

# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

ST. MARY'S IS A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ON A JOURNEY OF FAITH WHOSE  
PURPOSE IS TO WITNESS CHRIST'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

**Come join us downstairs for coffee & donuts after Sunday's Mass.**

## **From the Pastor:**

The spirit of Advent largely consists in living close to Our Lady. During this time when she is carrying Jesus in her womb, we think of our whole life and that very moment when we will be with God forever. There is no better way to prepare for Christmas than by keeping Mary company, getting to know her and deepening our love and trust in her.

Mary imparts a great joy to our souls. She is the mediatrix of all graces. Mary also teaches us to hope. She proclaimed that, "all generations will call me blessed." This would be rather unusual if someone to that these same words, but Our Lady knew her role in salvation. She wanted to be a Mother of hope. What a contract between Our Lady's hope and our own impatience.

Blessed Jose Escriva says, "We call so often upon God to reward us at once for any good we may have done. For us, no sooner does the very first difficulty appear than we begin to complain. Often we find ourselves incapable of sustaining our efforts, or keeping our hope alive."

Today many people are losing hope and even hope in God. How does someone lose hope and become discouraged? Very often it is those who do not desire holiness and eternal life. They immerse themselves in an immediate hope like wealth, health, comfort and give up on the things of God. This attitude can be shaped by a lack of faith, lukewarmness, or laziness. Discouragement, if it is not remedied, paralyzes any effort to do good and overcome difficulties. Sometimes, one's failure to advance in the spiritual life come from a lack of will power, fear of the efforts that will be needed to maintain a life with God, or the fact that we might have to give up disordered attachments to the senses.

The hope is that whoever does things for the love of God and for His Glory never fails. It is the fourth Sunday in Advent and we only have a few days before we see Our Lord lying in the manger. From the stable of Bethlehem to the moment of his ascension into Heaven, Jesus proclaims a message of hope. Jesus himself is our only hope. He is the firm pledge that we will attain to the Heavenly kingdom which has been promised. Our greatest object of hope is the supreme happiness of the eternal possession of God.

We confidently hope that one day He will give us eternal blessedness, and pardon for our sins with the fullness of grace. Until then we are going to struggle against those lesser forms of despair which we experience as a loss of heart and dejection or excessive focus on material things.

Hope leads us to abandon ourselves in God and to do all that we can to choose the ascetical struggle. We will begin this struggle time and time again, but we must be constant and have patience in adversity. Let us this week trust more in the providence of God. In other words, He will work it out in good time. We just need to wait on the Lord and continue hoping in His mercy and for that keep company with Our Lady, Mother of Hope!

## **UNDERSTANDING THE MASS: THE ALTAR:**

Altar cloth and Liturgical colors: The uppermost cloth covering the altar must always be white. When other clothes are used in addition to the altar cloth, they may be of other colors possessing Christian honorific or festive significance. In keeping with the church's liturgical season, provided that the uppermost cloth is white.

Altar Location: The altar should be built apart from the wall, in such a way that it is possible to walk around it easily and that Mass can be celebrated facing the people, which is desirable wherever possible. The altar should be located in such a way that the attention of the entire congregation of the faithful naturally turns toward it.

**POPE BENEDICT:** Father Fortunato Di Noto, founder of the Meter Association that helped U.S. and Italian authorities uncover 100 online pedophile communities earlier this year, is thanking Benedict XVI for his strong stand against pedophilia. The Pope met last week with Cardinal Sean Brady, president of the Irish episcopal conference, and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin, to discuss the Murphy Commission Report, which details abuse cases in the Dublin Archdiocese from 1975 to 2004. A Vatican communiqué reported that the Holy Father expressed his "outrage, betrayal and shame" over the scandal of abuse by clergy. Father Di Noto praised the Holy Father's reaction, and affirmed that his organization is "available to help the Irish bishops." "All sexual abuse of children is tragic -- it is an enormous sin," he said. In the case of a priest-perpetrators, Father Di Noto said, "It should never have happened." "To the Pope -- to this Pope -- who is doing so much to fight against pedophilia in the clergy and to defend children, I say: We are with you. Go forth with strength for the little ones." Father Di Noto, a native of Sicily, has worked over the last 15 years to secure 1,064 charges against pedophiles and worked some 780 cases. "Meter," he noted, "has undertaken important International investigations and has given hope to many children."

**THANK YOU:** We would like to thank all the people who helped with the Vianney Production from donations to helping set up and tear down. Also thanks to the women who furnished the food for the actors.

**WEEKLY BIBLE VERSES TO MEMORIZE: Mt 7:21** "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven: but he who does the will of my Father in heaven shall enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Mt 24:13** But whoever perseveres to the end, he shall be saved.

# 4th Sunday of Advent December 20 2009

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<b>Monday, Dec. 21</b> <u>Peter Canisius, priest &amp; doctor</u>	
7:00 pm	Mass † Bill Nirschl/Carl Duchek
6:00 pm-12:00 am	Adoration
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 22</b> <u>Advent Weekday</u>	
7:00 am	Mass All Priests/Shirley Baker
*7:00 pm	NO RCIA Class
12:01 am-12:00 am	Adoration
<b>Wednesday, Dec. 23</b> <u>John of Kanty, priest</u>	
5:15 pm	Confession
6:00 pm	Mass † Dave & Rose Baker/Burnetts
*6:30 pm	No RE
*12:01 am-6:00 pm	Adoration
<b>Thursday, Dec. 24</b> <u>Vigil of Christmas</u>	
7:00 am	Mass Christine Wilkens/Mary Harris
*5:00 pm	Vigil Christmas Mass/For the Pope
*10:00 pm	Holy Hour
*11:30 pm	Christmas Music begins
*12:00am	Midnight Christmas mass/For Parish
*12:01am-12:00 am	NO Adoration
<b>Friday, Dec. 25</b> <u>Nativity of the Lord/Christmas</u>	
*5:45 am	NO Men's Bible & Faith Study
*8:30 am	Holy Hour
*10:00 am	Christmas Mass
*12:01 am-10:00 am	NO Adoration
<b>Saturday, Dec. 26</b> <u>Stephen, first martyr</u>	
*8:00 am	NO Mass
3:30 pm	Confession
4:30 pm	Rosary
5:00 pm	Schultz/Wolfgram/Burnett
<b>Sunday, Dec. 27</b> <u>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</u>	
8:00-9:00 am	Holy Hour
9:15 am	Confessions
9:30 am	Rosary
10:00 am	Mass † Laura Moore/Carl Duchek
11:30 am	Mass (Sp) For the Parish

**ADORATION:** Adoration will close on Wednesday Dec. 23 at 6:00 pm it will reopen on Jan. 4th at 6:00 pm. We will have two holy hours during Christmas before each Mass. We are looking for a person to spend one hour with our Lord at 3 am on Friday, 3pm and 8 pm on Wednesday, 1 am on Thursday and 4 am on Monday. *"For where two or three are gathered together for my sake, there am I in the midst of them."* Call Karla at 276-3615.

**BULLETIN:** There will be no bulletin on Jan 3rd as Karla will be on vacation. Sorry about any inconveniences this may cause.

**BOOK OF THE MONTH:** Dare to transform your world with kindness! Probably you just can't find the time-and can't ever seem to develop the patience- that you need in order to be consistently kind amidst the irritations that afflict you daily. That's why *The Hidden Power of Kindness* by Lawrence G. Lovasik is such a godsend. You'll learn how to be kinder, even in difficult circumstances. This wonderful book increases our insights into the wonder of the message that speaks so powerfully to us: "Love is patient, love is kind..."

**4th DEGREE KNIGHTS:** Christmas party will be on Dec. 20 at Jim Donnelly's beginning at 5:00 pm bring a side dish or a dessert. Jim & Rose's address is 4203 SW Broadlane Pendleton.

**ADORNING THE CHURCH-**All are invited to help adorn Saint Mary's Church. Please join us December 20, Sunday at 1:00pm

**CALENDARS:** The Indulgences Calendars "The Beauty of Grace" same as last year are in the back of the church. Cost is \$12 we have extra one if you did not get signed up. We also have the free calendars from Burns in the back of the church.

**ST. MARY'S ON-LINE:**The website is [stmaryspendleton.org](http://stmaryspendleton.org)

### Altar Servers for December 24—27

**Thursday 5:00 pm:** Nolan & Grant Kennedy

**Midnight Mass:** Logan Thorne, Quinn Doherty, Seth & Peter Case .

**Friday 10:00am:** Braden and Jacob Sprenger. .

**Saturday 5:00 pm:** Seth & Peter Case & Walker Hoolehan  
**10:00 am:** Daniel & John Kubishta & Soren Wolf

## We Would Like To Welcome You To Our Parish Family

If you are new to the Parish, please fill out your name and address below. We would love to add you to our Parish Family. Please visit us at the Parish Office or mail this form to us or place it in the collection basket.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

St. Mary's Church 800 SE Court Pendleton, OR 97801