

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

IGLESIA CATÓLICA DE SANTA MARÍA

1291 E. MADISON AVE ATHENS, TN 37303

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Pastor: Rev. Dr. John Arthur Orr Rectory: 423-745-0904
 Deacon: Rev. Mr. Erasmo Hernandez
 Parish Office: 423-745-4277 Fax: 423-745-9706 Email: stmaryathens@att.net Website: www.stmaryathens.org
 PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Thursday 8am-4:30pm Friday 8:00—11am

WEEK DAY DAILY MASS: 9am plus Wednesday at 6pm. **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MASS TIMES 9AM AND 7PM**
 Saturday: First Saturday of month 9am; Vigil Mass 5pm **if Holy Day is on a Wednesday Mass will be at 6PM**
 Sunday: Mass 8am Latin, 10:00am English and 1pm Spanish

CONFESSION: Saturday 4:00-4:45pm Sunday 9-9:45am, 12-12:45pm

Stewardship/Collection

February 15/16, 2020
Offertory (Envelopes/Check-Cash-On Line) \$ 4,025.00
Loose Offering \$ 704.05
Ash Wednesday \$ 10.00
Mass/Coffee/Candles/Rmbr/Rent/Flowers/etc. \$ 106.75
TOTAL \$ 4,845.80

Building Fund - February total to date—\$ 1,425.00 \$ 465.00

Second collections will be collected after Communion

FEBRUARY SECOND COLLECTIONS
2/22— Good Samaritan—1/2 Good Faith Clinic \$38.00 \$ 81.00
2/26—The Church in Central & Eastern Europe \$ \$
Deficit Reduction—As of July 2019 \$ 43,640.10 \$ 395.00
DEFICIT REDUCTION ENVELOPES (GOLD) AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

HOME CAMPAIGN (\$72,387.53) For the month of:
DEC. 2019—\$3,269.41

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT—
 December 31, 2019 is posted in Message Center

If you would like to receive collection envelopes please call the office.

Father John Arthur Orr

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Contacts for :
CCD—Oneta Fioravanti— 865-712-6819—classes meet Sunday at 11:15-12:45 in the CCD Building and Youth Room.
Youth Ministries—Sue Granger— 423-506-7836. Meets in the Youth Room on Wednesday following mass.
RCIA—Jack Cox - 423-836-2979
Hispanic Ministry—Alicia Mora—423-368-5310
Parish Family Life Center (PFLC) - Kay Prevatt 423-453-2049. Contact her to schedule all use/rental of the PFLC by parish groups and the public.
To schedule use of the Narthex call the office.

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NEW TO OUR PARISH—if you are new to our parish see one of our ushers for a **BLUE PARISH CENSUS FORM**. They are also located on the Narthex Table or the slots in back of the church on the left as you leave. Also let the office know if you would like envelopes. **TO UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION (CHANGES) FILL OUT THE YELLOW COPY ONLY.**

This Week in our Parish

Sunday—February 23, 2020
 Children's Liturgy
 11:15 CCD—CCD Building—Protecting God's Children Session
Monday—February 24, 2020
Tuesday—February 25, 2020
Wednesday—February 26, 2020
6AM—5:45PM ADORATION
9AM AND 6PM—ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES
 6:45PM— RCIA
Thursday—February 27, 2020
 7pm—Hispanic Prayer Group—Church
Friday—February 28, 2020
 5pm Soup Meal –PFLC
 6PM—Youth Lenten Retreat
 7PM Stations of the Cross-Benediction-Confession
Saturday—February 29, 2020
 9am— Team 3 cleans
Sunday—March 1, 2020
 Children's Liturgy
 11:15 CCD—CCD Building
CANDLE DONATIONS—We are asking for a donation of \$3.00 per candle to help defray the cost of the candles and Blue Globes
SAVE THE DATE:
February 28—Lenten Meal at 5-6:45pm in the PFLC/Station of the Cross at 7pm//Youth Lenten Retreat in the PFLC
March 9—Lenten Penance Service—7PM

Daily Mass Readings
February 24—March 2, 2020
-Method for Prayerfully Reading the Scriptures
(Lectio Divina) 1. Read 2. Reflect (meditate) 3. Respond (pray) 4. Rest (contemplate)
Monday, Feb. 24—Jas 3:13-18//Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday, Feb. 25—Jas 4:1-10//Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday, Feb. 26—Jl 2:12-18//2 Cor 5:20—6:2//Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday, Feb. 27—Dt 30:15-20//Lk 9:22-25
Friday, Feb. 28—Is 58:1-9a//Mt 9:14-15
Saturday, Feb. 29—Is 58:9b-14//Lk 5:27-32
Sunday, Mar 1—Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7//Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19// Mt 4:1-11

READINGS - YEAR A - Order of the Mass begins in section with the gray edges #140
02/23/2020—Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A #946
03/01/2020—First Sunday of Lent—Year A #883
03/08/2020—Second Sunday of Lent—Year A #886
03/15/2020—Third Sunday of Lent—Year A #889



ALTAR FLOWERS—
Are in Loving memory of
Pearl Pikciunas from Tom
and Thelma Pikciunas

Flowers are \$50.00 for the Altar flowers and \$25.00 for Sacred Heart flowers and must be paid for in advance. You can pay for and request larger arrangement if you wish.

My dear parishioners,
 Peace! On the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, 7 October, 2019, Pope Francis established the feast of Our Lady of Loreto, to be observed each year on the 10th of December. At the same time Pope Francis proclaimed a Lauretan Jubilee Holy Year to run from 8 December, 2019 through 10 December, 2020. There are fifty-one invocations in the *Litany of Loreto*. The following is a reflection on the ninth invocation: **Mother undefiled, pray for us.**

What does it mean to say that Saint Mary, the Blessed Virgin, is our undefiled Mother? There are some twenty verses in Sacred Scripture (*Douay Rheims*) which teach us about being “undefiled.” While more than one hundred and twenty verses teach us how to not be “defiled.” There are nine different terms in Hebrew which are related to “defile, defilement.” The Hebrew word *chatal* is sometimes translated as “defile” or “polluted” (cf. Exodus 20:25). The Hebrew word *tame* is also translated both as defile, foul, to become or render unclean (cf. Leviticus 5:3). *Gaal* and *halal* are both translated from Hebrew as “defile” in the sense of “profane.” There are various sorts of defilement to consider (e.g. physical, sexual, ethical, ceremonial, religious).

The Blessed Mother is undefiled in all these ways. In her body the Blessed Mother never committed sin. The Blessed Mother never committed sexual sins and remains undefiled this way no less. In her desires and in her deeds the Blessed Mother never sinned. When addressing defilement and purity both Saint Augustine (+430) and Saint Athanasius (+373) without mentioning Our Lady cite Titus 1:15: “To the pure all things are pure, but to the impure and defiled is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled” (*Contra Faustum* book XXXI; *Letter* 48). Our Lady is all pure in her mind, in her conscience, in her body, and in her soul. Our Mother Mary is in no way defiled. Saint Thomas Aquinas, OP (+1274) addresses defilement in his *Summa Theologiae* (I-II Q. 86, A. 1), such that, “the soul is not defiled by inferior things” and similarly “the intellect is not defiled” by exterior things. The inordinate cleaving to inferior things against the light of reason and the Divine Law defiles. Saint Mary, the Blessed Virgin is undefiled because she never cleaved to inferior things against the light of reason or Divine Law.

We who have been and are defiled by our sins and vices (e.g. Original Sin, pride, envy, greed, wrath, sloth, gluttony, lust...) fly to Our Lady's protection and intercession. From her place in Heaven, with her Son, our Savior and hers, Mary can and does send us the help, the grace, we need to remain undefiled. The 1937 hymn of the Anglican Roland Ford Palmer (+1985) reminds us how we should “Sing of Mary, pure and lowly, Virgin mother undefiled.” Our Lady is both “fairest mother” of the “fairest Child” and our Mother undefiled in the order of grace.

Mass Intentions

February 22— 5PM
February 22-23, 2020
+Helen O'Donnell—St. Mary Parish
February 23 - Sunday 8am Latin//10am English//1pm Spanish
Healing for Arch-Bishop Kurtz from St. Mary Parish
Blessing for Paul & Fran Croteau for their Wedding
Anniversary from Paulette Croteau
St. Mary Parish
February 24 — Monday 9AM
+Jim Mayer—St. Mary Parish
February 25 — Tuesday 9AM
Healing for Walter Frank from Dorlene Schoonover
February 26 – Wednesday 9AM and 6PM –ASH WEDNESDAY
+Robert Curtis from Bill and Gloria Risko
St. Mary Parish
February 27— Thursday 9AM
+Leonila Torres from St. Mary Parish
February 28 — Friday 9AM
+Gloria M Carrick from St. Mary Parish
February 29— 5PM
St. Mary Parish
March 1 - Sunday 8am Latin//10am English//1pm Spanish
+Connie Colucci from St. Mary Parish
+Riley Exum from Debbie Exum
+Rosendo Pedroza from Hugh and Connie Reed

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

BUDGET CATEGORY	FY 2020 BUDGET	EXPENDITURES THROUGH 12/31/2019	% EXPENDED
PASTORAL-ADMIN/GENERAL	\$191,991	\$ 96,449	50%
LITURGY	22,400	9,800	44%
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	13,675	6,663	49%
MINISTRY OF YOUTH	7,573	1,761	23%
MINISTRY FAMILY/PARISH LIFE	2,505	71	3%
PARISH COUNCIL-GENERAL	320	215	67%
PLANT/PARISH OPER & MAINT	71,980	42,930	60%
TOTALS	\$310,444	\$157,889	51%

CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
MONTHLY REV. DEC. 2019	REV. JULY 2019 - DEC. 2019
\$39,367	\$148,534
MONTHLY EXP. DEC. 2019	EXP. JULY 2019 - DEC. 2019
\$22,079	157,889
OPER. SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	OPER. SURPLUS (DEFICIT)
\$17,348	(\$ 9,355)

SUMMARY:
CURRENT FY 2020 DEFICIT (\$ 9,355)
CARRY OVER DEFICIT PRIOR YEARS (\$ 30,583)
FALL FESTIVAL FUNDS AS OF 12/31/2019 \$ 17,050
ST. MARY CHURCH ACCUMULATED DEFICIT (\$ 22,888)

PARISH FAMILY LIFE CENTER DEBT: \$625,000
ORIGINAL NOTE (12/1/2012) NOTE BALANCE AS OF (12/31/2019) \$120,496

(All Figures Rounded)
Thank you for your stewardship generosity.

ON LINE GIVING - Visit our website at www.stmaryathenstn.org to become a part of our "ON LINE GIVING," available to our parish.



Ash Wednesday We have a basket on the narthex table for you to place your Palms in from last year.
Ash Wednesday, February 26— Masses at 9AM and 6PM We will have Adoration on Ash Wednesday.
LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE—MARCH 9TH AT 7PM

Beginning on Friday February 28th and continuing on Lenten Friday's— from 5-6:45pm we will again have light meatless meals and or soups. A time for us to gather and to enjoy a meal together. We are asking our Different Ministries or groups to sign up to provide a light meal. Please sign up in the Narthex



We will be having Stations of the Cross Lead by Fr. John and continuing with benediction, exposition and confession. Beginning at 7pm each, Friday during Lent. We need the different ministries/volunteers to step up to assist Fr. with the Stations.

Other Lenten Penance service nearby are at St. Therese of Lisieux—Cleveland on March 16, at 7pm, St. Stephen Chattanooga on March 23rd, at 6PM.

FAST & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own *sui iuris* Church.

More information on fast and abstinence can be found below.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church within the United States, please see the USCCB's Pastoral Statement on Penance and Abstinence and the complementary norm to canon 1253. Code of Canon Law (cc. 1249-1253). . . Questions and Answers About Lent. CRS Rice Bowl. . . is one way Catholics can enhance their Lenten fasting practice by giving up meals and donating the cost of those meals to Catholic Relief Services. . . in order to help those who do not have enough to eat.



PRAYER CHAIN—Call Carol Webb at 744-7378 to be placed on the prayer chain, or if you would like to help. Keep in your prayers Karen Humphries, Boyd and Jean Brannock, Phil Frye, George Sullivan and all of our sick and homebound.

Deepest Sympathy's to the Families of—

Leonila Torres wife of Emilio Torres Quiroz, Mother of Alicia Mora Grandmother of Javier Mora, Jr. and Olga Silva.
Gloria Marie Carrick Mother of Gloria Risko.

Eternal rest grant unto the them O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace. Amen

Thank You - From Julia Marlow team—to all of you who help in anyway with the reception of Leonila Torres, we greatly appreciate you. Your dishes may be picked in the PFLC.

From Alicia Mora and Family—Thank you St. Mary Parish for the wonderful reception given to our Family after the loss of our Mother, Leonila. Again Thank You.



For Middle School & High School Boys & Girls- Annual Lenten Overnight Retreat "LEAP For CHRIST" at St. Mary's Friday night, February 28th (6 p.m.) until Saturday, Feb. 29th (7 p.m.) \$7.00 registration cost, Scholarships available. **VIRTUS Volunteers** interested, contact Sue. Thank you!!!!
Contact Sue Granger at 506-7836 to sign up or volunteer.

Ladies for Charity. Thank you Parishioners for your continued generosity of donating food for our Food Pantry. Food needs for February are saline crackers, Macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly. If you need food assistance, please call Diane Schwartz at 423-745-9062.

Catholic Charities of East TN

Catholic Charities of East TN provides many services to those in need within our Knoxville Diocese and the Community. The newly appointed spokesperson for our St. Mary's Parish is Vivian Brocato. She will be working with the Events and Advocacy Committee to help with Fundraising for the many services that are offered – Shelters, Food Pantry, Pregnancy Support, Immigration Services and Counseling.

Currently the **Annual Catholic Charities Fundraiser Dinner** is coming up.

Date: Thursday - March 12 at 5:30pm

Location: Chattanooga Convention Center

Fr. John Orr has already secured a table at this Dinner to represent our St. Mary Parish. If anyone is interested in attending this Dinner, please **contact Vivian Brocato at 423-310-8990**, as soon as possible.

MEN OF ST. MARY PARISH—Knights of Columbus Council 8696.

Open House—March 22, 2020 in the PFLC, following the 10am Mass

Calling all men of St. Mary Parish. Learn how you can serve God by servicing others through membership in the Knights.

Topics to be presented:

- History of the Knights
- Fraternal Activities
- Community Activities
- Insurance Benefits

Bring your family—Child sitting service provided.

Patrick Giltane 865-405-4268.

ST. MARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - High School Seniors and College Students

Applications and all required submissions will be accepted from January 1st to March 31st of 2020. Applications (along with the rules) can be picked up at the church office. This scholarship program is open to any incoming college freshman or returning college student from Meigs, McMinn, Monroe and Polk counties. All paper work must be completed and returned by March 31, 2020 or postmarked by the 31st. Application also available at our St. Mary web site, www.stmaryathenstn@att.org. Funding for this program is provided through a private donation specifically for this program.