

Devoting Support ^{to our}

FAITH

Community

STAYING CONNECTED

God's work continues during
the COVID-19 pandemic.

INSIDE

How COVID-19 has
impacted our parish

PLUS

We need you! All the
ways you can be part
of our parish!



Staying Connected During COVID-19

Our challenge in dealing with COVID-19 continues, but I want to let you know that our parish continues to care for the spiritual and material needs of our faith community.

Since we have created a partnered parish Facebook page, (St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Mary, Mother of God) and have begun livestreaming Sunday Mass, many appreciated it and were happy to follow it. They are given an avenue to be connected to the parish even virtually. We will continue doing that so everybody can be updated and connected.

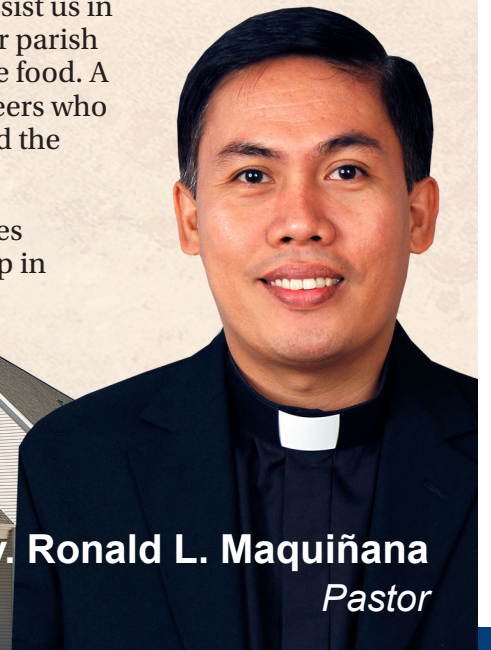
The parish also conducted an outreach, especially to the elderly and homebound. We send them bulletins to stay connected with us. We created a Ministry of Hospitality to assist us in liturgical functions and events in our parish. We also sent a representative from our parish to do the ServSafe Training who will assist us during parish fundraisers that involve food. A take-out turkey dinner was held Oct. 18, and it was a success. I thanked the volunteers who took part for making it possible and successful. I also thanked those who supported the cause to help our parish in augmenting our financial needs.

However, as we recommence the opening of the parish hall, which provides services like funeral meals, small receptions and meetings, we need more volunteers to help in preparation to make these events possible.

In an effort to ensure the safety and comfort of everyone, we organized a cleaning and sanitization plan. All church areas are cleaned and sanitized after every Mass and other liturgical functions. Thanks to the sacristan and volunteers who do it regularly.



Rev. Ronald L. Maquiñana
Pastor



Ways You Can Give



St. Mary, Mother of God Parish
P.O. Box 327
109 Second Street
Yatesboro, PA 15263



Parish Office Hours
Mon - Thur
9 AM to 12 PM
and 1 PM to 4 PM



www.stmaryyatesboro.org

Sadly, as you can imagine, the virus has greatly impacted every form of stewardship. If you are willing to give of your time and talent to help those in need, please look for our ministry listings and contact us to volunteer. Even though we cannot gather as we normally would, this may be an especially good time to consider a ministry in our parish so that when we do begin to gather, you will have an idea of how you want to serve our community of faith.

On the next page, you will find the details of how COVID-19 has affected our parish financials. In order to maintain and continue God's work in our parish, your financial support during this difficult time is greatly appreciated. With great sensitivity to your circumstances, I humbly ask that you prayerfully consider an increase of your weekly or monthly offertory. You can make the commitment online or by sending those donations directly to the parish via mail or visiting our parish website for online offertory.

COVID-19 and its Impact on our Faith Community

Our parish offertory has been significantly affected due to less attendance in the weekend Masses, but has recently improved as parishioners have sent their giving by mail or online.

Our Diocesan Lenten Appeal has not yet met our parish goal set for \$12,000. As of Sept. 15, we are shy by \$3,079.

Our parish suffered from the loss of fundraising monies. Our last three Lenten Fish Fries were cancelled. Our Altar Rosary Society and Youth Ministry, which benefit from fish fries in their fundraising, also were affected. Mother Mary's table, which provides soup and bread for those who would go to the food pantry every second Sunday of the month, also was cancelled.



Good Samaritan Ministry

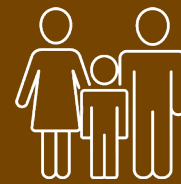
However, I do want to call your attention to the fact that our Good Samaritan Ministry continues its outreach to families with emergency situations such as rent, electric or gas shut-off notices and others. They also sponsor the Angel Giving Tree in cooperation with Armstrong County Children and Youth. A tree with special tags to fulfill the wishes of the needy families in our community will be placed in the narthex of the church the last week of November.

They also put up an Angel Memorial Tree. Ornaments can be bought and hung in memory or in honor of a loved one. This is done during the Advent season, and the funds generated aid those in need in the community through the Good Samaritan Ministry.

Parish Statistics



Registered Households



2018: 340
2019: 330
2020: 333

Single Member Households



90

Parish Financials

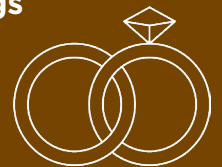
	2018	2019	2020
Offertory	\$ 188,218	\$ 183,255	\$ 189,700
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	3,951	2,843	3,715
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	36,007	38,162	20,376
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	11,461	8,176	10,216
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)</i>	8,939	1,602	41,025
Special Collections	31,193	61,669	13,069
Total Income	\$ 279,769	\$ 295,708	\$ 278,101
Expenses			
<i>Administration</i>	\$ 72,750	\$ 72,530	\$ 75,546
<i>Church</i>	41,311	46,267	43,472
<i>Rectory</i>	4,525	2,147	8,005
<i>Education and Ministry</i>	14,098	15,279	12,877
<i>General Expenses</i>	80,233	85,215	93,478
<i>Special Collections</i>	41,213	51,689	12,158
<i>Extraordinary Expenses</i>	13,383	43,142	37,101
Total Expenditures	267,513	316,269	282,636
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 12,255	\$ (20,561)	\$ (4,535)

Baptisms



2018: 2
2019: 9
2020: 9

Weddings



2018: 4
2019: 0
2020: 0

Funerals



2018: 27
2019: 21
2020: 15

Capital Improvements

Your contributions to our parish help to maintain the facility, making it the center of prayer in our community. Over the last three years, we completed the replacement of front door, side door and push-pull bar in the church and lock set, closures and adjustments in the social hall.

We were able to replace furnace and air conditioning units for the church and social hall as well. Also, we were able to install LED light fixtures and bulbs in the church, social hall and rectory. Most recently, we undertook the improvement of the sound system in the church.

Ministries at St. Mary, Mother of God

St. Mary, Mother of God encourages its parishioners to participate in one of our liturgical, social or music ministries. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

Altar Server

Boys and girls are eligible for service at the altar upon entering third grade. Servers will assist the priest during the celebration of Mass displaying maturity and reverence.

Adult Altar Servers

Adult altar servers assist the pastor at daily mass and at funeral liturgies when our youth altar servers are not available to serve.

Cantors

Our cantor program consists of selected members of our choir. They are responsible for preparing to proclaim the psalm, the Gospel acclamation and verse, and lead the assembly in song for the Saturday and Sunday liturgies.

Greeters

Greeters are the first to welcome parishioners and guests upon arrival for Mass. They will arrange for individuals to participate in the offertory procession. Families, couples, and individuals are encouraged to participate in this very essential ministry.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Adult individuals of the parish assist the pastor with the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Ministry to Sick and Homebound

Ministers visit those of our parish family who are homebound and local nursing home residents to distribute the body of Christ. Ministers take time for prayer and fellowship with those whom they visit. Our ministers are in contact with the pastor when those visited request or need pastoral care. Visits are made the first Wednesday of each month.

Lectors

Parishioners at least 16 years of age are eligible to be lectors. In addition to delivering the Word of God, lectors will take part in the entrance procession, carrying the Book of the Gospels to the altar.

Adult Choir

Our adult choir consists of volunteer singers who enhance our liturgies during the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. Members must be able to commit to a rehearsal once a week during the seasons of Advent and Lent and must be able to sing at the Sunday liturgies, certain feast days, Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost.

Ushers

The offertory collection and securing funds are the main duties of an usher. They also assist those individuals who will participate in the offertory procession. When needed, ushers aid in seating.

Ministers of Hospitality

Ministers of Hospitality will assist ushers at each Mass. This new ministry will serve to assist those attending in fulfilling the special expectations that will be needed to be observed in light of our current situation of the Pandemic.

Prayer Chain

The prayer chain ministry is made up of individuals who are committed to daily prayer for the needs of others. The leader is responsible for calling a member, who in turn phones another member, each time passing on the names of those who need special prayer intentions.

Bereavement Ministry

Our caring group of lay people introduce to those who have experienced a loss, a four-book series titled "Journeying through Grief." The books in this series, distributed by mail and accompanied by letters of support, will help with the many stages of emotions encountered by those who have undergone the loss of a loved one. The series extends through the first year following the passing of a loved one. Following the conclusion of the book series, the group continues to reach out to the grieving family.

Altar Rosary Society

Men and women in good standing with the church, are eligible to join the Altar Rosary Society. The Society promotes the devotion to the Blessed Mother, queen of the holy rosary, as well as provides financially for the care of the altar and sanctuary. They adorn the statue of the Blessed Mother with flowers during the Month of May in honor of Mary, Mother of God and October dedicated to Holy Rosary.

Knitting Group

You do not need to know how to knit or crochet or even need supplies to join in the good works of the ladies who make up the Knitting Group. Good instructors are among those who gather. Their ministry provides the newly baptized with white blankets used during the Sacrament of Baptism.

They provide hats and scarves to homeless veterans. Their handiwork is seen in the prayer shawls given to those who ask. They provide handcrafted angel ornaments to the parish outreach organization which provide funds needed to assist members of our local community who are in need of financial support.

Associates of Mary

The mission of the Associates of Mary is to be bearers and sharers of God's love, to be apostles and missionaries like our Blessed Mother and St. Therese the Little Flower. This dedicated group of parish members is being called and drawn by a spiritual bond to live their Christian vocation to holiness and compassion. In and through Mary, they seek to find fulfillment in their Christian calling and to see one's life as a ministry, a mission.

Men's Christian Fellowship

The Catholic Men's Fellowship is an adult faith formation, lay prayer ministry group, which meets in our region. These men gather to reflect on, and share sound Catholic teachings, while strengthening each other through fellowship.