

St. Mary's Church & Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima

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Mary of Nazareth School: 301.869.0940

*We welcome you to our historic parish family.
Since 1741 believers such as yourself have built a spirit-
filled, Catholic faith community here in Barnesville.
We are privileged to have you join us in our mission to
share God's blessings.*



July 2, 2023

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rev. Kevin P. O'Reilly, *Pastor*
David Cahoon, *Deacon*
Rev. Msgr. John Macfarlane, *Weekend Asst.*
Elizabeth Smith, *Dir. of Faith Formation*
Diane Yendrey, *Dir. of Music*
Bill Lynch, *Pavilion Manager*
Brenda Evans, *Secretary*
Denise Crawford, *Secretary, Notary*
Chris Carey, *Bookkeeper*
Joy McCartin, *Sodality*
Tom McCartin, *Knights of Columbus*

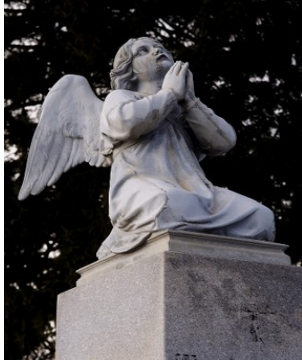
Daily Mass: Monday - Friday: 9:00 am
Sunday Mass: Saturday @ 5 pm, Sunday @ 8:30 & 10:30 am
First Friday: Adoration 9:30 am - Noon
First Saturday: 9:00 am with Devotions
Confession: Saturday @ 4:15 pm
Baptism: by appointment
Wedding: by appointment at least 6 months after initial contact
Rel. Ed.: September - May
School: Mary of Nazareth in Darnestown, grades PreK-8

Dear Parishioners,

"Get over yourself!" Nobody has probably said that more radically than Jesus in today's Gospel. "Whoever loves father or mother more than me ... whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." Is Jesus anti-family? On one hand we can understand this as part of Jesus' commissioning of the preachers he was sending on the road, those who were called to leave everything behind and be as free as he was. They were the distinct minority among his faithful followers, the ones biblical scholar Sr. Sandra Schneiders would talk about as the equivalent of today's apostolic religious women and men whose entire life revolves around their ministerial identity with Christ. Although these sayings of Jesus are applicable to women and men religious, the rest of the world doesn't get off the hook. Every disciple is called to find the meaning of their life in Christ.

In Jesus' world, family was the core of one's identity and future prospects. When Jesus spoke of loving father and mother, his audience heard a reference to their entire heritage as children of Abraham, their religious and social identity. So, when Jesus talked about loving parents more than him, he was saying, "If you so cherish what you know, what society has given you, that it gets in the way of following me, you aren't capable of being a disciple." In the same vein, one's children were one's future in a very concrete and practical way. Children were the investment that promised not just social security, but would prolong people's influence beyond their lifetime. When Jesus demanded that his followers love him over children, he was saying that all their hopes had to be pinned on him rather than on their own projects and progeny.

(continues on page 2)



Please Pray For.... Frank Anderson, Louise Austin, Michael Austin, Christopher Barlow, Lori Bauer, Stanton Boteler, Jim Bowie, Donna Brashears, Linda Burke, Pete Brunner, Maddie Cabatic, Norma Camp, Ada Candor, Dylan Captain, Gretchen Carrillo, Patrick Carpentier, Eric Carpentier, Pat Chmelik, Alex Chmelik, Sonya Cortez, Bridget Curan, Grant Kraft, Dot Crawford, John Curry, Dana DeLauter, Andrew & Nicholas Diaz, Michael Dillon, Julian Douchard, Steve Drescher, Dennis Edward, Tom Ehart, Jo Evans, Hazel Finney, Timothy Flanders, Sandy Flynn, Dolores Flynn, Mark Fye, Fr. Rich Gancayco, Zachery Gorouch, Kimberly Harris, Bridget Hart, Andrew Howard, Cecilia Hughan & family, Mary Lillian Hewitt, Marie Horton, Laura Hutchinson, Eleanor Kelly, Michael Kelley, Brittany, Joe & Ava Marie Koelie, Jeffrey Krohn, Jr., John Kutzi, Ryma Lacks, Cade Lutz, David Liska Sr., Colleen Loss, Harvey Loveless, Sylvia Marshall, Anna Lozada Martinez, Joy McIntyre, Anthony Murdock, Bea Nastacio, Christine O'Connell, Dennis O'Fallan, Jane Parsley, Bob & Donna Pavlick, Frank Pena, Gene Post, Lauren Prete, Dennis Regii, Susan Reid, Elizabeth Renninger, Everly Reed Rice, Andrea Rivas, Misty Runyon, Tom Schwanbeck, Teresa Silverman, Gene Smith, Jerry Stafford, Colleen Thomas, Richard Thompson, Jack Thorp, Corinne Torney, Rex & Trisha Tully, Vicki Tosques, Michael Zahn.

Please Pray for Our Military Family & Friends... Richard Alford, Michael Breslin, Alex & Maxwell Chmelik, Lucas Conway, Adam Fitterer, David Gilliam, Erich Lloyd, Joshua Miller, Brian Nazarian, Elvin Rivera, Mark Russell, Oliver Weigand.

(continued from page 1)

What we hear today in Paul's message to the Romans could almost be a commentary on this Gospel. Writing to people who have chosen to be baptized, Paul asks them why they did it. Although most of us were carried unwittingly to the font, the question still holds for us. What difference does it make in our lives that we have been given the name Christian? Why did we bless ourselves with holy water when we entered church? How differently would we live if we counted ourselves among the "nones" who claim no religious identity, or among the Buddhists, agnostics or even the atheists?

Most of us know good people who do not profess a religious faith yet outshine plenty of so-called believers. What would change if you lost your faith? Would you drop your moral code? What would be harder about life? What would be easier? These questions are the inverse of Paul's approach in today's reading.

Paul is telling the Romans that everything, absolutely everything, is different for those who have been baptized. He believes that for those who do not know Christ, death is the measure of all things, and everything comes to naught: "Alike they lie down in the dust and worms cover them" (Job 21:26). But, those who have been baptized can "live in the newness of life."

If the language had been available to him, Paul might have talked about Christian life as a way of living in another dimension, a dimension without the limitations imposed by death. A deathless dimension implies a life without scarcity or inequality. It is one in which competition is meaningless and violence vacuous. It is the dimension in which the cross of Christ is not shameful, but a proclamation that evil has been overcome.

Hard as it is to imagine, Paul believes that deathless life is exactly what Christians have received in their baptism. Andrew Lloyd Weber's song "Love Changes Everything" offers a musical approximation of what Paul is getting at, all summed up in the line: "Nothing in the world will ever be the same."

We might imagine that Paul has stepped into the pulpit today and is looking at us and asking, "Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death ... so that we too ... might live in the newness of life?" Paul is asking us to think about that, to let our imaginations run wild through the possibilities of how much would change if we consciously stepped into the deathless dimension we have been offered as our living space. Jesus says that if we want to follow him we have to get beyond our commitments to social expectations symbolized by loyalty to previous generations and the personal plans and projects represented by offspring. Both Paul and Jesus are saying, "Get over yourselves so that you can lose the life you plan for and find fullness of life in Christ."

Peace,

Fr. Kevin

WORSHIP



"And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink...he will surely not lose his reward."

- Matthew 10:42

Mass Intentions

Sat., 1	5 pm - Parishioners
Sun., 2	8:30 am - Anthony O'Reilly (L) 10:30 am - Mary Lillian Hewitt (L)
Mon., 3	9 am - Edwin Dupre
Tue., 4	10 am - Our Nation
Wed., 5	9 am - Rev. Patrick Patton
Thu., 6	9 am - Eucharistic Service
Fri., 7	9 am - Joseph Rutan



Vacation Bible School

Sign up now! July 10 - 14 for Bible River Adventures! Sign up forms are on our website and in the church vestibule.

This is a fun, faith filled time for all. For more information contact Terri Phipps at ok-oni.tp@gmail.com. Teen and Adult volunteers are needed.



A Prayer for Independence Day

Thomas Jefferson
A Prayer for the Nation

Fourth of July is this Tuesday. Mass for our nation will be at 10:00 am. The parish Office will be closed July 3 & 4.

Event Photos Pictures from the Communion Breakfast, Easter Vigil, and the Little Sisters of the Poor visit are posted on our smugmug pages. Simply go to <https://stmarysbarnesville.smugmug.com/>. The password is StMarysBarnesville.

Reverence Please remember as you pass the Precious Blood of Our Lord at mass to bow your head in reverence, whether or not you are receiving from the cup.

First Friday is this week. We will have 9 am mass, followed by Adoration until Noon.

Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable ministry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people, the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endow with Thy spirit of wisdom those whom in Thy name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth. In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--Washington D.C., March 4, 1801



Chicken Dinner, Saturday, July 29, 2023

This weekend we continue accepting your donations to help defray the cost of our dinner. Sign-up sheets to pick your favorite spot to help will be out in next week. Make plans to join us from Noon on July 29.

Crafts Wanted Please consider making or donating crafts for the craft table, for our 148th annual event on July 29. New ideas and neat things are always welcome. Wooden crafts, candles, soap, summer decorations, baby blankets and baby items, are some ideas. Maybe you have some new ones. For more information contact Joy McCartin at joymccartin@comcast.net.

Spring Cleaning? White Elephant time is upon us. The Chicken Dinner will be here before we know it. Please place your slightly used items in the storage room under the sun room. Please donate items that you would want to buy if you needed them. We always need decent donations. **No tires, clothing, or electronics please.**



"To Jesus Through Mary"
Our Lady of Fatima Sodality

Sodality Scholarship News Congratulations to our 2023 scholarship recipients! Announcing awards as follows, First place winners: Ainsley Mate, Anna Porch. Runners up: Claire Chmelik, Gabrielle Jacobs, Erin Souder.

Scholarship funds are made possible by yearly fundraising efforts by Our Lady of Fatima Sodality. Awards will go to recipients by August 1st.