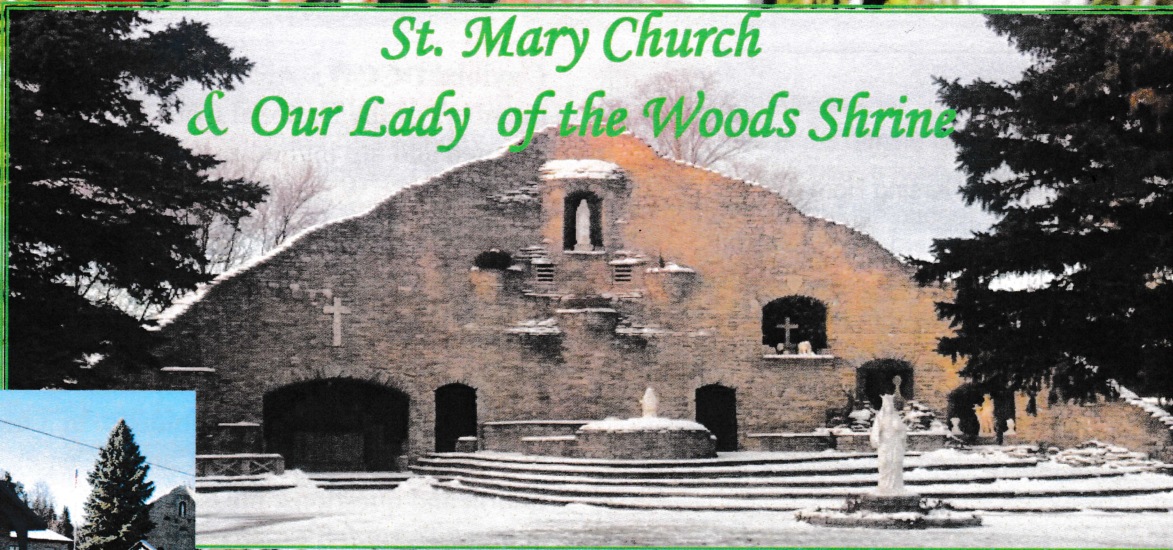


St. Mary Church & Our Lady of the Woods Shrine



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

Third Sunday of Advent December 16, 2019

...be patient and stand firm,
because the Lord's coming is near.

James 5:8



Mass Schedule

Tuesday—December 17

No morning mass

2:00 pm Mass-Fairview Nursing Home
Nursing Home Residents

Wednesday—December 18

5:30 pm Rosary

6:00 pm Mass

Children who need a forever family

Thursday—December 19

8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Mass

+Lois Martin (Doug & Mary Heeg)

Friday—December 20

8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Mass

Those incarcerated

Saturday—December 21

3:30 pm Rosary

4:00 pm Mass

Family & Loved Ones (Blanche Thorpe)

Sunday—December 22

8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Mass

+Marion Trudell (Barb Thomas)

Prayer List

Bert Greer, Peter Scott, Mike Shea, Ruth Klee, David Lupo, Art DuRussel, Donna Judd, Doug Heeg, Sandi Carter, Rosemary Scott, Cora Gordon, 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



Pray for our Clergy & Religious

Sun: Rev. Emmanuel Tizhe

Mon: Rev. Matthew Wigton

Tues: Rev. Peter Wigton

Wed: Rev. John William

Thurs: Rev. Robert Zuchowski

Fri: Dea. Thomas Bousamra

Sat: Dea. Kevin Endres

Events & Opportunities

Gaylord DCCW: All Catholic Ladies are honorary members of the National Council of Catholic Women and 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.



Word of Life: "Those who die in God's grace and friendship live forever with Christ. Heaven is not an abstract idea, but a true and lasting relationship with God that is beyond all earthly description and understanding. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead and everlasting life by preparing now, in hope, for our passage from this life into eternal life."

~ USCCB—Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing



Family Reflection: The question put to Jesus in today's gospel is also put to all of us who are parents and even grandparents, regarding our children: *Are you the one?*

Are you the one who will give guidance to the children in your life—or must they look to TV, videos and music lyrics to teach them about the world and faith? *We must* be the ones who guide, nurture, and teach our children and grandchildren about the Lord.



Promise to protect: Pledge to heal: In an effort to protect all children and to promote healing, the Diocese of Gaylord encourages victims of child abuse or neglect to report the matter. Individuals should contact their local office of the Department of Human Services. If an allegation involves sexual misconduct of a minor by clergy or any employee of the Diocese of Gaylord, even if it is in the past, individuals may also contact Larry LaCross at 989.705.9010.

Stewardship Report

Average Monthly Operating Budget:	\$ 15,355.00
Last Week's Tithes & Offerings:	\$ 4,470.00
Other Income (candles, rent, etc):	\$ 600.00
December Collection to Date:	\$ 7,217.00
Religious Retirement Fund:	\$ 1,398.00

St. Mary Church & Community News



Christmas Pageant Rehearsal for all children who are interested, will take place after mass this Sunday (Dec.15) and next Sunday, Dec. 22.

Any questions, please contact Heidi Szymanski, 906-231-1386.

Faith Formation for children is cancelled until about mid January, depending on the arrival of Andrew & Thomye's new baby.

Adult Faith Formation is cancelled for December. It will resume on Wednesday, January 8th at 4:00 pm. All are invited.

Please Note: The 3rd Tuesday of each month there is mass at the Nursing Home in Fairview at 2:00 pm, so there will be *no mass* on Tuesday mornings here.

'Together We Can' Food Distribution will take place at the Oscoda County Fairgrounds Thursday, Dec. 19, from 12-3 pm. Bring bags or boxes and proof of residency.

An Apple Pancake Breakfast will be served next Sunday, Dec. 22 following mass. Proceeds go to the Restoration Fund.



to all who took a Giving Tree tag and purchased gifts or donated for someone in need. Your generosity will make someone's Christmas happier.

Retired Religious say Thank You: "This money is pure gift," writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. "It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters." Your gift to the collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the people of God. Thank you for your generosity!

December Calendar

- 15th—K of C Breakfast
- 17th—2:00 pm Mass at Fairview Nursing Home
- 22nd—Pancake Breakfast after mass
- 24th—4:00 pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
- 25th—9:00 am Christmas Mass
- 31st—4:00 pm Vigil Mass



The Christmas tree...those looking for a tree lift limbs and examine needles. They measure, ponder and consider. It can't be too tall or too short. It needs to fit the room and the budget. A Spruce for some. A Douglas fir for others. Preferences are different, but the desire is the same. We want the perfect Christmas tree. We find it, lash it to the car and drag it into the house and set it in the tree stand. We revel in this moment. Only a few people have won the U.S. Open, completed an Iron man triathlon, or qualified as Rhodes Scholars. Fewer still have positioned a Christmas tree so that it doesn't lean.

One year I barely escaped. I placed the tree in the stand, stood back, and sighed at what we saw...the dreaded tilt. I crawled under the branches and began adjusting the screws until the tree stood as straight. We stepped back and admired my skills, and I choked back tears of joy. My children called me blessed. Angels began to sing. The blast of trumpets sounded in the front yard where neighbors had gathered. The White House called to congratulate me. We strung the lights and hung the decorations. It was a wonderful night.

Then disaster struck. The tree started to lean again. This time I placed the tree on its side, removed the stand, and saw the root of the problem. Just six inches above the cut line was a right turn. Our tree was crooked!

As I was retrieving a saw from the garage, it occurred to me: I'm not the first father to deal with this issue. God faces this situation on a continual basis. Don't we have our share of unattractive bents? I know I do. Would that I stood as straight as a sequoia, but I don't.

What you do for a tree, God does for you. He picked you. You have a place in mind where your tree will sit. God does the same. He knows just where you'll be placed. A corner of the world needs some color. He selected you with that place in mind.

As King David wrote, "*You made my whole being; you formed me in my mother's body. I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful . . . All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old*" (Ps. 139:13-14, 16).

God made you on purpose with a purpose. He interwove calendar and character, circumstance and personality to create the right person for the right corner of the world, and then he paid the price to take you home.

~Max Lucado

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')

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