

All Souls Saturday will begin February 22nd. Please submit your names for the service with your envelope or call Linda in the office 330-792-1578

ST. MARY'S CHURCH HISTORY COLLECTION DRIVE

Our St. Mary's 125th anniversary celebration this summer will be here before we know it! In addition to any photos and memorabilia you may have, we're also trying to record what activities and groups our current and former parishioners participated in. If you helped just one time or were involved for many years, please help us compile this part of our parish's history.

You'll find blank forms at our church entrances that allow you to simply check boxes or fill in spaces with any memories or stories. Take one or more for family members, fill it out, enclose it in an envelope and drop it in our baskets marked, "Parishioner Memories." You can also mail them to our office at 356 S. Belle Vista Ave., Youngstown, OH 44509.

If you have any questions, please contact Dave Ragan at 614-370-0221. Thanks!

Home chefs and bakers --- We are collecting recipes to create a cookbook to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of St. Mary's Church.

We are looking for (4-6) of your tried-and-true family recipes, like appetizers, casseroles, desserts, holiday favorites, etc. and especially traditional ethnic dishes. If you have a special story behind the recipe, please include it.

Your recipe should contain the following data:

1. Contributor name and phone number
2. Recipe Title
3. List of ingredients with accurate measurements
4. Preparation and cooking time
5. Step-by-step directions

You can drop a copy of your recipe(s) in the basket marked "RECIPES" in the church vestibule or mail them to:

St. Mary's Byzantine Church, "Recipes"
356 S. Belle Vista Ave. Youngstown OH 44509

If you have any questions, call Martie Tomaino @ (330) 727-2913 or Fr. John @ (330) 799-8163

Thank you!
Cookbook Committee

Schedule of Divine Services: February 16th, 2025

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

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SAT. 4:30 p.m. Health and Blessings of Parishioners

SUN. 10:30 a.m. +Don Danko by Rosary Society

Mon. 10:30 a.m. No Liturgy

Tue. 10:30 a.m. No Liturgy

Wed. 10:30 a.m. No Liturgy

Thu. 10:30 a.m. +Karen Muransky by Dave and Peggy Myers

Fri. 10:30 a.m. No Liturgy

SUNDAY OF MEAT-FARE

SAT. 4:30 p.m. *FIRST ALL SOULS COMMEMORTION*

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SUN. 10:30 a.m. Health and Blessings of Parishioners

When I foolishly spurned your Fatherly glory, I squandered the wishes you had given me on evil deeds. So now I cry out to you with the voice of the Prodigal Son: I have sinned against you. O merciful Father: accept my repentance and treat me as one of your hired servants.



The Parable of the Prodigal Son

In the gospel of Luke, Jesus tells the well-known parable of the prodigal son. A son asks his father for his inheritance, then squanders it recklessly as he lives a life of indulgence. With nothing left of his fortune, he is forced to work as a hired hand for a pig farmer. He is so destitute that he longs to eat the food of the pigs. Realizing that his father's servants have better working conditions, he resolves to return to his father, beg forgiveness, and ask to be his servant.

However, upon arriving at his father's house, he is welcomed with loving arms. His father is overwhelmed with joy at his son's return, and holds a feast in his honor:

However, the prodigal son's older brother, who has remained serving in his father's house, does not share his father's joy. Instead, he is jealous that his father has not honored him. His father urges him not to resent his brother, but to instead be happy for him.

The Love of God the Father

The story of the prodigal son is a picture of God's love for us as His children. God's love for us does not depend on our faithfulness; it is unconditional. He loved us while we were still sinners. Though we are demanding and do not remain faithful, God is still our faithful and loving Father. When we come to repent of our sins, He is willing to forgive us and welcomes us with open arms.

Loving the Family of God

The example of the elder son demonstrates how we should not treat other believers. We are all equal in His sight — sinners saved by God's grace. Jesus tells this parable shortly after a group of Pharisees and scribes complained about how Jesus was fraternizing with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus responds to their criticisms with the parable of the lost sheep and the parable of the lost coin, demonstrating His willingness to pursue sinners.

Christ depicted as the Good Shepherd

If Jesus, the King over all creation, values the least of these, how much more so should we? We should not hold ourselves in higher regard than those whose sins we deem "worse" than ours but love and accept them as fellow members of the church. We are to share in their joys and sorrows and live in harmony with them.

FEBUARY-MARCH EVENTS!

MARK YOUR CALENDERS

***Come out and support our church
and our sponsored guests!***

New Night for Bingo

***Starting February 5th our Sunday night Bingo will move to Wednesdays
New Games as well as new computer bingo (paper bingo will still be available)***

FEBRUARY 22ND COOKIES AND COCKTAILS (SOCIAL HALL)

***Sponsored by the "Mahoning Valley Historical Society"
Please contact Linda for tickets and details (330-743-2589)***

FEBRUARY 28TH PURSE BINGO (SOCIAL HALL)

***Sponsored by (DSAV) "Down Syndrome Association of the Valley"- Non-
Profit. Please contact Debbie for tickets and
information (330-980-8711)***

Night at the Races -Circle of Friends (ALTA) (Social Hall)

***March 8th, please contact Linda in the Church office for ticket information
330-792-1578***