

## Hello, my Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Today, dear family of God, I would like to talk to you about prayer. Are we praying every day like we should, finding the time to talk to Jesus? Are we asking Mary, his mother, and the saints for their intercession? Are we praying for the poor souls in purgatory? Prayer is a deep and personal communication with God, an essential practice for nurturing one's relationship with Him. It is a lifting of one's heart and mind to God, encompassing adoration, contrition, thanksgiving, and supplication. Through prayer, we express our love for God, seek His forgiveness, offer our gratitude, and present our needs and the needs of others. It is a kind of spiritual conversation, where we listen to God as much as we speak to Him. Prayer connects us to God's grace, aligns our will with His, and fosters our spiritual growth.

My prayers in the morning are the most fruitful for me. I get up very early most mornings to have that quiet time with God. For me, morning prayer is important as well as evening prayer. I like to hit those hinge hours! Starting a regular prayer life can be difficult at first. It's all about building a good habit. The Habit of prayer. Like with most good habits, it takes time and effort, and it's quite rewarding! But it's not to be done for the reward. It's to do it to get to talk to Jesus and if you listen, he will talk to you too!!!

It's good to start getting in the habit of just talking to God. But if you need something to say in the mornings, when you get up to pray, start with an Our Father or a Hail Mary or even the Rosary or the Liturgy Of The Hours. I usually start my day off with a selection of prayers from The Raccolta. Here's an example of one of the prayers that I pray every morning:

"Change my heart, O Jesus, Thou who didst empty Thyself for love of me! Make known to my spirit how excellent were Thy sacred humiliation. Let me begin this day, illumined by Thy divine light, to do away with that portion of the natural man, that still lives undiminished in me. This is the chief source of my misery; this is the barrier that I constantly oppose to Thy love. Amen."

This is one of my favorite prayers. If you don't already have a habit of praying regularly, my suggestion is finding a good catholic prayer book. And start there. Anyway, that's what was on my mind to talk to you guys about today.

Please pray for me and my family and know of our prayers for you. As Archbishop Fulton Sheen always said, "God Love You and God Bless !!!"

## Eli, Your Brother in Christ

<b>Office Hours at St Mary:</b> 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.
<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>Administration &amp; Finance Committee</b> Meets 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 5:00 PM Chairman- Duane Wolter, John Janicek, Darrell Fenley, and Andrew Tamm
<b>Ladies Guild: President-Sheila Jeffers</b> , Secretary- Terri Tyler, Treasurer- MaryAnn Forney
<b>Religious Education Committee:</b> DRE- Robin Clark, Maria Molina, Hannah Clark, Fabiola Humphrey, and Kateri Edwards.
<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), Joshua Wagner, and Maggie Tamm.
<b>Evangelization and Outreach Ministry:</b> Fr. Tom Buckman, Duane Wolter (Chair), Eli Gantt, Colleen Rafferty, and Robert Loza
<b>Librarian-</b> Kathleen Kaapcke
<b>Archivist-</b> Sheila Harrington, Marian Becker, and Andrew Tamm



### Invites you to Lunch

Please RSVP (270) 776-6177

Please leave a msg. or text # of party  
Tables are limited

**SUNDAY 25 JAN 2026 @ 1p.m.**

Agenda: Safe Haven Baby Box & Post Abortive Help

St. Mary's Church Parish Hall  
403 N. Main St., Franklin, KY 42134

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS!

PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL!!

**IF I HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED THE

**NEW SCHEDULE \*\*February through May\*\***

VIA EMAIL on January 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>

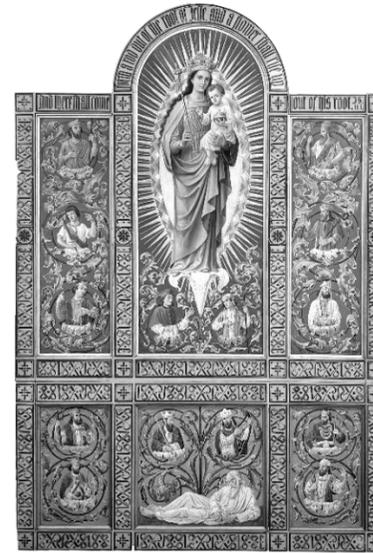
**IF I DO NOT HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS ON FILE FOR YOU,**

YOUR SCHEDULE WILL BE ON THE MAIL TABLE

(NOW LOCATED IN THE LIBRARY AREA)

IN THE PARISH CENTER!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MARGARET WOLTER AT 954-629-8209



# ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 17-18, 2026

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Welcome Visitors and Guests!

Bienvenidos a los Visitantes y Huéspedes!

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

[stmaryfranklinky@gmail.com](mailto: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

email: [stmaryfranklinky@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryfranklinky@gmail.com)

Erin Denny- Office Administrator

Saturday, January 17	5:00 PM	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time– Intentions: For the Repose of the Soul of Rosie Wolter
Sunday, January 18	8:30 AM	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time –Intentions: For the Repose of the Soul of Jason W Bracy
Sunday, Enero 18	6:00 PM	Segundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario- Para la gente de la parroquia
Monday, January 19	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Repose of the Soul of Jim Breslin
Tuesday, January 20	Noon	Intentions: Honor Lewis Garst
Wednesday, January 21	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Repose of the Soul of Billie and Joe Colorigh
Thursday, January 22	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Repose of the Soul of Marilyn Posimato
Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 AM – 10:00 PM		
Friday, January 23	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Tommy Breslin
Saturday, January 24	5:00 PM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time– Intentions: For the Repose of the Soul of Lester & Maxie Key
Sunday, January 25	8:30 AM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time –Intentions: For the Repose of the Soul of Jesus Echipare
Sunday, Enero 25	6:00 PM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario- Para la gente de la parroquia

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

The deadline for Calendar submissions for the February Calendar Bulletin is 01/21/2026

**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.*

The Ladies Guild will meet on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. All ladies are welcome!

As of 01/12/2026						
Budget Needs 2024-25	Weekly	\$	4,038	Budget YTD Needs	\$	111,774
Received last week		\$	3,038	Received YTD	\$	110,181
Difference		\$	(-1000)		\$	-(1,593)
On Going Projects	Last Week	\$	145	YTD	\$	3,101
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>8:30 AM Mass</b>	19 8:00 AM Mass	20 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass	21  6:00 PM Mass 6:30 Religious Ed	22 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration  6:00 PM OCIA	23 8:00 AM Mass	<b>24</b>  Noon Baptisms 3:30 Confessions <b>5:00 PM Mass</b>
3:00 PM Ladies Guild Meeting						
<b>6:00 PM Misa</b>						
<b>Mass Attendance— 1/10 5:00 PM-60 1/11 8:30 AM-88 1/11 6:00 PM-143</b>						
<b>Please pray for our military:</b> 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						



February 17<sup>th</sup> Mardi Gras Celebration 6:00 PM  
February 18<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday  
March 20<sup>th</sup> K of C Fish Fry  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>- Seder Meal

# Good News!

January 18, 2026  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 / 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 / John 1:29-34

ANN M. GARRIDO

Of the many names Scripture provides to help us ponder the mystery of Jesus, one of the most intriguing is the name that John the Baptist offers at the opening of today’s gospel: “Behold the Lamb of God!” (John 1:29).

Scripture scholars debate what John means here. Is he alluding to the Passover lamb—that unblemished lamb whose blood the enslaved Israelites were to post over their doorways? The angel of death knew to “pass over” these homes. Perhaps John was saying that by Jesus’ blood, the people would be freed from death.

Or was John thinking about the guilt offerings mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures when priests offered animal sacrifices to God as a way of seeking the removal of their sins? Leviticus mentions use of a scapegoat who would carry the sins of the people away into the desert. (See Leviticus 20–28.) Could John have understood that Jesus would bear the sins of the world?

Or did John have in mind the great constellation Aries, the ram, considered the prince of the stars of the sky, the center from whom all the other constellations were mapped in ancient times? Perhaps John was pointing out that Jesus was the center around whom heaven and earth revolve, like the ruling lamb mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

Today at Mass, when the host is elevated and you hear John’s words again—“Behold the Lamb of God!”—take a moment to savor these words anew. ●

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## Dear Padre,

*I thought only priests and bishops should distribute Holy Communion at Mass. In my parish, the priest allows laypeople to help him, and I thought laypeople couldn’t because our hands are not consecrated.*



You’re not the only person with this concern, so thank you for taking the time to write. The distribution of holy Communion has nothing to do with “consecrated hands.” Ordinary ministers of Communion include bishops and priests, as you rightly identify, but also deacons and installed acolytes. Of the four ordinary ministers, only the hands of bishops and priests are consecrated. Laypeople are extraordinary ministers and are installed to help the priest so that everyone can receive holy Communion without long lines or wearying the (sometimes elderly) priest. Most extraordinary ministers of Communion approach this ministry very prayerfully.

Your question brings up the subject of the full participation of the laity in the Mass, which is part of a highly contentious theological discussion on social media. There is an unfortunate conflict between so-called “traditional Catholics” and “Vatican II Catholics” or, as they are often misrepresented, “Novus Ordo” Catholics. Some Catholics are led to believe that the “new Mass” is not authentic, even though it has been the ordinary form of the Mass for well over fifty years—that is, since the authoritative Second Vatican Council. Many good and faithful people suffer with doubt and anxiety as a result of this confusion. ●

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 19	January 20	January 21	January 22	January 23	January 24	January 25
Weekday	Weekday	St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	Weekday	St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Sm 15:16–23 Mk 2:18–22	1 Sm 16:1–13 Mk 2:23–28	1 Sm 17:32–33, 37, 40–51 Mk 3:1–6	1 Sm 18:6–9; 19:1–7 Mk 3:7–12	1 Sm 24:3–21 Mk 3:13–19	2 Sm 1:1–4, 11–12, 19, 23–27 Mk 3:20–21	Is 8:23–9:3 1 Cor 1:10–13, 17 Mt 4:12–23 or 4:12–17



**A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV**  
*Ours is a time marked by a growing search for spirituality, particularly evident in young people, who are longing for authentic relationships and guides in life. Hence, it is important that the Christian community be farsighted in discerning the challenges of today’s world and in nurturing the desire for faith present in the heart of every man and woman.*

MESSAGE TO SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS, ROME, MAY 28, 2025