

**Parish Staff:**

Father Stanley Drewniak, *Pastor*  
Linette Hopwood, *Secretary*  
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Bridget Hoffman, *CCD Director*

**Office Hours: 9-1 Monday—Friday**

St. Mary Rectory (815) 237-2230  
St. Mary Fax (815) 237-2201

**Mass Schedule**

Sat.— 5:30 pm  
Thurs.—8:30am

**Reconciliation:**

Before Mass or by Appointment

**Sacrament of Baptism** – Baptisms are celebrated during the Saturday 5:30p.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

**Marriages** – Diocesan Policy require at least a six month preparation process. Couples who are planning to marry should speak directly with the Pastor before setting a date. No Weddings are scheduled on Sundays.

**Hospitalized Parishioners** – Due to a change in the privacy law, Father cannot go to the hospital and ask for a list of parishioners for him to visit. As a patient, you must ask the hospital to notify the Rectory that you are requesting a visit. For our homebound parishioners, if you would like Father to visit, please call the Rectory and Father will be more than happy to come and visit you. Thank you!

**Mass Intentions:**

9/10/16 Sat. 5:30pm +Brian Buckley (Alice, Tim & May Alice Buckley)  
9/15/16 Thurs. 8:30am +Suzanne Eich (Monica Ruder)  
9/17/16 Sat. 5:30pm +Pat & Alice Masching (Ruth Schott) AND  
+Joe Kersch (Kay & Family)

If you would like a Mass Intention said, please contact the Rectory.  
Suggested Donation is \$10.

**Remember in Prayer** our deceased relatives and friends, the ill of our parish and community, nursing home residents, the homeless, hungry and unemployed, those living alone and our own special intentions we hold deep in our hearts. Keep in prayer all men and women serving our country, the injured and those being held prisoners. Let us not forget all men and women who gave up their lives so that we may live in freedom and peace!

**Liturgical Schedule for Lectors/Servers**

9/10/16 Sat. 5:30pm Lector—Mary K. /Servers—Mike, Matt  
9/17/16 Sat. 5:30pm Lector—Bill /Servers—Miles, Jackson, Elsie

**Holy Father's Intention for the month of September:**

*General Intention:* That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center.



**Weekly Income:**

Sunday Collection \$ 572.25  
Thank you for your generosity!

We will have a second collection today to help with the disaster Relief for the flooding in Louisiana. Contributions to this collection will go towards saving lives, rebuilding homes, providing shelter and supplies to displaced families, and restoring hope. Please be generous.

“It is often in the darkest skies,  
that we see the brightest stars!”

Thank you for your wishes and prayers for my birthday. I had a great time. Fr. Stan

Thank you to everyone from St. Mary's for donations, baked goods, the workers and especially to Terry Buckley and Bill O'Brien for doing all the grilling at the estate sale. We couldn't do this without the help from everyone. A profit of \$1,547.20 was made. God Bless you all!

On **Monday, September 12th** at **4-6pm** Catholic Charities' Mobile Food Pantry will be distributing food in South Wilmington at St. Lawrence Church parking lot (rain or shine). A representative from Catholic Charities will be available at this event to explain additional services provided by the agency. You do not have to be Catholic to participate. Catholic Charities helps people of all faiths and beliefs. For more information about Catholic Charities, please visit catholiccharitiesjoli.org. If you know anyone in need, please inform them.

The Knights of Columbus Council #1574 is selling mums to help The Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center in Coal City. Mums are \$8.00 for an 8" Pot (Approx. 12"-16" tall) Pick up date is Saturday, Sept. 24 & Sunday 25th. Order forms are available at the entrance of our Church. All orders are due by **Sunday, September 18th**.

**Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 10/11, 2016**

Among the primary themes in today's gospel when we hear Jesus' well-known parable of the Prodigal Son is forgiveness and the need to repent. But from a stewardship point of view what is also interesting is one of the secondary themes: the failure to use responsibly the gifts that have been so generously bestowed. The youngest son who demanded his inheritance and left home, broke no laws or religious commandments. His wrongdoing was that he wasted his inherited wealth, the abundant gifts given to him. His sin was in his extravagant living; squandering his gifts in pursuit of selfish pleasures. Good stewards acknowledge that everything they have comes from God, and they are required to cultivate these gifts responsibly. What are our God-given gifts? Do we use them responsibly? Do we exercise good stewardship over them?



**Lost sheep. Lost coin. Lost child.** Losing a possession is one thing. Losing one's way is something else. Today's examples: (1) The people of Exodus so lost their way to God, they turned to a molten calf of their own design. Worshiping something that is not God is idolatry, is deep down infidelity, is mistrust of God. Moses pleads for these stiff-necked people. And God relents; God does not punish. (2) The prodigal son thought owning things and going far off was the way to live. He comes to his senses and returns home and finds his father – filled with compassion – running to embrace him. The point: it is God's very nature to relent, to exude compassion, to run to us, to love.

- How can I be like God today?
- For whom will I plead today?
- Whom will I run to embrace?

