

**Brothers and Sisters:**  
Blessings from your St Mary's Evangelization & Outreach Ministry team

Our past few weeks have been filled with preparing our Stewardship forms and we are moving forward to continue serving, or joining, ministries or committees and becoming productive in our roles. As I worked through this process and lost my wife, in a manner of speaking, to updating the roster for our many ministries at St Mary, I spent time praying to Jesus to guide us through this process with love, joy and humility. My thoughts gathered around my joy of being blessed to know our Catholic Faith and, that the Holy Spirit guides me. Those who know me well, know that I deem myself a man who acts. I see a problem and act to solve it! Sometimes Margaret tells me that's annoying, but that's the way I was raised. I am trying to slow down and hear God's voice and then act. After 50+ years in the 'C' suite of corporate America and financial consulting, it takes a bit of prayer to follow God's lead and not get out in front of Him. Are any of you in this situation and understand the impact of trying to change? I'm guessing there are a few of you who are reading this! So, I have decided to share some of the readings and prayers which help me to listen, ask for His guidance, and then act.

*"How is it that you have called me, allowed me, welcomed me, sustained me, into faith alone? How is it that I turned from unbelief to belief, not from my own construct, but from your grace and love alone? How can I trust more that faith alone is sufficient for your love and your grace? May I find peace and sustenance that these questions are sufficient, and that the equally sufficient answer is you alone, in you, through you, with you.....and you alone."* Father Glen Chun, SJ.

When I face really serious or seemingly impossible problems, I like to pray to St. Jude the Apostle, who is the patron of impossible or desperate cases, so named because of revelations from God. **St. Bernard of Sweden** had a vision where our Lord asked him "to accept St. Jude as the 'Patron Saint of the Impossible'". We know that God is the One who answers our prayers, but we can also turn to those whom "Christ has given a share in His own Kingship" (**Revelation 20:4-6**). Our holy brothers and sisters in heaven can pray to the Lord (intercede) for us, because Saints have already "run the race" (**1 Corinthians 9:24**), and they share in the Beatific Vision, no longer able to sin. I try to remember that "With God nothing is impossible" (**Luke 1:37**).

May I offer you another alternative by which to seek God's design for us here on earth? A prayer to His Mother to seek Jesus' help and guide us forward. *"I beg you to present my petition to your Divine Son. If you will pray for me, I cannot be refused. I know, Dearest Mother, that you want me to seek God's Holy Will concerning my request. If what I ask for should not be granted, I pray that I may receive that which will be of greater benefit to my soul."*

Please remember to Join praying at least one time the Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe between December 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup>. There are sign-up sheets and the prayer pamphlet on the mail table and there will be additional reminders in the bulletin.

**May Jesus bless you, your family, and friends. Duane Wolter**

<b>Office Hours at St Mary:</b> Erin Denny is in the office on Tuesday and Thursday Monday 9AM-3:00 PM Fr Tom only Tuesday 9AM-4 PM (Fr Tom leaves about 3:00). Thursday 9AM-4 PM Fr Tom's office hours are by appointment. Please call the office or the rectory to make an appointment.	<b>Ladies Guild:</b> President-Sheila Jeffers, Secretary- Terri Tyler, Treasurer- MaryAnn Forney <b>Religious Education Committee:</b> DRE- Robin Clark, Maria Molina, Hannah Clark, Fabiola Humphrey, and Haley Danehy. <b>Archivist-</b> Sheila Harrington and Marian Becker, <b>Librarian-</b> Kathleen Kaapcke
<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>Music Director-</b> Joshua Wagner <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), and Patti Hood, Joshua Wagner, and Maggie Tamm.
<b>Administration &amp; Finance Committee</b> Meets 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 5:00 PM <b>Chairman-</b> Duane Wolter, Patti Hood, John Janicek, and Darrell Fenley	<b>Parish Pastoral Council:</b> Normally Meets 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday @ 6:00 PM <b>Chairperson:</b> Ninoska Moratin, Vice Chairman- Julius Foncha <b>Secretary-</b> Tibor Laky, Ken Bracy, Sandra Bracy, and Jose Angel Noguez.
<b>Evangelization and Outreach Ministry:</b> Fr. Tom Buckman, Duane Wolter (Chair), Eli Gantt, Colleen Rafferty, and Robert Loza	

**Christmas Mass Schedule:**

**December 24-4:00 pm, 12 midnight (Bilingual); December 25-10:00 am.**

**St. Mary Catholic Church**

**November 29-30, 2025**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**Welcome Visitors and Guests!**

**Bienvenidos a los Visitantes y Huéspedes!**

**Pastor/Párroco Fr. Tom Buckman** [tom.buckman@pastoral.org](mailto:tom.buckman@pastoral.org)  
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**Erin Denny- Office Administrator**

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



<b>Saturday, November 29</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent- Intentions: For the Soul of Louis Clemons</b>
<b>Sunday, November 30</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent –Intentions: For the Soul of Jason W Bracy</b>
<b>Sunday, November 30</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Primer Domingo de Adviento- Para la gente de la parroquia</b>
<b>Monday, December 1</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Intentions-Honoring The Richardson Family</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 2</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Intentions: For the Soul of Jason W Bracy</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 3</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Intentions: For the Soul of Joe Mason</b>
<b>Thursday, December 4</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Intentions: Honoring The Richardson Family</b>
9AM-10PM Eucharistic Adoration		
<b>Friday, December 5</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Intentions: For the Soul of Roger Farley</b>
<b>Saturday, December 5</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Mass- Intentions: For the Soul of Gracie</b>
<b>Saturday, December 5</b>	<b>9-12:00</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Retreat</b>
<b>Saturday, December 6</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent- Intentions: For the Soul of Louis Clemons</b>
<b>Sunday, December 7</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent –Intentions: For the Soul of Jason W Bracy</b>
<b>Sunday, Deciembre 7</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Domingo de Adviento- Para la gente de la parroquia</b>

**The deadline for Calendar submissions for the December Calendar Bulletin is 11/25/25**

**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:** 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, Dorothy 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.*

## Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe (in English)

On Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will begin the Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

As host of one of the Novena Days, you will bring the Statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe to your home on your assigned day and commit to praying the Novena at your home (or at the Parish Center).

THE DATES AVAILABLE ARE : DECEMBER 6, 7, 8 AND 10<sup>TH</sup>

PLEASE CONSIDER HOSTING THE STATUE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE!

INVITE FRIENDS TO JOIN YOU AND OFFER LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AFTER COMPLETEING THE NOVENA.

TEXT OR CALL MARGARET WOLTER, 954-629-8209, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HOSTING OUR LADY.

Advent Penance Services: Sacred Heart 12/3, 6:30 pm; St. Mary 12/15, 6:00 pm; Christ the King 12/16, 5:30 pm; Holy Spirit 12/21, 5:00 pm.



The Ladies Guild will be putting up the Angel Tree soon. The Resource Center has asked that the gifts be unwrapped this year so the parents can wrap them. The Ladies Guild will also be collecting food for Christmas Baskets for these same families.

Please bring all Items- Angel Tree gifts and food for baskets- to the Parish Hall no later than Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, Patroness of the United States, is December 8 and a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times: St. Mary 8:00 am, 6:30 pm (No Vigil Mass); Christ the King 5:00 pm.

Our Lady of Guadalupe bilingual celebration will be held on Friday December 12 at 6:00 pm (no morning Mass Dec. 12) (Dec. 11 morning Mass as usual but no Adoration after). Mass on the 12<sup>th</sup> will be followed by an outdoor procession, festive meal, and traditional cultural dances. Our Lady of Guadalupe is not important only to the people of Mexico but to all as Patroness of the Americas and the Pro-Life movement. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Our Lady of Guadalupe facts: The tilma of St. Juan Diego is made from cactus fibers. The material should have decayed within 5 years. And yet after nearly 500 years it is still perfectly intact. Over the years it has had nitric acid spilled directly on it and even survived a bombing with 12 sticks of dynamite. And yet the tilma remains in near perfect condition.

On December 12<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup>, there will a Live Manger Scene at Union Chapel Baptist Church located at 1125 College St. in Portland from 6:30-8:30 PM. Ben Berry will be participating and would like to invite everyone to attend.

As of 11/18/2025						
Budget Needs 2024-25	Weekly	\$ 4,038	Budget YTD Needs	\$ 84,583		
Received last week		\$ 3,204	Received YTD	\$ 77,938		
Difference		\$ (-834)		\$ ( -6,645)		
On Going Projects	Last Week	\$ 55	YTD	\$ 2,259		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Misa OCIA Rite of Acceptance	1 8:00 AM Mass SVDP 10:30-2 PM Noon Mass	2 6:00 PM Mass Religious Ed	3 8:00 AM Mass Eucharistic Adoration 9:00AM-10:00 PM 5:00 PM SVDP Meeting 6:00 PM OCIA	4 8:00 AM 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday Mass 9:00-12 1 <sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Retreat 6:00 PM 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday Mass	5 3:30 Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass Anointing of the Sick	6 8:00 AM 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday Mass 9:00-12 1 <sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Retreat 3:30 Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass Anointing of the Sick

Mass Attendance-- 5:00 PM Mass 11/8 72 8:30 AM Mass 11/9 80 6:00 PM Mass 11/9 116

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, North Carolina. Please call the office to add a name.



## Dear Padre,

### Is Advent a penitential season?

Strictly speaking, the penitential times in the Church are “every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent” (*Code of Canon Law*, 1250). Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s First Coming is remembered, and this remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. (See *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, 39.) While Advent is more anticipatory than penitential, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops states, “Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.” Although, historically, Advent was similar to Lent as a forty-day period of prayer and fasting, it was less severe than the season preceding Easter, and it lacked uniformity in the Western Church. The Eastern Church still begins the Nativity Fast on November 15, while in the Western Church, Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas.

Regardless, the significant focus of Advent is our Lord’s coming (*adventus* in Latin). The Church reflects this anticipation of Advent through such practices as limiting floral arrangements in the sanctuary, simpler liturgical music, and omitting the Gloria at Mass until Christmas. We can also reflect the anticipation of Advent through such spiritual practices as participation in works of charity, moderation in shopping, celebration of the sacrament of penance, fasting on Fridays, and prayerful contemplation on our Savior’s Incarnation. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 1 Advent Weekday Is 4:2-6 Mt 8:5-11	December 2 Advent Weekday Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24	December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37	December 4 Advent Weekday Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21, 24-27	December 5 Advent Weekday Is 29:17-24 Mt 9:27-31	December 6 Advent Weekday Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	December 7 Second Sunday of Advent Is 11:1-10 Rom 15:4-9 Mt 3:1-12



### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

We are called to offer God's love to everyone, in order to achieve that unity which does not cancel out differences but values the personal history of each person and the social and religious culture of every people. Brothers and sisters, this is the hour for love! The heart of the gospel is the love of God that makes us brothers and sisters.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025



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