



The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 9, 2026

St. Mary's Church Est. 1852
26 Church St.
Nassau, NY 12123

Welcome to St. Mary's

We are happy that you decided to worship with us. If you are visiting just for today, we pray that God will be with you on your journey. If you are seeking a church to call home, we would be honored to welcome you into our parish community. If you are interested in joining our parish family, please call the parish office at 518-766-2701.

Rev. John Cronin – Pastor

Rev. John Close – Sacramental Minister

Dee McCumber – Parish Secretary

Email – stmarysnassau1@gmail.com

Phone – 518-766-2701

Barbara Wurzburg – Associate for Faith Formation

Email – stmarysnassaufaithformation@gmail.com

Phone – 518-801-7605

Linda Ridzi – Associate for Faith Formation

Email – ridzilinda@gmail.com

Joanna Towse – Music Minister

Phone – 518-436-7857



Parish Office Hours: Tuesday- Thursday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

St. Mary's Mission Statement

We, the Catholic Community of St. Mary's, Nassau, vow to foster the spirit of St. Francis by becoming instruments of God's peace to help each other grow spiritually. We choose to respond to our baptismal call to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ through our commitments of time, talent, and treasure in the love and service of all people. Adopted by St. Mary's Pastoral Council, September 16, 2001.

Parish Happenings:

Sunday	Faith Formation 8:45 – 9:45 am Parish Hall before Mass Mass followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet – 10:00 am All are welcome to stay
Monday	Learn About Your Faith 6:30 – 7:30 pm at the Rectory
*Tuesday	Morning Mass 9:30 am St. Anthony Novena and Adoration until 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 – 7:30 pm at the Rectory
Wednesday	Parking Lot Rosary 6:00 pm (Dress for the weather)
*Thursday	Morning Mass 9:30 am Recitation of Rosary after Mass
Friday	Every 1 st Friday, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00 pm
Saturday	Vigil Mass 5:30 pm Every 1 st Saturday, Rosary at 5:00 pm before Mass

*During the winter months, weekday morning Masses will be in the rectory at 9:30 am

St. Mary's Website: <http://parishes.rcda.org/St.MarysNassau>

Mass Intentions
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 8 & August 9, 2026

Saturday August 8, 2026 @ 5:30 pm

Sharon Banks – Linda Dellea

Kathy and Bob Schaefer and Family – for Healing

Sunday, August 9, 2026 @ 10:00 am

Paul Tomchik – Mary Tomchik

Kathy and Bob Schaefer and Family – for Healing – Marion and Tom Rysedorph

Tuesday, August 11, 2026 @ 9:30 am

Barbara Wurzburg – for Healing

Thursday August 13, 2026 @ 9:30 am

For the People of St. Mary

August 15 & August 16, 2026

Saturday August 15, 2026 @ 5:30 pm

Theresa Harty – for Healing

Sunday, August 16, 2026 @ 10:00 am

Lee and Bud Rausch – Jim and Rocky

Audrey Kellner and Patricia Tomchik – Marlene Tomchik

Tuesday, August 18, 2026 @ 9:30 am

For the People of St. Mary

Thursday August 20, 2026 @ 9:30 am

For the People of St. Mary

Please pray for our sick

Michael Stephen Allen
Christine Anderson
Elizabeth Hrifko
Joan Campbell
Joseph Messineo
Maureen Cellery
Madison Chesterman
Barry and Jeanne Litt
Thomas O'Grady
Alice Loughlin
Michele Sweet
Rita Labrum
Amy Gumlaw
Cory Roberts

Stacy Hyson
Kate Hockford
Chamylla Stephanie De Frees
Bethany Jenest
Seth Kaminski
Sara Messineo Kent
Cathy Lavoie
Masresha Schaefer
Gina Lo Presti
Philip Sullivan
Dom Devaney
Michelle Dymond
Marion Rysedorph
Ann Marie Waldron

Nancy Quinn
Peter Quinn
Jake Rysedorph
John DeLap
Tom Rysedorph
Linda Schaefer
Cathy Schaefer
Colin Sullivan
Ann Devaney
Linda Walsh
Anna May Gregg
Charleen Papa



HOMILY

By Richard Leonard

A conservative Protestant Church in a sleepy fishing village had to find a new minister. Over the protests of Jimmy, the senior Elder, a woman was hired as the new Pastor.

After the Reverend Gayle had been there a few weeks, Tom, a member of the congregation, offered to take her out fishing. Jimmy reluctantly agreed to allow them to use his boat for the day's outing, but insisted that he lead the expedition.

The trio got into the boat and motored out on the lake. When they got ready to fish, they realized that all their tackle had been left on the dock. Tom concluded that they would just have to go back and get it. Reverend Gayle said that wouldn't be necessary, and she got out of the boat and started walking across the water toward the dock.

Jimmy, who refused to be impressed by Gayle's miraculous abilities observed, "See I told you we never should have hired that woman. She can't even swim."



The hit animation film *Shrek* was praised by critics for many things but most especially for the clever way it quoted from several other much-loved animation films. When writers do this it's called "intertextuality," where one text uses another text to tell the story. Some of the references in *Shrek* were obvious; others took a little longer to reveal themselves. Some were used in a new way that turned the original story upside down. Whether any of us got all or none of the references didn't affect the enjoyment we derived from the film, it only added to what was already a great tale.

The story of Jesus walking on the water is in a similar vein to *Shrek*. In eleven verses Matthew quotes several other stories in the Old Testament, uses them in his own way and re-interprets all of them in reference to Jesus. It might be lost on some of us who just enjoy the power of the story, but none of this intertextuality would have been lost on Matthew's first hearers.

Poor old Job found God in the midst of a storm, and winds and waves are a usual Old Testament shorthand for the perils of life. The image of the boat was an early symbol for the Church and Matthew has all Jesus' disciples in it. Jesus hovering over the waters has echoes of the action of the Spirit in the first account of creation in Genesis. Even Jesus restoring calm to the sea follows on from what the Prophet Jonah had done before. For the keen student there is much more besides.

Matthew's account is magnificent on its own terms, but with these details we can see he is also interested in a theological message. Jesus, the Son of God and Lord of creation, remains faithful to the disciples, no matter how treacherous the seas or how great their fear. He has come to them so that they may be saved and recreated as the Church who recognizes that he is the fulfillment of creation, the one whom Israel has been longing to see and embrace.

And what does all this mean for us?

We are inheritors of Matthew's faith. We're here because we believe that Jesus is the Son of God who has saved us from ourselves and from destruction. But it also means that in every storm that threatens our lifeboat Jesus comes to call us to faith, to catch us when we think we're drowning, to accompany us back to safety and to bring calm to the troubled seas of our life.

Aren't we lucky Jesus never learnt to swim?

Collection Obligations

FOR US TO **COVER PARISH EXPENSES**, OUR WEEKLY COLLECTION **MUST MEET** **\$2,500**

Our collections are not consistent. Therefore, we are not meeting our necessary expenses. Additionally, some of our expenses are unforeseen or fluctuate.

Our Collections for August 1 & August 2 **\$3134**

The August 1 & August 2 collections goal met our necessary weekly budget. Thank you!

EVENTS

St. Mary's

St. Mary's Picnic Barbecue – the Date has been set!!

Details!



When: September 20
Time: 12 Noon
Where: Nassau Sportsmen Club
Cost: No Cost

The parish will provide the Hot Dogs & Hamburgers & Soda & Water.

We are asking parishioners to bring a Covered dish – sharing size and to let us know how many people are coming so we can prepare food and drink. The sign-up sheets for the covered dish and attendance is on the back-door table and announcement is posted on both bulletin boards.

St. Mary's Committees

St. Mary's has several committees that play important roles in our month to month; season to season activities. These committees support the spiritual and physical well-being of our Parish. Please consider joining any of the committees. Below is the list of our committees and the chair persons contact information. Your support and input are most necessary and welcome for the well-being of our Parish.

Committee	Contact
Liturgy	Dominic Russomanno 518-915-3464
Bereavement	Joanna Towse 518-436-7857
Faith Formation	Antonette Perry 518-766-4345
Building & Grounds	Dominic Russomanno 518-915-3464
Volunteers	Joanne Schnurr 518-794-7469
Fund-Raising	Jen Clement 518-203-9130
Technology	Ellie Russomanno 518-925-4687

Poll Inspectors Trainings Are Coming for The Fall Elections!!

Please consider serving as a Poll Inspector for the Town of Nassau. More than ever we need to make our Democracy fully participatory. NOW is the time to step up!

Anyone already trained in the Spring does not need to repeat training. This is only for those who have not been trained this year, or are NEW!

They are run by the Board of Elections, and take approximately 2 1/2 hours. Once trained you will get a shift from the Town and new Inspectors are ALWAYS teamed up with Veteran Inspectors.

Poll Inspectors Trainings Schedule

Training Dates

Tuesday	September 8	10:00 am or 2:00 pm
Wednesday	September 9	10:00 am or 2:00 pm or 6:00 pm
Thursday	September 10	10:00 am or 2:00 pm
Monday	September 14	10:00 am or 2:00 pm

Registration: Visit the County website "Inspector Training Classes:"
<https://renesco.com/601/Inspector-Training-Classes-Registration>

The Inspector Training Class for the General Election will be held at the Rensselaer County Government Center, 1600 7th Ave., Troy, NY 12180. Classes will be held on the 2nd floor.

If you have any questions, ask Ken Scallon or any of our other poll inspectors. There is a copy of the announcement on the bulletin board.

Does Someone You Know Need Communion Brought to Them?

Someone who has difficulty getting out?

Cannot attend Mass as often or at all? Needs a ride?

PLEASE.....call the rectory. Let someone know. We will make sure they get it.

Looking for homes....

We have 2 adorable kitties♥ that are looking for a permanent indoor home. Both little guys are rescues, have all their shots, and are neutered. Great personalities and are ready for a They are indoor only kitties. Both guys are approximately 2 years old. One is Moo-Moo and the other is Honey Boo-Boo. ♥ Pictures are on the bulletin board. ♥ If you would like to adopt, please call Donna at 518-867-7092.

Our Community

Diocese

Annual Diocesan Marriage Jubilee Mass

Sunday, September 27th, 2026



Couples marking any special wedding anniversary are invited to attend this celebration, which honors the enduring bond of love and strengthens the sense of community among couples within the Albany Diocese.

Bishop Mark will celebrate the Liturgy at 3 p.m. and greet couples and their guests at a reception in the Parish Hall at Christ Our Light immediately following Mass, with an opportunity for photos with each couple.

➤ **Deadline is September 16.**

*forms are on the table.

Please print your names exactly how you want it to appear on your certificate (ex. John and Jane Doe)

Reminders....

Support our Parishioners.....St. Mary's has parishioners with a lot of personal talents and some with their own business. Please consider them when you find that you require some service they may offer. Call the rectory to have their talent or their business placed in our bulletin.

Alight Baby Bottle Drive

The 2026 [Alight Baby Bottle Campaign Drive](#) continues through September 7. Bottles are at the back door in the basket.

Father Cronin Mass Schedule

Thursday Morning - 9:30 am	Saturday 5:30 Sunday 10:00 am
August 20	Aug 29-30
September 3	TBD



Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

August 2026

St. Mary's Church

One Minute Meditations

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Although born into wealth, St. Bernard desired a life of simplicity, holiness, and austerity. Born in 1090 in Fontaines, France, he entered the monastery at Cîteaux in his twenties, followed by most of his family. Recognizing his holiness and noting the overcrowding of the monastery, the abbot sent St. Bernard to establish a new monastery in Clairvaux. St. Bernard went on to found monasteries for nuns, worked for the Holy See, and preached the Second Crusade.

More than the mission

No matter our age, we all need to hear these words: "I love you without measure." At the Transfiguration, the Father declared of Jesus, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 17:5). He means those words for us as well. Before all else, we are God's beloved children.

Significantly, the Father speaks these words before Jesus goes to the Cross, before His saving mission is complete. We often reverse that order, allowing our identity to depend on our accomplishments or faithfulness. We assume God will love us once we have fulfilled our mission. But the Gospel reveals the opposite. God's love is not earned but freely **given**. Our mission flows from our identity, not the other way around.

"For I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine" (Isaiah 43:1).

Be Like Christ. Love Like Christ.

What does it mean to "be like Christ" in the context of our everyday lives? The key is to love as He loves. Here are five practical ways to love like Jesus.

Learn His pattern. The Gospels show us how Jesus responded to the sick, the brokenhearted, the marginalized, and even His enemies. Scripture provides the pattern, while prayer and the Sacraments provide the grace to live it. The more we immerse ourselves in Christ's life, the more naturally His way of loving becomes our own.

Cultivate His heart. Jesus describes Himself as "gentle and humble of heart" (Matthew 11:29). His humility comes from His complete obedience to the Father's will. His gentleness is strength under perfect self-control, expressed in His patience, mercy, and compassion, even toward those who rejected Him. As we imitate His way of love, our own hearts are slowly transformed as His.

Show genuine interest. Jesus often asked open-ended questions, not because He lacked the answers, but to draw people out. "What do you seek?" (John 1:38). "What are you discussing

with each other?" (Luke 24:17) Genuine love begins with genuine interest. Asking thoughtful questions communicates that people are seen, heard, and valued.

Choose the charitable interpretation. St. Theresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart wrote, "If the actions of our neighbors have a hundred sides, we ought always to look at them on the best side." Love resists rushing to judgment and gives others the benefit of the doubt, creating space for understanding rather than

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:29).

suspicion.

Always act out of love. St. Paul exhorts us, "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Jesus lived every moment in perfect love for His Father and for us. Love was not merely one aspect of His life; it was the motive behind everything He did. Following Christ means allowing love to shape not only our greatest sacrifices but also our smallest daily actions.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Formula prayers are not a substitute for personal prayer but a time-tested way of entering into it and deepening it. When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, He gave them the Our Father (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4), a prayer to be prayed repeatedly. Scripture also contains many communal prayers, especially the Psalms, which

Why do Catholics pray formula prayers?

served as Israel's prayer book and remain the Church's today. By praying these inspired words, Catholics join generations of believers in worship. Whether at Mass or beside a hospital bed, formula prayers unite the faithful, expressing not only personal devotion but also the shared faith of the whole Church.

What to do when you don't feel like praying

Not feeling like praying is something even faithful Christians experience. In fact, seasons of dryness can be a normal part of spiritual growth. While they may have different causes, they do not necessarily mean something is wrong. Here are three ways to respond:

Pray about not wanting to pray. Bring your reluctance to God. You don't have to overcome your feelings before coming to Him. Honest prayer is still prayer, and God meets you with love exactly where you are.

Keep it simple. We value brief messages from those we love: "I love you," "Good luck today," or "Thinking of you."

Prayer can be that simple. The goal is relationship, not length. A heartfelt "God, help me," "Jesus, I trust in You," or "Come, Holy Spirit" is enough.

Choose presence over performance. Approach prayer the way you would spending time with a close friend. We don't cancel plans with someone we love simply because we're tired.

In the same way, keep showing up. God delights in your company (Proverbs 8:31). He is not looking for a perfect performance but for a heart that continues to seek Him, even when prayer feels dry or difficult.

from Scripture

Matthew 16:21-27, God's ways are not our ways

At first glance, this passage seems like bad news. Jesus predicts His own death, a revelation that must have stunned the disciples. They had just come to recognize Him as the long-awaited Messiah. Instead of leading a triumphant victory over Rome, Jesus spoke of suffering, rejection, and execution. To them, it looked like failure, not triumph.

Peter responded as many of us do when faced with suffering: he resisted the Cross. He wanted Jesus to avoid it and was sharply rebuked. Yet had Jesus turned aside, we would have remained

in our sins, separated from God. Instead, He freely embraced the Cross. He chose us. From the perspective of the Resurrection, what appeared to be defeat was in fact Christ's decisive victory over sin and death.

God desires our happiness, not merely our temporary comfort. He desires our eternal joy. The Christian life is not about avoiding the crosses God permits but embracing them with trust, as Jesus did. And we never carry them alone. Christ walks beside us, bearing the heavier end of every cross.

Q & A Can the Pope make mistakes if he's infallible?

Yes. The pope is human and, like anyone else, can make mistakes in his personal opinions, decisions, or everyday statements. Papal infallibility does not mean the pope is incapable of error. Rather, it means that, under specific conditions, the Holy Spirit preserves him from definitively teaching error in matters of faith and morals (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 891).

Papal infallibility applies only when the pope is:

Defining a doctrine of faith or morals. The teaching must concern divine revelation or truths closely connected to it. It does not apply to scientific claims, political views, interviews, homilies, or personal opinions. For example, in 1950, Pope Pius XII infallibly defined the dogma of Mary's Assumption into heaven.

Speaking ex cathedra ("from the chair"). The pope must speak in his official capacity as the successor of St. Peter and clearly intend to proclaim a doctrine that is binding on the entire Church. In *Munificentissimus Deus*, Pope Pius XII explicitly invoked his apostolic authority to "pronounce, declare, and define" the Assumption as a divinely revealed dogma.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 7—St. Cajetan (1547). St. Cajetan was born in Italy to a noble family. He went on to study civil and canon (Church) law at the University of Padua. He worked to reform the Church by founding the Theatines, a religious order modeled on the teachings of the Apostles.

August 9—St. Edith Stein (1942). Formerly Jewish, she was an atheist intellectual in Germany. After studying St. Teresa of Ávila, she converted to Catholicism, and became a Carmelite nun. Although her order tried to shelter her from the Nazis, she was taken to and executed at Auschwitz.

August 15—The Assumption of Mary. Declared a dogma of faith in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary's being taken up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life. This feast highlights the Church's respect for the dignity of the body in view of our future resurrection. Note: This year, it is not a holy day of obligation.

August 24—St. Bartholomew (First Century). One of the Twelve Apostles and the son of Tolomai, Bartholomew is thought by some scholars to be the apostle, Nathanael, who went with Philip to see Jesus. After Jesus's Ascension, Nathanael spread Christianity to India and in Armenia, where he was martyred. He is the patron saint of Armenia and Belgium.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC

Publishers of *Growing in Faith™* and *Partners in Faith™*

(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax

<http://www.infaithpublishing.com>

(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

IMMIGRATION - REFUGEE REPORT

August 8 -9, 2026

REFUGEE NEEDS

NEEDS!! We will need foodstuffs and personal health goods for our refugees.

Food Items

Grains
Cereals
Cooking Oils
Rice
Beans
Canned Meals
Pastas

Household Items

Soap
Liquid Detergent
Paper Towels
Face/Wash Cloths – many will use and rewash
Diapers!

Please do not overthink this. Just stop and consider what YOU would buy if you had nothing.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES ARE NOW NEEDED

All the basics that will enable the kids to be prepared for school in September. While we are not the only ones supplying, fortunately, we are a part of the whole supply chain!

Delivery scheduled for this past Thursday included a large amount of Fabrics, some higher end clothing (the staffer at USCRI who covers professional placement will be using these), Stuffed Toys, Bike, Sewing Machine that I finally got repaired, Board Games donated by Nassau Library, and Food Totes.

THANK YOU

all for your remembering them. It is too easy for this to get lost in all our other challenges that life brings.

UPDATES

As I mentioned last Sunday at Mass, the Times Union has a new dedicated reporter for Immigration issues!! Her name is Cat Carroll* and one of her first columns was the one that I showed at Announcements. I did connect her with Sara our contact at US Committee on Refugees and Immigrants as she works on information for new articles. If you have any ideas or connections for her you can reach her at the Times Union or contact me.

A bit more about Cat Carroll is on the reverse under our legislative contacts.

Cat Carroll did indicate two Bills that I was not aware of related to immigration which I will follow up on.

SENATE BILL S 4814. By now you should all have had time to contact Senator Schumer and Gillibrand on this. As far as I know now, it is still in Judiciary Committee.

I do know that some information I got indicated that ICE would be moving on Haitians and Syrians for deportation but I have not yet seen actual data on that. We **must remember** that their aim on all deportations is to move as *quietly as possible to avoid publicity*...therefore hearing nothing does not mean nothing is happening.

All too often ICE strikes before anyone knows they are coming by just sweeping people, especially now by working with TSA at Airports, and especially those who may be in process of re-registering, etc. Witness the professor at Johns Hopkins who just finally got released from, Detention Center in the South.

With Regards, Ken

kmscallon@yahoo.com

MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES ARE NOT PAWNS ON THE CHESSBOARD OF HUMANITY

POPE FRANCIS (2015)

OUR FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATORS CONTACT INFORMATION

Federal Representatives Legislator

Area Office

Phone

Senator Charles Schumer Albany Office. 518-431-4070
Website Contact Page <https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/message-chuck>

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand Albany Office 518-431-0120
Website Contact Page <https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me/>

Representative Josh Riley - Leeds Office 518-625-2100
Website Contact Page <https://riley.house.gov/contact>

State Representatives Legislator

Area Office

Phone

Senator Jake Ashby <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/jacob-ashby>
594 Columbia Turnpike 518-371-2751
East Greenbush, NY 12061
Contact: <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/jacob-ashby/contact>

Assemblyman Scott Bendett <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Scott-Bendett>
1580 Columbia Turnpike 518-272-6149
Building 4, Suite 1A
Castleton on the Hudson, NY 12033
Contact: bendett@nysassembly.gov

Cat Carroll

Report for America Corps Member/Staff Writer

<https://www.timesunion.com/author/cat-carroll/>

Cat Carroll covers New Americans as a Report for America corps member. Before joining the Times Union, she reported internationally on migration with the support of the Wolff Fellowship and as a 2025 Pulitzer Center Campus Consortium Reporting Fellow.

She got her start in journalism at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where she served as managing editor and later chair of the board of directors of the independent student newspaper The Badger Herald.

She grew up in Milwaukee, Wis., and speaks German, Spanish and some Arabic. You can reach her at cat.carroll@timesunion.com.