YOU ARE
THE SALT
OF THE EARTH,
THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD.
LET YOUR
LIGHT SHINE.

Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

MATTHEW 5:13-16

Fifth 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 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 7 & February 8, 2026
Saturday, February 7, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Mary Wiegand– by Theresa Harty
Sunday, February 8, 2026 @ 10:00 pm Paul Tomchik – by his wife Mary Tomchik
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
February 14 & February 15, 2026
Saturday, February 14, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Mary Wiegand– by Theresa Harty
Sunday, February 15, 2026 @ 10:00 pm Marinda Gloria Silveira – by Rosemarie Silveira-Derima
Tuesday, February 17, 2026 @ @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary's
Thursday, February 19, 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 31 & February 1, 2026 **$5102**

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.

Ash Wednesday Ash Wednesday is closer than you think. This year it falls on February 18. That is only **12 days** 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

St. Mary's Lenten Adoration Retreat

Stations of the Cross for Lent begin February 20 at 6:00 pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and continuing every Friday at the same time

February 18	Ash Wednesday – Schedule above
February 22	Video, Discussion, Reflection after 10 am Mass (Parish Hall with coffee and Treats)
March 1	Video, Discussion, Reflection after 10 am Mass (Parish Hall with coffee and Treats)
March 6	1st Nocturnal Adoration following Stations of the Cross 6:00 pm-
March 7	Closing of Adoration, Mass at 9 or 9:30 am
March 15	Video, Discussion, Reflection after 10 am Mass (Parish Hall with coffee and Treats)
March 22	Video, Discussion, Reflection after 10 am Mass (Parish Hall with coffee and Treats)
April 2	2nd Nocturnal Adoration following Holy Thursday Mass
April 3	Closing of Adoration, Communion Service/Good Friday Service

More details to come.....

EVENTS

St. Mary's

Red Cross Blood Drive:

OUR BLOOD DRIVE IS A WEEK FROM THIS SATURDAY!!

The American Red Cross is experiencing a severe blood shortage. The national blood supply fell about 35% over the past month.

St. Mary's is doing a great job scheduling to donate! We have 18 people signed up. Every donation is critical. It would be outstanding if we could get 6 more people scheduled to give. That would fill every time slot. Please spread the word.

Blood Drive Details

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.

Our Coffee Hour is Back!

Coffee is once again going to perk. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and we can meet for some coffee and catch up with each other.

February 22
after 10:00 Mass.

Somebody bake cookies!

Learn About Your Faith

Faith Formation

What can parents do when Faith Formation is cancelled due to weather?

As the first teachers of the faith, parents and grandparents play an important role. There are several things parents and grandparents can do during this time. Maybe things you already do.

Some suggestions

- For little ones 'you tube' has numerous stories (and songs) about Jesus and Saints in a cartoon version.
- For older kids, 'you tube' also carries stories of Jesus and the Saints.

Special interest are the young Saints that even adults can find awesome. There are many stories. These are just a few:

St. Carlos Actus, 15; St. Bernadette of Lourdes; 14, St. Jose' of Mexico became a martyr at just 14
The 3 children of Fatima; Lucia dos Santos, age 9, and her two cousins, Francisco Marto age 8 and his sister, Jacinta age 6.

If you have not watched 'Chosen' yet, it is also on 'you tube'. Visualizing Jesus' human side and divinity in the gospels has a powerful and emotional impact.
Faith Formation 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" 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.

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.

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.

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
FEBRUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 8, 2026

ITS WORKING! More immigrants are being detained now than ever before.

ITS WORKING! The Immigration Courts are packed and cannot hear cases fast enough.

ITS WORKING! The President has reduced the number of Immigration Judges who handle cases.

ITS WORKING! The fall recruitment campaign for ICE was an "overwhelming success "with 12,000 plus new ICE agents.

ITS WORKING! Training for ICE has been REDUCED from 20 plus weeks to 8 weeks with focus on tactics that allow for emphasis on stopping and detaining people.

ITS WORKING! More refugees/immigrant children being kept home from school for fear of entrapment to get the parent.

ITS WORKING! More refugees /immigrants looking for alternate routes /means of travel to avoid problematic sites where ICE patrols.

ITS WORKING! Is it ILLEGAL to take people from or to enter their homes without a signed Judge's Warrant!
NO, ITS NOT. Who told you that! ICE training now is telling candidates that they CAN enter etc. without a Judges Warrant! Do YOU know what a Judge's Warrant looks like when its flashed in your face by a masked agent who has just kicked in your door? Do you have your "Red Card" and your paperwork?

ITS WORKING! The ICE agent now has your paperwork and threw your Red Card into the snowbank, as they take you to the van ----Look, they wear these masks because its cold!

ITS WORKING! Don't worry, just say "I give up, I'll leave America" and they will gladly get you to processing for your $1,000. to leave to where?

That's where I'm at after the last few days of following data, checking news briefs, reading the excellent coverage from the Times Union this past weekend on this and the bigger issue of how much Democracy is left here! By the time you read this we will know what has happened to the ICE Budget and the "Big Beautiful Bill. Or will we? WILL IT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE?

How many refugees, immigrants woke up with me this morning wondering if they would be returning home tonight?

Do **YOU** have 5 minutes today….Wait, its Game Day isn't it? SOOOO IMPORTANT, these games that keep us .....what, distracted?

IMMIGRATION -REFUGEE REPORT
FEBRUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 8, 2026

E mail or call your State Senator Jake Ashby and tell him you are considering supporting his new bill just announced. Check his website! AND can he support the NEW YORK FOR ALL ACT (S-2235) we announced last week in this Bulletin.

E-mail or call your State Assemblyman Scott Bendett and ask the same question for that Act (A-3506) in his Assembly. Or if you have a different Senator /Assemblyperson just look up their email and ask.

When you are done PLEASE USE THE PAPER SLIPS IN BACK OF CHURCH, to tell us you have done that and drop them in the donation Box. NO NAMES Please! This is to allow me to track our response totals, to report to the USCCB (our Bishops) since we signed up for their campaign.

Oh and FYI, two churches I had hoped might help, support other causes and cannot contribute at this time. Also, CRI cannot join the REGIONAL FOOD BANK as we had hoped since new applications are not being taken! Apparently, demand is up to the point they fear being unable to satisfy any new members needs!

Quitting? **NO** we are just getting started!!

Ken

To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity. –**Nelson Mandela**