

Evangelization Etiquette:

A How-to Guide to Confidently Share the Good News
Week Six: **Gentle Invitations**

Have you ever answered the door to someone trying to convince you to follow their belief system? Seeing those familiar groups show up always filled me with dread. I dismissed them with a polite smile and a no-thank you and closed my door. Instead of being convinced or talked into something, I observed others. I looked for love in action. St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Not yet a Catholic at the time, I thought, *who was this mighty woman in such a small frame? And what was her religion?* She behaved so much like Christ, I needed to know.

Her very life was an invitation that led me to the Catholic Church over twenty years ago. Each word is spoken with gentleness and love. She was a great evangelist. Here are a few of her invitations I try to **practice**.

- ~“Peace begins with a smile.”
 - ~“If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed just one.”
 - ~“If you judge people, you have no time to love them.”
 - ~“The most terrible poverty is loneliness, and the feeling of being unloved.”
- Stay tuned next week for another evangelization etiquette tip. For the greater glory of God, **Jean Lovell**

My dear Church family,
Matthew 26: 40: “*When he returned to his disciples, he found them asleep. He said to Peter, “So you could not keep watch with me for one hour?”*

This verse is what started me and keeps me going back to adoration! Jesus’ desire for me to want and love Him, to do a small thing for Him instead of focusing on my own selfish desires. I decided yes, I can come to adoration and spend one hour with Him.
I am a work in progress; making the effort to spend the time I desire to give Him. I gain so much from adoration when I go, to sit quietly and listen, or to give thanks, pleading for His help and praying for others provides me comfort and peace.

Did you know the Catholic Church grants a plenary indulgence for reciting the rosary in a public church under usual conditions (confession, communion, and prayers for the Pope’s intentions), which is not attached to praying at home? A plenary indulgence is a special act in the Catholic Church that completely removes all temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven. I try to always say my rosary during the time I am there.

Reading the bible while in adoration, especially areas that may need rereading for better understanding has been a favorite of mine also during adoration.

Spending time with Him, getting close to Him, will hopefully help me better evangelize for Him. To receive the words when needed is much desired. I personally struggle with this. I’m so grateful and astonished when I see Him work. It sometimes is as simple as someone walking up and providing the words.

I have a simple prayer I use that I learned from **Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart from the Hallow app**. “*Empty Me, Fill Me, Use Me.*” Maybe you can use this to find your words.

May God Bless you,

Colleen Rafferty

Office Hours at St Mary: Erin is in the office on Tuesday 9AM-4 PM (Fr Tom leaves about 3:00) and Thursday from 9-4PM Fr Tom’s office hours are by appointment. Please call the office or the rectory to make an appointment.
Parish Council: Chair- Ninoska Everett, 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, Miracle Stafford, and Ninoska Everett.
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, Jean Lovell, and Robert Loza
Librarian- position is available
Archivist- Sheila Harrington, Marian Becker, and Andrew Tamm

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Fall Taster’s Luncheon on October 21! It’s never too early to invite all your friends and coworkers.

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 26-27 2026

Welcome Visitors and Guests!
Bienvenido 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



<i>The deadline for Calendar submissions for the October Calendar Bulletin is 9/22/2026</i>		
Saturday, September 26	5:00 PM	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time- For the Soul of Oliver Shelton
Sunday, September 27	8:30 AM	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Intentions: For the Soul of Jill Robey
Domingo 27 Septiembre	6:00 PM	26th Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario- por los fieles de la parroquia
Monday, September 28	8:00 AM	Intentions: Honoring Ben Berry
Tuesday, September 29	Noon	Intentions: For the Souls of Elizabeth & Basil Sikera
Wednesday, September 30	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Soul of Lewis Garst
Thursday, October 1	8:00 AM	Intentions: Honoring Scot Duckworth on his birthday
Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 AM – 10:00 PM		
Friday, October 2	6:00 PM	Intentions: Honoring Michael Mattingly
Saturday, October 3	8:00 AM	1 st Saturday Mass- For the Soul of Patrick Collins
Saturday, October 3	5:00 PM	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time- For the Soul of Crystal Becker
Sunday, October 4	8:30 AM	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Intentions: For the Souls of Mr. & Mrs. E.G. Bracy
Domingo 4 Octubre	6:00 PM	27th Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario- por los fieles 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, The Cozzy Family, Cindy & John Janicek, Harry & Mae King, Sandra Bracy, 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: Harry King, Regina Cozzy, Lewis Garst, Calvin Oshefsky, 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, Andy Herrmann, John Herrmann, Sharon Henderson, Sr Maretta Murphy IHM, Dr John Kelly, Ellie Mirgaux, Mike Glodoski, Rhonda Barrow and Rose Vogt

St. Mary’s St. Vincent de Paul Conference annual Mass of Celebration, commemorating the founding of the Society by St. Vincent de Paul is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29th at noon. All parishioners, members of our Conference, are invited to join in the celebration. Please bring a donation of non-perishable food to be brought forward with the bread and wine.

To My Brothers and Sisters in Christ of St Mary
Happy Fall season from your Acts 2:42 St Mary’s small group team who are meeting each month. We are so grateful to the Lord for making our small groups an important part of our parish community and spiritual life! We pray you are moved by the Holy Spirit to attend one of our monthly small group meetings. The meetings scheduled for September are Thursday, October 8th at 1:30 PM in the large classroom and /or Monday, October 12th at 6:30PM in the Parish Center
Come and enjoy the beauty and warmth found within our brothers and sisters in Christ. Join us and share the joy of fellowship over prayers, readings, discussions, and refreshments. See you there and may God Bless you! Questions? Call or text Duane Wolter at 954-591-1400

St Mary’s Ladies’ guild is sponsoring a clothing bin at Isaiah House and needs girl clothing, size 5 and 6. The clothes must be new with tags. Please contact Sheila Jeffers (210-859-4381) if you are interested in helping with this mission.

As of 09/22/26						
Budget Needs 2025-26 Weekly		\$	4,038	Budget YTD Needs		\$ 42,558
Received last week		\$	2,110	Received YTD		\$ 48,731
Difference		\$	(-1,928)			\$ 6,173
On Going Projects Last Week		\$	50	YTD		\$ 651
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass 4:30 PM Guadalupe Planning Mtg. 6:00 PM Misa	28 8:00 AM Mass	29 SVDP 10:30-2 Noon Mass	30 6:00 PM Mass Religious Education	1 8:00 AM Mass 6:00 PM OCIA	2 6:00 PM 1 st Friday Mass	3 8:00 AM 1 st Saturday Mass 3:30 PM Confessions 5:00 PM Mass
Mass Attendance— 09/19 5:00 PM- 55 09/20 8:30 AM-127 09/13 6:00 PM-117						
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. <small>Please call the office to add a name</small>						
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						

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
The **Volunteer Appreciation Spaghetti Dinner** will be held on **Monday October 5 at 6:30 pm**. All who volunteer in any way at St. Mary are welcome to attend as well as family members. Please sign up by October 1 to help us better prepare. Contact Fr. Tom Buckman for more information

The next Knights of Columbus Round Table meeting will be on Sunday October 11 at 7:00 pm in one of the classrooms. The purpose is to get organized and begin a K of C presence at St. Mary. Our mission is Service, Charity and Family. For more info contact Richard Mahoney or Fr. Tom Buckman.

St. Mary welcome new members John and Sharon Manago.

October calls ever disciple to greater Stewardship awareness. Every family will receive a pastoral letter and guide to share our Time, Talent, and Treasure. Please be sure to read and pray over.

Coming Soon:
The Parish Marriage Enrichment retreat will be Saturday October 17 starting with 8:00 am Mass followed by Conference Talks by the Fathers of Mercy, Fr. John Broussard, ending with lunch. Cost is \$ 25/couple. All married couples are welcome. Please register on the Mail Table by October 12. Contact Fr. Tom Buckman for more info.
The Ladies Guild Fall Taster's Luncheon is scheduled for October 21st from 11-1.
The Parish Mission will be held on October 26-28 presented by the Fathers of Mercy. Please save the date.

Dear Padre,

Why must I choose practicing Catholics as my baby’s godparents?

The Church is clear about the qualifications of godparents: at least sixteen years old; leading lives of faith; confirmed and having already received Communion, among others. (See the *Code of Canon Law*, 872–874.) “Godparent” isn’t simply an honorary title we bestow on someone. It’s an important role in a child’s faith life. Parents and godparents introduce us to Jesus and teach us to pray. We talk to Jesus on our own and learn more about him through Scripture. Our parents take us to church. We watch their example and that of our godparents. It is the gradual process of being introduced to Jesus by those who know him that leads us to trust him and have faith in him. At baptism, a godparent lights a candle from the Easter candle and holds it for the child as the presider says, “Receive the light of Christ.” That is how faith comes to us: a gift from God, but through other people. Parents and godparents must have the bright flame of faith in their own hearts if they hope to pass it to the child.
It is permitted to have only one godparent, fulfilling the requirements previously mentioned, and a special “witness” who is a person of faith but is not Catholic. ●



VARIOUS MARRISAN / JANE SHASH

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 28 <i>Weekday</i> Jb 1:6–22 Lk 9:46–50	September 29 <i>Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels</i> Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 or Rv 12:7–12ab Jn 1:47–51	September 30 <i>St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> Jb 9:1–12, 14–16 Lk 9:57–62	October 1 <i>St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church</i> Jb 19:21–27 Lk 10:1–12	October 2 <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i> Jb 38:1, 12–21; 40:3–5 Mt 18:1–5, 10	October 3 <i>Weekday</i> Jb 42:1–3, 5–6, 12–17 Lk 10:17–24	October 4 <i>Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Is 5:1–7 Phil 4:6–9 Mt 21:33–43



AGE CYMRU / JNEPLASH

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV
Jesus taught us that in discerning how to help our neighbor, we must imitate the example of the Good Samaritan, who selflessly gave of his time and resources to someone whom he had never previously met.... When we help those in need, especially those who cannot repay us, we become the Lord’s instruments.

MESSAGE TO FADICA NETWORK, ROME, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

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