



**9900 Thomas Nelson Highway**

**Lovington, VA 22949**

**July 12, 2020**

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**PARISH NEWSLETTER #10.2020**

**1) Sacrament schedule for 2020**

Fr. Carlos Lerma and the staff at St. Mary's is pleased to announce the dates for First Communions, Confirmation and reception into the Church of the Candidates and Catechumens of the RCIA program. As you might have heard, Fr. Lerma is leaving St. Mary's for another assignment and he wants to celebrate these special Sacraments with those who have prepared for them while he is Pastor.

**First Communion** – the class will be split into two celebrations, both on Saturdays on July 18<sup>th</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. Each child must attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) before those dates.

Reconciliation and Rehearsal will be held on Friday July 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

**First Communion July 18**

1. Anguiano Mancilla
2. Pedro Damian Serrano
3. Abraham Merida
4. Brianna Plasencia Villa
5. Valentin Tovor Campos
6. Esmeralda Retena Campos
7. Britney Plasencia Villa
8. Jose Maria Maldonado
9. Arieth Angela Santarrosa

**First Communion July 25**

1. Yaretzy Barragan
2. Javier Albarran
3. Andrea Lopez
4. Ramiro Becerra
5. Emanuel Serrano
6. Elizabeth Becerra
7. Bradley Andres
8. Christopher Castellan
9. Andres Ciprano Villa

- 10. Abril Santarrosa
- 11. Ziclali Santarrosa

10. Madeleine Mason

**Confirmation** – Wednesday July 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Each Confermandi is required to attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation before that date. Rehearsal and Sacrament of Reconciliation for these candidates will be on Tuesday July 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

**Children’s RCIA** – Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5 PM. Reconciliation and Rehearsal will be held on July 17 at 7pm with the First Communion Class. Those who are baptized must attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Adult RCIA** – Confirmation will be held during the 1pm Mass on Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup>. Rehearsal and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held on August 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Plans to allow for larger gatherings are being reviewed by the diocese so that each person may have more guests. Details will be forthcoming.

**2) Public Masses at St Mary’s continue this Sunday July 12. The following apply and we ask that all follow this guidance.**

**Sunday Mass times will be 10:00 am (English) and 1:00pm (Spanish).** A group of Parishioners has volunteered to participate as Safety Ushers in these masses to keep all of us safe. Please follow their guidance! Note the time change for the Spanish mass!

3) We will allow people into the church on a first come, first in basis. 50% of sanctuary capacity is the maximum. Based on the numbers that are attending that may be amended to accommodate those who may have to travel a long distance and would like to know they can get in. But for now, first come, first in.

4) Parishioners must bring their own face coverings - that must be worn properly over the nose and mouth and mask must not have an exhale port which allows exhale with less restrictions.

**5) Parishioners must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of mass! No exceptions!**

6) Specific instructions on procedures to be followed during Mass will be given before Mass begins.

7) Parishioners who answer **yes** to any of the following:

- a) Have you or anyone in your household had a fever in the past two (2) weeks?
- b) Do you or anyone in your household have a new cough or new shortness of breath?
- c) Have you come into contact with anyone who is positive with COVID-19 in the past two (2) weeks?

or **do not have a face mask will not be permitted to enter the church.**

8) **THE BISHOP'S DISPENSATION FROM ATTENDING SUNDAY MASS WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT AND THE MASS WILL BE LIVESTREAMED FOR THE FAITHFUL WHO DO NOT FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH ATTENDING IN PERSON. THE DISPENSATION WILL CONTINUE AS LONG AS OUR CHURCHES ARE NOT FULLY OPEN.**

9) Parishioners in a vulnerable category are encouraged to stay at home (over 65 and/or immune-compromised).

The masses will continue to be livestreamed on the Parish Facebook Page at 10am and 1pm. The link to the facebook page is <https://m.facebook.com/St-Marys-Catholic-Church-164123760290127/>.

10) **Daily Mass and Mass intentions.** Father Carlos would like to dedicate both Sunday Mass and Friday Daily Mass to special intentions. Daily mass will be said on Wednesday at St. Francis and Friday at St. Mary at 12 noon. If you have an intention for mass please contact Father (757-751-8194) or call the office (434-263-8509) with the name of the person or persons.

11) **Supporting the Parish.** While we have no means to take up a collection the parish still has expenses and bills. So this would be a great time to sign up for eGiving (<https://membership.faihdirect.net/VA947>) if you are capable of giving. The Diocese has also set up a web page (<https://offertory.richmonddiocese.org>) for gifts to the parish online but you do not want to sign up for eGiving. Lastly you can always mail a check to the parish.

Saint Mary Catholic Church,  
9900 Thomas Nelson Highway  
Lovingston, VA 22949

12) **Sacrament of Reconciliation.** Father Carlos will hear confessions on Saturdays from 3-4pm at the church. Please adhere to social distancing requirements. No more than 10 people total in the church at any one time and 6 feet must be maintained between all people. The confession station is in the forward left side of the nave next to the Baptismal Font. Masks are required. Wash your hands before and after or use hand sanitizer. Father is available during these times for private consultations. And you can always call him for a private meeting or reconciliation. 757-751-8194.

13) **Additional Diocesan Information on Reopening.**

We know the desire to participate in the liturgy and receive the Eucharist is incredibly strong. Ways are being explored to address this concern, all the while continuing the care and concern for the physical and spiritual health of all. **We are reminded that the greatest divine law is that we love God and our neighbor; all other laws and individual rights are subordinate to that supreme divine law.**

Please be patient and charitable as we work through these difficult times.

14) **Communications.** As no bulletin is being published during this period, the parish is using FLOCKNOTES and Facebook for regular electronic communication with email, texts and newsletters. This is in addition to the usual telephone and email communication. If you are not registered in FLOCKNOTES and are not receiving regular FLOCKNOTE emails and texts, you can sign up by texting GUADALUPE to 84576 and following the instructions. If you need to do it in Spanish then text GUADALUPE to 202-765-3441. To do it online, go to <https://StMaryCatholicChurch12.flocknote.com/everyone>. Only a name and email is required to register but if you have a text number that is highly recommended to ensure you don't miss any important material. **Recently a number of people have been added to FLOCKNOTES using data from the parish's office records. Much of the data is incomplete so if you want to correct your data follow the above process to sign up on flocknotes. That will correct your data.** The parish has a Facebook Group <https://m.facebook.com/groups/616666051719052/> which you can join by having a Facebook account and then asking to join the group. There are a number of St. Mary Groups on Facebook so make sure you have ours. Our Logo is prominently displayed and there is no other Lovingston St. Mary's. As a member of the group you can post info and ask questions by commenting on posts. When you are asked a question upon requesting to join the group, answer I AM A PARISHIONER. And you will be allowed into the group. Father Carlos has been posting gospel messages on this page. The parish also has a Facebook Page that is totally public and is only used to stream masses, the link to that page is listed in paragraph 1 above. **Please pass this info to any parishioner you know who is not receiving information from the parish.**

15. **Deacon Julio Reyes**, who served as our seminarian and has been supported by our Knights of Columbus Council under the RSVP program was ordained on Saturday July 11 by Bishop Knestout at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond. Donations were collected from the Parish and presented to him at the ceremony by the Knights. Donations will still be accepted and will be presented to him at a later date. Please pray for Father Julio as he enters his priesthood. Father Julio is assigned as the Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Lourdes in Henrico. He will say his first mass at 1pm on Sunday 12 July at our Lady of Lourdes.

#### 16) **PASTOR's WORD for the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Lord uses parables to explain and teach us the mysteries of the Kingdom among us and who are the ones who listen to it. In Matthew's Gospel with the parable of the sower, the significance key of understanding is bearing fruit to the final judgment as evidence that he or she is Jesus' disciple.

"A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred- or sixty- or thirty-fold. Whoever has ears ought to hear"

What kind of soil in your heart do you carry out every day? Perhaps, path, rocky ground, thorns and rich soil?

How often do you cultivate your soul and heart with the presence of the Lord and his Spirit? What obstacles make it harder to do it? Or what blessings help you to bear fruit?

As the Lord preaches the mysteries of the Kingdom and encourages those who take the time and make the effort to understand Jesus' teachings and live them by bearing fruit. How do you respond to work for his kingdom?

Let's pray for our Church and country asking the Lord to help us to bear fruits and bring peace in our midst. O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honor. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**God Bless you,**

**Carlos Lerma, Pastor**

## **Ministry News**

### **First Communion/Confirmation/RCIA**

See the schedule in paragraph 1.

### **Migrant Worker Ministry**

The ministry has ceased visits to the migrant camps until it is safe to do so.

### **Prison Ministry**

The prison ministry is on hiatus until the state will allow visitors to the prison.

### **Knights of Columbus**

John Paul 2<sup>nd</sup> Council 16535 will meet via ZOOM at 7pm on Tuesday 14 July. The Knights have purchased a large commercial grade barbeque so look for some future delicious barbecue events.

During this Pandemic the Knights are now allowing members to join completely on line. Anyone who like to join via this streamlined and easy process can contact Wayne Parent ([wcparent7@aol.com](mailto:wcparent7@aol.com)) or Len Thompson ([lenthompson@gmail.com](mailto:lenthompson@gmail.com)) to receive info on how to do this. If you have thought about joining, now is the time. If you have never thought about it, now is the time!



Catholic Diocese of Richmond  
1820 Bicentennial 2020