

To My Brothers and Sisters of St Mary

Ash Wednesday began our season of Lent for 2026 and how time flies! As a member of our Catholic family at St Mary's during this Lenten season, we continue to have many opportunities for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Lent is a great time to rededicate ourselves and your families to daily prayer. Have you considered participating by praying the 14 stations of the cross at St Mary's or even at home? The stations of the cross depicted events along Jesus' journey to Calvary often through prayer, art, meditations, and scripture.

For us Catholics at St Mary's fasting & abstinence are self-discipline practices with a penitential focus. Lenten Fridays, and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence. In addition to fasting, it is a custom for Catholics to "give up" something during lent, ask yourself, what have I given up?

During lent, we should also focus on almsgiving or donating money or goods to the poor and perform other acts of charity. If you can, plan to increase your contributions of your talents, time, and treasure. Every one of us can contribute one way or another.

Remember, in addition to prayers and practices, the Lenten season offers everyone time for conversion and forgiveness. The sacraments of reconciliation, participating in the eucharist, and renewing our baptismal promises during Lent will help us to seek God's grace and healing.

Let's make 2026 our most memorable yet during the 40 days of Lent! See you and your family soon, at St Mary's. God Bless You!

Richard Mahoney

St. Mary plans to start a Knights of Columbus "Round Table." A coordinator is required. The Round Table meets every 3 months. Existing K of C members and new members over age 18 can participate. Contact Fr. Tom Buckman for more information.



The Ladies Guild will host A Bingo Party on Saturday March the 14. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend!

Office Hours at St Mary: Erin is in the office on Tuesday and Thursday 9AM-4 PM (Fr Tom leaves about 3:00). Fr Tom's office hours are by appointment. Please call the office or the rectory to make an appointment.
Building and Grounds Committee: Fr Tom Buckman, Mark Pais (Chair) David Duncan, Kenneth Bracy, Allan Cravalho, Casmiro Moratin, and Thom Boyne, and Josue Cabrera
Administration & Finance Committee Meets 3rd Thursday @ 5:00 PM Chairman- Duane Wolter, John Janicek, Darrell Fenley, and Andrew Tamm
Ladies Guild: President—Sheila Jeffers , Secretary- Terri Tyler, Treasurer- MaryAnn Forney
Religious Education Committee: DRE- Robin Clark , Maria Molina, Hannah Clark, Fabiola Humphrey, and Kateri Edwards.
Music Director- Joshua Wagner stmaryccmusic@gmail.com Cantors: Valerie McGowen, and Margaret Wolter
Worship/Liturgy Committee: Fr. Tom Buckman, Margaret Wolter (Chair), Joshua Wagner, and Maggie Tamm.
Evangelization and Outreach Ministry: Fr. Tom Buckman, Duane Wolter (Chair), Eli Gantt, Colleen Rafferty, and Robert Loza
Librarian- Kathleen Kaapcke
Archivist- Sheila Harrington, Marian Becker, and Andrew Tamm

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 21-22, 2026

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

Welcome Visitors and Guests!

Bienvenidos a los Visitantes y Huéspedes!

Pastor/Párroco Fr. Tom Buckman tom.buckman@pastoral.org

stmaryfranklinky@gmail.com

PO Box 388, 403 N. Main St., Franklin, Kentucky 42135

Office: 270-586-4515 Rectory Phone: 270-253-3230

Music Director: Joshua Wagner

Erin Denny- Office Administrator email: stmaryfranklinky@gmail.com

Diocese of Owensboro www.owensborodiocese.org

The deadline for Calendar submissions for the March Calendar Bulletin is 2/18/2026

Saturday, February 21	5:00 PM	1 st Sunday of Lent— Intentions: Soul of Jesus Echipare
Sunday, February 22	8:30 AM	1 st Sunday of Lent —Intentions: Sou of Jason W Bracy
Sunday, Febrero 22	6:00 PM	1 st Domingo de Cuaresma- Para la gente de la parroquia
Monday, February 23	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Fredrick R. Patrone
Tuesday, February 24	Noon	Intentions: For the Soul of Andy Garrett
Wednesday, February 25	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Soul of Jason W Bracy
Thursday, February 26	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Jesus Echipare
Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 AM – 10:00 PM		
Friday, February 27	8:00 AM	Intentions: Honoring Luke Garrett
Saturday, February 28	5:00 PM	2 nd Sunday of Lent— Intentions: Soul of Clarence Zimmerman
Sunday March 1	8:30 AM	2 nd Sunday of Lent —Intentions: For the Soul of SFC(R) Welcie Fird
Sunday Marzo 1	6:00 PM	2 nd Domingo de Cuaresma- Para la gente de la parroquia

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: Cindy & John Janicek, Harry & Mae King, 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 Mirgoux 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.

Good News!

February 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent (A)

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 / Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 / Matthew 4:1-11

MIGUEL DULICK

The account of the temptations could be presented as a comical play. Pope Francis insisted, “Don’t talk to the devil!” Indeed, Jesus does not engage in dialogue with Satan, much less any negotiation or any business. Stones become bread? Jesus may have fasted for forty days, but he’s had plenty to eat—“every word that comes forth from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). Nor will Jesus “test” his Father by jumping off the “parapet of the temple” (like the bell tower of a gothic church). (See Matthew 5-7.) You don’t play God, and you don’t play with God. Satan really beclowns himself with the last temptation—promising the whole world if Jesus would just take a knee? No one would fall for that, would they?

Except—most of us. We’d do the bread; we’d do the jump; we’d definitely do the world! Look at the first reading, from Genesis. Adam and Eve give up paradise for a piece of fruit! It’s a sad story because Eve does chat with the serpent, answering questions, allowing for a different point of view. But, as they say on Facebook, Satan “destroys” her! And Adam, too. If they didn’t sew fig leaves for each other, the whole story would be unbearable. Even as they realize their sin, there is a little tenderness.

Saint Paul explains it clearly. Sin entered the world, but with Jesus Christ, there is an “overflow” of grace for the many. (See Romans 5:15.) And that’s what Lent is about—a flood of grace. ●

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Looking Ahead- SAVE THE DATE						
February 24 th	Adult Bible Study with Fr. Tom begins 1:00 PM every Tuesday					
Every Friday during Lent	2:30 Stations of the Cross					
Every Friday during Lent	7:00 PM Stations of the Cross in Spanish					
March 20 5:00 PM	Knights of Columbus Fish Fry					
March 22	Seder Meal					
March 31	Chrism Mass- Owensboro					
April 2 6:00 PM	Holy Thursday					
April 3 5:00 PM	Good Friday Service					
April 4 8:00 PM <i>at Christ the King</i>	Easter Vigil Mass					
As of 02/17/2026						
Budget Needs 2024-25	Weekly	\$ 4,038	Budget YTD Needs	\$ 132,788		
Received last week		\$ 3,438	Received YTD	\$ 126,932		
Difference		\$ (- 600)		\$ (- 5,856)		
On Going Projects	Last Week	\$ 110	YTD	\$ 3,349		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 1st Sunday of Lent 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Misa	23 8:00 AM Mass 6:00 PM Parish Council Mtg.	24 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study w/ Fr. Tom 6:30 Renovations Comm. Mtg.	25 6:00 PM Mass 6:30 Religious Ed	26 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 PM OCIA	27 8:00 AM Mass 2:30 Stations of the Cross in English 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross in Spanish	28 Noon Baptisms 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass
Mass Attendance— 2/14 5:00 PM-52 2/15 8:30 AM-no count 2/15 6:00 PM-93						
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, Pensacola, FL. Please call the office to add a name						

Dear Padre,

I was taught that it is a requirement to fast at least one hour before receiving Communion. However, I've seen donuts out before Mass begins and hear candy wrappers being crumpled around me. This seems disrespectful to me.



GREGORY SHERNITZ

It is important to use the correct words when describing a particular action. In this case, “requirement” does not really capture the full meaning and understanding of what the Church teaches. A better understanding is that it is a discipline and a practice of the Church to ordinarily observe the eucharistic fast for one hour before receiving holy Communion. If you are of a certain age, you may remember that there have been changes regarding the eucharistic fast. A “requirement” might suggest that the fast is integral to the sacrament itself. It is not.

The second part of your question seems to be a matter of perception. Based on your perception, you judge something to be not quite right. But, consider that there are many reasons why hospitality may be set up before Mass. The crumpling of wrappers could be something other than what you identify. Regardless, you are not required to assume the burden of policing what is taking place at Mass. It is much better to participate, celebrate, and be grateful for the sacrament that we gather to experience as a community of faith. ●

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 23 <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	February 24 <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	February 25 <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	February 26 <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	February 27 <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	February 28 <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	March 1 <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Mt 25:31-46	Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15	Jon 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Mt 7:7-12	Ez 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26	Dt 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48	Gn 2:1-4a 2 Tm 1:8b-10 Mt 17:1-9

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



JIM WEST

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Today, signs of hope are increasingly found in care homes, communities for minors, centers for listening and acceptance, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and low-income schools. How many of these quiet signs of hope often go unnoticed and yet are so important for setting aside our indifference and inspiring others to become involved in various forms of volunteer work!

MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF THE POOR, ROME, JUNE 13, 2025



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