

St. Mary University Parish

1405 S. Washington St.
Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

Parish Office: 989-773-3931
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Parish Website: stmarycmu.org



facebook.com/StMaryUniversityParishCMU



Download *myParish* on the Apple App Store or Google Play. Then choose *St. Mary @CMU* as your parish to keep current on all that is happening.

Office Hours: By Appointment Only
(Christmas Break)

Mass Schedule: Sunday 6:00 pm
(Christmas Break)

Confession: Sunday 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
(Christmas Break)

Open Hours: Sunday 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
(Christmas Break) Mon-Thur 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Fri/Sat Closed

DIRECTOR OF PARISH LIFE.....Cory Noeker, cnoeker@stmarycmu.org
SACRAMENTAL MINISTER.....Fr. Tom McNamara
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR.....Caleb Brereton, cbrereton@stmarycmu.org
MUSIC DIRECTOR.....Megan Conner, mconner@stmarycmu.org
PARISH BOOKKEEPER.....Anne Swift, aswift@stmarycmu.org

Matrimony: Please contact the Parish Office before setting a wedding date.
Infant & Child Baptism: Preparation is required, please contact the Parish Office.
Anointing of the Sick: Contact the Parish Office for anointing.
Interested in Becoming Catholic? Contact Cory Noeker for more information.

DECEMBER 29TH, 2019 • THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

December 8th, 2019.....\$982.00

YTD Budget.....\$17,692.30

YTD Actual.....\$19,723.50

Overage/(Shortfall).....\$2,031.20

Thank you for your stewardship!

Visit stmarycmu.org to give online.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"He who died in place of us is the one object of my quest. He who rose for our sakes is my one desire."

- St. Ignatius of Antioch

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 cbrereton@stmarycmu.org

DAILY READINGS

MON (12/30)

1 John 2:12-17;
Luke 2:36-40

TUE (12/31)

1 John 2:18-21;
John 1:1-18

WED (01/01)

Numbers 6:22-27;
Galatians 4:4-7;
Luke 2:16-21

THUR (01/02)

1 John 2:22-28;
John 1:19-28

FRI (01/03)

1 John 2:29-3:6;
John 1:29-34

SAT (01/04)

1 John 3:7-10;
John 1:35-42

SUNDAY (01/05)

Isaiah 60:1-6;
Ephesians 3:2-3A, 5-6;
Matthew 2:1-12

DONATIONS FOR THE NEEDY

The Servitio Semper student household at St. Mary is collecting toiletries & non-perishable food items to donate to local food pantries. Your donations can be dropped off in the "Giving Boxes" in the vestibules.



FEAST OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

As the majority of our congregation (college students) will be absent during Christmas Break, we will not have Mass at St. Mary University Parish for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. We encourage all of you to attend Mass at Sacred Heart in Mt. Pleasant or St. Joseph the Worker in Beal City. Their Mass times are listed below:

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

302 South Kinney

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

January 1st, 2020 at 8:00 am

St. Joseph the Worker

2163 N. Winn Road

Beal City, MI 48858

December 31st, 2019 at 5:00 pm

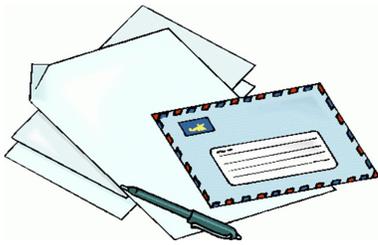
January 1st, 2020 at 10:00 am

IMPORTANT DATES FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK

12/31/19—01/01/20: New Years Eve/Day: Parish closed.

WED, 01/01/20: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: No Mass at St. Mary University Parish – Please attend mass at Sacred Heart Parish in Mt. Pleasant or St. Joseph the Worker in Beal City. Mass times are listed above.

MON, 01/13/20: Begin Spring Semester Schedule: Daily Masses & Weekday Confession resume, Sunday Mass at 10:15am & 6pm.



Feast of the Holy Family, Adult Formation Sessions:

Today marks the Feast of the Holy Family. This is also every family's feast day, since it is devoted entirely to celebrating the Holy Family as the patron and model for all Christian families. As Rev. Edward Sutfin states: "The children must learn to see in their father the foster-father St. Joseph, and the Blessed Mother as the perfect model for their own mother. The lesson to be learned is both practical and theoretical, in that the children must learn how to obey and to love their parents in thought, word and action, just as Christ was obedient to Mary and Joseph. Helping mother in the kitchen and in the housework and helping father in his odd jobs about the home thus take on a new significance by being performed in a Christ-like spirit." (*True Christmas Spirit*, ©1955, St. Meinrad Archabbey, Inc.)



I don't quite remember where this story comes from, but I believe it came from one of Viktor Frankl's books. It describes a parishioner talking to a priest after Sunday Mass. "You know, Father, it's sad. It appears that our parish is dying and there are no young ones around anymore. I wonder why that is?" The priest asked the man, "How many children do you have?" "I have a pretty good-sized family with two children." The priest responded, "Yes, you and everyone else."

The point of the story was to highlight that the priest believed the reason the faith was dying was because there weren't enough people to carry it on compared to years past. Rather than having 10+ children to fill the pews, now we have families of four or less. The decline of the faith begins with the family.

"Every marriage intends children. Although Mary and Joseph were not united in a carnal way, their marriage is a true marriage: an indissoluble, exclusive union, wholly subordinated to the child. Mary and Joseph are united only in order to bring Jesus into the world, to protect and raise him. They have only one child, but he contains the whole of mankind, even as Isaac, an only child, fulfilled the promise made to Abraham of a countless progeny." (*Bread and the Word*, A.M. Roguet)

"O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen."



We are working on establishing a monthly Adult Formation session with the surrounding parishes. This will be a time to grow deeper in our Faith and to ask those questions you may have had for many years. If you are interested in participating, please let me know by sending me an email. We will be using material provided by the diocese and the sessions will be led by those in formation leadership roles. It is never too late to learn about the Catholic Faith, and this will provide a safe, community-oriented environment to dialogue and explore the depths and mysteries of our tradition.

Cory Mosker