

Dwell in Us

God our Father, you astound us with life-giving forgiveness. We are thankful for your gift of peace and the example of the Holy Family. Hear our prayer: Open our hearts. Help us to dedicate ourselves to you and to love one another. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 29, 2024 Put on Love

Today's readings: I Samuel 1:20–22, 24–28 or Sirach 3:2–6, 12–14; Psalm 84: 2–3, 5–6, 9–10; I John 3:1–2, 21–24 or Colossians 3:12–21; Luke 2:41–52. As a faithful Jewish family, Joseph and Mary traveled with twelve-year-old Jesus to Jerusalem for Passover. A day into their return to Nazareth, the couple realize that Jesus was not in their caravan. They are filled with anxiety as they make the long trek back to Jerusalem in search of Jesus. The parents find their son engaging in thought-provoking conversations with teachers—something that astounds those in the temple. Though Mary and Joseph do not fully understand Jesus' actions, we hear that Mary "kept all these things in her heart." As a community, the Body of Christ contemplates the wisdom, faith, and mystery of the Holy Family today. Regardless of which readings are proclaimed at the Mass at your parish, all of today's options for the Liturgy of the Word express much of what can be learned regarding striving for holiness in family life and in the community of loved ones that surrounds us. Prayer and dedication to the Lord bears much fruit for future generations; we are advised to honor and revere our parents and older generations. To grow in love for others, we remember the importance of letting "the word of Christ dwell" in us. Let us strive to be like the Holy Family: honor, forgive, be patient with one another. Every day this week, commit to one act of service for someone in your family or community that demonstrates putting "on love, that is, the bond of perfection."

St. John Baptist de La Salle

497 Athena Drive Delmont, PA 15626 (724) 327-0647 Saturday anticipated Mass 4:00 PM Sunday Mass 11:00 AM

Saint Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes

5900 Kennedy Avenue Export, PA 15632 (724) 327-0647 Sunday Mass 9:00 AM

Mother of Sorrows

4202 Old William Penn Highway Murrysville, PA 15668 (724) 733-8870 Saturday anticipated Mass 4:30 PM Sunday Masses 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 6:00 PM



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, December 30 Octave of Christmas

The octave of Christmas begins on Christmas Day and ends on January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. An octave is an eight-day feast, or period of celebration. Two of the most important times in the liturgical calendar are the Octave of Easter and that of Christmas. The celebration and joy experienced on Christmas Day carries through the octave of Christmas as we are invited to continue to reflect on the glory of the season. If you are able, attend Mass to continue your celebration of Christmas. *Today's readings:* 1 John 2:12–17; Psalm 96:7–8a, 8b–9, 10; Luke 2:36–40.

Tuesday, December 31 True Light

Today's Gospel is the prologue to the Gospel of John. It highlights many themes that emerge throughout the Gospel, including light and life: "What came to be through him was life, / and this life was the light of the human race; / the light shines in the darkness, / and the darkness has not overcome it." How can you testify to the true light, to Jesus Christ, who enlightens us? With someone you love, share how Christ enlightens you. *Today's readings: 1 John 2:18–21; Psalm 96:1–2, 11–12, 13; John 1:1–18.*

Wednesday, January 1 Mary, the Holy Mother of God

After the birth of Jesus, Mary keeps the shepherd's words about the Christ child, "reflecting on them in her heart." At the end of the octave of Christmas, spend time in silence, reflecting on the season in your heart. The birth of a child can often be a whirlwind for parents, even more so for those who have fled persecution. Say a prayer or, if you are able, send a donation to an organization serving refugee families. *Today's readings: Numbers* 6:22–27; *Psalm* 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8; *Galatians* 4:4–7; Luke 2:16–21.

Thursday, January 2 Remain in Him

In today's first reading, John stresses the unity of the Father and Son, stating, "Anyone who denies the Son does not have the Father." Then the apostle reassures followers in their faith: "Let what you heard from the beginning remain in you." Many prepare to return to work today after the holiday festivities. How can you let the joy of Christmas remain in you? Consider starting your days with centering prayer. Return to the sacred word you chose throughout the day so that you can remain in Christ. *Today's readings: 1 John 2:22–28; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; John 1:19–28.*

Friday, January 3 Holy Name of Jesus

Today we remember and honor the Most Holy Name of Jesus. What name or title of Jesus from Scripture stands out to you (for example, Teacher, Prince of Peace, Preacher, Messiah, Savior)? Pray with the most salient one and reflect upon its meaning for you. *Today's readings: 1 John 2:29–3:6; Psalm 98:1, 3cd–4, 5–6; John 1:29–34.*

Saturday, January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first native-born United States citizen to be canonized. After her husband died, she became a Catholic and opened a school for impoverished children and orphans. She founded the Sisters of Charity, a religious society that serves the marginalized. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the patron saint of converts, widows, and those ridiculed for their piety. To honor her, reach out to a teacher and ask how you can support them in their work. *Today's readings:* 1 John 3:7–10; Psalm 98:1, 7–8, 9; John 1:35–42.



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Mother of Sorrows Regional Catholic School Darcie Gatti, Principal dgatti@mosschool.org 724-733-8840 TOPS scholarships available:

www.catholicschoolsguide.org



SERVICE PROJECT

All Faith Formation students are invited to participate in a service project on **Sunday, December 29** in the Mother of Sorrows Social Hall after the 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses.

DONUT SUNDAY



All are welcome to join us on **Sunday**, **January 5** after all

morning Masses for Donut Sunday in the Mother of Sorrows Parish Social Hall.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

The next Family Faith Formation sessions will take place **Sunday, January 5** at 4:30 PM or **Wednesday, January 8** at 6:30 PM.

WEDDING WORKSHOP

All engaged couples planning a 2025 wedding are encouraged to attend this year's Wedding Workshop on **Saturday, January 11** from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM in the Social Hall.

Information will be provided that is needed to plan a beautiful, sacramental wedding. Please RSVP to Brooke in the Parish Office at 724-733-8870 or btognarina@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Confirmation students will participate in our annual Confirmation Retreat on **Saturday**, **January 18** at 9:30 AM with NET missionaries . Please contact Jacob at *jgindhart@dioceseofgreensburg.org* with any questions.

MOS LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday	12/28			
9:00 AM		Sacrament of Reconciliation		
4:30 PM	Ś	MareJane Crane (John & Marie Shimshock)		
Sunday	12/29	The Holy Family of Jesus,		
•		Mary and Joseph Anthony Perricelli		
7:30 AM	4	(Nathaniel Ondeck)		
9:30 AM	*	Josephine Fanale (Leitenberger Family		
11:30 AM		For the Parish		
6:00 PM	÷	Mary Dorn (Suzanne & Don Teti)		
Monday	12/30			
8:00 AM	4	Carol & Phil Sabol and Family and Dolly and Joan Parker and Family (Dolly Napolitano)		
Tuesday	12/31			
8:00 AM	ý	Eric Ferri (Nancy & John Matthews)		
4:30 PM	ч	Jerry Burgman (The Zubrow Family)		
Wednesday	1/1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God		
10:00 AM	÷	Phyllis Sabol (Ron Sabol)		
Thursday	1/2	Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen		
8:45 AM	viv	Patti Waldo (Victoria Stowell)		
9:45 AM		Eucharistic Adoration		
7:00 PM		Benediction and Reposition 🛛 🕹		
Friday	1/3			
8:00 AM	ŵ	Richard Ochs & Miriam Steiner (Ed & Gail Peduzzi)		
Saturday	1/4	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton		
9:00 AM		Sacrament of Reconciliation		
4:30 PM	ý	Frank Smithula (Ministry of Care)		
Sunday	1/5	The Epiphany of the Lord		
7:30 AM	÷	Lisette Rihn <i>(Dennis & Karen Cadwell)</i>		
9:30 AM	ý	Nancy Strussion (Jeanine Cosentino)		
11:30 AM	÷	Patricia May (Family)		
6:00 PM		For the Parish		

OUR WEEKLY NUMBERS December 14 and 15

Mother of Sorrows

Attendance 1,541 Offertory \$ 34,380.09 Outreach \$ 1,580.00



Utility expense: \$ 15,751.26

St. John

Attendance 338 Offertory \$ 7,033.50



St. Mary

Attendance 229 Offertory \$ 8,009.00



STEWARDSHIP NOTES

"See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." (1 JOHN 3:1)

During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! As God's children, it's in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, every day! Also, pray for those people that are different than you, those that you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.

A heartfelt thank you to our parishioners and visitors for your gift of stewardship to Mother of Sorrow Parish, St. John Baptist de La Salle, and St. Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes.

Your generosity supports our many ministries and programs helping to advance our mission of bringing people to Christ. Thank you for the gifts you share with our Faith Community.

ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday	12/28			
12:00 NN SJ		Sacrament of Reconciliation		
4:00 PM SJ	ŵ	Malcom & Veronica Henle (Robert & Laine Wolcott)		
6:00 PM SM	4	Lou DelBene (Patty & Joe Zaccagnini)		
Sunday	12/29	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph		
9:00 AM SM	viv	Carl & Geni Casale and Mary Gregory (<i>Family</i>)		
11:00 AM SJ	γ	Margie Topolosky and Anna & Nick Chackan <i>(Sandy Topolosky)</i>		
Monday	12/30			
8:30 AM SJ	ψ	Rose 'Elaine' Carbone (Husband John & Family)		
Tuesday	12/31			
4:00 PM SJ	*	Suzanna Ribnicky (Jim & Kathy Myers)		
Wednesday	1/1	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God		
9:00 AM SM		For the Parish		
Thursday	1/2	Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen		
8:10 AM SJ		St. Joseph Novena		
8:30 AM SJ	site	Judy Biesuz (Daughter Nicole Sites)		
Friday	1/3	Saint John		
8:30 AM SM		For the Parish (Michele Bloch)		
Saturday	1/4	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton		
12:00 NN SJ		Sacrament of Reconciliation		
4:00 PM SJ	st.	Margaret & Eugene Marley (Dean & Kathy Tortorice)		
Sunday	1/5	The Epiphany of the Lord		
9:00 AM SM	ά	Joseph Mediate (Rose, Lou & Frankie)		
11:00 AM SJ	viv	Amil DiPadova (Trish & Rusty Fiore)		



HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

On this feast of the Holy Family, St. Paul gives us some good practical advice on how we can grow in holiness. He writes: "As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, as the Lord has forgiven you. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

May we strive to follow the wisdom St. Paul offers.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

All women of MOS, St. John and St. Mary Parishes are invited to the annual Women's Retreat **January 17 - 19, 2025** at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Pittsburgh. This year's theme is Pilgrims of Hope. For more information, please contact Barb Hantz at *hantzbf@gmail.net* or Sherri Tollari at *sherritollari@yahoo.com*.

To register, visit our website at <u>motherofsorrowschurch.org</u> and click on the image of the brochure on our homepage.

A PEEK AT THE WEEK...

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Sunday		December 29		
8:30 AM	MOS	Faith Formation for those with special needs, Ave Maria Room		
10:30 AM	MOS	Service Project, Social Hall		
12:30 PM	MOS	Service Project, Social Hall		
Tuesday		December 31		
10:00 AM	MOS	Staff meeting, Conference Room		
Friday		January 3		
9:00 AM	MOS	Legion of Mary, Ave Maria Room		
9:00 AM	MOS	Centering Prayer, Madonna Room		
Saturday		January 4		
7:00 AM	SM	Catholic Men's Fellowship, Social Hall		
9:00 AM	MOS	Men's Renewal Group, Ave Maria Room		
Sunday		January 5		
8:30 AM	MOS	Faith Formation for those with special needs, Ave Maria Room		
10:00 AM	SM	Faith Formation, St. Mary Social Hall		
4:30 PM	MOS	Family Faith Formation, Social Hall		
6:45 PM	MOS	OCIA, Ave Maria Room		

MARCH FOR LIFE

The 2024 March for Life in Washington D.C. will take place on **Friday, January 24, 2025.** The bus will leave Mother of Sorrows Parish at 5:30 AM. The trip will include Mass at the National Basilica in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel at 10:30 AM celebrated by Bishop Larry Kulick. A quick stop will be made on the way to Washington D.C. and a stop will be made on the way home for dinner at the Valley Mall in Hagerstown, MD. The bus should arrive back to MOS around 11:00 PM.

Register soon, as the bus fills up quickly! Email Barb Koury at *barbkoury@gmail.com* with your name and a your cell phone number. The cost is \$25 for adults and \$20 for students and is payable on the bus or in the Parish Office.

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COMING HOME



Holy Family Sunday celebrates God with us now, present in our households and family relationships. We speak of "coming home," yet home is often strained by more goings than comings.

Running from one

activity to another, meeting the demands of work, grocery shopping and volunteer meetings – all these can make us strangers to our home and to one another.

Take time to be mindful of each person in your home. Schedule meals together and talk to one another. These practices help to ease our harried pace and keep us aware of God's presence in those closest to us.

A Family Blessing

Gracious God, you gave us your Son Jesus as our brother. In baptism we too have become your children, adopted as members of your family.

Thank you for all the love we have shared, through good times and tough times. Thank you for this upcoming new year, with its blessings and challenges now unknown to us.

As a family, we say yes to all that can be in Christ. Help us to treat each other with patience and kindness that in joy our family might share the peace of Christ with our neighbors and with the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE

December 31	Anticipated Mass	4:00 PM	St. John, Delmont
	Anticipated Mass	4:30 PM	MOS

January 1

Mass Mass

9:00 AM St. Mary 10:00 AM MOS

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Offices will be closing at noon on **Tuesday, December 31 and** will be closed on Wednesday, January 1. The Parish Offices will reopen on **Thursday, January 2**.



IMPORTANT NEWS FOR ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY PARISHIONERS



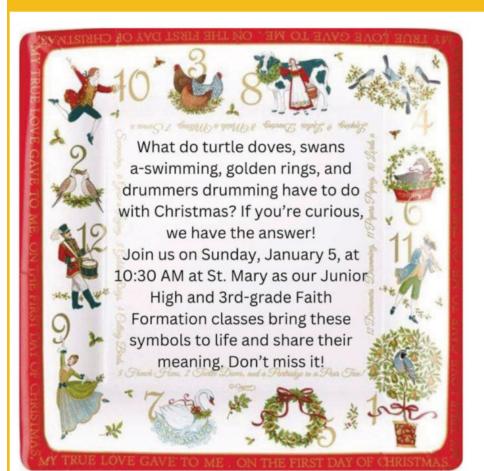






For our final Faith Formation session of the year, the children celebrated with a birthday party for Jesus and enjoyed watching The Star.

Faith Formation will resume on January 5 beginning with the 9 AM Mass at St. Mary. We invite everyone to join us at 10:30 AM for a special presentation by our children on the 12 Days of Christmas.



SUPPORT MINISTRY

Support Ministry is about widows coming together to share conversation, life stories and support each other. All widows are welcome.

The next luncheon will take place **Tuesday, January 14** at 1:00 PM at Fortune Kitchen; located in the Shop n Save Plaza in Murrysville. Please RSVP by **January 9** to Sandy Martin by calling 724–787–9305 or emailing sandymartin112@gmail.com.



In need of material assistance? Contact the St. John St. Mary St. Vincent DePaul Conference. Call (724) 575-9888

ONLINE GIVING OPTION NOW AVAILABLE, VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE

www.stjohnstmary.net

MASS INTENTIONS

A Mass can be offered for a special grace or intention, whether spiritual or temporal. As St. Anslem beautifully reminds us, "A single Mass offered for oneself during life may be worth more than a thousand celebrated after death."

Let us also take time to remember our loved ones who have gone before us by scheduling a Mass in their memory.

To schedule a Mass intention at St. John or St. Mary, please contact Debbie or Joann at 724-327-0647. Additional Masses are needed, so if you have already scheduled a few, you are welcome to call and offer more.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY



Donuts and coffee will be served after the

9:00 AM Mass at St. Mary on **Sunday, December 29.** Please come and join us for refreshments and good fellowship. All are welcome!

BOOMERS AND BEYOND



Join us on **Tuesday, January 14** at 11:30 AM in the Mother of Sorrows Parish Social Hall for a presentation on "Positivity" presented by Dennis C. Daley, PhD.

In recent years, the fields of Psychology and Psychiatry have expended their focus beyond mental

disorders and psychological distress to *positivity*. This presentation will discuss positive emotions, behaviors and relationships and their impact on our well-being. The presenter requests that you wear a hat associated with something positive in your life.

Boomers and Beyond is a ministry serving the 'baby boomers' and all adults of Mother of Sorrows Parish and the surrounding communities. Lunch and learn sessions are held on the second Tuesday of each month. Topics are varied and reservations are not required. Participants are encouraged to bring a 'brown bag' lunch and a friend.

FORMED



Our Parishes are now subscribed to FORMED, a Catholic Streaming Platform, and now so can you! Go to <u>formed.org/individuals</u> and simply enter your email address, search for "Mother of Sorrows," and you will have access to countless hours of movies, documentaries, bible studies, devotionals, children's TV shows and more. Think Disney+ or Netflix, but totally Catholic!





Residents of St. Anne Home enjoyed a Christmas Bingo that included decorations made by our school students, a Christmas throw made by a parishioner, and of course, lots of delicious snacks. Thanks to All Who Helped!



MOTHER OF SORROWS CATHOLIC SCHOOL





Middle School students enjoyed the opportunity to dress as an elf, Scrooge, Cindy Loo Hoo and other characters before Christmas.













GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Registration for Girl's Volleyball for grades 3-8 will be open until **January 6, 2025**. Practices will begin in February with the regular CYO season games starting in March. Parishioners of MOS, St. John,



St. Mary and St. Regis are eligible to play.

Any parents or guardians interested in coaching should contact MOSS Athletic Director, Melissa Boreman, at *mboreman@dioceseofgreensburg.org*. To register, please scan the QR code above.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

All High School Youth are invited to join us on **Sunday**, January 12 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the MOSS gym for our New Year kick-off. There will be Moe's, nine-square-inthe-air, good music and get-to-know-you bingo. Please bring a friend!

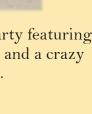
High School Youth Ministry closed out the year with a festive Christmas party featuring a gingerbread house decorating competition, a jumbo marshmallow snowball fight and a crazy gift exchange. The evening was concluded with prayer intentions for the new year.

WISH LIST

Our Youth Ministry is alive and well and our students have been good this year! If you would like help make Youth Ministry even more successful, check out our Christmas Wish List! You can make a purchase from the wish list by scanning the QR code above, or by mailing a contribution to MOS Parish at 4202 Old William Penn Highway, Murrysville, PA 15668.











10% EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT THROUGH FEBRUARY 1, 2025

REGISTER

NOW

JULY 7-11 8:30-5:30

CAMPERS : CURRENT 5-7TH GRADE STUDENTS COUNSELORS : CURRENT 8-12TH GRADE, COLLEGE STUDENTS AND ADULTS



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