

To my Brothers & sister in Christ

Are you feeling at times alone and out of reach of Christ? Does it sometimes feel that no matter what you do or what prayers you say or what tears you shed, things will not get better and God is not listening?

But there is a truth that no one can take away from us: we are not alone.

We are all living through the same reality. We all feel that fear, that uncertainty, that burden that sometimes feels too heavy to carry. And even in the middle of this, God has not stepped away. On the contrary... He is closer than ever, walking with us, holding us even when we feel like we can't go on. The Word of God reminds us: *“Do not be afraid, for I am with you; do not be discouraged, for I am your God.” (Isaiah 41:10).*

And: *“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.” (Psalm 34:18).*

God sees our pain... and embraces it with love. In the midst of this darkness, we may ask: who can we rely on? The answer is God, our faith, our community, and the Church, which is always open to those who need it. The Church is not just a building, it is a spiritual home where we find comfort, support, and hope when we need it most. And at the center of that love is the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is not just a symbol... it is the real presence of Jesus Christ among us. It is His Body and His Blood, given out of love. It is Jesus remaining with us, not abandoning us, becoming nourishment to strengthen our weary hearts. *“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never be hungry.” (John 6:35).*

Every time we participate in Mass, we are not alone. We stand before a living God who quietly tells us: “I am here with you... do not be afraid.” In the Eucharist, we find the peace the world cannot give, the strength to keep going, and comfort in the midst of pain. God's love for us is infinite. It does not depend on our status, our documents, or what others say about us. His love is faithful, constant, and unconditional. That love becomes visible in every moment we keep going despite fear, in every embrace we share as a community, in every prayer we lift with faith. God loves us deeply... not because of what we have, but because of who we are: His children! *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28)*

Even if fear knocks on our door, it does not have the final word. The final word belongs to God... and that word is love, hope, and life. Today, remember this: even if you are afraid... God is with you.
Even if you don't know what tomorrow holds... He is already there.....
Even if the world makes you feel small... to God, you are deeply loved.

You are not alone... you never have been. 🙏

A Servant of God

Looking Ahead- SAVE THE DATE	
June 27-28	Bethlehem Wood Carvings
July 4	Special Mass for the consecration of the USA to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
July 6-10	Vacation Bible School
July 18 th	Ladies Guild Bingo Night

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.
Parish Council: Chair- Ninoska Moratin, Vice Chair- Julius Foncha, Secretary- Tibor Laky, Jose Angel Noguez, Robin Clark, and Haley Danehy
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, Kateri Edwards and Ninoska Moratin.
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
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 20-21, 2026

Welcome Visitors and Guests!

Bienvenidos a los Visitantes y Huéspedes!

Pastor/Párroco Fr. Tom Buckman

tom.buckman@pastoral.org

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 July Calendar Bulletin is 6/23/2026



Saturday, June 20	5:00 PM	12 th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Intention for Soul of Michael Fenley
Sunday June 21	8:30 AM	12 th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Intentions for the People of St Mary
Sunday 21 Junio	6:00 PM	12 th Domingo del tiempo Ordinario- Por el alma de Teresa de Jesús
Monday, June 22	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Basil Trouten Sr.
Tuesday, June 23	Noon	Intentions: For the Soul of Evangeline Zimmerman
Wednesday, June 24	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Soul of Fr Gerald Baker
Thursday, June 25	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Ralph Mueller
Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 AM – 10:00 PM		
Friday, June 26	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Ernesto Julian
Saturday, June 27	5:00 PM	13 th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Intention for Soul of Alton Nichols
Sunday June 28	8:30 AM	13 th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Intentions for the People of St Mary
Sunday 28 Junio	6:00 PM	13 th Domingo del tiempo Ordinario- Por el alma de Miguel Arturo Ku

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: David Kelly, Regina Cozzy and Family, Cindy & John Janicek, Harry & Mae King, Richard Hearn, Judy Cates, Helen, Ed, and Ben Berry, Tom, Margaret, Roger, and Sherrie Berry, Gail Hall, DeWayne, Susie, Kassidie, Katie, and Kennedie Kirkham, Mary, and Bill Sloan

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

Patrick Collins, 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, Gail Briley, Helen Garst, Lois Oshefsky, John Herrmann, Sharon Henderson, Sr Maretta Murphy IHM, Dr John Kelly, Ellie Mirgaux, Mike Glodoski, 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 First Saturday Mass on July 4 at 8:00 AM will be a special Mass with music. It will include the U.S. Bishop’s consecration prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the 250th birthday of the United States. Rosary to follow Mass. All are welcome.

St. Mary will honor our country’s 250th birthday with a Youth Festival after the 6:00 pm Mass. Event will include Pelican SnoBalls, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and fun Activities. All youth are welcome.

As of 6/9/26						
Budget Needs 2025-26	Weekly	\$	4,038	Budget YTD Needs	\$	203,000
Received last week		\$	2,806	Received YTD	\$	202,806
Difference		\$	(-1232)		\$	914
On Going Projects	Last Week	\$	147	YTD	\$	4678
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21 12 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass Anointing of the Sick 6:00 PM Misa	22 8:00 AM Mass	23 10:30-2PM SVDP No Mass	24	25 No Mass No Adoration	26 8:00 AM Mass	27 Noon Wedding Cruz-Borja 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass <i>Bethlehem Wood Carvings</i>
Fr Tom will be away at Convocation.						
No Mass						
Mass Attendance— 06/13 5:00 PM- 70 06/14 8:30 AM-93 06/14 6:00 PM-106						
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						
Prayer For Our Men and Women in Military Service: O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity, and devotion to the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Guard our churches, our factories, our buildings, and all those within from harm and peril. Protect our land and its people from enemies within and without. Grant an early peace with victory founded in justice. Instill in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere a firm purpose to live forever in peace and good will towards all. Amen						



St Vincent de Paul thanks you for your generosity
In the Gospel, Jesus says, “*This is how it is with the reign of God. A man scatters seed on the ground. He goes to bed and gets up day after day. Through it all the seed sprouts and grows without his knowing how it happens.*” Through your almsgiving you are sowing seeds that grow far greater than you know. The money you place in the St. Vincent de Paul coin shake collection next weekend brings Christ’s love and compassion to the poor. Thank you from your St. Vincent de Paul team and the neighbors we serve.



The Pantry has been sorely depleted. If you have the means to donate food for the pantry, please bring items to the church and place them outside the closet nearest the basement stairs. Cereal, peanut butter, pasta sauce and pasta, canned meats (tuna, chicken etc.), boxed meals (hamburger helper), macaroni and cheese, canned soups, Raman. Please, be sure the items are in-date as we cannot use out-of-date foods.

Dear Padre,

For the past year or so, I have been trying to pray on a regular basis, but I am constantly distracted. My mind wanders so easily. Do you have any suggestions?

Distractions in prayer are an inescapable part of the human condition and the results of our imagination. Even great saints experienced distractions in prayer. Some of their suggestions may help. For example, when St. Thérèse of Lisieux struggled with prayer, she would recite an Our Father or Hail Mary or read from the gospels. Praying as an act of faith or returning to God’s presence and love can turn our focus away from other concerns, but, even then, distractions may still arise.

When we become aware of distractions, we should calmly renew our focus and continue our prayer. Saint Teresa of Ávila wrote in *The Interior Castle*, “We should not be distressed by reason of our thoughts, nor allow ourselves to be worried by them.... [Thoughts are] inevitable. Do not let [them] disturb or grieve you.” No matter how often distractions return or how long they last, they are not sinful; rather, they are opportunities to show God that we are sincere about praying.

Saint Alphonsus, another great teacher of prayer, reminds us that prayer is necessary, beneficial, and always possible. He advises us to hang in there, because the devil would like nothing better than for us to stop praying. ●



MARCUS AURELIUS / PEXELS

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28
Weekday	Weekday	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Kgs 17:5–8, 13–15a, 18 Mt 7:1–5	2 Kgs 19:9b–11, 14–21, 31–35a, 36 Mt 7:6, 12–14	of St. John the Baptist Is 49:1–6 Acts 13:22–26 Lk 1:57–66, 80	2 Kgs 24:8–17 Mt 7:21–29	2 Kgs 25:1–12 Mt 8:1–4	Lam 2:2, 10–14, 18–19 Mt 8:5–17	2 Kgs 4:8–11, 14–16a Rom 6:3–4, 8–11 Mt 10:37–42



MARISA CZL / CATHOPIC

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV
It is wonderful to think that, when we consider our individual calling...each of us can say with confidence: “Despite my weakness, the Lord is not ashamed of my humanity. Instead, he comes to dwell within me. He accompanies me with his Spirit; he enlightens me and makes me an instrument of his love for others, for society, and for the world.”

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025