

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

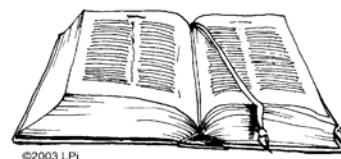
Today's Readings: Acts 6:1-7/1 Peter 2:4-9/John 14:1-12

GOSPEL GLIMPSES Home again!

It's a familiar picture: A tiny face pressed anxiously against the windowpane, as a beloved parent heads off into the big, outside world. A mixture of fear, loneliness and jealousy bubbles up at being left behind. Why can't we go with them? Will they be gone a long time? What will we do till they return? The painful emotions cut both ways. Our parents may want to stay, but they must go away to work, to plan for our future, to protect us. How hard this exercise in trust is for both sides.

The disciples had a similar tough lesson as Jesus prepared for His Ascension. "If I go," He tells them, "I will come back again and take you to myself." Fearful, the disciples asked for directions, wanting to follow Jesus when He left. But Jesus knew their faith would never flourish if the disciples couldn't endure this separation. Jesus must complete the work of salvation and the disciples must stay behind to build His kingdom. Painful and sometimes scary, the waiting may sometimes seem unendurable. But oh what joy we will feel when our Father's face appears outside the window to finally call us home.

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/1 Peter 3:15-18/John 14:15-21



Director of Music and Worship Employment:

St. Mary Catholic Church, Defiance, Ohio, a welcoming community of worship and service, dedicated to the faith formation of all it's members, seeks a Director of Music and Worship. As a member of Pastoral staff, the applicant must desire to work in a model of collaborative leadership and provide direction of an active and well formed parish liturgical ministry commission. The applicant must be self-motivated, flexible, knowledgeable of Catholic Liturgy, skilled in organ and keyboard accompaniment and able to provide direction to choirs, cantors, musicians and liturgical ministry teams. Salary competitive and commensurate with education/experience. Position open beginning July 1, 2008. Ministry Description and Responsibilities available on request. Send Resume and three references to:

Rev. Timothy M. Kummerer

Address: 715 Jefferson Ave., Defiance, OH 43512

Phone: 419-782-2776

Fax: 419-782-1958

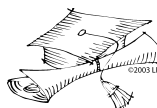
email: tmkstmary@defnet.com

Web Page: www.stmarydefiance.org

The Annual Mother/Daughter Banquet will be Saturday, May 10th after the 4:30 Mass. Tickets will be available next weekend, April 26 & 27. The price for adults is \$7 and \$4.50 for students K-6. Men are needed to help serve the dinner in the School Hall. To volunteer or if you have any questions call Darryl Mathewson at 782-9595 (work) or 784-4224 (home).

The Altar & Rosary Society has given a large **monetary gift** to pay for refurbishing the tabernacle which turned out beautiful. Thank you and God Bless these ladies of St. Mary Parish.

A Special Thank You to Arlene Iler-Yarrington for the monetary gift to pay for refurbishing the two candelabras. It was lovingly given in memory of her late husband Skip and son Greg. God Bless you!



Graduation Mass will be Sunday, May 4th at the 11:30 am Youth Mass. Please join the St. Mary community in celebrating. Seniors are invited to attend and wear cap and gown. Please meet in the back of the church and process in with Fr. Tim. A reception will be held in the Parish Ministry Center immediately following Mass.

Adult Altar Attendant Training: We will soon be conducting altar attendant training for any adults who would like to serve in the ministry of altar attendant. Adults who feel called to this ministry please call the parish office at 419-782-2776.

Defiance Catholic School Geranium Sale: The annual geranium sale, sponsored by the DCS Boosters, is underway. Cost is \$3. Pickup is Saturday, May 3, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. You may place your order with any Defiance Catholic School family, contact either campus office 782-2751 (St. Mary) 782-2136 (St. John), or may purchase geraniums the day of the sale at St. Mary's Arabella parking lot.

55 Plus Club will meet on Tuesday, April 22 at St. Michael's Ridge. Rosary will begin at 10:50 am, Mass at 11:00, catered dinner at 12:00 noon, meeting at 1:00 pm, followed by cards and bingo. Please call for dinner reservations: Dolores Ryan at 782-9441 or Georgiana Wagner at 497-3762. Committee members are Terry Frank, Virginia Rath, Francis Stehulak and Bernis Rahmel.

Eagle Eye Summer Institutes are week-long experiences, including two days of outdoor activity (hiking and camping) followed by five days of monastic prayer, philosophy and theology classes, and fun in an atmosphere conducive to true Christian friendship, including awesome activities. Please contact Amanda at amandaonfs@yahoo.com or visit www.soaringforwisdom.com for more information.

Marenda Inc., the low income housing corporation of the Catholic Diocese of Toledo is seeking an Associate Director to assume a leadership position after a twenty-four month training period. During this time the Associate Director will work with managers of low income housing projects, maintenance workers and office personnel to become familiar with the management of federally subsidized housing. A bachelor's degree and minimum of 5 years experience is required. The ideal candidate will be willing to work with people of diverse ethnic and class backgrounds and be a practicing Catholic committed to the values and missions of the church. Please submit your cover letter, resume with salary history and references to: The Toledo Diocese, Human Resources, PO Box 985, Toledo OH 43697. You may also email to rcoutts@toledodiocese.org. Deadline for resumes is May 23.

Teaching Tips for Students with Autism: As with all learners, students with Autism have their individual set of strengths and needs. Their strengths may include: a good memory for facts, logical thinking, and attention to detail. Their needs may reflect difficulties in communication and social skills, and difficulties with comprehension of abstract concepts. For fact sheets on Autism, visit these websites: www.exceptionalparents.org/autism.html or www.nichcy.org/pubs/factshe/fs1.pdf.

All women of St. Mary Parish are invited to:

Church Women United
May Friendship Day
Friday, May 2
First Presbyterian Church, Host
501 Washington
Church of the Brethren, Co-host

Registration is at 9:30 am. Brunch will be \$5 at 10:00 am. Reservations are needed by Monday, April 28th. Call Jean Lightle-Jackman at 419-784-4714 or Anne Steyer at 419-784-0564. There will be several speakers telling about their experiences on recent Mission Trips.

Lay Ministry Program: Are you being called to learn more about your faith, develop a deeper relationship with Jesus, and use your gifts and talents to help further God's mission? If this is the case, the Lay Ministry Program will assist you in your growth toward that goal.

Applications for the 8 month diocesan weekend program that begins in September are being accepted NOW. Interviews can be scheduled during the months of May, June, July and August. The application deadline is August 1st. Please visit the diocesan website to find out more about the program: www.toledodiocese.org (click on Evangelization, scroll to Lay Ministry Formation and click on that) or contact the Lay Ministry Office: phone 419-244-6711 or email cmurar@toledodiocese.org.

Applications can be obtained from the website and from your pastor. Completion and submission of an application form does not ensure acceptance into the program. The site for Year I will be Mercy College in Toledo and possibly St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin. The minimum number of participants for a site is 10.

Defiance Choir Boosters 2nd Annual Share a Talent Dinner & Auction: Friday, April 25 at 6:00 pm at Ketterring Country Club. Single: \$30, Couple: \$50. Dinner choice of Grilled Atlantic Salmon or Chicken Cordon Bleu. Pre-sale tickets only at Mix 98.1, Ketterring Country Club, Hubbard Company or Defiance High School.

Help the School: Please remember to save your Box Tops, Chief receipts, and ink cartridges. Bring them to either school campus or either church office. Thank you for your help!



SCHOOL NEWS

This is the week our sixth graders have been looking forward to, working toward, and planning for. They leave bright and early Monday morning for Chicago. They will be traveling by Amtrak and after they arrive and settle in, they will begin their sightseeing adventures. They will visit Shedd's Aquarium, the Field Museum and the Planetarium. They will return on Wednesday—wiser, a little tired, but with some good memories of their sixth grade trip to Chicago!

Defiance Catholic students will be helping out Defiance High School for their annual used book sale. This event is sponsored by the High School Boosters and the money earned goes to college book scholarships for the high school students. Our students have been asked to bring in any appropriate used books on Tuesday, April 22 and Wednesday, April 23. The sale takes place on Saturday, April 26 at the High School. If you would like to donate any books, please feel free to drop them off at either campus on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Thanks to all of you who bought Elder Beerman Community Day passes in March. That event brought in \$229.55 for our operating budget. Thank you, Kelly Monnin, for organizing that!

On Friday, April 25, Grades 3-6 are going to the YMCA for an afternoon of swimming, walking and/or gym activities.

The first graders, who are studying Africa, invited Fr. Tim to their classroom. Fr. Tim shared some of his African experiences with the students.

Our fourth graders have been studying the Ten Commandments. This is part of the Diocesan Religion course of study, but it also tied in with the theme of this year's Generations of Faith. The students put together a booklet of the many activities they did: a paper that stated the Commandment and then explained what it meant and how it was to be followed, a response to the question: What if we didn't have any commandments, commandment word searches and much more. If you see a fourth grader, ask them about their studies on the Ten Commandments.

Congratulations to Ann Blunt, our SCRIP coordinator! Ann was recognized for her volunteer efforts by the Volunteer Connection. She and her husband, Mike, attend the Awards Dinner on Saturday, April 26. Thanks Ann for YOU and all you do!

Have a pleasant week! Miss Sandy

EN THEOS - Enthusiasm for the Faith

What was Matthew's purpose in structuring the narrative of his Gospel around five major discourses of Jesus?

Matthew's community is primarily composed of Jews who have come to accept Jesus as the Messiah. They seem to be in conflict with other Jews who do not accept Jesus as Messiah, and who are beginning to ostracize them for such belief. This religious conflict is affecting Matthew's community identity as Jews, raising questions as to the legitimacy of their Jesus claims, as well as their fidelity to Jewish teachings and practice.

Matthew addresses these community concerns by structuring his Gospel in a way that brings reassurance to his community's belief in Jesus and their fidelity to Jewish Scriptures and traditions. Jesus is introduced as a true Jew of significant Jewish ancestry who is faithful to the law while broadening and deepening its understanding and application. Matthew contrasts Jesus to Moses, the premier Jewish teacher and lawgiver.

Just as Moses goes up the mountain to receive the law and teachings from God, so Jesus goes up a mountain (chapter 5) handing on to his followers the teaching he received directly from God. Just as Moses' teachings were ultimately collected into five books known as the Torah, so Matthew structures Jesus' teachings into five major discourses (chapters 5-7, 10, 13, 18, 23-25), paralleling the Torah. For Matthew's Jewish community, this structure would proclaim Jesus as the new Moses, who can be trusted because his teaching and authority come from God.

Why have you placed your faith and trust in Jesus?

Monthly retreats provide the soul with renewed graces certainly needed in today's world to keep us faithful and striving towards sanctity. Come with your whole family and friends to benefit from these Evenings of Recollection preached by the priests of Miles Christi. Two spiritual talks on specific aspects of our rich Catholic faith will be given, as well as ways to live them. Confessions are available throughout the evening. Eucharistic adoration, rosary, benediction, silent time for personal prayer, plus social time to share with other Catholics assure greater spiritual benefits for every soul and family. Please plan to attend Sunday, April 20 between 6:30–8:45 pm at the New Cleveland Holy Family Parish, Miller City.

Parish Finances - Stewardship of Treasure

Last Week You Gave.....	\$10,818.00
Need Weekly	\$10,885.00
Below Budget.....	(\$67.00)
Contributions to Date	\$466,836.73
\$10,885 x 42 Weeks	\$457,170.00
Year to Date <i>Above</i> Budget	\$9,666.73

Begin your golf season at Heartbeat's first annual golf outing May 17 at Fallen Timbers Fairways. Shotgun start at 1:00 pm. Entry fee is \$55 per person, \$220 per team. For further information call Dawn Weaver at 419-535-8729 or the Heartbeat office at 419-241-9131. Available hole sponsorships are 100% tax deductible. Early signup insures your place in the lineup.

Catholic Charities Family Connections Department Presents: Parents in Progress, adoption preparation class. Parenting and International Adoption. Saturday, April 26, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Catholic Charities Diocesan Building, 1933 Spielbusch Avenue, Toledo, Ohio. Parents in Process curriculum was developed by Holt International Adoption Agency to provide prospective adoptive parents with information about key issues related to international adoption. Classes are didactic, offer group interaction and discussion about parenting topics related to the lifelong journey of raising internationally adopted children. Specific knowledge and skills learned will enhance the attachment of the children to their new families and bring awareness of potential problems for future and when to seek professional assistance. Training meets Hague requirements. Cost for the training is \$200 per couple, \$100 for individuals. CEU's will be offered for social workers, nurses and counselors. Call Kathy Kwiatkowski to register at 419-244-6711, ext. 440 or email kkwiatkowski@toledodiocese.org. Lunch will be provided.

Daily Readings for This Week

Readings for the Week of April 20, 2008

Monday:	Acts 14:5-18/Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11
Friday:	1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21

WELCOME to our parish community! We are happy to have you here with us. A *special welcome* to any guests who may be visiting. May your visit be blessed.

Mass Intentions

Monday, April 21

8:00 AM Communion Service

Tuesday, April 22

8:00 AM Communion Service

2:15 PM Laurel's Mass

Wednesday, April 23

9:15 AM Richard Trame

Thursday, April 24

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Steffel

Friday, April 25

8:00 AM Helen Naylor

Saturday, April 26

4:30 PM Annabelle Hasselschwert

Sunday, April 27

8:00 AM Souls of the Faithfully Departed

9:30 AM For All God's Children

11:30 AM For All Parishioners of St. Mary Parish

Events For This Week

Monday, April 21

Charismatic Prayer Group	7:00 pm PMC
SVDP	7:00 pm PMC

Tuesday, April 22

Respect Life Committee	7:00 pm St. John's
------------------------	--------------------

Wednesday, April 23

Combined Liturgy Mtg	5:15 pm School
Shep of Christ Prayer Group	6:00 pm Church
Youth Choir	6:00 pm Chapel
Jr. High Group	7:00 pm School
Youth Group	7:00 pm PMC
Folk Group	7:30 pm Church

Thursday, April 24

Cantor Rehearsal	5:00 pm Church
First Eucharist Practice	6:30 pm Church

Friday, April 25

Spanish Bible Study	7:00 pm PMC
---------------------	-------------

Sunday, April 27

First Eucharist Sunday	
Celebrate the Word	9:30 am School
RCIA	10:30 am PMC
YES Meeting	1:00 pm PMC
Baptism	2:00 pm Church