

My dear Church family,

I asked someone if I could ask them a question. They said yes.

I got down and looked them straight in the eye and said, you have died and I am God. God say's "how did you feed my sheep? "

They looked like a deer caught in headlights and stammered, "I don't know."

God said, "I had asked you to."

I said, "Is this how you want it to be when you meet God?"

They answered "no."

Many people have told me, "It is how I live my life, is how I evangelize." Living a faithful life is good, but let me ask you, do you think the Church would have grown if all that the Disciples did was to live a good life? I am asking you to pray about how to feed His sheep and listen to His response. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you. I wager that you will be amazed by the outcome. The evangelization and outreach team have shared many suggestions through our bulletin inserts. Now I ask you to ask God and the Holy Spirit for help. Have you been leaving that out of your prayers?

2 Corinthians 5:20: "So, we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

During this time of Lent, it would be good to reach out to those coming into the Church and get to know them better. Ask them if they have questions about their faith. It's okay if you don't know all the answers. Tell them we are all learning together and you will find the answers to their questions. This lets them know that being Catholic is a journey of learning and growing. They need to know it is important to learn but they do not have to learn it all right now. It will take our entire lives to grow as Christians. The key is to grow, drop seeds and watch them grow.

Have a story to tell God when he asks, "how did you feed my sheep?"

May God Bless you,

Colleen Rafferty



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 3 rd 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

You are invited to join us on Sunday March 22 at 4:00 pm for a Seder Meal. Everyone is invited to come and participate in this re-enactment of God's saving actions from the Book of Exodus in which the Jewish people still celebrate as their Passover Meal today. Please sign up by March 15. For more information contact Fr. Tom Buckman



ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

March 7-8

3RD 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



Saturday, March 7	5:00 PM	3 rd Sunday of Lent– Intentions: Soul of Andy Garrett
Sunday March 8	8:30 AM	3 rd Sunday of Lent –Intentions: For the Souls of Mr. & Mrs. Leon Travis
Sunday Marzo 8	6:00 PM	3 rd Domingo de Cuaresma- Para la gente de la parroquia
Monday, March 9	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Mary Breslin
Tuesday, March 10	Noon	Intentions: For the Soul of Michael Garrett
Wednesday, March 11	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Soul of Patrick Collins
Thursday, March 12	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Brenda Moore
Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 AM – 10:00 PM		
Friday, March 13	8:00AM	Intentions: For the Souls of Patrick Johnson
Saturday, March 14	5:00 PM	4 th Sunday of Lent– Intentions: For the Soul of Crystal Becker
Ladies Guild Bingo Party		
Sunday March 15	8:30 AM	4 th Sunday of Lent –Intentions: For the Soul of Jesus Echipare
Sunday Marzo 15	6:00 PM	4 th Domingo de Cuaresma- Para la gente de la parroquia

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

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: 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, Gail Briley, 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, 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.



St Mary Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus are hosting a fish fry on Friday evening, March 20th from 5 to 7PM. It's a full meal: fish, sides dishes, dessert, and drinks! \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 5 to 10 years old. All proceeds will benefit the Franklin community.

Do you have a business you would like to advertise in the bulletin? We have discussed adding a business card page to the bulletin and would like to gauge the level of interest and get feedback. Please email stmaryfranklinky@gmail.com

May Eternal rest granted unto Patrick Collins. May he rest in peace.

The Living Way of the Cross (bilingual) will be held outdoors (weather dependent) on Palm Sunday March 29 at 4:00 pm. All are welcome.

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.

As of 03/2/2026			
Budget Needs 2025-26	Weekly	\$ 4,038	Budget YTD Needs \$ 142,823
Received last week		\$ 3,015	Received YTD \$ 137,049
Difference		\$ (- 1,023)	\$ (- 5,774)
On Going Projects	Last Week	\$ 137	YTD \$ 3,593

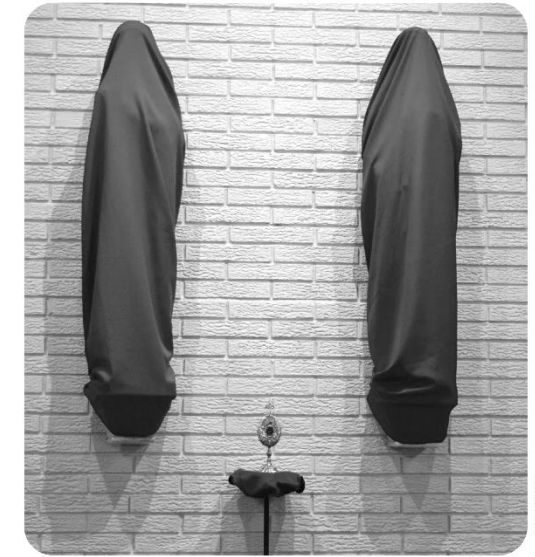
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8 3rd Sunday of Lent 8:30 AM Mass	9 8:00 AM Mass	10 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass No Health Ministry due to illness	11 6:00 PM Mass 6:30 Religious Ed	12 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration	13 8:00 AM Mass 2:30 Stations of the Cross in English 5:00 PM Evangelization and Outreach Mtg.	14 10 AM Baptism Prep Class 3:30 Confessions
6:00 PM Misa	6:00 PM Bible Study - Spanish	1:00 PM Bible Study	7:00 PM Worship Comm. Mtg.	6:00 PM OCIA	7:00 PM Stations of the Cross in Spanish	5:00 PM Mass 6:30 Ladies Guild Bingo

Mass Attendance— 2/28 5:00 PM-65 3/1 8:30 AM-94 3/1 6:00 PM-140
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

Looking Ahead- SAVE THE DATE	
Every Friday during Lent	2:30 Stations of the Cross
Every Friday during Lent	7:00 PM Stations of the Cross in Spanish
March 14 6:30 PM	Ladies Guild Bingo Party
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 at <i>Christ the King</i>	Easter Vigil Mass

Dear Padre,

When I was young, my parish covered all the statues during part of Lent. What did it mean exactly? Do any churches still do this?



In 2001, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the practice of veiling statues and crosses during the last two weeks of the season of Lent, beginning on the fifth Sunday of Lent. This practice is optional, at the discretion of the local pastor. According to the Roman Missal, "Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil."

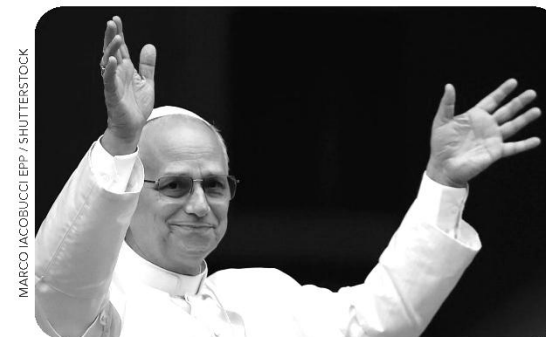
Covering crosses and statues in violet cloth in the final weeks of Lent indicates a shift in the Church's focus from Jesus in the desert (gospel for the first Sunday of Lent) to Christ during his Passion. Similar to other Lenten disciplines of penance and fasting that align us in solidarity with Christ, the veiling custom is meant to deepen our appreciation for Christ's ultimate sacrifice. It represents our "fasting" from sacred depictions of the cross on which hung our salvation and from images of the saints, who glorify Christ and in whom he is glorified. This concealment creates an absence to make our hearts grow fonder for the Lord, who "bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24). ●

Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
MARCH 9 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab Lk 4:24-30	MARCH 10 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Dn 3:25, 34-43 Mt 18:21-35	MARCH 11 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Dt 4:1, 5-9 Mt 5:17-19	MARCH 12 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Jer 7:23-28 Lk 11:14-23	MARCH 13 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Hos 14:2-10 Mk 12:28-34	MARCH 14 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Hos 6:1-6 Lk 18:9-14	MARCH 15 <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

We feel a deep and burning thirst that no drink in this world can satisfy. Knowing this, let us not deceive our hearts by trying to satisfy them with cheap imitations!... Let us turn this thirst into a step stool, like children who stand on tiptoe, in order to peer through the window of encounter with God.

HOMILY, ROME, AUGUST 3, 2025