

St. Mary Church & Our Lady of the Woods Shrine

Mary and Joseph had traveled for miles,
Days on the road they had been
Weary and tired they decided to stop
But there was no room at the inn.



100 Deyarmond St. PO Box 189 Mio, MI 48647
Phone: 989-826-5509 Fax: 989-826-1333 Church Email: stmarymio@m33access.com
Shrine email: info@olwshrine.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Rev. Santiago M. Hoyumpa
Secretary: Jeanie Smith

Weekly Mass Schedule

See inside for possible changes

Sunday: 9:00 am

Tues, Thurs, Fri—9:00 am

Wednesday—6:00 pm

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration after Friday Mass

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8 am—3:30 pm

Sacraments

Preparation classes with Pastor

Marriage

6 months prior to setting date

Reconciliation By appointment or:

Wednesday: 5:00—5:15 pm

Saturday: 3:00—3:30 pm

Sunday: 8:30—8:45 am

Bulletin Deadline:

Monday

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2019



Mass Schedule

Tuesday—December 24 *Christmas Eve*

3:30 pm Rosary

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

+Lois Martin (Mary Heeg)

Wednesday—December 25 *Christmas Day*

8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Mass

+Fr. Hubert Rakowski (John Roberts)

Thursday—December 26

8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Mass

Special Intentions (Richard & Tena Troyer)

Friday—December 27

8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Mass

+Louay Hanna (Ranna Hanna)

Saturday—December 28

3:30 pm Rosary

4:00 pm Mass, Fr. Steve Olds

Parishioners

Sunday—December 29

8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Mass

Spiritual Revival in the world

Events & Opportunities

Gaylord DCCW: All Catholic Ladies are invited to the East Region of the Gaylord DCCW meeting. It is Jan. 14 at St. Augustine Church in Hillman, MI. Registration at 9:30 a.m., (\$10 registration fee) Mass and Veneration to The Blessed Father Solanus Casey beginning at 10:00. Lunch follows with a presentation by Kathy Stevens on The Blessed Father Solanus Casey. Donations of magazines no older than 3 months will be accepted for the Alpena Cancer Center. For registration and questions, please contact Mary Marquardt at 989.742.1499 by January 7.

Choosing the Uncommon Life

Matthew describes Jesus' earthly father as a craftsman (Matt. 13:55). He lives in Nazareth: a single-camel map dot on the edge of boredom. Joseph never speaks in the New Testament. He does much. He sees an angel, marries a pregnant girl, and leads his family to Bethlehem and Egypt. He does much, but says nothing.

A small-town carpenter who never said a Scripture-worthy word. Is Joseph the right choice? Doesn't God have better options? Why Joseph? A major part of the answer lies in his reputation: he gives it up for Jesus.

His fiancée is pregnant, tainted ... he is righteous, godly. The law says, stone her. Love says, forgive her. Joseph is caught in the middle. But Joseph is a kind man. *"Not wanting to disgrace her, he planned to send her away secretly"* (v. 19).

A quiet divorce. How long would it stay quiet? Likely not long. Then comes the angel. Mary's growing belly gives no cause for concern, but reason to rejoice. "She carries the Son of God in her womb," the angel announces. But who would buy this tale? Joseph faces a dilemma. He makes his decision.

"Joseph ... took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS" (Matt. 1:24-25).

Joseph swapped his reputation for a pregnant fiancée and an illegitimate son and made the big decision of discipleship. He placed God's plan ahead of his own.

Would you be willing to do the same? God grants us an uncommon life to the degree that we are willing to surrender our common one. *"If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for me, you will find true life"* (Matt. 16:25).

~Max Lucado

Prayer List

Bert Greer, Peter Scott, Mike Shea, Ruth Klee, David Lupo, Art DuRussel, Donna Judd, Doug Heeg, Sandi Carter, Rosemary Scott, Starlett Shea, Mary Macy, Dan Kammer, Clarence Lapcinski, Kim Stitt, Lori B., Jason Blanton, Tina Gordert, Mike Lupo, Esther Socia, Natalie Davidson, Rose Welser, Leslie Ojala, Marie Paparelli, Bobbie Jo Gordert, Al Frazho, Jim & Donna Nicolay, Jerry Roznowski



Pray for our Clergy & Religious

Sun: Dea. John Falicki

Mon: Dea. Paul Fifer

Tues: Dea. Harry Friend

Wed: Dea. Brent Hemker

Thurs: Dea. Rene Hoenscheid

Fri: Dea. Frank Kopasz

Sat: Dea. Martin Korson

THE BEAUTY OF CHRISTMAS IS NOT IN THE PRESENTS... BUT IN HIS PRESENCE.

Stewardship Report

Average Monthly Operating Budget:	\$ 15,355.00
Last Week's Tithes & Offerings:	\$ 2,702.00
Other Income (candles, rent, etc):	\$ 100.00
December Collection to Date:	\$ 10,019.00

St. Mary Church & Community News

Christmas Pageant

Don't miss the Children's Christmas Pageant that will take place after mass on Christmas Eve.

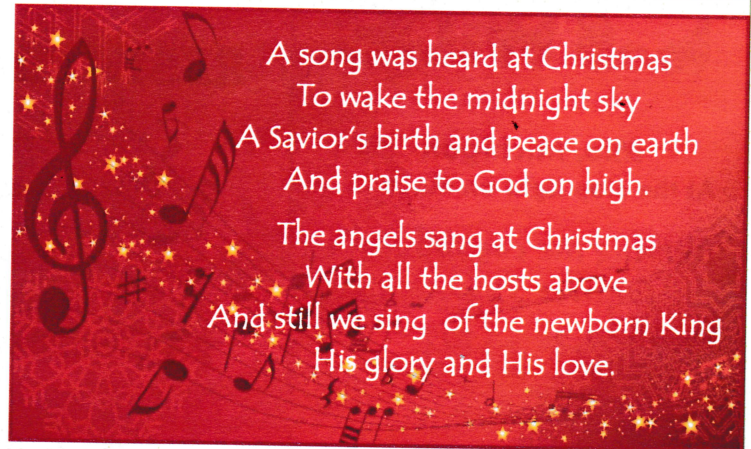
Mark your calendar for the annual March for Life on Friday, January 24, 2020.

Living Faith Devotionals are here. Some large print versions are available.

Love Stories from Love INC:

- Men from Fairview Mennonite Church delivered wood to a man whose furnace wasn't working. Love INC advised him to apply for state assistance and furnace has been installed. He said the firewood was the best Christmas present he could have got.
 - A young man is living in a substandard place, but rigged up a woodstove and requested firewood. A volunteer from Comins Community Church gives him a ride to apply for work and to the food pantry. His chainsaw is also being fixed for him.
 - A lady who had a stroke has been having trouble with mice in her attic and walls. Several different men volunteered to check that out this week.
 - Pastor Ron from New Hope and some older men from his church will be working together on small home repair projects.
 - St. Bart's Community Food Pantry are giving Christmas hams. Each person is prayed with privately which makes a lasting and loving impression.
 - At least 30 rides were given in Nov. and Dec. to doctor appointments by members of 5 partner churches. **We are very much in need of both male and female drivers but especially men to drive men. Nearly all our drivers have left for the winter!**
 - Regarding finances: A match total of \$7000 and has nearly been met, praise God! If you'd like to help there is still time. Mail to: Love INC, PO Box 96, Fairview, MI 48621. Thank you!
- May God continue to bless you richly in this Christmas and in the New Year to come. "Expect great things from God!"**

The 6 year old girl listened as her mother told her the story about Jesus' birth, the angels, shepherds and the three Kings who followed the star to see Jesus and bring him gifts. Seeing a puzzled look on her daughter's face, her mother asked what she was thinking. The daughter replied, "I guess Jesus must have wondered how come he only got three things and none of them were toys."



Merry Christmas

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

G	C	P	M	E	H	E	F	F	N	Y	Y	A	S	E
V	F	I	O	G	K	N	O	C	Y	R	R	I	L	B
Z	H	S	J	Z	X	U	H	E	G	A	B	Z	N	B
H	A	T	I	D	U	R	X	S	Z	M	E	I	P	E
R	P	L	R	S	I	L	E	N	T	N	I	G	H	T
R	K	O	Q	S	N	E	M	E	S	I	W	A	J	H
Y	L	X	T	Y	Z	S	W	C	Z	S	P	E	P	L
M	I	M	F	H	F	N	P	N	S	J	V	E	K	E
J	A	B	T	T	B	A	R	I	O	R	S	X	Z	H
S	A	I	Y	L	Y	T	E	K	V	O	F	L	W	E
H	A	Y	E	Y	T	I	G	N	J	I	O	E	E	M
F	A	M	K	R	H	V	N	A	E	V	U	G	P	E
M	A	A	N	W	A	I	A	R	S	A	S	N	O	E
C	I	H	O	T	C	T	M	F	U	S	O	A	H	F
D	J	E	D	K	Q	Y	S	V	S	W	T	E	K	Q

JESUS HAY MARY ANGEL JOSEPH FAITH
 WISEMEN HOPE MANGER FRANKINCENSE
 NATIVITY MYRRH BETHLEHEM SILENT NIGHT
 CAMEL LORD DONKEY SAVIOR STAR CHRISTMAS

Go to the **SHRINE WEBSITE**, olwshrine.org for the weekly bulletin & other shrine information.
 Or go to dioceseofgaylord.org (click on 'Parishes', then on the map click 'Mio' then 'More Info')