

My Dear Church family,

For those that didn’t know, I have a hard time retaining information and I also have a short attention span. I have done all right in school, military, and job but I had to try extremely hard. I found out again last year when I attended OCIA with my daughter-in-law how little I retain. Fast forward to this year, I have been blessed enough to sponsor a sweet young lady, and I have found out, it still feels like I am hearing it the first time.

It is important if we are to evangelize to know our faith. Sometimes volunteering for sponsorship for new OCIA members or just attending once on your own will be enough. It looks as if it will be like when I came into the Church and I will be going to class for several years. You know, I don’t mind because I get to meet people new to our faith with a desire to learn and pound some facts into my brain. If I pick up reading the Catechism on a regular basis and watching a few great DVDs from the Father’s of Mercy besides the OCIA class, I should gain some profound knowledge of our faith. The key is to never stop learning.

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and he will be given it.” **James 1:5.**

“Make known to me your ways, LORD; teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior. For you I wait all the long day, because of your goodness, LORD.” **Psalms 25:4-5.**

I ask that you all pray for me, and I too will pray the Lord helps me retain so I can be a better evangelist and feed his hungry sheep with my knowledge. Will you join me?

Please pray with me: “Dear Lord, may you give me the wisdom of your word and your Church, and may I retain it so I can be a better evangelist and feed your sheep. Amen.”

Please consider joining us on our Evangelization & Outreach Ministry team.

May God bless you all,  
Colleen Rafferty

<b>Office Hours at St Mary:</b> Erin Denny is in the office on Tuesday and Thursday <b>Monday 9AM-3:00 PM Fr Tom only</b> <b>Tuesday 9AM-4 PM (Fr Tom leaves about 3:00).</b> <b>Thursday 9Am-4 PM</b> Fr Tom’s office hours are by appointment. Please call the office or the rectory to make an appointment.	<b>Ladies Guild: President</b> –Sheila Jeffers, Secretary- Terri Tyler, Treasurer- MaryAnn Forney <b>Religious Education Committee:</b> DRE- Robin Clark, Maria Molina, Hannah Clark, Fabiola Humphrey, and Haley Danehy. <b>Archivist-</b> Sheila Harrington and Marian Becker, <b>Librarian-</b> Kathleen Kaapcke
<b>Building and Grounds Committee:</b> Fr Tom Buckman, Mark Pais (Chair) David Duncan, Kenneth Bracy, Allan Cravalho, Casmiro Moratin, and Thom Boyne, and Josue Cabrera	<b>Music Director- Joshua Wagner</b> <a href="mailto:stmaryccmusic@gmail.com">stmaryccmusic@gmail.com</a> Cantors: Valerie McGowen, and Margaret Wolter <b>Worship/Liturgy Committee:</b> Fr. Tom Buckman, Margaret Wolter (Chair), and Patti Hood, Joshua Wagner, and Maggie Tamm.
<b>Administration &amp; Finance Committee</b> <b>Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 5:00 PM</b> <b>Chairman- Duane Wolter</b> , Patti Hood, John Janicek, Darrell Fenley, and Andrew Tamm	<b>Parish Pastoral Council: Normally Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Monday @ 6:00 PM</b> <b>Chairperson: Ninoska Moratin, Vice Chairman- Julius Foncha</b> <b>Secretary- Tibor Laky, Ken Bracy, Sandra Bracy, and Jose Angel Noguez.</b>
<b>Evangelization and Outreach Ministry:</b> Fr. Tom Buckman, Duane Wolter (Chair), Eli Gantt, Colleen Rafferty, and Robert Loza	

**Christmas Mass Schedule:**  
**December 24-4:00 pm, 12 midnight (Bilingual); December 25-10:00 am.**

# St. Mary Catholic Church

December 6-7, 2025

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Welcome Visitors and Guests!

Bienvenidos a los Visitantes y Huéspedes!

Pastor/Párroco Fr. Tom Buckman [tom.buckman@pastoral.org](mailto:tom.buckman@pastoral.org)

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Erin Denny- Office Administrator

Diocese of Owensboro [www.owensborodiocese.org](http://www.owensborodiocese.org)



<b>Saturday, December 6</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> – Intentions: For the Soul of Louis Clemmons
<b>Sunday, December 7</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> –Intentions: For the Soul of Jason W Bracy
<b>Sunday, Diciembre 7</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Domingo de Adviento-</b> Para la gente de la parroquia
Monday, December 8	8:00 AM	Intentions-Honoring Anne Marie & Dylan Richardson
Tuesday, December 9	Noon	Intentions: For the Soul of Michael Garrett
Wednesday, December 10	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Soul of Rachel Garst
Thursday, December 11	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Rigaberto Agustin Mario Cortes
9AM-10PM Eucharistic Adoration		
Friday, December 12	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Soul of Joseph & Helen Kirzeder
<b>Saturday, December 13</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> – Intentions: For the Soul of Eleanor Mirgaux
<b>Sunday, December 14</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> –Intentions: Honoring the Russell Family
<b>Sunday, Diciembre 14</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Domingo de Adviento-</b> Para la gente de la parroquia

*The deadline for Calendar submissions for the January Calendar Bulletin is 12/19/25*

**If you have Mass intentions, please contact Fr. Tom or Erin in the office.**

**Mass Ministers:** Please try to arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the start of Mass.

**When/if you are unable to fulfill your scheduled Mass Ministry, please find a replacement** Thank You, Fr. Tom

**Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities: local law enforcement (270) 586-7425 or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-KYSAFE1).**

**The Diocese of Owensboro seeks to help all who have been sexually abused and especially those abused by a person working for the Church, paid or unpaid, either past or present. To report such abuse, please call the diocesan Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (270-852-8380). The revised sexual abuse policy, which explains fully the diocese’s efforts to address sexual abuse in the Church, can be found in the back of the church on the parish bulletin board and on the diocesan web site (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>).**

**If you are sick, or know someone who is ill, we want to include them in our prayers.**

**Please contact Erin in the parish office on 270-586-4515 or by email so our parish can pray for you and your caregivers.**

**Please Remember in Your Prayers the Following Parishioners, Family and Friends:** Richard Hearn, Judy Cates, Helen, Ed, and Ben Berry, Tom, Margaret, Roger, and Sherrie Berry, Gail Hall, Gail Briley, DeWayne, Susie, Kassidie, Katie, and Kennedie Kirkham, Mary, and Bill Sloan

**Please keep our deceased family and friends in your daily prayers:**

Gracie Scott, Carol Sue Durbin, Charles Andrew Yanov, Jason W. Bracy, Mary Barnes, Conner Sheahan, Marie Watson, Debbie Head, Crystal Becker, Andrew & Michael Garrett, Angela Berry Maynard, Sarah Drake, Basil Trouten Sr., Hilda Trouten, Dorthy O’Bryan, Joseph Hagan, Susie Wyatt, Miriam Harbin, Roger Farley, Dr A.V. Wilwayco, Frank & Marie Farmer, Keith Obriskie, Helen Garst, Lois Oshefsky, John Herrmann, Sharon Henderson, Sr Maretta Murphy IHM, Dr John Kelly, Ellie Mirgaux and Rose Vogt.

### Mission Statement

*We, the people of St Mary Catholic Church, are a welcoming Catholic community called to live our faith by celebrating Mass, Sacraments, and Prayers; proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ; seeking life-long faith and formation; sharing our time; talents and reaching out in compassionate service to others.*



Advent Penance Services:

St. Mary 12/15, 6:00 pm; Christ the King 12/16, 5:30 pm; and at Holy Spirit 12/21, 5:00 pm.

On December 12<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup>, there will a Live Manger Scene at Union Chapel Baptist Church located at 1125 College St. in Portland from 6:30-8:30 PM. Ben Berry will be participating and would like to invite everyone to attend.

Eternal rest grant unto Donna Rossi. May she rest in peace.

The Ladies Guild has put up the Angel Tree. The Resource Center has asked that the gifts be unwrapped this year so the parents can wrap them. The Ladies Guild will also be collecting food for Christmas Baskets for these same families. Please bring all Items- Angel Tree gifts and food for baskets- to the Parish Hall no later than Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your faithful generosity.



As of 12/2/2025						
Budget Needs 2024-25	Weekly	\$	4,038	Budget YTD Needs	\$	88,621
Received last week		\$	2,246	Received YTD	\$	82,811
Difference		\$	(-1,792)		\$	(-5,810)
On Going Projects	Last Week	\$	150	YTD	\$	2,449
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 <sup>2nd</sup> Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Misa	8 8:00 AM Mass  6:30 PM Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation	9 SVDP 10:30-2 PM  Noon Mass 12:45 Health Ministry	10  6:00 PM Mass Rel. Ed	11 8:00 AM Mass No Eucharistic Adoration  6:00PM OCIA	12 No 8:00 AM Mass  6:00 PM Our Lady of Guadalupe	13  10:00 Baptism Class  3:30 Reconciliation 5: 00 PM Mass Anointing of the Sick Disciples Response Fund
Mass Attendance-- 5:00 PM Mass 11/29 55 8:30 AM Mass 11/30 94 6:00 PM Mass 11/23 168						
Please pray for our military: Jack Jeffers, Army, Ft Carson, Colorado Springs, CO.; Eric Rafferty, Air Force, England; Korbin Bray, US Navy, Japan; Capt. Ryan Berry, USMC California; Jonathan Thompson, Navy, Jacksonville, FL; Ariel Molina Jr, Marines, North Carolina. Please call the office to add a name.						



The St Mary's Ladies Guild Christmas Party is scheduled for Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at D'Legion. All Ladies are invited to attend!

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, Patroness of the Unites States, is December 8 and a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times: St. Mary 8:00 am, 6:30 pm (No Vigil Mass); Christ the King 5:00 pm.

Our Lady of Guadalupe bilingual celebration will be held on Friday December 12 at 6:00 pm (no morning Mass Dec. 12) (Dec. 11 morning Mass as usual but no Adoration after). Mass on the 12<sup>th</sup> will be followed by an outdoor procession, festive meal, and traditional cultural dances. Our Lady of Guadalupe is not important only to the people of Mexico but to all as Patroness of the Americas and the Pro-Life movement. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Our Lady of Guadalupe facts: The stars on Mary's mantle are exactly as they would have appeared on Dec. 12, 1531. The perspective is as if you were looking from behind the sky to Earth--like Heaven looking down on Earth. The pattern of the stars would place the constellation corona borealis (the crown) on her forehead, Virgo (the virgin)over her heart, and Leo (the lion)of Judah) over her womb.

Dear Padre,

Do non-Catholics go to heaven?

Yes, they do, because of the grace of God at work in his people. To suggest otherwise would seem to imply that Catholics somehow have a “golden ticket,” or some kind of right that simply does not exist.

The Incarnation of Jesus healed the division between heaven and earth, a division established by the “sin of Adam” and confirmed by our own lives of sin. Through his passion, death, and resurrection, all has been restored to the manner that the Father first envisioned through his Creation. The division was between humanity and divinity, not between religious practices and divinity. Catholics believe and celebrate that God accepts all people of a good heart and a good spirit. God is not blinded by the labels that sometimes blind his people to the bigger reality.

When Catholics, or people of any religion, proclaim exclusivity and specialness, particularly when it concerns eternal life, all people should be very cautious about what they assume. To assume a certain type of arrogance—to yourself and to your belief and life of faith—that excludes others or separates another as “not one of us” simply has no place in the kingdom of God. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



PASCAL HUOT / SHUTTERSTOCK

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 8 <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Gn 3:9–15, 20 Eph 1:3–6, 11–12 Lk 1:26–38	December 9 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:1–11 Mt 18:12–14	December 10 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:25–31 Mt 11:28–30	December 11 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 41:13–20 Mt 11:11–15	December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14–17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab Lk 1:26–38 or Lk 1:39–47	December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Sir 48:1–4, 9–11 Mt 17:9a, 10–13	December 14 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Is 35:1–6a, 10 Jas 5:7–10 Mt 11:2–11
Do you have a question for the Padre? Go to <a href="https://dearpadre.org">DearPadre.org</a> to send your question and to learn more about <i>Dear Padre</i> .						



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

With the light and the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God's love, a sign of unity, a missionary Church that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the word, allows itself to be made “restless” by history, and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025



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