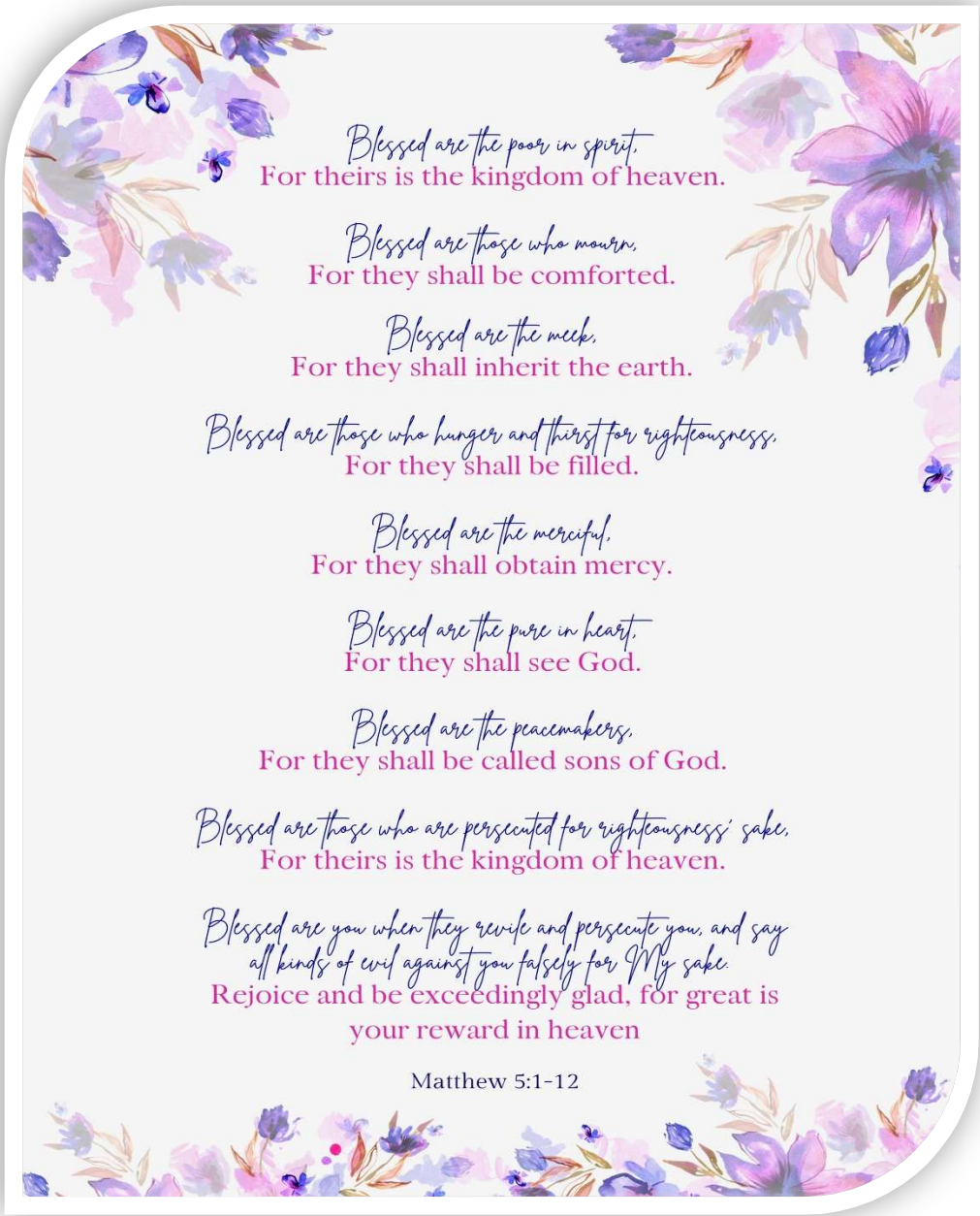

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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	Divine Mercy Mass 10:00 am
	Followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet – 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 1st Friday, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00 pm
Saturday	Vigil Mass 5:30 pm
	Every 1st 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 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 31 & February 1, 2026
Saturday, January 31, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Marie Burgess– by Theresa Harty
Sunday, February 1, 2026 @ 10:00 pm Betty Borey – by Theresa Harty
Tuesday, February 3, 2026 @ @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary's
Thursday, February 5, 2026 @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary's
February 7 & February 8, 2026
Saturday, February 7, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Mary Wiegand– by Theresa Harty
Sunday, February 8, 2026 @ 10:00 pm For the People of St. Mary's
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 @ @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary's
Thursday, February 12, 2026 @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary's

Please pray for our sick

Michael Stephen Allen
Christine Anderson
Bill Ayers
Joan Campbell
Chad Cardoza
Maureen Cellery
Madison Chesterman

Chamylla Stephanie De Frees
John DeLap
Ann Devaney
Dom Devaney
Michelle Dymond
Anna May Gregg
Amy Gumlaw

Stacy Hyson
Kate Hockford
Elizabeth Hrifko
Bethany Jenest
Seth Kaminski
Sara Messineo Kent
Cathy Lavoie
Barry and Jeanne Litt
Gina Lo Presti
Alice Loughlin
Avin Meyette
Joseph Messineo
Mamie Mazzatti
Thomas O'Grady
Cathy Schaefer

Nancy Quinn
Peter Quinn
Cory Roberts
Jake Rysedorph
Marion Rysedorph
Tom Rysedorph
Linda Schaefer
Masresha Schaefer
Colin Sullivan
Philip Sullivan
Michele Sweet
Linda Walsh Linda Walsh
Rita Labrum
Charleen Papa

St. Mary's Parishioners

We would like to thank everyone who helped to make our Christmas Season so wonderful. It truly takes a village to support our parish.

As we move forward into 2026, we continue to experience financial shortfall. We understand you are experiencing the same financial challenges at home.

Financial Sustainability is necessary to survive as a parish in the Albany Diocese.

Factors we have no control over, repair of the rectory furnace at cost of $849. We still need to repair the chimney at the rectory. Snow removal is an unknown expense depending on the weather. Thank you to our dedicated parishioners, who help shovel the walkways and throw salt on the ice.

Prayerfully consider increasing your financial support of your parish.

Thank you,

The Finance Council

Collections

For us to cover parish expenses, our weekly collection must meet $2,500

Although some of the weekly collections do meet this amount, our collections are not consistent. Therefore, the average weekly collection is still below the necessary $2,500. Additionally, as noted above, some of our expenses are unforeseen or fluctuate (fuel, maintenance, snow removal).

Our Collections for January 24 & 25, 2026 **$1231**

Important Notes *Regarding the Diocesan Appeal Collections*

Any donation to the Diocesan Appeal that is made January 1, 2026 though June 30, 2026 is credited to the 2025 Diocesan Appeal. The collection schedule begins July 1 of the calendar year and ends June 30 of the following year.

Please make sure that your name and St. Mary's 09-08 appear on the check. This is an **important** edit that needs to be done so your donation is reported correctly by the Diocese. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your contribution, please call the office (518-766-2701) and let Dee know.

EVENTS

St. Mary's

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is closer than you think. This year it falls on February 18. That is only **4 weeks** away. The schedule for distribution of Ashes is as follows:

Wednesday February 18

Immaculate Conception	9:30 am	Morning Prayer with the distribution of Ashes
St. Mary's	10:30 am	Mass with the distribution of Ashes
St. Joseph's	12:10 pm	Mass with the distribution of Ashes

Red Cross Blood Drive:

St. Mary's blood drive is more important than ever!.

The American Red Cross is experiencing a severe blood shortage. The national blood supply fell about 35% over the past month. With more winter weather forecast, the problem could worsen. Last month alone, 400 blood drives were impacted by winter weather, causing thousands of blood donations to go uncollected.

Please spread the word and if you can, please donate.

When: Saturday, February 14, 2026
Where: Parish Hall
Time: 9:00 am to 2 pm

How do I register?
Call the Rectory 518-766-2701
Call the Red Cross 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767 7)
Visit the Website: www.redcrossblood.org

If you are "app savvy", download the free Blood Donor App.
Use sponsor coded: stmaryschurchnassau

When you donate blood the months of January and February, you will receive a $20 gift card that can be used with a wide variety of merchants. All this information is posted on our bulletin boards.

Learn About Your Faith

Faith Formation

Faith Formation classes have resumed. The school year 2026 class schedule is published on the last page in the "Religious Education" section of our bulletin.

Our Journey of Faith

Our "**Learning About Our Faith**" sessions will resume in January after the holidays. The 2026 schedule is posted on the bulletin boards. The schedule has been included to the "Religious Education" section of the bulletin.

House Keeping Notes….

Rides & Communion

If you know someone who does not attend Mass because they need transportation, please call the Parish office at 518-766-2701 with their name and phone number. There is a personal connection by attending Mass that is more than just worship. It's a sense of being valued as part of our community.

Do you know someone who cannot get to Mass but would like to receive communion? Call the Parish office at 518-766-2701 with their name and phone number.

Offertory Envelopes

Envelopes are scheduled to be delivered sometime after January 1. *PLEASE* let us know if you do not receive yours. Call the office and leave a message or speak to Dee 518-766-2701.

Eucharist Ministers and Lectors

The schedule for Eucharist Ministers and Lectors for the first quarter of 2026 has been confirmed and distributed to the participants.

If you are unable to perform your duties on your scheduled me, please call another Eucharist Minister or Lector to replace you. Contact phone numbers were included with your schedule. Please call Michele Sweet (518-336-4422) if you have any questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The holiday season concludes and as this new year opens to us, please take the time to visit and extend ourselves to those who need comfort and community.

We have these shawls in totes in the front entrance way next to the stairs. They were made by our ministry and have been blessed. You can use them for anyone in need and even as gifts. They have many other uses. Please help yourself. Please give them.

Some uses for the shawl ...

> undergoing medical procedures; as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress; during bereavement; prayer or meditation; commitment or marriage ceremonies; birthing, nursing a baby; bridal shower or wedding gift; leading ritual; during an illness and recovery ministering to others; graduation, birthday, anniversary, ordination, holiday gifts; or just socializing...

There are endless possibilities.

Special Prayers

For peace in the Ukraine, Holy Land, and the World

For all healthcare professionals, first responders, and others involved in caring the sick or injured, that God would give them strength and wisdom as they perform their duties.

Religious Education Schedules

Faith Formation

Faith Formation classes are from 8:45 am to 9:45 am for all grades, K through 10th, with Mass at 10 am

JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY	MARCH
1/4 – Class 11 – Class 1/18 – No Class – Honoring MLK **1/25 – FAITH FORMATION CANCELED DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER**	2/1 – Class 2/8 – Class 2/15 – No Class (Winter Break) 2/22 – Class	3/1 – Class 3/8 – Class Daylight Savings Time Starts 3/15 – Class 3/22 – Class 3/29 – Class (Palm Sunday)
APRIL	MAY	
4/5 – Class 4/12 – Class 4/19 – Class 4/26 – Class	5/3 – Last Class 5/9 – First Holy Communion	

Learning About Our Faith Schedule

Learning About Our Faith sessions meet Monday evenings in the Rectory at 6:30 pm.

Our Journey of Faith Learning About Your Faith			
Session		Date	Topic
11	Monday	1/26/26	The Sacraments - Baptism & Confirmation
12	Monday	2/2/26	The Sacraments - Penance & Reconciliation
13	Monday	2/9/26	The Sacraments - Marriage
14	Monday	2/16/26	The Sacraments - Holy Orders
15	Monday	2/23/26	What is Lent
16	Monday	3/2/26	The Sacraments - Anointing of the Sick
17	Monday	3/16/26	The Sacraments - Social Justice and Dignity of Life
18	Monday	3/23/26	The Way of the Cross
19	Monday	3/30/26	The Meaning of Holy Week
20	Monday		Catholic Beliefs - Morality
21	Monday		Prayer Life, Discernment, Holiness, Evangelization
22	Monday		Mary
23	Monday		Purgatory
24	Monday		Conversion, The Laity, Your Special Gifts
25	Monday		The Saints

IMMIGRATION -REFUGEE REPORT
JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 1, 2026

NEEDS. I am repeating this as I know some did not get to church last week.

Blankets, Comforters, Twin Sheets. AND WINTER FOOTWARE, ANY SIZE.
Other constant needs ---Diapers, sizes, 4,5, 6. Feminine Products, Rice, Beans, Cooking Oils, Tea, and tote bags.

Just bring to church and I will handle from there. If you wish to give gift cards or cash like we used to do for these, that is fine. Just use the box in the back of church.

Easy to read kids' books for Claire's ESL Classroom at USCRI. These are used for the adult learners. Kids' books especially picture books also which they put out in lobby for kids to take when they are there with parents.

We have two other people who have contacted us to get involved with our Refugee work. One is from Sacred Heart Church in Castleton, and the other is a Deacon who oversees many of our churches in Greene County! I have "briefed " them with the necessary information so they can assist us. It seems our message is getting around.

I want to START this week with information on SOME legislation that is now being introduced here in NYS to help Immigrants, which includes our Refugees!

The first one is the NEW YORK FOR ALL ACT., (S-2235/A-3506) which if enacted would prevent state and local law enforcement from participating in civil immigration enforcement. It would also protect Immigrants/Refugees personal data. Many Refugees are restricting their movements out of fear. Kids are NOT getting to school, and other necessary trips are being put aside to stay at home.

The Major Cities Chiefs Association and even the NYS Police have recognized that mixing local law enforcement with Immigration enforcement makes the overall community unsafe. This is NOT restricting criminal arrests!! That is different. But as we are witnessing first hand it is a recipe for mistakes which can be deadly. Immigrants make up 30% of the state's workforce including more than 60% of home health care workers. New Jersey, Washington, Illinois, and California have already passed similar policies.

I said this year was going to be harder. We have already covered how to contact your legislators using the 5 W process that I shared with you last fall – "Who, What, Where, When, Why and HOW". Those handouts are available in the back of church.

Easy first step: Just enter the NAME of this Act into your phone or computer and you will find the above info and more --including that many Unions supported this last year when it DID NOT PASS!!

Many of us here have Senator Jake Ashby at ashby@nysenate.gov and Assemblyman Scott Bendett at bendetts@nyassembly.gov for our legislators. if you have someone else just use their contact information. Let's see where they stand on this proposed Bill. More on this VERY CRITICAL BUSINESS next week. *Ken*

(home phone - 518-766-4811. email is kmscallon@yahoo.com)

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." - Martin Luther King Jr.