

This Week at Our ParishesSunday, February 4: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Readings: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147:1-6; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39
- Prayers: Glorious mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary prayed at Our Lady of Grace
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at OLG for † Thelma Betlejewski by Ron Betlejewski
- 9:00 a.m. Santa misa en Santa María (Español)
- 10:00 a.m. Champurrado and snack sale at St. Mary
- 10:00 a.m. Parish Breakfast at Our Lady of Grace
- 10:00 a.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Marty Neff by his family
- 12:00 p.m. Rosario rezó en Santa María (Español)
- 12:30 p.m. Santa misa en Santa María (Español) for the people of our parishes
- 1:30 p.m. Champurrado and snack sale at St. Mary
- 3:00 p.m. Presentation on Human Suffering at St. Mary
- 4:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary
- 4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary

Monday, February 5: St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

- Readings: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132:6-10; Mk 6:53-56
- Prayers: Joyful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 9:30 a.m. Grace and Comfort Sewing Ministry at OLG
- 11:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration at OLG
- 11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
- 12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at OLG † for the special intentions of Matthew and Amy Koczur by Rich and Karen Surmont
- 12:45 p.m. Cenacle of Life Rosary at Our Lady of Grace
- 6:30 p.m. English as a Second Language classes at OLG

Tuesday, February 6: St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

- Readings: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Ps 84:3-5, 10-11; Mk 7:1-13
- Prayers: Sorrowful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 8:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration at Our Lady of Grace
- 8:00 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass at OLG for † Michael Wright by Darlene Homfield, JoAnn Rillma and Judy Nauta
- 6:30 p.m. RCIA classes at Our Lady of Grace

Wednesday, February 7

- Readings: 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40; Mk 7:14-23
- Prayers: Glorious mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 5:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary
- 6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 6:15 p.m. Religious Education classes at OLG
- 6:30 p.m. Santa misa en Santa María

Thursday, February 8: St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Bakhita

- Readings: 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40; Mk 7:24-30
- Prayers: Luminous mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 11:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary
- 11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Bob Ferenz by Judy McAlister
- 12:45 p.m. Mother of Perpetual Help devotion at St. Mary
- 6:30 p.m. Taller de Oración y Vida at Santa María

Friday, February 9

- Readings: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Ps 81:10-15; Mk 7:31-37
- Prayers: Sorrowful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 11:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary
- 11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary
- 12:45 p.m. Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus at St. Mary

Saturday, February 10: St. Scholastica, Virgin

- Readings: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Ps 106:6-7, 19-22; Mk 8:1-10
- Prayers: Joyful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 3:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration at Our Lady of Grace
- 3:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
- 4:00 p.m. Holy Mass at OLG for † Tom Carlson by Kay Carlson

Sunday, February 11: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Readings: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45
- Prayers: Glorious mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary prayed at Our Lady of Grace
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at OLG for † Joel Gustin by Jason and Jamie Gustin
- 9:00 a.m. Santa misa en Santa María (Español) for the people of our parishes
- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship and donuts at Our Lady of Grace
- 10:00 a.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Joey Hekkema by the Hekkema family
- 12:00 p.m. Private Party at Our Lady of Grace
- 12:00 p.m. Rosario rezó en Santa María (Español)
- 12:30 p.m. Santa misa en Santa María (Español)
- 1:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Council #9802 insurance meeting at St. Mary
- 2:00 p.m. Private recording at St. Mary
- 3:00 p.m. Presentation on Human Suffering at St. Mary
- 4:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary
- 4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary
- 7:00 p.m. Grupo de la biblia hispánica en Santa María

Presentation on Human Suffering

based on an Apostolic Letter of St. Pope John Paul II  
 “On the Christian Meaning of Human Suffering”  
 Presented by Deacon Bill Cook  
 Starts TODAY! February 4 and 11, 2018  
 3:00pm at St. Mary’s

Mass Attendance: January 28, 2018

OLG 4:00pm: 189	OLG 9:00am: 131
SM 9:00am: 59	SM 10:30am: 200
SM 12:30pm: 169	SM 5:00pm: 159

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“The duty of offering God genuine worship concerns man both individually and socially. This is ‘the traditional Church teaching on the moral duty of individuals and societies toward the true religion and the one Church of Christ.’ By constantly evangelizing men, the Church works toward enabling them ‘to infuse the Christian spirit into the mentality and mores, laws and structures of the communities in which [they] live.’ The social duty of Christians is to respect and awaken in each man the love of the true and the good. It requires them to make known the worship of the one true religion which subsists in the Catholic and apostolic Church. Christians are called to be the light of the world. Thus, the Church shows forth the kingship of Christ over all creation and in particular over human societies.” (CCC 2105)

**Prayer Line**

St. Mary’s: Benita Mikesell, 231-803-4425  
or Jean Gawel, 231-798-8493

Our Lady of Grace: Anna Mogdics, 231- 670-5073

**Prayer Requests**

**Please keep these individuals in your prayers**

Phil Hoos, Frank and Nancy Cereska, Evelyn Smith, Diane Williams, Mike and Patti Birkhold, Larry Gilbert, Fred Kenny, Jr., Yvonne Petersen, Delores Zakroczemski, John Potter, Ellis Dilts, Rose Marie Mikesell, Ron Betlejewski, Ben Offrink, Gail Gee, Betty Gee, John McCormick, Sotero Leyton, Billie Leonard, Gloria Cline, Pat Hogan, Jeff Kenny, Shirley Green, Ron Faino, Jose Alcahuter, Christine Siedlecki, Ralph Alvesteffer, Bill Forton, William & Benita Mikesell

**Please pray for our homebound parishioners**

Ruth Stevens, Jim Dalum, Rose Ann Bird, Bernice Brown, Rosemary Keefe, Vivian Smith, Betty Reilly & Johanna Ripka

**Please pray for our parishioners who are in care**

Dorothy Bauer, Eugene Rewalt, Arlene LeBeau, Carolene McIntosh, Pat Simonson, Jackie Blake, Shirley Sterritt, Ruth Ruby, Gene Gianetti Jr., Rosalie Venne, Alyce Donalson, Lucille Radke, Kathy Hale & Tillie Standage

**Please pray for our parishioners in the military**

PFC Abraham Angel Luis Aguilar; SSG. Richarda (Rikki) Amaya; Private Jakob Bergquist; Spec. Alex Block; Nic Frank, Air Force; IS3 Cody Hacker; Erin McDermott, US Army; Fireman Ryan McIntire, US Coast Guard; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Timothy Merkle; Wade Sanford, U.S. Air Force; Andrew Shadowski, U. S. Army; Major Adam Shaw; Staff Sgt. Casey Sowa; Master Sgt. April Sowa; Noah Sweet, U. S. Army; Elias Vihtelic, US Navy

**2017 Contribution Statements**

2017 Statements were mailed out the week of January 14th to those parishioners whose contributions were greater than \$200.00. If you did not receive yours or if you donated less than \$200.00 and would like one or you have any questions, please contact Amy in the parish office at ext. 12.

**Adult Faith Formation**

Sunday, February 18, 2018  
following the 5:00pm Mass at St. Mary’s

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information!

Please note: MCC Voucher parents are required to attend.

**Sacrificial Offerings & Other Contributions**

**January 28, 2018**

**Our Lady of Grace**

Budgeted Weekly Amount:	\$	5,544.00	
General Fund	\$	3714.00	
Online-Giving	\$	637.40	-1192.60
Heat	\$	200.00	
1/21/18 Donuts	\$	40.00	

**St. Mary’s Church**

Budgeted Weekly Amount	\$	7,128.75	
General Fund	\$	4434.42	
Online-Giving	\$	364.30	
Christmas	\$	25.00	
Solemnity of Mary	\$	10.00	-2295.03
Heat	\$	310.00	
Restoration	\$	105.00	
Retirement for Religious	\$	15.00	
1/28/18 Donuts	\$	41.61	

Contribution Counters: Week of February 4  
OLG Team 2 - St. Mary Team 2

**Lent 2018**



**Ash Wednesday Mass**

February 14, 2018

12:10pm at St. Mary  
6:30pm at Our Lady of Grace  
6:30pm en Santa María (Español)

**Stations of the Cross**

Each Friday during Lent  
6:00pm

February 16 Our Lady of Grace  
February 23 St. Mary  
March 2 Our Lady of Grace  
March 9 St. Mary (Español)  
March 16 Our Lady of Grace  
March 23 St. Mary\*

\*Children will walk the Stations with Fr. Matt.

**Palms for Ash Wednesday**

Please return your 2017 palms to church so they may be burned to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. Baskets are located at entrances at both churches. Please return your palms by February 11th.

**Volunteer Ministry Opportunities**

**Religious Education**

The Director of Religious Education is currently looking for an energetic person to assist in the Middle School Youth Group program. If you are interested, please contact Kacey Kersman at 231-722-2803, ext. 16 or email her at dre@stmarysmuskegon.org or dre@olgmuskegon.org.

**Music Ministry**

Do you have a good voice and the desire to serve the Lord with your talent? If so, we need you! Our Lady of Grace church is currently looking for cantors to lead the congregation in song during the 4:00pm Saturday and the 9:00am Sunday Masses. If you are interested, please talk to the pianist or cantor after Mass, or call the parish office for more information.

**Bereavement Ministry**

Deacon Bill Cook is looking for two volunteers from each parish to help start a grief support ministry. If you are interested, please call Deacon at 231-329-9504.

**Liturgy Helpers**

St. Mary's is in need of Lectors, Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Sacristans for the 10:30am and 5:00pm Masses. If interested, please call the parish office.

**Mobile Food Pantry Ministry**

We are in need of someone to organize the Mobile Food Pantry Ministry. If the Lord is calling you to this ministry please contact the parish office. Training will be provided.

**Environment Sacristan**

St. Mary's is in need of someone to care for the sanctuary plants and flowers as well as other environmental elements during specific liturgical seasons. If interested, please call the parish office.

**One At A Time Ministry**

This ministry provides home repairs, renovations and the support necessary to allow fellow parishioners to live with dignity. If you have questions or are interested, please contact Greg Russick at 231-755-0180.



**Catholic Friends**

Catholic Friends is an opportunity for parishioners of St. Mary's & Our Lady of Grace who are in their 30's-50's to build Community and Faith. Current events include:

- Saturday, February 24: (time/location tbd) Book Discussion of Fr. Matt's Christmas present to us, "Saints For Our Times." (Extra copies are in the back of Church).

Please watch the bulletin for upcoming events, including a Tour of the Parishes, Soup & Stations, Movie Night, Catholic Scavenger Hunt, and more!

Have ideas, suggestions, questions, or want more info? Call/text Amy Paquin at 616-443-1760 or email her at CatholicFriendsMuskegon@gmail.com

**CCWM News**

On behalf of myself and program supervisor, Laura Cunningham, we are pleased to share with you that we have received the results of the *Meijer Simply Give Holiday Campaign*. Due to the generosity of the community, including your parish, we raised \$97,560 to continue our mission of addressing food insecurity in Muskegon. This is the largest award our food pantry has received to date in one campaign! We are excited to share this amazing news and to say, thank you for supporting the work of Catholic Charities West Michigan's food & baby pantry. We look forward to being more innovative in the coming year to promote health and feed the hungry of Muskegon with this generous donation. I hope to see many of you at *Soup's On Along The Lakeshore* so I can personally say, thank you.

Tiffany Page  
Director, Community Outreach Programs



Pray for the holy souls  
in purgatory.



**CONGRATULATIONS  
Education Endowment Raffle Winners!**

**January 28, 2018**

50/50: \$32.00 Jane Tomzcak

1st Prize: \$100.00 Phil Hoos

Join us for coffee, donuts & the next drawing following the 10:30 a.m. Mass on **February 25, 2018** in Lourdes Hall.

Please contact the parish office to purchase tickets for the \$100.00 drawing.

**Diocesan Women's Conference**

Saturday, March 17, 2018

9:00am - 3:00pm

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church  
6390 Belmont Ave, NE, Belmont, MI 49306

\$30.00 includes lunch

Topic: Love Always Wins

presented by Mary Lenaburg

For more information and to register, please visit:

<http://www.dioceseofgrandrapids.org>



**St. Mary's**

- Lauren Hagman



## Evangelization Clip

by Deacon Jim Schiltz

Repetition gets our attention. Since Ordinary Time began twenty-seven days ago, eight Gospels including today's show **Jesus driving out unclean spirits and demons**. Repetition in the news (printed media, radio, magazines, and on-line reporting) present to us an opioid epidemic. Sadly, for an addicted person, an **opioid addiction may become today's unclean spirit or demon**. Families need to **understand** the "opioid demon" and **educate the young**. Seeking help through **prayer and action** are vital. I attended the Rotary Club meeting on January 25, 2018. The reporter was Peg Maniates and this is what she shared with us: The national war on opioid addiction is a battle being fought in every town in America. Muskegon is no exception. What makes us unique are the coordinated efforts between the many different faces of the national problem. We were then presented with a panel of four distinct views and solutions to combat the problem within our own community. The facts are scary; the United States suffers more deaths in one year (64,070 in 2016) from the opioid crisis than the country lost during the entire Vietnam War. Michigan ranks 8th in the nation for the problem with more opioid prescriptions written in Michigan every year than there are residents: 172,188. A more sobering fact: Muskegon County is number 1 in Michigan for hospitalizations for opioid overdoses in Michigan. The epicenters in Muskegon County are not all where we would believe them to be; more affluent areas have their share of addiction problems also. The panel's presentations put into focus what our county is doing to contain the problem. "First we must prevent the problem" stated Daniel Nelson, a recovering addict. Mr. Nelson related his story of how a high school sports injury led him down the dark path to addiction. He stressed to the audience, "Don't focus on the war on drugs; fight the war on stopping addictions before they start." Nelson emphasized early education of students before they are ever presented with the problem. Second: clarify the laws. Muskegon Police Chief Jeff Lewis explained the difficulties faced by law enforcement. Lewis discussed the uptick in crimes associated with the increase in addiction. He would like to see the legislature clarify what are chargeable and non-chargeable offenses. Chief Lewis explained that law enforcement, the medical profession, and the legislature all need to be on the same page for the community to solve the problem. Furthering his request, he said there are many crimes associated with addiction; as a community, we must be alert and ready to deal with them. Third: remember this is a national problem, not just a local problem, explained DJ Hilson, Muskegon County Prosecutor. Hilson discussed with the members and community, "We need a strong response across the board. Who is the Victim and who is the Offender." It's the leading cause of death in Americans under the age of 50. DJ went on to explain how the synthetic forms of the drugs require a much smaller dosage to be lethal. Lastly: compassion. John Systema, a local Funeral Director brought the problem back to its base level - those left behind. Systema emphasized "caring for the families who are affected by overdose and suicide... helping those who must grieve." They did not plan or prepare to bury a loved one and it is an extreme emotional and financial journey. The long-time funeral director left us with a sobering number to contemplate—we are all 6 people or fewer from knowing a drug addict. Drug addiction knows no boundaries, it does not discriminate between rich or poor or ethnicity. What can we as Catholics do to help? 1) Know the Warning Signs; 2) Use Proper Medication Disposal; 3) Spread the Word; 4) Get Involved with a Community Partner. For more information, please visit <http://www.opioidaware.org/>

### Catholic Q & A

Q: Why does Jesus give himself to us as food and drink?

A: Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist as spiritual nourishment because he loves us. God's whole plan for our salvation is directed to our participation in the life of the Trinity, the communion of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Our sharing in this life begins with our Baptism, when by the power of the Holy Spirit we are joined to Christ, thus becoming adopted sons and daughters of the Father. It is strengthened and increased in Confirmation. It is nourished and deepened through our participation in the Eucharist. By eating the Body and drinking the Blood of Christ in the Eucharist we become united to the person of Christ through his humanity. "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him" (Jn 6:56). In being united to the humanity of Christ we are at the same time united to his divinity. Our mortal and corruptible natures are transformed by being joined to the source of life. "Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me" (Jn 6:57). By being united to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, we are drawn up into the eternal relationship of love among the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As Jesus is the eternal Son of God by nature, so we become sons and daughters of God by adoption through the sacrament of Baptism. Through the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation (Chrismation), we are temples of the Holy Spirit, who dwells in us, and by his indwelling we are made holy by the gift of sanctifying grace. The ultimate promise of the Gospel is that we will share in the life of the Holy Trinity. The Fathers of the Church called this participation in the divine life "divinization" (theosis). In this we see that God does not merely send us good things from on high; instead, we are brought up into the inner life of God, the communion among the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In the celebration of the Eucharist (which means "thanksgiving") we give praise and glory to God for this sublime gift. Taken from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website: [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)