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## Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 9, 2012

Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs to the kingdom?

— James 2:5

### MASSES FOR THE WEEK SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

7:30 AM People of the Parish  
9:30 AM Cameron Kishbaugh  
12:30 PM Special Intention (Hispanic Mass)

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

9:00 AM Alec Decker

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

9:00 AM Robert Mesch

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

9:00 AM Julia Sorce

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

9:00 AM William (Bill) Decker

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

**4:30 PM** Joseph Hawkins

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

7:30 AM Monica Pesarchick  
9:30 AM People of the Parish

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**SANCTUARY CANDLE THIS WEEK:** In memory of Matthew & Florence Kopetskie requested by their family.

**PEACE CANDLE THIS WEEK:** In memory of Frank Pyles requested by Joselle.

**RESURRECTION CANDLE:** In memory of Warren Maher requested by Joe & Marge Kutza.

**THE ALTAR BREADS AND ALTAR WINE** that will be consecrated at all our Masses this week are in memory of William (Bill) Decker given by his wife, Jean.

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### PARISH DATEBOOK

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

**YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL:** 3:45 PM.  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** will meet at 7:00 PM at their home, 1416 W. Front Street.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

**CCW MEETING:** 6:00 PM in the meeting room.  
**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:** 7:00 PM.  
**ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL:** 7:30 PM.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

**PASTORAL & FINANCE COMMITTEE** meeting 6:30 PM in the meeting room.

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

**BLUE ARMY HOLY HOUR** will be prayed at 8:00 AM.

#### SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16

**CCD: CATECHETICAL SUNDAY**  
Classes in session 10:40 to 11:55.

### PARISH SUPPORT

September 2 offering	
Adults	\$5139.00
Youth	10.00
Loose	<u>492.00</u>
Total	\$5641.00

Forty Hours: \$1305.00

Thank you for your generosity!



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### THE MESSIAH FORETOLD

Today's story of the cure of a deaf man with a speech impediment is a good example of how much is contained in a simple miracle story. The Greek word *mogilalos* appears only here in all of the New Testament. It is a technical term referring to someone with a stammer. It is also used only once in the entire Jewish scriptures, in the passage that we read today as our first reading from Isaiah. Clearly, by his choice of this precise word Mark wants us to recognize that what Jesus is doing is the fulfillment of what Isaiah had predicted centuries earlier. In fact, Mark wants us to recognize that Jesus is the Messiah foretold by Isaiah and the other Jewish prophets of old.

The word *ephphatha*, "be opened," used to describe the restoration of the man's speech, is another example of a subtle allusion to an earlier prophecy. This time the prophecy in question is from Ezekiel, when he foretells that in the messianic age, "your mouth shall be opened to speak" (24:26). The sophistication of Mark's narrative is further revealed when we realize that there are multiple levels within a single reference. Mark not only draws our attention back to Israel's prophetic past, he also points to the initiatory practice of his contemporaries by his mention of such things as spittle, touching of ears, and the use of the word *ephphatha*, all of which were practices incorporated into the early Church's baptismal ritual.

**Thank You for using your Boyer's Food Markets discount card! We have just received a check for \$269. 58 from your continued support!**



### **FLOWERS FOR OUR ALTAR**

You are invited to participate in our Altar Flower Program. A basket of fresh flowers will be placed in front of the altar in memory of your deceased loved ones or for a special intention.

Your name will be printed in the bulletin that week if you choose. The church will take care of the procurement of the flowers. The donation is \$75.00. To participate, please call the Parish Office at 759-8113.

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### **CCW NEWS**

September's Women's Council meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday, September 12 @ 6:00 PM. As usual, these meetings are open to all the women of St. Mary's parish. Please join us for our first meeting back from summer break! <http://stmaryccw.webs.com/>

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**Bible Study/Sharing** will begin on Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the meeting room. We extend and invitation to all to join us in sharing God's word, especially in this "Year of Faith".  
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### **ALTAR SERVERS**

We are asking boys and girls who are members of St. Mary's Parish, and who are in third grade to become altar servers for our weekend Masses and other devotional services. Please call the parish office at 759-8113 to enroll your son or daughter.

### **ETHNIC FOOD SALE – SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS**

706 Warren St & First Ave. Berwick  
Must order by Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> @752-1269 or 752-4701. Pick up Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Holubki, Holuski, Vegetable Beef or Chicken Noodle Soup. (See Bulletin Board)

### **VOCATION AWARENESS:**

"Be strong, do not fear!" With every true vocation comes the strength and courage of the One who calls. If the Holy Spirit is prompting you to follow Christ as a priest, deacon, or in the consecrated life, call the office of Vocations (717) 657-4804 ext. 282, or email: [frlavoie@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:frlavoie@hbgdiocese.org).

### **SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Wednesday: The Most Holy Name of Mary  
Thursday: St. John Chrysostom  
Friday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
Saturday: Our Lady of Sorrows

## **SERVICE FOR THE LORD**

### **Next Sunday, September 16**

#### **Saturday, 4:30 PM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Panzak, Marston, Belford  
Lector: Confer  
Altar Servers: 5  
Greeters: Panzak & Rinehimer

#### **Sunday, 7:30 AM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Curry, Kilcullen, Troiani  
Lector: Troiani  
Altar Servers: 6  
Greeters: M & R Crake

#### **Sunday, 9:30 AM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Koser, Samsel, Wharton  
Lector: Wark  
Altar Servers: 4  
Greeters: S & L Lizardi

### **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Turning the calendar page to September marks a new beginning in the lives of many who live by the academic year. Traditionally the start of the school year in the United States, this month can bring to mind the many calendars by which we live. There are fiscal years, academic years, television seasons, sports seasons—the list seems endless. Added to all of these is, of course, the liturgical year.

A Christian of the first century or so would have been hard-pressed to understand what we mean by a feast day or holy day. That person would have understood Sunday as the primary feast day, and Easter as the primary Sunday. It was only over time that the Church began to set aside particular days and seasons to commemorate certain events or highlight selected mysteries of the faith. What has evolved over the centuries is a "map" of our faith, written on the days and seasons of the year. Some have observed that one will absorb all the major teachings of the Church in the course of a single year of Sundays if one is attentive. What a wonderful way to get Christianity "into our bones!" And best of all, there are no grades!

