

# *Third Sunday of Lent*

*“I am he, the Messiah, the one speaking with you.”*



March 8, 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](mailto:stmarysnassau1@gmail.com)

Phone – 518-766-2701

Barbara Wurzburg – Associate for Faith Formation

Email – [stmarysnassaufaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysnassaufaithformation@gmail.com)

Phone – 518-801-7605

Linda Ridzi – Associate for Faith Formation

Email – [ridzilinda@gmail.com](mailto: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 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00 pm
Saturday	Vigil Mass 5:30 pm Every 1 <sup>st</sup> 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  
Third Sunday of Lent**

March 7 & March 8, 2026
Saturday, March 7, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Antonia and Angelina Zucconi – The Zucconi-Dellea Family Salvatore Papa – by Charlene Papa
Sunday, March 8, 2026 @ 10:00 am Marinda Gloria Silveira – by Rosemarie Silveira Derima
Tuesday, March 10, 2026 @ @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary's
Thursday, March 12, 2026 @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary's
March 14 & March 15, 2026
Saturday, March 14, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Frank and Rita Dreher – by Larry and Kye Sun
Sunday, March 15, 2026 @ 10:00 am The Zucconi-Croft Family – by the Zucconi-Dellea Family
Tuesday, March 17, 2026 @ @ 9:30 am Luccine-Matto Family – by the Zucconi-Dellea Family
Thursday, March 19, 2026 @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary's

Our hearts and prayers are extended to the family and friends of Alice Finnegan who passed away Monday, February 23, 2026.

**Please pray for our sick**



Chamylla Stephanie De Frees  
Alice Loughlin  
Michele Sweet  
Michelle Dymond  
Thomas O'Grady

Michael Stephen Allen  
Christine Anderson  
Bill Ayers  
Joan Campbell  
Chad Cardoza  
Maureen Cellery  
Madison Chesterman  
Barry and Jeanne Litt  
Gina Lo Presti  
Philip Sullivan  
Dom Devaney  
Mamie Mazzatti  
Charleen Papa

Stacy Hyson  
Kate Hockford  
Elizabeth Hrifko  
Bethany Jenest  
Seth Kaminski  
Sara Messineo Kent  
Cathy Lavoie  
Masresha Schaefer  
Colin Sullivan  
Ann Devaney  
Joseph Messineo  
Rita Labrum  
Amy Gumlaw

Nancy Quinn  
Peter Quinn  
Cory Roberts  
Jake Rysedorph  
Marion Rysedorph  
Tom Rysedorph  
Linda Schaefer  
Cathy Schaefer  
John DeLap  
Avin Meyette  
Linda Walsh  
Anna May Gregg  
Ginny Doherty

## 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, we are not meeting our necessary expenses. Additionally, as noted above, some of our expenses are unforeseen or fluctuate (fuel, maintenance, snow removal).

Our Collections for February 27 & February 28, 2026

\$2573

### *Important Notes Regarding the Diocesan Appeal Collections*

Any donation to the Diocesan Appeal that is made January 1, 2026 through 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.

## *We Need Volunteers*

Would you be willing to donate a small amount of your time to help in some of the responsibilities of St. Mary's? As time has passed we find that there is not enough time and are not enough people for all that needs to be done to keep us looking good and in working order.

Would you be willing to give a couple of hours every other week to:

- Vacuum the upstairs and downstairs of the Church Hall.
- Wash and iron the linens.
- Keep the sidewalk in front of the Church and Rectory clean of snow. ***This is required by the Village.***
- Shovel snow and spread salt on the walkways into the Church – when needed.

Perhaps a group could do one of the projects and finish with coffee or lunch. A team effort would make it easier and it would be a good way to routinely connect and keep in touch with each other.

If you would, please call the Rectory 518-766-2701. Speak with Dee or leave a message.

As the weather warms and more activities are scheduled, more volunteers will be needed. Please consider helping. We will be posting more activities as we find the need.

*Thank you*

## 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



March 6	Stations of the Cross 6:00 pm followed by 1 <sup>st</sup> Nocturnal Adoration
March 7	Closing of Adoration
March 15	Video, Discussion, Reflection after 10 am Mass **
March 22	Video, Discussion, Reflection after 10 am Mass **
April 2	2nd Nocturnal Adoration following Holy Thursday Mass
April 3	Closing of Adoration Good Friday Service

\*\*Parish Hall with coffee and Treats

Reconciliation Schedule 2026		
St. Henry's	Monday, March 16	6:00 PM
St. Mary's	Thursday, March 19	6:30 PM

Holy Week Schedule		
Holy Thursday The Lord's Supper	April 2, 2026 7:00 PM	St. Mary's
Good Friday	April 3, 2026 7:00 PM	Immaculate Conception
Easter Vigil	April 4, 2026 7:00 PM	St. Joseph's
Easter	April 5, 2026 10:00 AM	St. Mary'
Easter	April 6, 2026 11:30 AM	Immaculate Conception

## REFLECTION OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

St Anthony writes: "Christ who is your life is hanging before you, so that you may look at the Cross as in a mirror. There you will be able to know how mortal were your wounds, that no medicine other than the Blood of the Son of God could heal. If you look closely, you will be able to realize how great your human dignity and your value are.... Nowhere other than looking at himself in the mirror of the Cross can man better understand how much he is worth"

(*Sermones Dominicales et Festivi* III, pp. 213-214).

## GOD THE FATHER TO SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA, *The Dialogue*

Do for your Neighbor what you Cannot Do for Me

I ask you to love me with same love with which I love you. But for me you cannot do this, for I love you without being loved. Whatever love you have for me you owe me, so you love me not gratuitously but out of duty, while I love you not out of duty but gratuitously. So you cannot give me the kind of love I ask of you. This is why I have put you among your neighbors: so that you can do for them what you cannot do for me—that is, love them without any concern for thanks and without looking for any profit for yourself. And whatever you do for them I will consider done for me.

## LENTEN VIEWING

On March 3, we remembered the Feast Day of Katherine Drexel, a saint dedicated to the Eucharist and caring for American Blacks and Indians. She was a saint of our times and died in 1955. Here is her fascinating story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NRgcMoLejOw>

## EVENTS

### St. Mary's

*Welcome Fr. Cronin*

Every other Tuesday, Fr. Cronin will be celebrating morning Mass at St. Mary's. In March, those dates are March 3, 17, and 31.

### Coffee Coffee!

The coffee is hot. The weather is cooperating.... Meet in the Hall for some coffee, talk and treats.

Sunday, March 8  
after 10:00 Mass.



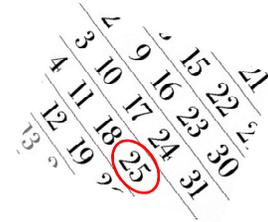
*Bakers???*

*Where are you?*

## Hold the Date

COMING SOON – OUR ANNUAL SWEETS AUCTION!

SATURDAY, APRIL 25



## Reminders

### April is Cemetery Spring Clean-Up Month

Each April is scheduled for clean-up. Believe it or not April will be here in just 3 short weeks! The leftover of winter debris from Mother Nature- and this year she gave us a lot-is picked up and discarded. Remember, if you have any decorations, please remove them so they are not taken away during the clean-up

### Rice Bowls

Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl support the work of CRS in more than 130 different countries. Twenty-five percent of donations stay in the local diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. Since 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has raised more than \$350 million. To learn about the Rice Bowl Organization including stories of hope and recipes from around the world, visit their website: <https://www.crsricebowl.org/>

Our Lenten Rice Bowls are on the table in the back of the Church.

## In Our Community

### HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

Registration is open for the 2026-2027 school year! Holy Spirit School is now accepting registrations for the upcoming school year (Pre-K 3–Grade 5). We offer a nurturing, faith-filled environment where every child is known and valued. Visit [www.hsseg.com](http://www.hsseg.com) for more information or call 518-477-5739, email: [hssoffice@hsseg.com](mailto:hssoffice@hsseg.com) to schedule a tour.!

## AN AFTERNOON OF LENTEN SONG WITH DAN SCHUTTE

**Hosted by:** The Ignatian Volunteer Corps Albany  
**When:** March 29  
**Time:** 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
**Where:** Corpus Christi Catholic Church  
2001 Route 9, Round Lake NY  
**Ticket Price:** \$15

The Ignatian Volunteer Corps Albany is pleased to again host composer and songwriter Dan Schutte. Mr. Schutte's has been the heartbeat to many churches spanning 50 years. His music includes "Here I Am, Lord," "City of God," and "You are Near" along with more than 150 more.

For ticket and sponsorship information: [www.ivcusa.org/Schutte](http://www.ivcusa.org/Schutte).

Additional information about this event email: [AlbanyNY@ivcusa.org](mailto:AlbanyNY@ivcusa.org).



## Communications & Events from the Diocese

This is a new section to our bulletin. Every month, the Diocese emails upcoming events in the community and the Diocese. Diocesan updates are usually in the form of a video or You Tube presentation and posted on their website. If there is an accompanying flyer or poster attached to these communications, it will be on the bulletin board. Everyone is welcome to join activities and view presentations. As these announcements and events change, this section will be revised

### "THE PASTORAL CENTER PRAYS THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS" IS AVAILABLE NOW

Bishop Mark suggested we produce a Stations of the Cross with employees at the Pastoral Center sharing reflections on each station. Our office produced it as a special edition of the Called to Serve Podcast making it easy to listen to at home, in the car, or even in a church or chapel as you walk the Stations, alone or in a group. It is now available on the Diocesan website: <https://www.rcda.org/stations-cross-podcast>

### THE STATE OF THE SAINTS

This is a new video series that Brigid Beck, Communications Specialist in our office, and Sr. Teresa Grace Baillargeon. Each month they will feature a different saint or someone who is being considered for sainthood. February's focus was on Sr Thea Bowman. March will feature Archbishop Fulton Sheen who will soon be beatified. That will be released Friday, March 6 on our social media platforms. You can find the State of the Saints on the diocesan YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3MplEVuXH74bvVZmwRM-ph0oM3pU6sou>

**Dinner & Doctrine: Youth Ministry Nights:** Calling all Middle School and High School Students! This takes place the fourth Friday of each month at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Schenectady. Poster on bulletin board.

**75th Anniversary of the North Albany Limericks:** Monday, March 9 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, North Albany. Rosary at 5:30 pm; Mass at 6:00 pm. Poster on bulletin board.

**Misatango:** Argentinian composer and church musician, Martin Palmeri performs in the Siena University Chapel on March 21 and 22. Poster on bulletin board.

**Bible Study:** Sacred Heart of Jesus, North Albany – February 2026-September 2026 – the 3rd Sunday of each month at 10 am. Poster on bulletin board.

### *House Keeping Notes....*

#### **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.

## Learn About Your Faith

### 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.

### Faith Formation

Faith Formation school year 2026 class schedule is published on the last page in the “Religious Education” section of our bulletin.

### Religious Education Schedules

#### Faith Formation

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

JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY	MARCH
1/4 – Class 11 – Class 1/18 – No Class – Honoring MLK <b>1/25 – FAITH FORMATION CANCELED                      DUE TO EXTREME WEATHER</b>	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

## IMMIGRATION -REFUGEE REPORT

March 7 – March 8, 2026

*“The Thought of Holding Thousands of Families in Massive Warehouses Should Challenge the Conscience of Every American,” Says Bishop Cahill*

WE ARE AT AN UNPRECEDENTED PERIOD IN OUR COUNTRY’S HISTORY! WE ARE DEVOTING THIS COLUMN TO THE US CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPW (USCCB).

February 20, 2026

WASHINGTON - Newly released details show how the Administration plans to double federal immigration detention capacity, spending an estimated \$38.3 billion from last year’s reconciliation bill to implement a new detention model by the end of Fiscal Year 2026. This amounts to nearly fifty times the annual budget for the entire immigration court system and almost five times the funding provided this year to operate the federal prison system. The plan partly entails opening eight “mega-centers,” each of which would be capable of detaining 7,000 to 10,000 people. Aside from the internment camps used to incarcerate Japanese Americans in the 1940s, such facilities have no precedent in American history.

In response, Bishop Brendan J. Cahill, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB) Committee on Migration, urged the Administration and Congress to pursue a more just approach:

“These plans are deeply troubling. The federal government does not have a positive track record when it comes to detaining large numbers of people, especially families, and the proposed scale of these facilities is difficult to comprehend. The private prison industry is who stands to gain the most from this supercharging of immigration detention.

“Last November, my brother bishops and I [unequivocally opposed](#)<sup>1</sup> the indiscriminate mass deportation of people and raised concerns about existing conditions in detention centers. We specifically highlighted a lack of access to pastoral care for detainees. On many occasions, we have also [opposed](#)<sup>2</sup> the expansion of family detention, recognizing its harmful impacts on children in particular.

“The thought of holding thousands of families in massive warehouses should challenge the conscience of every American. Whatever their immigration status, these are human beings created in the image and likeness of God, and this is a moral inflection point for our country. We implore the Administration and Congress to lead with right reason, abandon this misuse of taxpayer funds, and to instead pursue a more just approach to immigration enforcement that truly respects human dignity, the sanctity of families, and religious liberty.”

###

We need to take this to heart and think about where we are going here in America ---

*Ken*

Press Release

USCCB Office of Public Affairs <https://www.usccb.org/news/2026/thought-holding-thousands-families-massive-warehouses-should-challenge-conscience-every>

USCCB Press Release Notations:

1. <https://www.usccb.org/news/2025/us-bishops-issue-special-message-immigration-plenary-assembly-baltimore>
2. <https://www.usccb.org/news/2025/protecting-pregnant-mothers-and-their-children-can-never-be-considered-obsolete>

Justice for Immigrants

<https://justiceforimmigrants.org/you-are-not-alone/>

“Human dignity is the same for all human beings: what I trample on the dignity of another, I am trampling on my own.”

Pope Francis