

St. Mary University Parish

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Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9 am to 5 pm

Mass Schedule: Sunday - 10:15 am and 6:00 pm
Weekday - Tuesday 9:00 pm
Wednesday 6:00 pm
Thursday 6:00 pm
Friday 12:00 pm

Reconciliation: Wednesdays 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Saturdays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Sundays 4:30 p. - 5:30 pm

PASTOR.....Fr. Patrick M. Jankowiak, frpmj@stmarycmu.org
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT OUTREACH... Cory Noeker, cnoeker@stmarycmu.org
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR..... Caleb Brereton, cbrereton@stmarycmu.org
PARISH BOOKKEEPER..... Anne Swift
MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST..... Lucas Felton

Matrimony: Please contact Fr. Patrick before setting a wedding date.

Infant & Child Baptism: Preparation is required. Contact Fr. Patrick.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the Parish Office or Fr. Patrick for anointing.

Interested in Becoming Catholic? Contact Fr. Patrick for more information.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2018 • 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

September 2nd, 2018 :

Total..... \$314.04

We need volunteers to help count the Sunday collections. If you are available to help, please speak to Caleb Brereton or contact the parish office.

Thank you for your stewardship!

THIS WEEK

Mon., Sept 10th Apologetics 6pm

Tue., Sept 11th Rock Climbing 7pm

Wed., Sept 12th - 12 pm AA

Wed., Sept 12th Adoration 6:30pm

CENTRAL CATHOLIC

Upcoming Events:

Sunday Supper - After 6 pm Mass
Corpus Christi - Sept. 13th @ 7 pm

APOLOGETICS

Now that you have been diligent in your studies all summer, it is time to start preparing for CREDO. Our first Apologetics meeting for the school year starts September 10th!

MEN AND WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

If you are interested in joining a book club, please contact Cory. We are looking at scheduling them around a time that has the most attendance. We will begin in a few weeks.

ROCK CLIMBING

Join Cory and other fellow students at Finch Fieldhouse to scale the walls and conquer your fears. Both men and women are welcome!

MUSIC DIRECTOR NEEDED:

Music Director:

Applicants should be active, practicing Catholics, have quality keyboard skills, and be committed to the liturgical vision of the Second Vatican Council. Approximately 19 hours per week. Resumes may be sent to Fr. Patrick or Cory Noeker. Applications can be found in the vestibules of the church.

Freshmen and Returning Students Retreat:

We are planning on having an overnight Catholic retreat for students in the near future. We have been looking at staying in a retreat spot at Cranhill near Big Rapids. Nothing has been scheduled yet, but we will have more information to come. Please contact Cory to register.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Catholic Church teaches that we achieve salvation through our Faith in God and our Works. On the other hand, some religions preach that we are saved through faith alone and accuse the Catholic Church of preaching a false Gospel of salvation through works. We can answer the question of Faith & Works vs. Faith Alone by turning to the Bible. In the second chapter of the Book of James, we read, "What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can his faith save him? If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead...Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he offered his son Isaac upon the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by works...You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone...For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so faith apart from works is dead." It is clear that our Salvation comes not from Faith Alone, nor from Works Alone, but rather through Faith and Works.

Bible verses: James 2:14-17, 21-22, 24, 26 (Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition)

UPCOMING DATES

Sept. 12th - We will have Adoration after the 6 p.m. Mass until 9 p.m. when we will end with Night Prayer

Sept. 13th - Corpus Christi talk - This week's topic: The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy



Sunday September 9, 2018

Making Sense of Sexual Abuse in the Church.

This past Thursday evening we came together to talk about the abuse crisis in the Church brought about by the grand jury report in Pennsylvania. I'm not going into specifics here of the incidents themselves, just like I didn't go into the gruesome details on Thursday evening. For one thing, the graphic specifics have been reported on TV, in newspapers, magazines, and all over the Internet. People know. For another thing, it's not the actual details of what happened that should be the most disturbing; it's THAT it happened. Sexual abuse of young people happened at the hands of some members of the clergy. The sexual abuse of children. Sexual assault. It happened.

First, allow me a personal note. I really can't "make sense" of the sexual abuse of children. It's beyond rational thought. It's so horrific that, as I read the articles detailing the abuse, I kept looking away. I felt sick, like I was going to throw up. And I felt angry. (I still do.) Anger at those priests who used confessionals and offices and rectories and churches to do the unspeakable. And anger at those bishops who knew what those priests were doing yet kept moving them from parish to parish anyway. More children in tears. More innocence lost. More ruined lives.



Second, we have to admit that it's not okay to treat criminal acts simply as spiritual flaws. What was done to those young people wasn't a "weakness." It wasn't a lapse in judgment and it wasn't a moral shortcoming. It was a crime. One of the worst mistakes that religious people can make is to treat people who commit felonies as if they simply need better spiritual guidance. Priests who sexually abuse minors don't need better spiritual guidance; they need to be taken into court. What if the felonies of those clergy had been, not child rape, but taking bombs into banks and demanding cash? I don't think we would simply recommend better spiritual directors for them.

Third, we have to be careful about where we place the blame. From research published by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice on the sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy, it turns out that it's not celibacy and it's not being gay. Not being sexually active doesn't fill a man with the urge to rape grade school kids. And it may sound surprising, but the single biggest group of people who commit sexual crimes against children aren't gay, they're straight. Heterosexual men are (by far) the biggest group of people who sexually abuse minors. It's not primarily a sexual orientation thing; it's primarily a sexual development thing. And please think twice before you start pinning clerical crimes on the devil. Being ordained doesn't mean you get to plea-bargain your drunk driving down to being under the influence of Lucifer.



Fourth, we have to recommit ourselves to making every parish safe for children and young people. I've put pamphlets in the vestibules and in the lounge about the policies the U.S. Bishops and the Diocese of Saginaw have put in place for child protection. Here at St. Mary University we'll be installing mostly glass into the doors of the confessional. No supplies for student activities will be stored in the rectory. All my appointments will take place in my office. And no secluded back rooms will be available for student use.

Fa. Peth