Very Rev. Jeffery J. Noble, V.F., Pastor

Weekend Masses
Saturday Evening: 6:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 & 10:00 am

Confessions
Saturday: 4:30 pm
Thursday before First Friday: 4:00

Parish office hours: Monday thru Thursday - 9 am to 4 pm

Sacrament of Baptism
Arrangements are to be made in advance at the parish office. Parents and Godparents attend a Baptismal Preparation Session prior to the baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage
Couples planning to marry need to talk to a priest at least six months in advance of the wedding.

Sacrament of the Sick
Please call a priest immediately in case of illness. The homebound are urged to have their names placed on the Sunday and First Friday Communion lists.

Parish Care and Concern Prayer Chain
For those needing prayers, please call 781-3085 or 834-3844.

Music Ministry
Stephen Toney, Director / Organist - Phone: 389-4507
Peggy Hoffman, Assistant Director

Faith Formation
139 Church St. – Phone: 781-1042
Janet VanEerden, Director

Elk County Catholic School System
Sam MacDonald, President
600 Maurus Street – Phone: 834-7812

St. Marys Catholic Elementary School
114 Queens Road – Phone: 834-4169
Deborah Slay, Principal

St. Marys Catholic Middle School / Elk County Catholic High School
600 Maurus Street – Phone: 834-7800
John Schneider, Principal

School Finance Office
600 Maurus Street – Phone: 834-7812
Bob Breindel, Director

School Advancement Office - 834-7812
Susan Jansen, Director
Lindsey Straub, Director of Communications – 834-7812

For Director of Admissions
Call: 834-1480
Elementary / Middle / High School
FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER

Monday, April 30th
7:00 AM + Clifford Snyder

Tuesday, May 1st
7:00 AM Scripture & Communion Service
7:00 AM L&D Howie & Rosie Schneider Family
8:45 AM + Nicole Hanes

Wednesday, May 2nd
7:00 AM L&D Howie & Rosie Schneider Family
8:45 AM + Nicole Hanes

Thursday, May 3rd
7:00 AM L&D Howie & Rosie Schneider Family
8:45 AM + Nicole Hanes

Saturday, May 5th
7:00 AM + Edward Flacinski
1:30 PM First Holy Communion Mass

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

6:00 PM - Sat. Vigil - L&D Robert Wendel Family
7:30 AM L&D Members of the Parish
10:00 AM + Ken Ullman & + Nancy Levengood

THE SANCTUARY LAMP for the week of April 29th burns in memory of Andrew & Eileen DePrater

Gospel Summary & Question of the Week

Read Sunday’s Gospel, Jn 15:1-8

5th Sunday of Easter - Cycle B

Gospel Summary:

Are you ready for a trim? In today's Gospel, we hear the familiar teaching of the vine and the branches. Jesus reminds us that if we remain close to him-living in humility, following God's law, loving our neighbor-we will notice a positive change in our life and the lives of those around us. "Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." The Holy Spirit is life-giving. He is fruitful. The Spirit of God won't refuse grace to a heart that is open. As we progress through life, learning how to live and love, we grow. Our personalities flower. We discover what it is to be a blessing to others. We also experience lack, loss, and the results of our failures. We know what it is like to "wither" at times, particularly the times when we willingly separate ourselves from Jesus. "Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me." For most of us, this experience of being disconnected and off track generates a desire to return to what is right and good, to return to the vine. But this Gospel is more than "Are you in or are you out?" Even when we remain in God, when we follow Jesus, we are not exempt from the challenge, the pruning. "Everyone that [bears fruit] he prunes." A prudent trim is necessary in the natural world of trees and vines. Dead wood, broken shoots, and diseased branches need to be cut back in order for the plant to bear fruit. Jesus wants us to be healthy! He says as much himself: "By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." Take a look at your life today. Where are you bearing fruit? Where do you need to be pruned?

Question of the Week:

When has God pruned me so that I could grow and give life?

MINISTERS' SCHEDULE FOR MAY 5th & 6th

Altar Servers | Eucharistic Ministers | Lectors
---|---|---
6:00 PM
7:30 AM
10:00 AM

Greeters: Please feel free to welcome your fellow parishioners at the Mass you are attending. Thank you for your ministry!

All Ministers: Always check the website at www.qwchurch.com for any last minute changes to the ministers schedule. It is the most up to date for the schedule!

Children’s Liturgy of the Word is held at the 10:00 AM Sunday Morning Mass. If your child is between the ages of 5 years old through to third grade, have them participate in this special Children’s Liturgy.
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSIONS

May 8  Queen of the World Church  834-4701
June 7  St. Mary’s Church  781-1019
Please make your reservation with the Church you wish to attend their Session.

VOCATION CALENDAR  Please consider joining the Parish 31 Club for Vocations to the Religious Life.

30th  Hunter Samnick, Tom Stauffer, Violet Vollmer
1st  Eileen Brennen, Dave & Char Gerber
2nd  Vicki Whiteman, Maria & Terry Pontzer
3rd  Laura & Mady Ehrensberger, Rosie Schneider, Delores Frey
4th  Rose Ann, Steve & Juliana Silveri, Lois McCoy
5th  Ann, Matt & Becky Avery, Joanne Gasper, Rita Peterson
6th  Mary Hahn, Carol Ehrensberger, Mary Gore, Chrissy & Jason Kuhar

ATTENTION ALL MOTHERS:
Please come with your children to pray the Rosary on the First Saturday of each month from 10 to 11 am.

The Lady of Fatima  First Saturday Children’s Rosary will be held at the Housler residence on Vine Road. For directions please call Bonnie at 834-3214. Light refreshments will follow. All are welcome!

PRO-LIFE PERSPECTIVE — “Abortion [...] cannot be a human right - it is the very opposite. It is a “deep wound in society.” 
Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

MATERNITY CLOSET DIAPER DRIVE
Mother’s Day weekend is the perfect time for a Diaper Drive for the Maternity Closet to help mothers in need care for their little ones. The Pro Life Maternity Closet on Church Street, serves families throughout the area. There is an ongoing need for diapers of assorted sizes, particularly size 4 & 5. Please consider donating diapers to the collection to be held on Mother’s Day weekend, May 12 & 13. A porta-crib will be located in the back of church for the diaper collection. Sponsored by Elk County Right to Life and Students for Life.

COMMUNITY NURSES UPCOMING EVENTS
Used Book Sale - at Sacred Heart Parish Center, May 17-19.
Abate Benefit Run for Hospice - June 2nd
Camp Flutterbye - For children experiencing loss through death. Penn Highlands Community Nurses will host a free 2-day camp for children and teens, K-12, at The Pines in St. Marys on June 7 and 8. Fun and educational activities are structured by bereavement professionals to help students understand that grieving the loss of a loved one is healthy and normal. Register now by calling 781-4722.

COLLECTING T-SHIRTS
The Wednesday Night Stitchers are collecting T-shirts and sweatshirts to make pillows for the St. Marys Catholic and the St. Marys Area Elementary Schools’ Christmas stores. Suggested shirts include Professional and College Sports Teams and local school teams such as Crusaders, Flying Dutch, Cavaliers, etc. Please drop off at local school offices by June 1. Thank You.

UPCOMING AREA HAPPENINGS

- Sunday, 04/29 - After all Masses at St. Leo Church social hall - Pancake Breakfast sponsored by Ridgway Knights of Columbus. $5/Adults & kids over 12. Kids under 12 eat free.
- Sunday, 04/29: 11:00 am - Boy Scouts Troop 199 Turkey Dinner at Elks Parking Lot until sold out.
- Monday, 04/30: 6:00 pm - Apostolate of Fatima Holy Hour at Sacred Heart Church.
- Tuesday, 05/01: 9:15 am - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary’s Church, Benediction at 4:45 pm
- Wednesday, 05/02: 4:00 pm - Bowls of Love - A free meal at St. Marys First United Methodist Church.
- Thursday, 05/03: 3:00 pm - Sacred Heart First Friday Bread Sale until 6 pm. For advance orders, call 834-7861 or 834-3698. May specials include Wedding Soup.
- Friday, 05/04: 10:00 am - Sacred Heart First Friday Bread Sale until 2 pm or sold out.
- Friday, 05/04: 1:00 pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart until 4 pm.
- Sunday, 05/06: 3:00 pm - 41st Annual Rosary March at Clearfield County Fair Grounds.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
The 67th Annual National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 3rd at the Methodist Church Pavilion, 871 So. Michael Road. The 2018 theme for this Elk County wide Prayer Service: “Pray for America - UNITY.” Prayer brings UNITY and reminds us that we are created in God’s image and He desires for us to represent Him wherever we go. Prayers will be offered for Government leaders, Law Enforcement, Firemen and Ambulance Services, our Military and Veterans; Educational System and Community Services will also be included with our families, Churches, and for the drug epidemic in our county. Plan now to join with all of America in praying for America - UNITY. This service will be broadcast live on WKBI FM B94, 93.9 for those unable to attend.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday, April 30th
Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday, May 1st
Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a
St. Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 13:54-58
Wednesday, May 2nd
Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday, May 3rd
1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14
Friday, May 4th
Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17
Saturday, May 5th
Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
Sunday, May 6th
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD FOR ADULTS
Are you ready to fall more deeply in love with Jesus and His Church? Do you wish you had more tools to help your children and others grow in their faith? If so, please prayerfully consider taking the ‘Catechesis of the Good Shepherd’ Level 1 Formation Course over two weeks this summer. The course is a retreat style, anyone can participate. Adult formation for the level 1 atrium of 3-6 year old (pre-K thru K) will be held June 6-10, Aug. 13-17 and 2 additional days TBD. Sessions will be held at St. Mary’s Parish Center. Call Janet, 781-1042 or Elena at 834-5149 (home) or 518-879-3972 (cell) or by email: elanam73@aol.com for more information.

TEENAGERS SUMMER DISCIPLESHIP CAMP OFFERED
The Diocese of Erie’s Summer Discipleship Camp (Camp Totus Tuus) will be held July 15-18 at St. Philip Church in Linesville. The camp is for middle school students who want to strengthen their relationship with Jesus and who want to spend time with other Catholic Christians. Camp begins with a family Mass at 1 p.m. on July 15, and ends with a family picnic at 6 p.m. on July 18. The cost is $175 per person; financial aid is sometimes offered by a parish or school. The cost includes all snacks and meals, overnight accommodations, a T-shirt, binder and materials for the week. Register online at https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=8fc13d or contact Jennifer Durney of the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at jdurney@ErieRCD.org or call 814-824-1219.

ST. MARYS CATHOLIC CEMETERY HIRING
The St. Marys Catholic Cemetery is seeking to fill positions for summer help. Responsibilities include: weeding - trimming, and other basic lawn work. Typical hours: 8 am to 2:30 pm. Positions available May - August or September. Pickup up applications at the St. Mary’s Church office, 325 Church Street between 8 am - 4 pm.

CAMP NOTRE DAME OFFERS SUMMER JOB
College Students & 2018 High School Graduates, if interested in being a counselor at Camp Notre Dame this summer, contact Fr. Mark Nowak at (814) 476-7657 or online at MANowak@4LPi.com or go to www.campnotredame.com.

THE BENEDICTINE GIFT SHOP
For all your Sacramental gift needs for First Eucharist and Confirmation, visit the Benedictine Gift Shop, 139 Church Street, 834-1353. Open Tuesday - Friday: 9:30 am to 5 pm; Saturday: 10:00 am to 1 pm.
First Eucharist - May 5th, 1:30 pm;
Confirmation - May 20th, 2 pm at Queen of the World.

PARISH BUDGET
July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2018..............................$746,042
Parish Budget to Date..........................................................$704,425

OFFERTORY INCOME for weekend of
Regular Envelope .....................................................$10,650
Loose .................................................................$3,203
Children.................................................................$2
School Support .........................................................$75
Utilities & Maintenance .........$35
Memorials ...............................................................$50
Easter .................................................................$65
Total Received..........................................................$14,080

DESIGNATED COLLECTIONS OF THE DIOCESE
Good Shepherd.......................................................$3,293

Envelopes Mailed Bi-Monthly.................................938
Envelopes Used Apr 14/15, 2018.............................356
Mass Attendance for April 22/23, 2018....................842

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL 2018
Number of Pledges 381
Amount Pledged $97,916
Diocesan Assessment $100,000
Parish Goal $140,000

We are edging toward our responsibility, but still have a ways to go to reach our parish goal, which should be attainable. It would also be a big help to our finances as we look at spring projects. A reminder letter has been sent to all those from whom we have not heard. The participation of every parishioner, as in all of our endeavors, is very important. Thank you for responding to this request.

GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTION THANK YOU!
Last weekend, our parish took a second collection to support our retired diocesan priest fund. Despite these difficult economic times we appreciate your generous response to share in the care of those faithful priests who have ministered to your spiritual needs. Your priests truly appreciate your support and thank you for contributing to the Good Shepherd Collection for Erie Diocesan Retired Priests.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK
The Cozy Afghan
152 Center Street - www.cozyafghan.com
834-COZY (2699)

Please patronize the sponsors who appear on our bulletin. It is through their support that this bulletin is made possible. Business owners interested in advertising, please contact Liturgical Publications Inc. at 800-477-4574 ext 6318, Susan Novosel, LPI Representative or email snovosel@4LPi.com. Thank you to the businesses who advertise! Please tell a business when you support them that you saw their ad HERE!
Dear Parishioners,

The month of May arrives this week. Hopefully we will finally put an end to the lingering winter-like weather and enjoy the season of spring. Our children will anticipate their final weeks of the school year and those looking forward to commencements at all levels will have even more joy and excitement. Some of our college students are wrapping up their studies already, coming home and looking for summer work. We have much to celebrate at Church as Easter season continues. We look forward to Pentecost in a few weeks. It will be preceded by the Feast of the Ascension. We have Sacraments of Initiation to celebrate, mainly First Holy Communion this week and Confirmation, so appropriately, on the Feast of Pentecost, May 20th. We honor our mothers this month and our patron, the Blessed Mother. And, of course, there are spring sports, meetings, and all the usual activities that keeps us on the move this beautiful month. Be sure to make time for prayer. Attend a daily Mass, there are many extra ones this month. Stop by church for some private prayer, especially on Thursdays during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Pray the Rosary in some quiet time, or perhaps with your spouse or family at home, or here after daily Mass or before the early Mass on Sunday. Pray over the weekend Scriptures at home, either as a further reflection on your Sunday Eucharist or in preparation. You will note that the Scriptures of every day are published in our parish bulletin. Find a spiritual book on line that will make you think, learn something new, or push you to do something different or do something more in your response to God’s goodness. I’ve been told often that St. Marys is a “very Catholic town,” and in some ways, that is true. But our statistics would suggest that we not any more “Catholic” than anywhere else. So many of us choose not to live or practice our faith, except in times of need or want. It’s as if we treat our faith like our choices for fast food. When we want to go to McDonald’s, Wendy’s, or You-Name-It, we drive through, effortlessly, and pick up what we want. Otherwise, we just drive by. As so it goes for Church. It better be there when I want to fly by for a baptism, wedding, or funeral. This is actually the experience now of the majority of Catholics, yes, even in St. Marys. Do you have any answers as we might spark the faith or the renewal of faith for so many? I’m all ears. I believe prayer is a starting point. I also believe we all have some responsibility in this. And, we all have some responsibility to address this and maybe even to fix this. May could be a new beginning. After all it is Spring. It is Easter. It is Pentecost. He lives...and He lives here! - - - fr jeff

UPCOMING CURSILLOS
May 17-20, 2018 Women's #251 in Harborcreek
June 21-24, 2018 Men's #245 at Elk County Catholic High
July 19-22, 2018 Women's #252 in Hermitage.
To submit an application/or for more info contact Rob/Dee-Dee Wortman at 335-6135.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
This Saturday, May 5, we hold First Holy Communion for our Queen of the World students. Mass begins at 1:30 pm. Note that it is not a Mass for the 6th Sunday of Easter. Please join us to help welcome our children to the gift that is Eucharist! There will be a brief reception in the cafeteria before they venture off to their parties. Remember to keep them in your prayers this week, especially those who have a student as your prayer partner.

Those who attend Morning Mass on Saturday are encouraged to come to the First Holy Communion Mass instead of the 7 am.

Retreat and practice day will take place Friday, May 4th during the school day.

Thanks to those leaders and parishioners and parents who are helping us with the retreat day, the breakfast, and the reception of Saturday.

THURSDAY ADORATION AND PRAYER
We continue to have Adoration on Thursdays from after the morning Mass until Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6:30 pm.
Please make some time during this special prayer opportunity for our parish. We have much to pray for, including our candidates for the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. We have much to be grateful for. We have much noise to tune out and spend time in quiet before the Lord instead. Join us sometime during the day that this would truly be a parish prayer experience.

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION
The next Baptism Preparation Session will be held on Tuesday, May 8, at 7 pm here at Queen of the World. All first time parents are asked to attend. Also, if it has been more than three years since a previous family baptism, I ask you to come again. Sponsors are encouraged to attend. But, parents may want to attend first before selecting godparents, so they can be sure those selected meet the requirements. It is awkward when someone chosen for this role learns they are not eligible by the choices they have made, such as not practicing their faith, not registering in a parish, not receiving Confirmation, or being married in a form other than as a Sacrament. Please call the rectory to pre-register for this Session, 834-4701.

FIRST FRIDAY
This Friday, May 4th is First Friday. Mass will be at 7 am. Fr. Jeff and Eucharistic Ministers will be visiting the home-bound that morning or perhaps earlier in the week. If someone needs to be added to the list, please call the rectory by Tuesday, 834-4701.
Confessions will take place Thursday, May 3rd at 4 pm.

RCIA meets this Tuesday, May 1 at 7 pm.

QUEEN OF THE WORLD ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY
Will be praying the Rosary, Monday through Thursday during the month of May at 6 pm in Church. Note that on Memorial Day, May 28th the Rosary will not be held. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and participate.

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