

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

IGLESIA CATÓLICA DE SANTA MARÍA

1291 E. MADISON AVE

ATHENS, TN 37303

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 twelfth invocation: **Mother of Good Counsel, pray for us.**

“Counsel” is among the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit enumerated in Sacred Scripture (cf. Isaiah 11:2). The Hebrew word *etsab* is often translated as “counsel”, advice, prudence. The Greek term *boule* is sometimes translated “counsel” as well as advice (e.g. Acts 20:27). There are nearly two hundred uses of “counsel” throughout Sacred Scripture. If we want to be wise all our days we must “listen to counsel and accept discipline” (cf. Proverbs 19:20). Saint Mary, the Blessed Virgin Mother of God not only followed the counsels of the Lord and accepted His discipline all her days on Earth, but even still in Heaven. We turn to Our Lady to receive her counsel and advice, even as she directed the waiters at Cana: “Do whatever He tells you” (John 2:5). Monks and Nuns, Religious Brothers and Sisters profess the three “Evangelical Counsels” of poverty, chastity, and obedience. The Lord Jesus and His Blessed Mother both were poor, chaste and obedient throughout their earthly lives as we read in the Gospel (Matthew 19:10-13, 16-22; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 18:18-23). Saint John Paul II (+2005) in his Apostolic Exhortation *Vita Consecrata* reminds us that “the profession of the evangelical counsels” are “an integral part of the Church’s life and a much needed incentive towards ever greater fidelity to the Gospel” (VC, 3); 25 March, 1996). Saint Thomas Aquinas, OP (+1274) addresses the gift of counsel in his *Summa Theologiae* (II-II Q. 52, A. 1-4). Surely the gifts of the Spirit, counsel included, were not lacking in Our Lady who had been overshadowed by the Holy Spirit since her Immaculate Conception. Our Lady enjoyed a supernatural prudence accepting God’s will in her life and is able to intercede for us with her wise and prudent counsel to act similarly.

For more than six hundred years the Augustinian friars have fostered devotion to Our Lady under the title Mother of Good Counsel. The National Council of Catholic Women also foster devotion to Our Lady under this title. Pope Leo XIII included this title of Our Lady in the *Litany of Loreto* in 1903. There is a special *Litany of Our Lady of Good Counsel* attributed to the late Bishop of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Francis Joseph Klein (+1968), who participated as a Council Father during the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) which included an entire chapter on Our Lady in the Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, 52-68. The feast of Our Lady, Mother of Good Counsel is 26 April.

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.

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 UP-**

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT—MARCH 15, 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: stmaryathenstn@att.net

Website: www.stmaryathenstn.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

March 7/8, 2020

Offertory (Envelopes/Check-Cash-On Line) \$ 3,759.00

Loose Offering \$ 683.00

Mass/Coffee/Candles/Rmbr/Rent/Flowers/etc. \$ 288.00

TOTAL \$ 4,730.00

Building Fund - March total to date—\$ 870.00 \$ 335.00

Second collections will be collected after Communion

SECOND COLLECTIONS

3/1—Black and Indian Missions \$271.00 \$

3/8 and 3/15—Tornado-Catholic Charities Nashville \$ 1,219.00

3/22—Catholic Relief Services \$

3/29— Good Samaritan—1/2 Coordinated Charities \$20.00 \$ 10.00

Deficit Reduction—As of July 2019 \$ 46,144.10 \$ 425.00

DEFICIT REDUCTION ENVELOPES (GOLD) AVAILABE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

HOME CAMPAIGN (\$72,697.53)

For the month of—January 2019—\$310.00

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT—

January 31, 2020 is posted in Message Center

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

Daily Mass Readings

March 16, 2020—March 22, 2020

-Method for Prayerfully Reading the Scriptures

(Lectio Divina) 1. Read 2. Reflect (meditate) 3. Respond (pray) 4. Rest (contemplate)

Monday, Mar. 16—2 Kgs 5:1-15b//Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday, Mar 17—Dn 3:25, 34-43//Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday, Mar 18— Dt 4:1, 5-9//Mt 5:17-19

Thursday, Mar 19— 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16//Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22//

Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Friday, Mar 20— Hos 14:2-10//Mk 12:28-34

Saturday, Mar 21— Hos 6:1-6//Lk 18:9-14

Sunday, Mar 22—1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a//Eph 5:8-14//Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

READINGS - YEAR A - Order of the Mass begins in section with the gray edges #140

03/15/2020—Third Sunday of Lent—Year A #889

03/22/2020—Fourth Sunday of Lent—Year A #892

03/29/2020—Fifth Sunday of Lent—Year A #895

This Week in our Parish

Sunday—March 15, 2020

No -Children’s Liturgy

11:15AM—CCD Building

2:30PM—Curia of Legions—Narthex

3PM—Curia of Legions - Multi-Purpose Room

Monday—March 16, 2020

Tuesday—March 17, 2020

ST. PATRICK’S DAY

Wednesday—March 18, 2020

6:30PM—Youth Ministry

6:45PM—RCIA

Thursday—March 19, 2020

10AM—St. Mary Legacy Clinic—PFLC

7PM—Hispanic Prayer Group—Church

Friday—March 20, 2020

5PM— Soup Meal —PFLC

7PM Stations of the Cross-Benediction-Confession

Saturday—March 21, 2020

9AM— Team 6 cleans

Sunday—March 22, 2020

Children’s Liturgy

NO CCD Building

11AM - Knights of Columbus Membership Drive—PFLC

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:

Friday during Lent - 5pm Lenten Light meal and Station of the Cross—Benediction—Confession.

ATTENDANCE—

March 7/8, 2020—Total 368

5pm—62 //8am— 34 //10am—148 1pm—124

February Average Attendance—404

5pm—66 8am—32 10am—180 1pm—127



**ALTAR FLOWERS—
NO FLOWERS DURING LENT**

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.

Mass Intentions

March 14– 22, 2020

March 14— 9AM and 5PM

+Thelma Purvance from Pricille Stuckey
Wyatt Walker from Stephen and Toni Pacitti

March 15—Sunday 8am Latin/10am English//1pm Spanish

+Rev. Evan Harkin from Denise Michaud
St. Mary Parish

+Leonila Torres from Jim and Pat Barrett

March 16 — Monday 9AM

Phillip Frye from Dorlene Schoonover

March 17—Tuesday 9AM

+Connie Colucci from Pat Rice

March 18—Wednesday 9AM and 6PM

+Gary Klein from Judith Klein

St. Mary Parish

March 19—Thursday 9AM

+Marie Dionne from Paulette Croteau

March 20— Friday 9AM

+Gary Klein from Hollis and Olga Burnette

March 21— 5PM

+Kathy Hamman from Family

March 22—Sunday 8am Latin/10am English//1pm Spanish

+Gary Klein from Judith Klein

+Rosemarie Weinzert from Paul and Sally Kessler

St. Mary Parish

Call the office to have a Mass Scheduled. Donation of \$5.00.

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 31, 2020

BUDGET CATEGORY	FY 2020 EXPENDITURES		%
	BUDGET	THROUGH 1/31/2020	
PASTORAL-ADMIN/GENERAL	\$191,991	\$ 112,092	58%
LITURGY	22,400	11,551	52%
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	13,675	8,418	62%
MINISTRY OF YOUTH	7,573	2,078	27%
MINISTRY FAMILY/PARISH LIFE	2,505	1,005	40%
PARISH COUNCIL-GENERAL	320	215	7%
PLANT/PARISH OPER & MAINT	71,980	46,838	65%
TOTALS	\$310,444	\$182,197	59%

CURRENT MONTH		YEAR TO DATE	
MONTHLY REV. JAN. 2020	\$ 24,645	REV. JULY 2019 – JAN. 2020	\$ 173,179
MONTHLY EXP. JAN. 2020	24,308	EXP. JULY 2019 – JAN. 2020	182,197
OPER. SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 337	OPER. SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(\$ 9,018)

SUMMARY:

CURRENT FY 2020 DEFICIT	(\$ 9,018)
CARRY OVER DEFICIT PRIOR YEARS	(\$ 30,583)
FALL FESTIVAL FUNDS AS OF 1/31/2020	\$ 16,962
ST. MARY CHURCH ACCUMULATED DEFICIT	(\$ 22,639)

PARISH FAMILY LIFE CENTER DEBT:

ORIGINAL NOTE (12/1/2012)	\$625,000
NOTE BALANCE AS OF (1/31/2020)	\$116,301

(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.

Second Collection this weekend to support those impacted by the Middle Tennessee tornados this week. All funds collected will be sent to the Diocese of Nashville (Catholic Charities). Please write Tornados/Nashville Catholic Charities in the memo.



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 James Winner, Levi and Sally Sanford, Karen Humphries, Phil Frye and all of our sick and homebound.

Ladies for Charity. Thank you Parishioners for your continued generosity of donating food for our Food Pantry. Food needs for March are peanut butter, noodles, canned fruit and tuna. If you need food assistance, please call Diane Schwartz at 423-745-9062.

EASTER FOOD BASKETS—Beginning Monday, March 2nd and ending Friday, March 20th we will be taking names of parish families who are in need of this Ministry. Please contact Parish office 745-4277 or contact Peggy Burnette at 865-376-1776.



Parishioners that would like to donate to the Easter Food Basket, you may bring the food items you like with your Easter meal or make a monetary donation to Good Samaritan, marked "Easter Food Basket." We have list available in the Narthex with list of the food needs. The food donations will need to be in by March 29th.

MEN OF ST. MARY PARISH—Knights of Columbus Council 8396.

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.

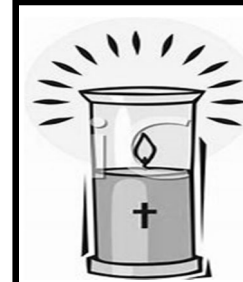


ST. MARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - High School Seniors and College Students

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 or at the St. Mary web site, www.stmaryathenstn@att.org. The annual program awards at least two scholarships per year with a maximum of \$20,000.00 per year. Application is open to any incoming freshman or returning college student as well as any incoming or returning technical school student from Meigs, McMinn, Monroe and Polk counties. The deadline for application to be accepted if complete and post-marked between Jan 1st and March 31st, of each year. All paper work must be completed and returned by March 31, 2020 or postmarked by the 31st. Funding for this program is provided through a private donation specifically for this program.



KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FRIDAY FISH FRY—April 3rd, beginning at 5pm in the PFLC. This is a Fundraiser for the Knights.



CHURCH CANDLES—We have recently had several calls on there not being candles available to light in the Church. The candles are refilled each week on Thursday. There are 56 (5 day) candles and the smaller votive available to light, each week. We cannot refill the during the week due to the cost. Each week we should bring in at least \$168.00 to cover the cost of all the candles and we are not meeting this need. Over the last four weeks we have received an average of \$54.85, per week to cover the candles. Please be considerate and donate at least \$3.00 per candle, a \$5.00 suggested donation would greatly be appreciated. Thank you.

LENTEN

Lenten light meal beginning at 5pm in the PFLC, followed by Station of the Cross.

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.

Ladies Days Out: Join the Knoxville Diocese of Catholic Women at their 2020 Convention at St. Patrick Church and Best Western Plus Morristown Convention Center in Morristown on April 23-25. Fun, laughs, spirituality – make new friends and lasting memories. Contact Susan Collins, 423-470-2560, scollins51@hotmail.com; or Kathy DeAngelis, 423-277-6296, krdeange-lis@yahoo.com for info about hotel arrangements and convention. Convention registration forms are available online at <http://www.kdcccw.org>.



PRO LIFE March 25th—The Annunciation of the Lord— Available in the Narthex will be cards. We would like for you to take a card to spiritually adopt and name your (if you would like to) unborn child and everyday day pray for his/her safety and eventual birth in 9 months—December 25th.

Married Couples: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want." Let the Lord be the shepherd of your marriage. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on April 17-19 or June 26-28 in Atlanta. You can get more information or apply online at GATN-wwme.org or by calling **678-242-WWME**.