

God, our Father. . .

Today during my prayer and reflections, God gave me this beautiful inspiration. That even when I was angry at him or rather at who I thought he was back when I was a Buddhist and hated all things Christian, he was yet still holding my hand as a loving father does a two-year-old in the throes of a temper tantrum. For if he had forsaken me, then I would've surely died and been lost forever. Hell bound! Oh, what paths of sweetness and bitterness has my God led me on from the time of my youth onto this day for the sake of His glory!!! Blessed be God forever!!!

I have always been a Seeker. I searched for something, but I knew not what it was. I looked for it in creatures, both human and animal. I looked for it in things, both solid and ethereal, and "it" could not be found. For I knew not what "it" was, only that there was longing in me that could not be satisfied by anything of this world. . . Then I moved to Kentucky. . . (for those of you who know it, insert my "conversion story" here), which was supposed to be my "life due over" but how little did I know that's exactly what God intended! I heard a quote the other day that sums this up better than I ever could. The Lord says, "Ask Me and I will restore unto you the years the Locust have eaten away! I will give you back the time!"

I am 50 years old and I have searched all my life for what I have now found in Him. And I too like many before me have asked the question, "why have you waited so long Oh Lord? You have surely delayed Your coming to me or rather my coming to You! It was You all along that my soul was pining for! How many raging rivers have I had to cross and how many storms have I had to weather? Why now?!" And not dissimilar from many souls before me God answered me back, "Because you would not have appreciated, so sweetly My Mercy and Loving Kindness toward you, as that you do now." Given this, I can say with **Saint Henry Suso O.P.** "Ah, boundless Goodness, how tenderly You now prove Your love for me when I did not exist, You created me; when I abandoned You, You refused to leave me, when I tried to run away from You. You held me captive in love's chains. Ah, Eternal Wisdom, my heart now desires to burst open, to be scattered into 1000 pieces, to embrace You with constant love, and to consume all my days in perfect praise of You." . . .

This was the inspiration that God gave me this morning. I could go on and on and would love to, but for the sake of brevity and fitting everything onto the page I must cut it short. I just wanted to share it with my dear sweet family of God here at St. Mary's that I have come to love and adore so much!!!! **Eli**

PS. Erica and I would like to extend a very special thank you for all the gifts, prayers, thoughts, and intentions that you guys have given us for the newest little member of our family, who is incredibly special. Thank you for little Naomi's godparents, Dave and Marian Becker. We love you guys! **Eli & Erica**

St Vincent de Paul asks for you your generosity.

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 passes directly through us to our neighbors in need, the poor, homeless and lonely of our community, which spans over 25 miles from our church and the travelers passing through who are in need. Thank you from your St. Vincent de Paul team and the neighbors we serve.

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 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, 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

The Ascension of the Lord

May 16-17, 2026

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 June Calendar Bulletin is 5/19/2026

Saturday, May 16	5:00 PM	The Ascension of the Lord-Intention for Soul of Crystal Becker
Sunday May 17	8:30 AM	The Ascension of the Lord-Intentions for the Soul of Beverly A Wargo
Sunday Mayo 17	6:00 PM	Ascención del Señor- Para la gente de la parroquia
Monday, May 18	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Miguel Arturo Ku
Tuesday, May 19	Noon	Intentions: For the Soul of Michael Garrett
Wednesday, May 20	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Intentions of Rev Tom Buckman
Thursday, May 21	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Hilda Trouten
Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 AM – 10:00 PM		
Friday, May 22	8:00 AM	For the Soul of Mary Harner
Saturday, May 23	11:00 AM	Visitation and Funeral for David Caruthers- Meal to follow for family and friends
Saturday, May 23	5:00 PM	Pentecost-Intention for Soul of Cynthia Shandor
Sunday May 24	8:30 AM	Pentecost Sunday-Intentions for the Soul of Sharon Henderson
Sunday Mayo 24	6:00 PM	Domingo de Pentecostés- 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: 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, 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.



An Evening FOR THE SEPARATED & DIVORCED

CO-SPONSORED BY THE DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO AND ABOUNDING JOY MINISTRY

Are you or someone you know struggling? You're invited to an **online free** event offering hope, healing and community.

May 19 | 7pm CDT | In-person at Holy Spirit Church & McRaith Catholic Center *OR*

May 21 | 9pm CDT | Online via Zoom

Topics Include:

Scan to Register

- ✓ Coping with anger, fear and shame
- ✓ Finding your identity after divorce
- ✓ Forgiveness for self or others
- ✓ Healing spiritually and emotionally



Presenter:

Carolyn Klika Catino, Founder & Catholic Divorce Healing Coach



Email: Carolyn@AboundingJoyMinistry.com

Share this invitation with anyone in need.

Eternal rest grant unto Sister Lene Rubly, OSF who passed away March 23, 2026 at age 90. Sister Lene served as Pastoral Associate at St. Mary 1993-1998. May she rest in peace from her labor for the Church.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

2026 Pilgrimage to
**ST MEINRAD ARCHABBEY &
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH**

Lunch at Schnitzelbank German Restaurant, Jasper, IN

MONDAY JUNE 8, 2026

Leaving St. Mary at 8:00 AM

SIGN-UP FORMS are on the Minister Table in the Parish Center

Eternal rest grant unto David Caruthers. May he rest in peace. Visitation will be here at St Mary on May 23 from 11:00 - 11:30 with the Celebration of Life Mass beginning at 11:30AM. There will be a funeral meal following at 12:30PM

As we prepare the budget for Fiscal year 2026-27, all departments that anticipate needing to purchase items or spend funds from the parish budget, should submit a request for funds prior to 5/14/2026. Thank you ~The Admin Team

Looking Ahead- SAVE THE DATE	
June 27-28	Bethlehem Wood Carvings
July 6-10	Vacation Bible School

As of 05/14/2026			
Budget Needs 2025-26	Weekly	\$ 4,038	Budget YTD Needs \$ 183,750
Received last week		\$ 2,204	Received YTD \$ 183,624
Difference		\$ (-1,834)	\$ (-126)
On Going Projects	Last Week	\$ 42	YTD \$ 4,395

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17 The Ascension of the Lord 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Misa	18 8:00 AM Mass 6:00 Parish Council Mtg.	19 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass	20 6:00 PM Mass	21 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration 5:00 PNM SVDP Meeting	22 8:00 AM Mass	23 11:00 Visitation for David Caruthers- Funeral Mass to follow at 11:30 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass

Mass Attendance— 5/9 5:00 PM- 62 5/10 8:30 AM-126 5/3 6:00 PM-no count taken

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

Dear Padre,

I am scared of the end times and predictions of these dates. I feel saved, but I don't truly know if I would be accepted into heaven. What are the Catholic teachings on the end times/rapture?



BILLION PHOTOS / SHUTTERSTOCK

No one but our heavenly Father knows the precise time of our Lord's return. (See Mark 13:32-37.) If this uncertainty about when Jesus will return evokes more apprehension than anticipation, it doesn't help that prophets of doom make predictions based on a distorted understanding of apocalyptic literature in the Bible. An example of this literary form includes the Book of Revelation. It contains elements of a final judgment and cosmic struggle between good and evil written in highly symbolic and imaginative language; however, it wasn't intended to provide a literal description or timeline of how the world ends. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, St. Paul also uses apocalyptic imagery to say that all the faithful will be "caught up" ("rapt up") to meet the Lord at his Coming. Some use this single text to vividly imagine true believers being "raptured" from the earth and escaping the destruction of humankind at the end times, but it's a misinterpretation. For Catholics, these apocalyptic passages offer hope and guidance: despite the powerful forces of evil, Christ will overcome. His death and resurrection already ushered in the last age. We don't know how long this age will last before the final consummation, hence the need to be watchful and prepared. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

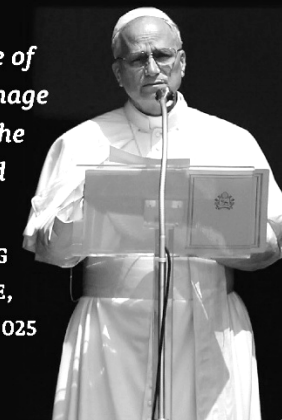
Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday	Thursday	Saturday
May 18 Easter Weekday Acts 19:1-8 Jn 16:29-33	May 21 Easter Weekday Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 Jn 17:20-26	May 23 Easter Weekday Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 Jn 21:20-25
Tuesday	Friday	Sunday
May 19 Easter Weekday Acts 20:17-27 Jn 17:1-11a	May 22 Easter Weekday Acts 25:13b-21 Jn 21:15-19	May 24 Pentecost Sunday Acts 2:1-11 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 Jn 20:19-23
Wednesday		
May 20 Easter Weekday Acts 20:28-38 Jn 17:11b-19		

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Where are you...when the poor are blamed for their poverty, forgotten and discarded, in a world that values profit more than people? [W]here are you in a hyper-connected life where loneliness corrodes social bonds and makes us strangers even to ourselves?... Fraternity...means rediscovering the face of the other...the very image of God in the face of the poor, the refugee, and even the adversary.



ADDRESS TO MEETING
ON FRATERNITY, ROME,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

MARCO JACOBUCCI/EP / SHUTTERSTOCK