church Cleaners	Barbara Matula, Monica Matula, Susan Bujnoch
Wednesday, May 2 CCD Closing Mass	
Altar Servers	Allece Mizera, Robbie Perdziak, Justin Perdziak
Sunday, May 6 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Kevin Konvicka, Ty Gerke, Layne Gerke, Brandt Trlicek
Cantor	Richard Rouse
Lector	Dorothy Schneider
Extraordinary Ministers	Scott Sommerlatte, Billy Gerke, Megan Klesel
Rosary Leader	Lucille Klekar
Offertory Gift Bearers	Volunteers
Ushers	Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar, Sidney Jasek
Church Cleaners	Vivian Mozisek, Cecilia Janak, Rita Migl, Edna Wehman

***If you are unable to serve your Ministry, you are responsible for finding another person to take your place.