



*The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found*  
**MARY AND JOSEPH,  
AND THE INFANT  
LYING IN THE MANGER.**

*Luke 2:16*

January 1, 2023 • Mary, the Holy Mother of God



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**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

**Weekend Mass**

Saturday: **5:00 p.m.** at St. Ann's in Marienville  
Sunday: **8:30 a.m.** and **11:00 a.m.** at St. Mary's in Crown

**Confessions**

Saturday: 4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. at St. Ann's in Marienville  
1st Sunday of the Month: 10:30am at St. Mary's in Crown

**Weekday Mass**

M, Tu, W, F: 8:30 a.m. at St. Mary's in Crown  
Th: 7:00 p.m. at St. Ann's in Marienville

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

M, Tu, W, F: 7:30 a.m. - 8:20 a.m. at St. Mary's in Crown

**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK**

Please notify the parish if a family member or parishioner is hospitalized, recovering at home, or in a nursing home. Visitation, Communion, and/or the Anointing of the Sick will be made available to them.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

A joyful occasion for the whole parish. Parents must be registered and active members. Classes are required. Please call St. Mary's Church Office for arrangements.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Diocesan Common Policy requires at least six months advance notification before any plans are made to allow time for evaluation and sacramental preparation.

**REMEMBER ST. MARY/ST. ANN IN YOUR WILL**

"I give and bequeath to St. Mary Parish and/or St. Ann Mission, 117 Lencer Dr, Leeper, PA 16233, the sum of \_\_\_\_dollars, real estate, and/or stock for the purpose of assisting St. Mary Parish and/or St. Ann Mission in furthering the work of the Church."

We welcome all new parish families and visitors to Saint Mary Church and St. Ann Mission. Please reach out to our Parish Office at (814) 744-9919 to register or go online at [www.stmarycrown.com](http://www.stmarycrown.com)

As a parish member of Saint Mary Church or St. Ann Mission, you are actively supporting our Community with your time, talent, and resources.

*Mary, the Holy Mother of God*  
January 1, 2023



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The object of a new year is not that we should have a new year, but rather that we should have a new soul.  
—G. K. Chesterton

*From the Desk of Father James*

Dear Parishioners,  
Happy New Year! The Year of Our Lord 2022 is behind us and the Year of Our Lord 2023 is ahead of us. I pray that you may enjoy plenty of pork and sauerkraut and that you may have a blessed year.

It is customary to make resolutions for the New Year. The fresh start is a good opportunity to get back on track, particularly with health. This is also a prime opportunity to get back on track with our spiritual health! If I were to make one recommendation for a new year's resolution, it would be this: pray the rosary every day! The rosary was given by the Blessed Mother to St. Dominic as an easy and meditative prayer for us to pray. The Blessed Mother has continually requested we pray it, as at Lourdes and at Fatima. Through the rosary, our parish should be a powerhouse of prayer that transforms our families and our community.

Through the rosary, we spend time honoring Jesus and meditating on his life through the eyes of the person who loved him most, his mother. The rosary is a very adaptable prayer: it can be said in the car while we drive, at work or home while doing chores, or, if we have a little more time, very slowly and deliberately.

A few weeks ago, the TV program 60 Minutes presented a piece on the most recent miracle from Lourdes: the healing of a nun who suffered for many years from a painful and debilitating condition. Sister Bernadette Moriau, after a visit to Lourdes, experienced a scientifically inexplicable recovery. These are the things that happen when we stay close to the Blessed Mother. I do not know what miracles God has in store for us this year, but I am certain that he has something special planned.

Happy New Year, and May God Bless you,  
Fr. James

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
St. Ann Church — Saturday at 4:15 p.m.  
St. Mary Church—First Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m.

- Saturday, December 31, 2022**  
M:5:00 p.m. Max & Bonnie Gill  
By Elizabeth Gill  
**Sunday, January 1, 2023**  
*New Year's Day*  
C:8:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Christopher & Julia Karg Family  
By The Bogel Family  
C:11:00 a.m. All Parishioners  
**Monday, January 2, 2023**  
C:8:30 a.m. Frances Harper  
By George Gregory  
**Tuesday, January 3, 2023**  
C:8:30 a.m. Father's Day Remembrance  
Snyder Memorial: 3:00 p.m. Mother's Day Remembrance  
**Wednesday, January 4, 2023**  
C:8:30 a.m. Most Reverend Alfred M. Watson  
By Rev. James Power  
**Thursday, January 5, 2023**  
M:7:00 p.m. Stephen B. Nesbella  
By Lissie Letot & Don & Penny Gaweski  
**Friday, January 6, 2023**  
C:8:30 a.m. Wayne Swanson  
By Rene Grumbaugh  
**Saturday, January 7, 2023**  
*SCI-All Souls Remembrance*  
M:5:00 p.m. All Parishioners  
**Sunday, January 8, 2023**  
*The Epiphany of our Lord*  
C:8:30 a.m. In honor of the John McCloskey Family  
By Stan Rathfon Memorial K of C 10341  
C:11:00 a.m. Elsie Schwabenbauer  
By Paul Schwabenbauer

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

**January 8, 2023**

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6  
2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

**NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULES**

**Lector: January 7, 2023 and January 8, 2023**

M:5:00 p.m. Jim  
C: 8:30 a.m. Emma  
C:11:00 a.m. Henry

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:  
January 7, 2023 and January 8, 2023**

M:5:00 p.m. Penny  
C:8:30 a.m. Henry & Julie  
C:11:00 a.m. Taty

**Collection Counters**

**January 8, 2023**  
Jana, Jill, Julie

# Weekly Collections

December 18, 2022 \$1,961.00  
December 25, 2022 (will be in the 1/8/23 bulletin)

## JANUARY LOTTERY TICKETS

This is such an important fundraiser for our parish. At \$20 each, they make wonderful, easy-to-give Christmas presents for workmates, family and friends! If you need more tickets, they are in the back of the church and in the Parish Office. Please return sold tickets, complete with full address and telephone number, and money by **December 30** in an envelope marked "Lottery Tickets" and your name. Unused tickets should be turned in to the Parish Office. Please do not throw them away.

**Know the Warning Signs of a Predator:** Perpetrators are not waiting on the street to snatch kids; only 10% of sexually abused children are abused by strangers. 90% are abused by someone known and trusted by the child/child's family. Perpetrators integrate themselves into everyone's life, not just the child. They build relationships so that they are trusted to be alone with the child. One of the most important ways to ensure the safety of children in our environments is to know the warning signs of adults who present a risk of harm to children. Among these signs are when the person (1) always wants to be alone with a child in areas where no one can monitor the interactions, (2) allows a child to do things their parents would not permit, (3) is always more excited to be with children than with adults, and (4) discourages others from participating in activities involving kids. Visit [www.eriecd.org/childprotection/](http://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/) for more information and resources.

## REPORTING EMAIL/PHONE SCAMS

Online criminals will often search church bulletins to look for email addresses and phone numbers of potential victims. They will then create an email account with which they will fraudulently impersonate the pastor of the church or some other church employee. If you get an email or text from someone claiming to be Fr. James or another representative of the parish, and that email or text asks for gift cards or personal information, please forward it to Fr. James's real email account so that he can report it to the authorities. His real email address is [JPower@ErieRCD.org](mailto:JPower@ErieRCD.org).

**Bulletin Announcements:** Any information for the bulletin **MUST** be written and in the church office by noon on Friday, a week before the date to be published due to printer schedules.

## ROSARY

You are invited to pray the Rosary before 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Ann's Church. All are welcome to attend.

## Catholic Stewardship Appeal 2022

To date 94 families have responded with pledges totaling \$42,900.00 Every dollar over our goal remains in our Parish. Our Parish goal is \$22,193.00 for 2022. Total paid to date is \$40,750.00, leaving a balance of \$2,150.00. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. 2022 payments may be made until January 15, 2023.

**REMINDER:** The Parish Council will not meet in January.

## St. Ann's Women's Club Meetings

January – Christmas Party Jan 7<sup>th</sup>  
February – no meeting  
March – Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 p.m.

**St. Ann's Christmas party** will be held January 7, 2023 after Mass. Everyone is invited to attend. Chicken, bread, beverage and table service will be provided. Please bring a tureen or dessert to share and enjoy an evening of good food and socializing with family and friends. There is an optional \$15.00 gift exchange. If you choose to participate, please mark your gift for a "man" or "woman".

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GUN RAFFLE

1st Ruger 450 Bushmaster or \$400.00 Cash  
2nd CZ 12 Gauge Mag. Turkey Gun with Camo or \$350.00 Cash  
3rd Killer Instinct Fatal X Crossbow or \$300.00 Cash  
**Prizes must be picked up within 90 days or forfeited**  
**Drawing occurs when 300 tickets are sold**  
**\$10 each**

**Knights of Columbus** will meet Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Stutz Hall.

# This Week's Sponsor

Snyder Memorial Health Care Center  
Marienville, PA  
814-927-6670

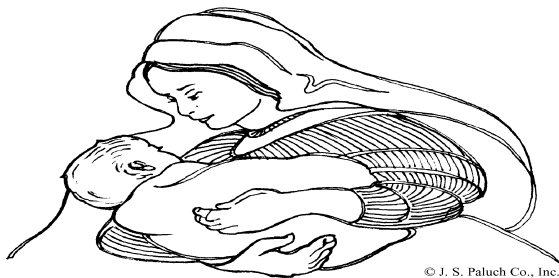
*Please support our sponsors!!!*

## SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

In celebration of our parish's 175th anniversary we will be compiling and publishing a "History of the Parish." This book is going to contain your memories of our parish. Please write down a story that you would like to share. We would like a big variety of stories, from funny ones, to interesting ones, to moving ones. They can be as short or long as you like (if they are edited before publication, we will ask your permission). Please email your story to [JPower@ErieRCD.org](mailto:JPower@ErieRCD.org) or drop them off at the office. The deadline is January 31.

### Anniversary Commemorative Mugs

As we celebrate our 175th anniversary in 2023, we are pleased to announce that the commemorative mugs have arrived. If you would like a 15 oz. mug, they will be available in the parish office. The recommended donation is \$10. If you are unable to come during normal office hours, feel free to ring the rectory doorbell and see if Father is in. He will be able to let you into the office.



### Marienville/North Clarion Food Pantry:

Items needed are: cake mix, boxed stuffing, boxed dinners, boxed potatoes, jello, pudding, evaporated milk, dry pasta, muffin or quick bread mixes, canned pumpkin, spray spic and span, and dish soap.

**Please remember monetary donations** are always welcome. Checks are to be made payable to the Marienville Methodist Church – in the memo write: Marienville/North Clarion Food Bank. Mail checks to the Marienville Methodist Church, PO Box 281, Marienville, Pa. 16239. Your generosity helps families in our community. Please no expired food

### The Marienville Food Pantry Needs You!

We are looking to increase our volunteer roster. If you can assist in this vital ministry, contact Rev. Heidi Helsel at (724) 420-4420 or [hrevmom@gmail.com](mailto:hrevmom@gmail.com). Thank you for your prayers and support.

## WINTER BOOK STUDY

### The Lamb's Supper: The Mass as Heaven on Earth

Do you want to learn more about the Catholic Faith? Sign-up for our winter book study. We will be using *The Lamb's Supper: The Mass as Heaven on Earth*, by Scott Hahn, internationally recognized scripture scholar and a convert to the Catholic faith. His engaging writing style and insightful perspective makes this book on the Mass a very enjoyable read.

Meetings will be held every Sunday at 3pm from January 15 to February 26. Register by January 8 by emailing Fr. James at [JPower@ErieRCD.org](mailto:JPower@ErieRCD.org) or by calling the parish office at (814) 744-9919. A \$15 donation is suggested to cover the cost of the book.

## OUR FASCINATING FAITH

### *Resolve to Spread God's Mercy and Peace*

Imagine: two New Year's celebrations in little over a month! In late November, Advent began the new liturgical year, and today the secular New Year 2023 begins. In today's Gospel, everyone who heard it was amazed by the story the shepherds told of the angels' message regarding the child. Mary herself continued to reflect on all these things in her heart. With religious persecutions raging, international and domestic conflicts seething, our family and friends suffering various difficulties, and COVID not yet entirely in the rear-view mirror, not to mention our own personal problems, how much our world needs Jesus as another New Year veiled in mystery begins! As we pray for God's mercy to enfold our world and embrace each of us in 2023, let our New Year's resolution be to live for others, as Mary did, a channel of God's mercy and an instrument of Christ's peace.

## CONSIDERING BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

If you, or someone you know, is considering becoming Catholic, please contact Fr. James. You can catch him after Mass or reach him by phone (814 744-9919) or by email ([JPower@ErieRCD.org](mailto:JPower@ErieRCD.org)).



## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Mary, the Holy Mother of God;  
 The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord;  
 World Day of Prayer for Peace;  
 New Year's Day  
 Monday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen  
 Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus  
 Wednesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
 Thursday: St. John Neumann  
 Friday: St. André Bessette; First Friday  
 Saturday: St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Saturday;  
 Julian Calendar Christmas

## BLESSINGS

Today's readings include another account of the story of Jesus' birth. The reading from the book of Numbers reminds us that we are blessed. We are looked upon with kindness and grace. The psalm and Galatians remind us of the blessings given through God's Son. Luke tells of our ultimate blessing, that Mary, a human being like us, gave birth to a child who is God's Son. Mary, a young mother, watches all that is happening around the birth of her son. She listens as the shepherds bring messages from angels, a message she also received from an angel, about her son. Yet Mary remains silent. She keeps all this news about her son to herself. She reflects on all these experiences. The only thing she shares is the name of her son, Jesus, a name given him before he was even conceived. Her silence leaves us wondering if this is how one responds to such a great blessing.

# OUR CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



January	2	Trey Bauer Charles Carroll Ellen Peters Dorothy Trkula Bob Wolbert
January	3	Evan Cyphert Joel Cyphert Janet Huth
January	4	Kathleen Fitzgerald Marie Songer
January	5	Raymond Gruseck Kaellie Heelan Sheila Martz
January	6	Walt Karg
January	8	Matthew Gatesman Shane Kopchick Mike Schmader

There are no anniversaries at this time.



*Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.*

— Luke 2:19