



The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 6, 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>

<i>Mass Intentions</i> <i>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	
September 5 & September 6, 2026	
Saturday September 5, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Mary E. Wing – Beth Wing	
Sunday, September 6, 2026 @ 10:00 am Robert J. Neyen – Barbara Wurzburg	
Tuesday, September 8, 2026 @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary	
Thursday September 10, 2026 @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary	
September 12 & September 13, 2026	
Saturday September 12, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Robert J. Wing – Lily Wing	
Sunday, September 13, 2026 @ 10:00 am Lee and Bud Rausch	
Tuesday, September 15, 2026 @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary	
Thursday September 17, 2026 @ 9:30 am For the People of St. Mary	
Friday September 11, 2026 @ 5:30 pm Mass for the men and women who died on 9/11/2001; the families left behind; and, the first responders who worked the recovery effort at the site. May God's Mercy and Blessings be on all.	

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



St. Mary's Finance Update

Parish Brothers and Sisters,

As the finance committee continues to find ways to make our parish as prosperous as possible, we put together a 2026-2027 budget based on past contributions.

Over the last several months the collection has been lower than in years and months past. While we appreciate and need your support, we are only a parish of 80 members in regular attendance.

There are a few ways we can still cover our expenses.

1. We are working with the Albany Diocese on cutting our overhead and we are making great progress.
2. Increasing membership, which we all have been working on, we have many new members join recently.
3. Fund raising, which we are actively pursuing.
4. Members enroll in our auto payment system, which we can help you do. This way when you miss mass because of vacation or illness the donation continues to get to St. Mary's.
5. Each member can increase their offering by \$10 a collection.

The economy is difficult for us all. We are finding ways to cut costs and build funds. We are so close to being self-sustaining, but we will need all of us to do it.

You are a generous congregation who do so much for the community and each other. If you have ideas, please reach out to us anytime.

Yours in Christ,
The Finance Committee

Heavenly Father, as always we give thanks to you for all the gifts you have given to us, of which the greatest is your Son Jesus and your ever-present Holy Spirit.

You know our needs far better than we ourselves and you know what is best for our future. We ask you then to guide us in our duties as members of the finance committee in making decisions and plans that do the greatest good for our parish in accord with your will. Bless our efforts and allow the people of our parish to see them clearly as a means to provide for both the present and future of our church.

We ask all of this through Christ our Lord.

Amen
Fr. John Close

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 29 & August 30 **\$1657**

The August 22 & August 23 collections goal fell **\$843** below our necessary weekly budget.

St. Mary's Committees

Below is the list of our committees and the chair persons contact information. Your support and input are most necessary and welcome. Please consider participating.

Committee

Bereavement
Building & Grounds
Faith Formation
Coffee Hour
Fund-Raising
Liturgy
Technology
Volunteers

Contact

Joanna Towse	518-436-7857
Dominic Russomanno	518-915-3464
Barbara Wurzburg	518-766-4036
Antonette Perry	518-766-4345
Jen Clement	518-203-9130
Dominic Russomanno	518-915-3464
Ellie Russomanno	518-925-4687
Joanne Schnurr	518-794-7469

EVENTS

St. Mary's

Mass Remembering 9/11
Friday, September 11, 2026
5:30 pm

All are welcome



This Friday we remember the attacks on the United States by terrorists, using airliners as their weapon and killing thousands in the process. Men and Women, in the planes, Twin Towers, Pentagon and flight 93 perished. In addition to these First Responders of Fire, Police, Emergency Medical units lost their lives while trying to save others.

The damage did not stop on that day but continued as hundreds of people searched through the remains and were exposed to what would cause serious medical problems and death.

We remember the attaches but more so those who died because of them.

A book with the names of the deceased will be presented with the gifts.

Light finger will be offered following Mass

Freewill offering or a non-perishable food item for the Nassau Resource Center

St. Mary's Annual Picnic/Barbecue is only 2 weeks away. **September 20!**

If you have not signed up yet, **it is time** – this way we can get enough food and drinks.

We are looking for picnic helpers



- To help with the shopping
- To help with the setup
- To help with the cooking
- To help with the cleanup



And..... there will be a 50/50 raffle!!

If you think you might be able to help, you can call or text Frank Ridzi 518-258-8752. The parish will provide the Hot Dogs & Hamburgers & Soda & Water. We are asking parishioners to bring a Covered dish – sharing size

The sign-up sheets for the covered dish and attendance is on the back-door table and picnic announcement is posted on both bulletin boards.

Parents & Grandparents

Faith Formation will be starting soon. The first class is scheduled for September 27. Keep an eye open for an email from Barb Wurzburg.

Reminder: Does someone need a ride to Mass? Help? Communion at Home? Please call the rectory and let someone know. We will get help.

Our Community

St Henry's is planning a 9-day Pilgrimage to Fatima& Lourdes in the Fall of 2027. The information is on the bulletin board and brochure will be available next week. An information night is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3. If you would like to know more now, contact Lisa Hutchinson at 518-573-7098 or email her at lisahutchinson367@gmail.com

SUNNY Act Solar Up Now New York

This year the NYS Legislature has passed the Solar Up Now New York (SUNNY) Act which will enable all New Yorkers to start generating their own power by plugging in solar panels that can be purchased on line or at a store. It is a small but important step towards more Solar for consumers. Please help all of us with this.

The SUNY Act is still on the Governor's desk....*Please* call **NOW** – 518-474-8390. Or <http://www.governor.ny.gov>

Poll Inspectors Trainings Are Coming for The Fall Elections!!

Registration: Visit the County website "Inspector Training Classes:" <https://rensco.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.

From the Diocese

Each month the Diocese distributes a list of events happening within the parishes of the Albany Diocese. The events announcement is posted on the bulletin board. If you are interested in any one of them and would like more information, please call the rectory. 518-766-2701 or the event coordinator.



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

July 2026

St. Mary's Church

One Minute Meditations

St. Lawrence of Brindisi

Born in Brindisi, Naples, Cesare de Rossi entered the Capuchin Order when he was sixteen, taking the name Lawrence. In addition to Italian, he was fluent in many languages. His knowledge of Latin, Greek, and Hebrew made him a great Biblical scholar, but his knowledge of German, French, and Spanish made him a good preacher and diplomat. As minister general of the Capuchins, he spread the influence of the Order, establishing monasteries in Germany, Austria, and Spain.

The indispensability of prayer

St. Martha is often criticized for her busyness while her sister Mary is praised for sitting at Jesus' feet. Yet Martha's fault was not her service itself, but for allowing productivity to take precedence over prayerful attentiveness to the Lord. Scripture does not call us to perpetual activity; God commands us to rest (Exodus 20:10-11) and to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17), while still fulfilling our responsibilities. Prayer enables us to live out our vocations, especially our fundamental vocation to love.

"That [Precious] blood inebriates the soul. It clothes her in the fire of divine charity. It gives her the food of the sacrament that I have set up for you in the hostel of the mystic body of holy Church, the body and the blood of my Son..." – God to St. Catherine of Siena

Your summer soul-care checklist

Summer brings a welcome change of pace. While routines may take a break, our faith doesn't have to. Here are seven simple ways to stay rooted in God's presence and make this summer spiritually fruitful:

1. Begin every journey with prayer.

Before heading out, take a moment to entrust your plans to God. Pray the Guardian Angel prayer and ask for protection, wisdom, and peace throughout your travels and activities.

2. Wear reminders of your faith. A crucifix, Miraculous Medal, scapular, or Rosary bracelet can do more than complete an outfit. These sacramentals serve as quiet reminders of who you belong to and what you value.

3. Adopt a saint for summer. Choose a saint to be your spiritual companion for the season. You may discover that the saint you choose has something to teach you exactly when you need it.

4. Let creation lead you to the Creator. A brilliant sunset, a mountain view, or even flowers blooming in a neighbor's garden can become moments of prayer. When beauty captures your attention, let it lift your heart and mind to God, the source of all

beauty and goodness.

5. Look for opportunities to serve. Summer may offer additional flexibility. Use it to love your neighbor in practical ways. Help with yardwork, spend time with someone who appears lonely, offer encouragement to a colleague.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge" (Psalm 19:1-2).

6. Keep your soul in training. Athletes know that strength comes through discipline. Spiritual strength is no different. Choose a sacrifice or habit that challenges you. Limit social media, wake up earlier for prayer, or attend an extra Mass during the week. Even small acts build up the heart for greater things.

7. Remember the 1-1-1 Rule. A simple rhythm can keep you faithful throughout the summer. *Pray (at least) once a day. Attend Mass once a week. Go to Confession once a month.* These three practices provide a steady anchor, even amidst the looser structure of summer.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call Rome "home?"

Throughout the Gospels, Peter takes up a leadership role among the Apostles – a role Jesus confirmed when, in Matthew 16, He names Peter "the Rock" upon which Jesus would build His Church (Matthew 16:17-18). After the Ascension, St. Peter traveled to Rome with the Gospel and became the bishop

of the Christian community there. He was martyred and buried in Rome, and his successors became the next popes. Historically, the church in Rome became a source of unity, strength, and faithfulness in adversity. Today, Catholics everywhere call Rome – the resting place of St. Peter – "home."

The secret to balance isn't to do more

Do you struggle to find balance in life? As founder and abbot of an entire Order, St. Benedict of Nursia knew the challenge of balancing prayer, work, community, and service. His wisdom for cultivating balance, order, and peace remains remarkably practical today:

Keep a daily rhythm: Few of us are called to a monk's strict schedule, but we can establish healthy routines, make time for rest and meals, and safeguard time for prayer. Structure creates freedom by helping us focus on what matters most rather than constantly reacting to demands. You, and those around you, will benefit.

Be punctual: "On hearing the signal for an hour of the

divine office, the monk will immediately set aside what he has in hand and go with utmost speed" (Rule of St. Benedict, Ch. 43). A balanced life depends on moving promptly to what is most important at the proper time. Punctuality is not merely efficiency; it is a way of honoring both our commitments and the people around us.

Make peace before sunset: Peace of mind requires letting go of anger and forgiving quickly. When a busy day leads to conflict, St. Benedict urges us to "make peace before the setting of the sun." Resentment drains our energy and disrupts our relationships, while reconciliation restores the peace needed to live and work well.

from **S**cripture

Matthew 13:44-52, The value of the Kingdom

Jesus used the parables in this Gospel passage to emphasize the life-changing value of the Kingdom. In the first parable, a man discovers – seemingly by accident – a treasure buried in a field. Recognizing its value, he sells everything he has to buy the field. In the second scenario, a merchant finds a valuable pearl after diligent searching. He also sells everything to possess the precious pearl.

By these parables, Jesus taught that being part of God's Kingdom – accepting His love for us and loving others as He loves – is the only thing

that completely fulfills our hearts. God's unconditional love is the only thing that is worthy of everything we have. If we accept His invitation (He forces no one), our lives will change as our hearts change.

Finally, Jesus compared the separation between the evil and righteous to the sifting that happens when a large catch of fish is brought ashore. When we put our whole life in service to God's love, then the individual pieces fall into place around that love, and anything contrary to it falls away.

Q & A

Who are the incorrupt Saints?

"Incorrupt" saints are those whose bodies have been found to resist normal decomposition, either wholly or in part, without deliberate human preservation. Some, such as St. Bernadette Soubirous, appear remarkably well preserved, while in other cases only certain parts of the body, such as St. Vincent de Paul's heart, remain incorrupt.

The Church regards incorruptibility not as proof of sainthood, but as a possible sign of a person's holiness. These extraordinary cases also serve as reminders of the future glory promised to all believers. The human body possesses a unique dignity and is destined to share in God's glory through the resurrection of the dead (CCC 997). Mary's bodily Assumption into heaven offers a glimpse of the destiny to which all the faithful are called.

For this reason, the Church has long venerated the bodies and relics of the saints. Such veneration, including that of incorrupt bodies, is intended to be reverent and prayerful. By encountering these remarkable witnesses of faith, we are inspired to imitate their virtue and draw closer to Christ. When we honor the saints, we ultimately honor the God whose grace transformed their lives.

Feasts & Celebrations

July 6 – St. Maria Goretti (1902). Twelve-year-old Maria was attacked by a neighbor who tried to assault her. When she fought rather than submit, he stabbed her repeatedly. She forgave him before dying shortly after. Her attacker dreamed of Maria while in prison and his first act when released 27 years later was to beg Maria's mother's forgiveness. He wept tears of joy when he attended Maria's canonization.

July 22 – St. Mary Magdalene (1st century). Jesus expelled seven demons from Mary (Luke 8:2) and she financially supported His ministry. She stood by His Cross with His mother and was the one who informed the

Apostles of His Resurrection.

July 26 – Saints Joachim and Ann (1st century). Little is known about Jesus' grandparents, but Mary's unshakeable faith, her devotion to the laws of her religion, and her steadiness in crises indicate the values with which she was raised. Today, pray for your grandparents.

July 30 – St. Peter Chrysologus (c.450). Born in Imola around the year 400, St. Peter converted to Christianity and was ordained deacon. For a while he lived ascetically as a monk. He was ordained Bishop of Ravenna and spent his office defending his see against heresies. His preaching style was so impactful and articulate he was given the title of "golden-tongued." He produced about one hundred seventy-six homilies.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

IMMIGRATION - REFUGEE REPORT

September 5 - 6, 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.

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!

UPDATES

I am now accumulating foodstuffs, etc.. to put together a new load for next week. (hopefully). The last load, a week ago was welcomed.

I do not yet know when USCRI will begin accepting clothing etc. for fall. I DO KNOW that Fabrics, sewing supplies are still welcomed. I have to check and see if we are still in need of sewing machines. We have been focused on new born baby strollers.

USCRI is telling its clients to

"BE CAREFUL of who you are gathering with and as to *THEIR Status, THEIR Green Card, etc.!*

This means who your children play with, who you interact with, etc. If they are at risk **YOU** could be taken in as well."

"ALSO - Consider writing your lawyer's, contact persons, case manager's phone number on your arm. so that you have it if you are swept up and your papers and phone are taken away. That is not the time to trust your memory!"

Homeland Security - Claims 605,000 held.

ICE -Claims 443,000.

Administration still claims 1,9 million self - Deported.

Again, these numbers are suspect.....BUT we know they are continuing to pull people in.

I Checked the USCCB (Bishops) site AND the NYS Bishops site. There are no new statements or actions on either one. In fact, the NYS Bishops site has not had a new entry on Immigration etc. since 2025, when Bishop Scharfenberger signed a statement with the other Bishops.

As I said last week, this whole issue of Immigration, deportations etc. has fallen off the radar for the Church at this point.

Regrets

. *Ken*

kmscallon@yahoo.com

"Human dignity should be without borders." ~ Geena Rocero

OUR FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATORS CONTACT INFORMATION

Federal Representatives Legislator

Area Office

Phone

Senator Charles Schumer Website Contact Page	Albany Office. https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/message-chuck	518-431-4070
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand Website Contact Page	Albany Office https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me/	518-431-0120
Representative Josh Riley - Website Contact Page	Leeds Office https://riley.house.gov/contact	518-625-2100

State Representatives Legislator

Area Office

Phone

Senator Jake Ashby Contact:	https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/jacob-ashby 594 Columbia Turnpike East Greenbush, NY 12061 https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/jacob-ashby/contact	518-371-2751
Assemblyman Scott Bendett Contact:	https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Scott-Bendett 1580 Columbia Turnpike Building 4, Suite 1A Castleton on the Hudson, NY 12033 bendett@nysassembly.gov	518-272-6149

USCRI

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 350
Arlington, VA 22202

<https://refugees.org/headquarters/>

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