

St. Mary University Parish

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Church Open: Monday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm
(Christmas Break)

Mass Schedule: Jan 1 (HOLY DAY): 9 am Mass
(Christmas Break) Jan 6 (Sunday): 6 pm Mass
Jan 8 (Tuesday): 9 pm Mass
Jan 9 (Wednesday): 6 pm Mass
Jan 10 (Thursday): 6 pm Mass
Jan 13 (Sunday): 10:15 am and 6 pm

Reconciliation: Saturdays 11:00 am until all are heard
(Christmas Break) Sundays 4:30 pm to 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.

DECEMBER 30TH, 2018 • FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

December 9th, 2018:

Total..... \$923.58

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!

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.

ROOMS AVAILABLE

If you would like to reserve a room for an activity, please speak to Caleb Brereton at the parish office. He can be reached by phone at (989) 317-4674 or by email at cbreton@stmarycmu.org

WINTER RETREAT

Your long awaited retreat has been planned for the weekend of January 4th-5th. Join us for a 2 day retreat filled with time to relax, grow in faith, meet new students, and enjoy what Cran-Hill Ranch has to offer. This will be free of charge, but there are only 4 spots remaining. First come first served. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Cory Noeker. He can be reached at (989) 317-4680 or at cnoeker@stmarycmu.org

UPCOMING DATES & ROOM RESERVATIONS

Please pay close attention to the calendar as we will have a different schedule during Christmas Break.

TUE (01/01) - HOLY DAY: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God - Mass at 9am

FRI (01/04) - Winter Retreat at Cran-Hill Ranch

SAT (01/05) - Winter Retreat at Cran-Hill Ranch

- No Confession Today

SUN (01/06) - Confession - 4:30pm-5:30pm

- Sunday Mass - 6pm

MON (01/07) - RETURN TO REGULAR SCHEDULE

TUE (01/08) - RCIA Meeting - Conference Rm - 6:30-8pm

- Daily Mass - 9pm

WED (01/09) - Daily Mass - 6pm

- Confession - 7pm-8:30pm

THU (01/10) - Daily Mass - 6pm

FRI (01/11) - No Scheduled Activities

SAT (01/12) - Confession - 11am-12pm

SUN (01/13) - Sunday Mass - 10:15am

- Confession - 4:30pm-5:30pm

- Sunday Mass - 6pm



Sunday December 30th, 2018

Why Our Nativity Scene is Where it is: Many people (myself included) remember countless Christmas Masses with the Nativity Scene directly in front of the altar. However, starting in 1989 the Church began publishing documents that signaled a complete change to that practice. This change is similar to the change concerning the lectern. Almost everyone remembers the days when someone at Mass would come up to the lectern and give announcements. That's not supposed to be done anymore, because the lectern is a sacred object for the proclamation of Scripture and for preaching. (In the Book of Blessings it's referred to as the "chalice of God's Word.") In other words, it shouldn't be used for giving announcements simply because it has a microphone. The Church is now applying that principle to the Nativity Scene. Over the years, putting the Nativity scene in front of (or next to) the altar resulted in some very strange practices. Naturally, all the figures are statues, but in many parishes the statue of the Child Jesus was treated as if it were alive. It would be cradled by the priest during the homily, or carried in the opening procession, or even in a separate procession. I know of some parishes where people in church were invited to come up and kiss the statue of the Baby Jesus. During the context of Mass, statues are not to be afforded behavior given to actual living human beings. For one thing, the Nativity Scene is an object of devotion, not worship, and there's a difference. For another thing, no statue should ever be the focus of the Mass. (A statue of the Risen Lord is not the focus of Mass on Easter.) Consequently, the Nativity Scene is no longer supposed to be placed in the sanctuary. It should be placed where people, especially families with children, can conveniently get very close to it.

The Proclamation of the Birth of Christ: This formal Proclamation of the Lord's birth comes from the Roman Martyrology, the official listing of the saints celebrated by the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church. This Proclamation is often read or sung on Christmas Eve before the celebration of Midnight Mass:

"The Twenty-fifth day of December. When ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world, when God in the beginning created heaven and earth, and formed man in his own likeness. When century upon century had passed since the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood, as a sign of covenant and peace. In the 21st century since Abraham, our father in faith, came out of Ur of the Chaldees. In the thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led by Moses in the Exodus from Egypt. Around the thousandth year since David was anointed King. In the 65th week of the prophecy of Daniel.



In the 194th Olympiad. In the year 752 since the foundation of the City of Rome. In the 42nd year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus, the whole world being at peace. Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed since his conception, was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man. The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh."

May Christ be born in our hearts, and dwell there always.

Fr. Peth