

PARISH OF MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

SAINT MARY'S CHURCH

45 Crosswicks St.
Bordentown, N.J. 08505



HOLY ASSUMPTION CHURCH

1290 Hornberger Ave.
Roebling, N.J. 08554



REV. JOSEPH G. HLUBIK, Pastor
REV. STEPHEN SCHULER, SVD, Weekend Assistant
Rectory: 298-0261 Fax: 298-7178
Web Address: www.stmarysbordentown.org

Deacons:
Lawrence W. Finn (Ret.) Gary T. Richardson
Thomas F. Shea Ronald Zalegowski (Ret.)
Ronald Schwoebel

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL



SAINT MARY CHURCH

Monday, May 28

9:00 AM Mass for Members of our Military Services and their Families

NO WORD OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP

Tuesday, May 29

7:30 AM Josephine & Joseph Radice
RB/Radice Family

2:00 PM Rosary & Prayer Hour — Chapel

Wednesday, May 30

7:30 AM Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

3:00 PM Prayers for Priests, Religious, and Vocations

7:00 PM Novena Service & Adoration

Thursday, May 31

7:30 AM Theresa & Angelo Fiorentino (A)
RB/Family

Friday, June 1

7:30 AM Everlasting Spiritual Bouquet

Saturday, June 2

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Elizabeth Sakiey
RB/Parish Office Staff

Sunday, June 3

7:30 AM Richard P. Schwing
RB/Nancy Martin

9:30 AM Maureen Fabriano
RB/Robert Fabriano

11:30 AM Diane McGrath
RB/Ludwig Family

Come to the Lord!

Visit with the Lord every day in St. Mary's Chapel.
The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for solemn adoration after morning Mass, Monday - Friday.

Parish Offerings for the weekend of May 20th—

Holy Assumption Church:
\$4,571 (regular)

Saint Mary Church:
\$8,033 (regular); \$1,357 (Stewardship); and \$1,607 for Father's Day memorials.

Many thanks for your generosity!

HOLY ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Monday, May 28

9:00 AM Virginia Bumbulsky
RB/Oliver Family & Mary

Tuesday, May 29

8:00 AM William Donnelly
RB/Maria Roan

Wednesday, May 30

8:00 AM Eucharistic Service

Thursday, May 31

8:00 AM William Donnelly
RB/Martha & Thomas Wright

Friday, June 1

8:00 AM William Donnelly
RB/Janice & Paul Ordog

Saturday, June 2

3:00 PM Confessions

4:00 PM William Donnelly
RB/the Jacoby Families

Sunday, June 3

10:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the
Rosary & Altar Society

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

<i>Adult Choir</i>	<i>Jac Madson 758-7243</i>
<i>Adult Faith Formation</i>	<i>Earl Alger 298-7071</i>
<i>Altar Linen Ministry</i>	<i>Helene Shea 298-7612</i>
<i>Church Ushers</i>	<i>Ferd Loretangeli 298-2131</i>
<i>Contemporary Choir</i>	<i>Cathy Alphonse 291-9204</i>
<i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>Mike Novalis 298-4664 (SM); Sue Oros 499-0022 (HA)</i>
<i>Knights of Columbus</i>	<i>Ron White 903-0342</i>
<i>Open Hearts, Willing Hands (Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Mercer County)</i>	<i>609-393-9922</i>
<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>Deacon Gary Richardson</i>
<i>Rosary & Altar Society</i>	<i>Stephanie Salewski 291-1816 or Donna Frappolli 221-1957</i>
<i>Sports Committee</i>	<i>John Bacovin 638-9054</i>
<i>St. Vincent de Paul Society</i>	<i>Sharon Callahan 298-1414</i>
<i>Word of Life Prayer Group</i>	<i>Pat Baylog 298-4249</i>

Anointing of the Sick and Communion for the Homebound

Please notify the parish office when serious illness occurs or when the sick, aged or incapacitated are confined to home for an extended period. Arrangements can be made to bring Communion to those unable to attend Mass.

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 4:00 PM at Holy Assumption, and
5:00 PM at St. Mary

Sundays: 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 AM at St. Mary, and
10:30 AM at Holy Assumption

Weekdays: Monday thru Friday—7:30 AM at St. Mary; and
8:00 AM at Holy Assumption (except Wed.—
Eucharistic Service);
[no morning Mass on Saturdays.]

Eve before a Holy Day: 7:00 PM (St. Mary)

Holy Days: 7:30AM (St. Mary), 8AM (Holy Assumption)
and 7:00 PM (St. Mary). Schedule may vary.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The chapel is open daily. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for solemn adoration: Mon-Fri 8:00-8:45AM; Sat, 8:00-10:00AM. Evening hours are Wed, 7-8PM; Thurs, 7-9PM. Quarterly, special adoration times & events are offered.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday from 3:00 PM (Holy Assumption) and
4:00 PM (St. Mary); also by appointment.

NOVENA

In honor of the Miraculous Medal each Wednesday at 7 PM
at St. Mary.

MARRIAGES

Arrangements are to be made at least 1 year in advance.

SICK CALLS

Urgent calls any time of day or night. Arrangements for Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion for those confined to the home are to be made by contacting the rectory.

PARISH REGISTRATION

We welcome new parishioners to the parish, and we ask them to register as soon as possible. If you are not registered we are not able to issue letters for sponsorship for the Sacraments or character references to schools or for employment. If you move from the parish please notify the rectory.

ENVELOPE SYSTEM

The regular use of envelopes provides for a stable income to the church. This enables the pastor to plan for repairs, future expansion and improvements, and also documents Mass attendance. We urge all parishioners to make regular use of the envelopes.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are done on 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month, following the 11:30 AM Mass at St. Mary; and on the 3rd Sunday during the 10:30 AM Mass at Holy Assumption. Please call the rectory office to register, provide the required documents, and schedule a Baptism Prep class.

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Please notify the parish office when the sick, aged or incapacitated are confined to home. Arrangements can be made to bring Holy Communion to them.

Religious Education

Public elementary school children on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings at St. Mary School.
See separate column on Religious Education activities and contact information.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

May 27, 2018: Trinity Sunday

St. Vincent de Paul urged his followers to worship and to imitate the Trinity, and to live a life in which all are one, as Jesus is one with the Father and the Spirit. He wanted his followers to have in themselves the image of the Trinity, to share a sacred relation to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. St. Vincent wanted us to be together as having but one heart and soul so that through this union of spirit we would be a true image of the unity of God. He prayed to the Holy Spirit, who is the union of the Father and Son, that he would likewise be ours, giving profound peace in the midst of contradictions and difficulties.



In April the St. Vincent de Paul Society helped 6 families with \$5,925 for rent expenses.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, call our confidential helpline (609) 298-1414.

RETREAT FOR MEN—JULY 13-15

The **Knights of Columbus** Bordentown Council #570 is sponsoring its annual retreat for all men of the parish at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, where God and the ocean come together.



The retreat will be held on the weekend of July 13th-15th, beginning at 5 PM on Friday evening and ending at 12 Noon on Sunday. The cost is \$220, and includes your room and all meals.

Contact Ferdinand Loretangeli at 298-2131, or Larry Denney at 298-1892, for more details.

**Parish Office:**

45 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown, NJ 08505

Phone: 609-298-0261 & 609-499-0161

Religious Ed. Phone: 609-291-8281

Fax: 609-298-7178

Larry Denney, Business Manager
Cathy Alphonse, Accounts Payable
Peggy Schwoebel, Purchasing
Patricia Solimine, Parish Secretary
Richard Mercantini, Maintenance
Dave Salewski, Bulletin Editor
Margaret Zola, Coordinator, Religious Education
Karen Edwardson, Assistant, Religious Education
Earl Alger, Adult Education/Evangelization

Email: office@stmarysbordentown.org and sfncpo@gmail.com

RE Email: office@stmarysre.org

Websites: stmarysbordentown.org & stsfnc.org

Mass While Away From Home?

Keep God in your travel plans—visit www.masstimes.org.

Rosary Recitations
Our Lady, Mother of the Church, Pray for us



ALL ARE WELCOME—PLEASE JOIN US IN THESE PRAYER SESSIONS:

- ♦ **Daily Rosary** – 7:00AM and 8:00AM in the St. Mary chapel (before and after the 7:30AM Mass); and 7:30AM in Holy Assumption Church;
- ♦ **Tuesdays** from 2:00—3:00PM in the St. Mary chapel;
- ♦ **Wednesdays** at 3:00PM for priests and religious in the St. Mary chapel;
- ♦ **Saturdays** at 9:00AM the “Timeless Rosary” is recited in the St. Mary chapel;
- ♦ **Sundays** at 10AM (before Mass) at Holy Assumption Church.

Pray the Rosary as a family, even if only a decade a day—just begin.

“Mary, my dearest Mother, give me your heart, so beautiful, so pure, so immaculate, so full of love and humility, that I may receive Jesus as you did and go in haste to give Him to others.”—St. Teresa of Kolkata (Mother Teresa)

UPCOMING EVENTS & PARISH DEVOTIONS:

>>**PRAYER SHAWL PROJECT – Mary’s Weavers** —**Monday evenings at 7 PM** in the downstairs meeting room, Parish Center, St. Mary site. Call Helene Shea for more information at 298-7612. **Next Meeting is on June 4th.**

>>**ROSARIANS’ COMMUNION SUNDAY**—for the intention of all Rosarians, living and deceased:

June 3rd—at **Holy Assumption Church**—Rosary at 10AM, followed by 10:30AM Mass;

June 10th—at **St. Mary’s Church**—Rosary at 9AM, followed by 9:30AM Mass

(Note: Altar flowers on Pentecost Sunday at Holy Assumption were dedicated to living & deceased Rosarians.)

>>**ROSARY & ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING**—**June 5th (note changed date)**, in the Divine Mercy Room at Holy Assumption Church; Rosary at 6:30PM, followed by membership meeting and Ice Cream Social. **ALL MEMBERS OF BOTH PARISHES & THOSE INTERESTED IN BECOMING MEMBERS ARE INVITED.**

>>**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:**

St. Mary’s Church—Wednesdays at 7PM (in the Chapel);

Holy Assumption Church—Mondays after 8AM Mass

>>**ROSARIAN WEEKLY ROSARY & PRAYER HOUR**—Tuesdays at 2:00 PM, in St. Mary’s Chapel.

Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions for June:

•Universal Social Networks—*That social networks may work towards the inclusiveness which respects others for their differences.*

Let us pray . . . Our Lady of Lourdes, we pray for our currently ill or suffering members, family and friends: John A.; Frank H.; Samme; Loretta S.; Mary M.; Patricia H.; Catherine; Joe C. for healing of cancer; Ginny’s brother Bob; B.J. and Pam; Veronica Shea; Amelia; Maryann; Bill S; Paul Shea; Attila, Pat and family; Deacon Ron S.; Marge Johnson; Irene D.; Sharon C. for strength and healing; Nicholas E.; Baby Isaac for continued healing; Therese S.; Nancy P.; Nancy K.; Gail; Marilyn Rogalski; Julie and family; Luz; Timothy; Jan and family; Addie; and Rosemarie Brodowski. We continue to pray for peace in our world and in our country that we may come together in harmony and mutual respect for each other; for our religious freedoms and conscience rights; for the recognition of the civil right of the unborn to be recognized as persons and for all life concerns; for the family and sacramental marriage; for our civil protectors in the military, the police, firefighters and EMTs; for vocations; and for the Holy Father and the Church throughout the world. We ask for the continuing health of our parish clergy, and give thanks for our Deacons and their families for their dedication and self-giving help in the ministries of the Church. We pray for our homebound that they may know that they remain with us in our hearts and prayers. We pray for family members having responsibility for decisions in the care of family members. We pray for Our Lady’s help in bringing our parishes of St. Francis and Clare and St. Mary’s to unity as the Parish of Mary, Mother of the Church, one fervent and vibrant community of the faithful; let us pray earnestly as we remember our mission to Our Father and each other of LOVE.

Altar Servers — June 2nd & 3rd
(St. Mary Church)

5:00PM	Team #1	Coppola
7:30AM	Team #4	Ritter
9:30AM	Team #6	Marrano
11:30AM	Team #9	Jones

ALTAR LINEN MINISTRY
at St. Mary’s (SM) & Holy Assumption (HA)

Week of May 27: *Maria Bellusci (SM)*
 Barbara Boldizar (HA)

Week of June 3: *Jeanne Zalegowski (SM)*
 Barbara Boldizar (HA)

For more information, call Helene Shea (SM) at 609-298-7612 or
Barbara Boldizar (HA) at 609-499-0900.

Have Your Voice Heard!

We are seeking three (3) “at-large” members for our Parish Council, to represent the concerns of the parish faithful, and who may or may not be otherwise involved in the functions or ministries of the parish. If interested, please contact the parish office staff or Fr. Joe. Many thanks for your help!

—Deacon Gary Richardson, Council President

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, FOR THE MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

MARY’S WEAVERS AND THE WORD OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP WILL NOT MEET.

Tues. 7:00 PM Bible Study—Revelation II Parish Center, upstairs

**Venerable Pierre Toussaint (1766-1853)
Feast Day is May 28**

Born in modern-day Haiti and brought to New York City as a slave, Pierre died a free man, a renowned hairdresser and one of New York City’s most well-known Catholics.

Pierre Bérard, a plantation owner, made Toussaint a house slave and allowed his grandmother to teach her grandson how to read and write. In his early 20s, Pierre, his younger sister, his aunt and two other house slaves accompanied their master’s son to New York City because of political unrest at home. Apprenticed to a local hairdresser, Pierre learned the trade quickly and eventually worked very successfully in the homes of rich women in New York City.

When his master died, Pierre was determined to support his master’s widow, himself and the other house slaves. He was freed shortly before the widow’s death in 1807. Four years later he married Marie Rose Juliette, whose freedom he had purchased. They later adopted Euphémie, his orphaned niece. Both preceded him in death. He attended daily Mass at St. Peter’s Church on Barclay Street, the same parish that St. Elizabeth Seton attended.

Pierre donated to various charities, generously assisting blacks and whites in need. He and his wife opened their home to orphans and educated them. The couple also nursed abandoned people who were suffering from yellow fever. Urged to retire and enjoy the wealth he had accumulated, Pierre responded, *“I have enough for myself, but if I stop working I have not enough for others.”*

He was originally buried outside St. Patrick’s Old Cathedral, where he was once refused entrance because of his race. His sanctity and the popular devotion to him caused his body to be moved to St. Patrick’s Cathedral on Fifth Avenue.

Pierre Toussaint was declared Venerable in 1996.

Comment:

Pierre was internally free long before he was legally free. Refusing to become bitter, he daily chose to cooperate with God’s grace, eventually becoming a compelling sign of God’s wildly generous love.



...THE SICK who have been recommended to our prayers:

Sr. Joyce Marie Riley, Victoria Seda, Marilyn Rogalski, Tony LaPointe, John Campo, Quincy Johnson, Elizabeth Gusrang, Maida Burke, Dave Bibus, Thaddeus Custer, Donald & Ann McGarrity, Rev. John Owens, John Fitzgerald, Anna Vosila, Cindy Marriot, Michael Albano, Brody Lingle, Patricia Gates, May Browning, Alice tenBerge, John Wehrman, Frances Mercantini, Charlie Radvany, Angelo LePre, Rev. John H. Maltby, Angelo Nasti, Jesse Dunn, Sam Eleuteri, Nicole Cochran, Dennis Kish, Luzie Johnson, Carol Greco, Theresa Stearle, Deacon Ron Schwoebel and all of the sick of the parish.

Pray For Our Deceased
Alfred Falco

Chapel Sanctuary Lamp
Rev. Joseph Procaccino
RB/Tersina DiPietro

Church Sanctuary Lamp
Eva & Eugene DiPietro
RB/Family

NOTE: Prayer List entries will be removed after 90 days unless we are notified that your loved one requires continued prayer support.

Volunteer Collection Counters Wanted

We still need a few volunteers to help record our weekly collections, to be done on either Sunday or Monday mornings, for St. Mary’s Church. I am trying to re-establish 3-4 teams, whereby volunteers would not be overburdened each week. If you are willing to assist us, please contact me at the office, 609-298-0261.

—Larry Denney, Business Administrator

**Mary, Mother of the Church
Community Food Pantry**

We are a supplemental food source run by volunteers collecting and distributing food to over 300 families in need in Bordentown, Chesterfield, Crosswicks, Fieldsboro, Mansfield, Springfield, Florence, Roebling and 4 area motels that house people on our register. We are funded by generous parishioners, community churches and members, to whom we are most grateful!



St. Mary site:

Current needs: canned chicken; soups with meat, such as beef; bottled water; powdered iced tea and lemon aid; kid’s drinks and juices.

Access Hours: M-W-F 2-3:00 PM; Tu-Th 9-10:00 AM and 6-7:00 PM; and Sat. 9-10:00 AM.

Holy Assumption site:

Current needs: canned fruit; tomato sauce; toilet paper; paper towels; cereal; macaroni and cheese.

Access Hours: Tuesdays 2-3PM.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!



Religious Education & Sacramental Programs
For Mary, Mother of the Church Parish
 1st through 8th Grade & High School

June 5 & 12.....AT-HOME FAITH Testing, 6:00-7:30PM in the parish office.

June 18.....2019 Confirmation candidate and parent MAKE-UP Meeting, 6PM in parish office.

August 6-10.....Vacation Bible School open to K–6th graders, 9-12PM in St. Mary’s School Hall.

AT-HOME FAITH Testing will be conducted on June 5th and June 12th from 6:00-7:30PM in the Parish Office. Emails have been sent home with schedule times. An evaluation allows the RE office to follow-up with your individual learning of the curriculum text you have done throughout the year.

2019 Confirmation candidates and parents/sponsors who were unable to attend the informational meeting on May 22nd will have a make-up meeting on June 18th at 6:00PM in the upstairs conference room of the Parish Office. **Remember that all candidates will be taking their 7th Grade Confirmation Test at this meeting. Study Guides were distributed to all candidates and can be found on our RE website.**

Volunteers are always needed! Please consider volunteering for our Religious Education program. We have a wonderful program for Catechists, Aides and Hall Monitors. The success of our program is dependent on the willingness of individuals to help out. All volunteers need to be fingerprinted and attend a “VIRTUS” Safe Child workshop before being allowed to volunteer. (Fingerprinting and VIRTUS information can be found on our RE website.) Volunteering is a rewarding experience—share your faith with our parish youth.

2018-2019 NEW Family Registration forms are available in the parish offices and in the back of church. Below is a description of our new Fall schedule:

- ◆ **Monthly classes**—We are now offering families the option to attend our Monthly Program in St. Mary’s School. Classes will be on the first Monday evening of each month, with a few changes as necessary. Monthly classes are only available to children in non-sacramental year programs, which are those children in 3rd—6th grades. While your children are attending their classes, one parent will be expected to stay and receive support to guide their child in off-week lessons. Monthly classes are for 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- ◆ **Weekly classes**—All of our weekly classes will be held Tuesday and Wednesday nights in St. Mary’s School. Your choice of a class commits your child to that day and time for the remainder of the year. Our weekly classes are offered for our 1st—8th graders. We offer a choice of either Tuesday or Wednesday night classes. Classes weekly are for 1 hour 15 minutes.
- ◆ **Home Study**—Available to those families that are practicing Catholics, where travel makes it to difficult to attend class and extreme situations. Students in 2nd and 8th grades may not enroll in this program. Please be advised that Home Study families will have a mandatory parent kick-off meeting in the Fall; the children will take four unit tests spread out evenly throughout the year; and children are expected to attend additional parish activities and have a final oral interview in May.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL dates have been confirmed for August 6-10, from 9-12PM for students entering Kindergarten through 6th grade. This year’s theme is *SHIPWRECKED Rescued by Jesus*. Registration forms are now available in the back of the church. Come out for a wonderful week where kids will learn that Jesus will continue to rescue you!

~~~~~  
 Mary, Mother of the Church RE Office

Phone: (609) 291-8281 ext. 18 (CRE) or ext.17 (Asst.); Fax: (609) 298-7178

Email: [office@stmarysre.org](mailto:office@stmarysre.org) or [office2@stmarysre.org](mailto:office2@stmarysre.org); Website: [www.stmarysre.org](http://www.stmarysre.org).

Facebook page: St. Mary’s Church—Bordentown, NJ  
 ~~~~~

*Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son,
 the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.*



This Monday, May 28th, is Memorial Day, and our annual Masses to remember all who gave their lives in the service of our country will be celebrated at 9 AM at St. Mary Church, and also at 9AM at Holy Assumption Church.

* * * * *

Our parish office will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday.

PLEASE NOTE—There will be no evening Masses.

Calling Young Adults!

Fr. Michael Kennedy of St. Katharine Drexel Parish, newly-ordained last July, is coordinating a Youth Group for Catholics aged 21-39. The first meeting is on **Thursday May 31st at 6:30 PM**, at the Barnes & Noble store near the Moorestown Mall, followed by a visit to Buffalo Wild Wings.

Try something different this Thursday—get off the couch, put your devices down, and join your peers for some fun and food!

Call the parish office for more info at 609-386-0163, x-217.

Why Was Alfie Evans Left to Die?

Alfie Evans has died. Before he died, God be praised, he was baptized into the Catholic Church. As such, we can be confident that he is now experiencing the joy of the presence of his Heavenly Father. Our prayers are no longer for him, but for his parents, Tom and Kate, and his family. We also pray for the millions touched by his life and now mourning his death, and for the policymakers and spiritual leaders who must now decide how to respond to the global controversy caused by Alfie's case. The Lord called little Alfie Evans home, but the burning question remains – why was this little boy left to die against the will of his parents and so many others who were willing to help him stay alive?

According to Regent University law professor Lynne Marie Kohm, one of the primary reasons why the toddler's parents were overruled is found in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). This is a human rights treaty which defines a child as any human being under the age of 18 unless national legislation establishes an earlier age. The treaty establishes the civil, political, economic, social, health and cultural rights of children and any nation that ratifies it is bound to by international law. The UK ratified this treaty in 1991. "That means that the child's rights are protected by the state, not by his parents," Kohm explained.

"This would not happen in the United States because the court in the United States is charged with allowing the parents to direct the upbringing of their children. And those parents are bound by law to do what's in the best interest of those children. Those rules don't exist in the UK or any of the 192 nations who have signed the CRC," Kohm said.

The United States took an active role in drafting the CRC and signed it on February 16, 1995, but it has never been ratified. During his 2008 campaign, Barack Obama promised to ratify it but failed to do so. The lack of will to ratify the treaty comes largely from religious and conservative groups who hold that parents should have authority over their children and that moral authority in the U.S. belongs to parents, religious congregations, and other private associations rather than the state.

Kohm points out another reason why Alfie's life could not be saved – socialized medicine. "In Britain, the hospital has been paying the cost of taking care of Alfie his whole life and that's been a while," she said. "This is state health care. Universal state health care...So, when the state is in charge, it's going to decide who gets to continue to live when resources are limited."

In Alfie's case, his parents wanted to continue life support, but the hospital argued (in one judge's words) that it "is not in (Alfie's) best interests to keep him alive." Even though the UK court system believed that by ending Alfie's life they were insuring that he would die with dignity, Kohm disagrees. "When you are starving a person they start losing their sight, their organs shut down. Some people would call that murder. Not death with dignity."

Alfie's case reveals the special responsibility God has given parents to protect their children, and what happens when a powerful government usurps that right, Kohm said. "God has put in parents' hearts to protect their kids. But when states step in to stop that, it makes it really impossible for the child to move forward," she shared.

This is not the first time that an innocent life was ended prematurely by this deadly combination of the CRC and universal health care in the UK. Last year saw the death of Charlie Gard, an 11-month-old boy who was diagnosed with a rare mitochondrial depletion syndrome and was on life-support in a London hospital. Even though his parents raised over \$1.5 million for his treatment with the hopes of trying experimental treatment in the U.S., the UK government forbade the parents from doing so. Charlie died just one month shy of his first birthday in July of 2017. In 2014, the parents of five-year-old Aysha King were forced to abduct their child from a British hospital to take him to another country to receive proton beam therapy in the Czech Republic. The parents were eventually hunted down and imprisoned. Ashya is now in remission.

(continued on next page)

Why Was Alfie Evans Left to Die? (continued)

The central question still remains: *Who* should have the right to make that final determination? In these cases, I believe the answer was clear: that was the right of the *parents*, and not the State. The tragedy and injustice of each case is not necessarily that life support was removed (if the parents had chosen to do so, this may have been ethically acceptable), but that it was the State and not the parents who made that decision.

In the end, we must face the possibility that, whatever the intentions of individual nurses and doctors, there was a “terrible logic” at work in the Alfie Evans and Charlie Gard cases. That logic is the same logic that has undergirded most of the atrocities of the past century: it is the lie that the State and the “experts” trump the family and the individual. It is the lie that the rights and dignity of the individual are subordinate to the power and planning of the State. This is the logic of the Culture of the Death.

Against this terrible logic, **the Catholic Church has always emphasized the absolute worth and dignity of the human person and the family, and the primacy of the rights of parents.** This is not only *morally* correct, but it also has the practical effect of holding in check the totalitarian tendencies of the State.

Right now, there is a new parliamentary move in Great Britain to change the Children Act of 1989, which ultimately strips parents of their legal rights as primary custodians and caregivers, and instead entrusting these rights to the State. A proposed law – “Alfie’s Law” – would return to parents more legal rights in medical decision-making.

Of course, all of this is too late for Alfie Evans and Charlie Gard. We can only pray that the notoriety of these cases will help policy makers come to their senses and restore the basic human rights of parents and their children that are being denied in this secular world.

[Adapted from 4/30/18 commentary by Susan Brinkmann, OCDS, Living His Life Abundantly, <http://www.womenofgrace.com>; and, 5/8/18 commentary by Fr. Shenan J. Boquet, President, Human Life International]

Father’s Day Spiritual Bouquet Envelopes

We encourage you to return your Father’s Day spiritual bouquet envelopes in the collection basket some time prior to Father’s Day, June 17th. A series of Masses will be offered for all living and deceased fathers whose names are submitted.

New Logo or Symbol Wanted

With the introduction of our new parish name — Mary, Mother of the Church — we are hoping to add a new logo or symbol for our parish, that could be used on our website, bulletin or other correspondence as needed.

Are there any “budding artists” among the parish faithful who are willing to design such a symbol? Please submit your design entry to the parish office by June 18th. If we have competing designs, we will vote on them.

—God Bless, Fr. Joe

Bearing Hope is a support group for women struggling with infertility and pregnancy loss, and those willing to share their experiences and provide encouragement. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30PM at St. Gregory the Great’s community center. Contact Stefanie Riehl at sriehl30@gmail.com.

Seniors, it’s that time again!

The Senior Spirituality and So Much More Day!

- ◆ Where: St. Gregory the Great Parish, Hamilton Square
- ◆ When: Wednesday, July 18th, 10AM-3PM, with registration starting at 9:15AM
- ◆ Cost: \$18 registration fee—includes coffee, snacks, drinks, and hot lunch

Featuring the Catholic Grandparents Association and Msgr. Sam Sirianni, presenting “*Passing on the Faith to the Next Generation*”, and Bishop O’Connell will celebrate Mass with us! We will hear the Doo-Wops and the Bop-Shoo-Bops of the early days of Rock ‘n Roll, from the “Rock ‘n Rhythm!” And we’ll enjoy a bountiful lunch by Dolce and Clemente!

“Don’t be square, be there!”

Go to www.dioceseoftrenton.org/pastoral-care to register, or to download the mail-in flyer!

Sharing the “Joy of the Gospel” on Catholic Radio!
Tune into WFJS Catholic Radio 1260am/89.3FM.
Download the WFJS smart phone app. Or listen live on line at www.DomesticChurchMedia.org

