



Community of Faith

April 12th – April 25th

M: St Mary • J: St Joseph

Tuesday, 4/13

St. Martin

9:00am M † Eugene Keeney

8:00am J St. Mary & St. Joseph Parishioners

Wednesday, 4/14

Weekday

9:00am M † Hilda Dreisbach

8:00am J † Rudolf Soltis

Thursday, 4/15

Weekday

9:00am M † Mary Sugra

8:00am J Careyva Children r/o mother

Friday, 4/16

Weekday

9:00am M † Benjamin Arduni

8:00am J † Catharine Miletics

Saturday, 4/17

Weekday

8:00am J † John Fodor

Alleluia

3rd Sunday of Easter • Year B

4:00pm J † Michael & Ann Krajnikovich

r/o Dave & Nancy Krajnikovich

5:30pm M † Stanley & Irene Piaskowski

r/o Stan & Marie Piaskowski

Sunday, 4/18 3rd Sunday of Easter • Year B

8:30am J † Mary & Mike Pepper r/o Nahas family

10:00am M † ILM Theresa Sadowski

r/o god-daughter, Virginia

Tuesday, 4/20

Weekday

9:00am M St. Mary & St. Joseph Parishioners

8:00am J † Tony Valanty r/o Alice Valanty

Wednesday, 4/21

St. Anselm

9:00am M † Roy Gius r/o Dolores Gius

8:00am J † Lorraine Yapsuga

Thursday, 4/22

Weekday

9:00am M † Joseph Wolfer

8:00am J † Bill Evancho r/o Ray & Lynn Kuruc

Friday, 4/23

St. George

9:00am M † Stephen Frisch

8:00am J † Joseph Keller

Saturday, 4/24

St. Fidelis

8:00am J † Anna Stella Bahnick

4th Sunday of Easter • Year B

4:00pm J † Carmen Fierro r/o Theresa Novak

5:30pm M † Helen Bukota r/o Tait family

Sunday, 4/25 4th Sunday of Easter • Year B

8:30am J † Sam Sposato r/o Nancy & Dave Krajnikovich

10:00am M † David Dillman r/o Dillman family

† First Holy Communion – Kennedy Dillman

+ Liturgy & Worship

We welcome today the second Sunday of Easter or what has become known as Divine Mercy Sunday. In today's Gospel, Christ presented Himself to His disciples. He restored their peace and commissioned them as ministers of the sacrament of reconciliation, the sacrament of mercy.

When Jesus appeared to the disciples again, His mercy met Thomas's lack of faith. Jesus' mercy doesn't scold him for his faith not being as it should be. It was not easy for Thomas to believe Christ had risen. Thomas was angry that the others had encountered the risen Jesus and he did not. He not only wanted to experience Jesus but he wanted to verify in a tangible way that Jesus was truly alive by putting his finger into the nail wound. "Unless I see, unless I touch, I will not believe." so said Thomas. And yet when he does experience the risen Jesus, his anger and his need to touch vanish.

It sounds very reasonable and very logical. It represents the rational approach so much in vogue today. If something is obscure, all we have to do is shed a ray of scientific light on it and it becomes clear. However, there are aspects of life which cannot be understood by purely rational means. Science isn't everything.

The resurrection of Jesus is a mystery of faith. It is beyond our natural comprehension. No one witnessed the actual event itself but many were witnesses of the Risen Christ Himself. Because of this encounter, Thomas's doubt are acknowledged and transformed into a reaffirmation of his already deep faith: "My Lord and my God".

The doubting incident of Thomas closes with these words for us. Jesus says: "Thomas you have believed because you have seen me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe".

Seeing and hearing can be crutches which prevent us from thinking, feeling and imagining. When a person knows something, really knows it deep down in his heart, he doesn't have to argue about it or prove it. He just knows and that is enough.

We are no longer sufficiently aware of the importance of what we cannot know intellectually and which we must know in other ways.

Rationalists approach God and religion as something that can be understood and explained. Mystics approach God as something mysterious that can neither be understood nor explained but only experienced.

Faith takes us where our senses cannot go.

❖ **LAST 2 SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:** M: \$1734 J: \$2141

April Upcoming Collections:

Holy Thursday, Easter, Weekly, Dues, Bldg. Mother's Day



Jaden Leiby • J.P. • J.A



Please pray for our

First Communion Candidates:

@ M: Joshua Heckman: 4/3

Kennedy Dillman: 4/25

@ J: Owen Titus: 5/16

Janel Patrick: 5/23

❖ **K of C Happenings:** Council 16072

▶ 4/11 @ J Rosary prior to mass

▶ 4/18 @ M Rosary prior to mass

Monthly Meeting following Mass @ SM

▶ **Knights of Columbus Council 16072 Scholarship** – Due date is April 16th – Information can be found on the parish website. Seniors from either of our parishes are encouraged to apply.

► **THANK YOU** to the parishioners of St. Mary & St. Joseph who contributed to the 40 Cans for 40 Days Lenten Campaign. From your generosity we collected 1370 lbs of canned food which will be delivered to the local food banks.

God bless all who were able to contribute!

☀️ As warmer weather approaches, we will continue with our outside Mass. We are asking parishioners to follow the CDC guidelines. Please come dressed for outside weather and bring a chair if standing will be an issue.

❖ **Landscaping & New Church Sign** is needed for St. Mary's. Sponsors are being sought. The cost is approximately \$1,500. With your help we can make the outside as welcoming as the inside just in time for summer! Form of payment can be cash/checks made payable to: St. Mary's Church. Thank you for donating!



❖ **St. Mary's: Fri/Sat: June 11/12.** We are busy making plans for our block party and our basket auction which, thanks to your generous hearts,

has been a great fundraiser for our parish.

► We are seeking donations of water and brand name soda only for the Block Party.

► We are also asking our parishioners once again to generously consider donating a basket or items for the auction. If you would like to donate but cannot get out to purchase items, we can shop for you. Gift cards and certificates are always a great idea. If you need help, please call the office or Arlene at 570-590-5810. We will be more than happy to wrap your gift basket!

More information to come in future bulletins.



❖ **Grand Raffle @ J:** Thank to you all who sponsored a Grand Raffle prize! We met and even exceeded our goal of 50 prizes thanks to your generosity.

We are now preparing the ticket for print.

❖ **Altar/Runway Rugs** sponsors are being sought for St. Joseph's Church/Chapel rugs. The cost is approx. \$1,000. Form of payment can be cash/checks made payable to:

St. Joseph Church. Thank you for donating!

Anonymous	\$30
Linda Kellock	\$25
Anonymous	\$500
Travis Tyler Martz	\$50
Total donated to date	\$605

❖ **Redner's Save-A-Tape:** Save your receipts, put them in Sunday Stewardship. (M) benefit 1%. **For your receipts to count toward the church you must sign up at Redners service desk!**

✝️ The weekend of **April 17th & 18th** we kick off the **2021 Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal (BWAC).**

We are so grateful for your continued generosity to this important diocesan fundraising initiative. The Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal funds the annual budget that offers vital services like Catholic Charities, care for our retired and infirmed priests, education of Seminarians and Deacons, Catholic schools and support for our centers for special learning. We encourage you to join us in making your gift to the BWAC and support these important ministries.

Together we will make a difference in the lives of many people. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. To make your gift, please return the pledge form that you will receive in the mail or visit the Appeal's website at www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org or call the Appeal Office at 800-831-4443.

► **St. Joseph's, Frackville** is excited to announce we are in the process of planning a summer Vacation Bible School. We are hoping to be able to put together an outdoor program that is safe and fun for everyone. At this point we are planning for the week of August 16-20, 2021. The program will run from 6-8pm each evening in the former St. Ann's grove. The theme is "Rocky Railway." If you have children between the ages of 4-12 and are interested in signing up there is a pre-registration sign-up sheet at **St. Mary & St. Joseph's church**. Once it gets closer more information will be sent to your home, so please fill out the information such as name, address, phone #, age and t-shirt size. We would like to get an approximate number of children interested.

Marian Catholic High School **OPEN HOUSE**

Sunday, May 2nd, 12:00pm-1:00pm

Meet our administration, faculty, staff, and some of our students! Learn about financial assistance, transportation, and academics. To register for this event, please call Mary Milosh at 570-467-3335 Ext. 116 or mmilosh@mariancatholicshs.org

Commission for Men Monthly Rosary

As we enter into this new year, the Commission for Men will be hosting a monthly rosary for men and their families every 3rd Wednesday at 7:00pm. Join us to pray for peace in our nation and in our world, for an end to the coronavirus pandemic, and for an increase in vocations to religious life and priesthood – in our Diocese and throughout the Church.

For more information and to pray the next rosary on **Wednesday, April 21st at 7PM**, check out the website:

<https://www.menaliveinchrist.org/mens-rosary/>

Men and their families are welcome!

Community Events: Shepton Oneida Bingo April 11, Doors open 12 noon. Plenty of room for distancing. • **Helen Roulin \$100 Scholarship:** 9-12th grade high school girls in the Ringtown area for their involvement and leadership in community activities. Forms @ Church. Return applications to Rev. Craig Zimmerman by May 2nd to be considered.

Any questions call Rev Craig Zimmerman at 889-3074 or 590-9572.

