

The EPIPHANY of the Lord

*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the
days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in
Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw
his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."*

Mt 2: 1-2



© Diocesan

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
January 2, 2022

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
119 E. HOWARD ST., P.O. BOX 374
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS 61764

Phone: 815-844-7683 Fax: 815-842-4345

Parish & School Website: www.stmaryspontiac.org

Facebook: St. Mary's Parish-Pontiac

PASTOR: Fr. Adam Cesarek

father.adam@stmaryspontiac.org

PERMANENT DEACON: Dcn. Jim Wallace

servant518@outlook.com

PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER: Patti Zehr

zehr.patti@stmaryspontiac.org

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR: Danielle Gill

gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org

EVANGELIZATION & YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR:

Megan Lauritsen

lauritsen.megan@stmaryspontiac.org

MUSIC DIRECTORS: Marie Kane, Merryn Krenz,
& Kathy Schulz

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 12 noon and 1:00-4:30 pm

Closed on Friday afternoons Memorial Day to Labor Day

MASS TIMES:

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 7:00 am & 9:30 am

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 7:00 am

Thursday 8:15am (School Mass)

CONFESSION TIMES:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 6:25-6:55 am

Wednesday 12 noon -1:00 pm

Saturday 2:30-3:30 pm

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL:

414 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL 61764

Phone: 815-844-6585

Principal: Mrs. Karen Jones, jones.karen@stmaryspontiac.org

Facebook: St. Mary's School

Instagram: [stmaryspontiac](https://www.instagram.com/stmaryspontiac)

ST. MARY'S FOOD PANTRY: 401 E. Water St. Open to
Livingston County residents every Thursday from 12 noon to 3 pm.
Phone: 815-844-FOOD(3663)

SCRIP: Orders are accepted on the first and third Sundays of
the month. Place orders in the box in the back vestibule after Mass
or get them to Taryn Tissiere by 3:00pm Sunday. Cash-n-Carry
sales are being suspended for now.



STEWARDSHIP

Collection last Sunday,
including Christmas: \$28,022.00

School Collection: This weekend.

St. Mary's Food Pantry Collection: Next weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 1 (Mary, Mother of God)

8:00 a.m. Helen Trost

4:00 p.m. Phyllis LoPiccolo

Sunday, January 2 (Epiphany of the Lord)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Carolyn Harty

Monday, January 3 (Holy Name of Jesus)

7:00 a.m. Michael D. Smith

Tuesday, January 4 (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)

7:00 a.m. 8th ann John Timmerman

Wednesday, January 5 (St. John Neumann)

7:00 a.m. Dorian McBeath

Thursday, January 6 (St. Andre Bessette)

8:15 a.m. Betty Lame

Friday, January 7 (St. Raymond of Penafort)

7:00 a.m. 30th ann William "Jake" DeFrees

Saturday, January 8

4:00 p.m. John Giovanini

Sunday, January 9 (Baptism of the Lord)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. 8th ann Jan Brubaker

Servers for Saturday, January 8

4:00 p.m. Nicholas & Carter Doughan

Servers for Sunday, January 9

7:00 a.m. Aidan Greil

9:30 a.m. Molly, Zach & Mallory Masching

UPDATED MASS PROTOCOLS: MASKS ARE ONCE AGAIN REQUIRED PER STATE MANDATE. Online Mass
and drive thru communion will continue on Sundays until Bishop
Jenky removes the dispensation to attend Mass.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Adoration is open each week-
day, Monday-Friday from 8am until 8pm. Adoration is now back
in the Adoration Chapel except for Thursdays when it will still be
held in the church. We are now working to fill Saturdays and Sun-
days. If you would like to spend an hour with Jesus or share an
hour with someone on those days, please contact Darlene DeMattia
at 815-674-2375 or the Parish Office at 815-844-7683.

REGISTER WITH THE PARISH OFFICE: We find that
many young adults who have been members of the parish all their
lives do not re-register themselves when they move out on their
own. A simple phone call to the parish office at 815-844-7683 is
all it takes to properly register your new household. Please call!

PLEASE PRAY FOR Robert Voigts, R.I.P. Our sympathy to his
family and friends.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR THE
JANUARY ISSUE WILL BE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT ANY GROUP UPDATES,
PHOTOS OR NOTICE OF EVENTS
HAPPENING THROUGH MARCH.**

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

LEGION OF MARY: Want to tell the world about Jesus through Evangelization? Legion of Mary meetings have resumed. Please join us **every Thursday at 7:00pm** in the rectory (NOTE CHANGE OF TIME). Please use the back door.

ST. MARY'S YOUTH GROUP has resumed meetings! All high school students are invited to join us every Sunday evening from 6:30-8:30pm. Youth group meets in the upstairs of the Parish Center (former rectory). We hope to see you there!

(MEMORIALS APPEAR IN BOLD TYPE)

Our Parents & Son-Jim & Laura Wallace
Grandpa Bruce Reeter-The Meiner Family
McGinn & Hepperly Families-Patricia Hepperly
Bob Gayon-Ellen & family

(HONORS APPEAR IN BOLD TYPE)

BonBonB-Bonnie, Fawn, Andrew & Bradley



Thank You

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone who sent such thoughtful Christmas cards, gifts, desserts, gift cards or cash gifts to me this Christmas season. I am blessed to be here, and I was reminded of what a great place this is and what great people we have by your many acts of kindness. May God bless each of you for your thoughtfulness to me and my family in this holy season of Christmas. Thank you all again and know of my continued prayers and well wishes for you as we begin 2022!

With great gratitude, Fr. Adam

Once again, I wish all of you at St. Mary's a joyful Christmas season and a healthy and safe 2022! I thank you for remembering your old pastor in the generous gifts given to me this season. I am humbled by your generosity. I will continue to help your young, humble pastor, Fr. Adam, in any way possible to keep St. Mary's a holy and joyful place to give glory, honor and praise to Our Lord, the child redeemer, as long as I am living in Pontiac. St. Mary's will always be the nurturing of my priesthood and my home parish. God willing, I will be in this neighborhood until the Lord calls me to "Greener Pastures". You know where I work, don't hesitate to call on me.

Your humble servant and neighbor,
Fr. David
Vicar Forane of the Pontiac Vicariate

Happy New Year!




CHALKING THE DOOR
The Epiphany House Blessing

Blessing homes on the feast of the Epiphany is a centuries-old Christian tradition of asking for God's blessing on your home. One way of honoring this tradition is to take a piece of blessed chalk and write the following above or on your home's door:

20 + C + M + B + 22

The "20" and "22" refer to the current year.
The "+" between the letters and numbers symbolize the cross of Christ.
The "C M B" initials represent the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.
It is also popularly believed that the Kings' initials stand for "Christus mansionem benedict" ("Christ bless this house").

God of Light, bless our home. Make it a haven of rest for all in need of your warmth and care. And when we go out from this place, may we never lose sight of that Epiphany star. We mark our door with the symbols of the Magi, 20+C+M+B+22. May all who enter throughout the year, find love and light; for Christ has come to dwell in this home and in these hearts. Amen.



RESERVATION OPENS
6:30 PM
CLICK TO SUBMIT
7:00 PM

For more information,
visit EmpowerIllinois.Org/Apply

2022-2023 TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP RESERVATION OPENS



[f/EmpowerIllinois](https://EmpowerIllinois.org) | [@EmpowerIL](https://twitter.com/EmpowerIL) | www.empowerillinois.org

2021 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

WE ARE ALMOST THERE! If you have not yet made a gift to the ADA, we invite you to do so today. Every dollar raised to make our goal supports important diocesan services and every dollar raised over our goal will be returned to the parish.

This year's goal: \$91,868
Pledged to date: \$90,890

Pledge cards were mailed out to all parishioners and can be returned in the collection basket at church or mailed to the parish office. All checks should be made payable to the *Diocese of Peoria*.

Join Our Family

NOW
REGISTERING
4-year-old students
for the 2022-23 school year!

- Full-day 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Combined 3 & 4-year old classroom
- Structured & creative playtime
- Music, art, physical education, & technology
- Character formation & teaching of the virtues
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program
- Minimum one hour daily rest time
- Flexible tuition payment plans

Visit school.stmaryspontiac.org
or call (815) 844-6585
for more information.

LITTLE DISCIPLES PRESCHOOL



REGISTER for KINDERGARTEN

Why choose us?

- Full, state private school recognition
- Certified teachers
- Scholarships available
- K - 8 building, one class of each
- Music, Art, PE, and Computers
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd religion program

We are...

- providing a safe and welcoming environment for all.
- partnering with parents in the faith formation of their children.
- setting high standards for student achievement.
- preparing students to be productive citizens and future leaders.
- instilling the value of service to others in our students.



New family registration
for the 2022-2023 school year
begins Monday, January 3!

Register online at
school.stmaryspontiac.org
or call (815) 844-6585
for more information.





St. Mary's Parish is now offering Online Giving.

Online Giving can be used to give to:

- Sunday Offering
- School Collection
- Food Pantry
- Building Maintenance Fund
- Memorials/Gifts
- School Annual Fund
- Scholarships

Start giving online today!

1. Visit our website at www.stmaryspontiac.org and click on the online giving link.
2. Create an account.
3. Schedule your gift. Gifts given via checking or savings account have no service charge. Debit and credit card gifts will be assessed a 3% fee.

Please prayerfully consider giving online. If you have any questions, contact the parish office at 815-844-7683.

Online Giving is provided by Our Sunday Visitor, a Catholic not-for-profit organization serving parishes for more than 100 years.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE NOW HAVE AN AMAZONSMILE

You shop. Amazon gives. ACCOUNT:

How does AmazonSmile work?

Go to our website church.stmaryspontiac.org > Stewardship > Amazon Smile. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. Go to smile.amazon.com every time you shop.

PRAYERFUL PILGRIMAGE TO SUPPORT VOCATIONS:

Explore France with Father Timothy Hepner September 24-October 4, 2022 with an optional pre-tour to Lourdes September 21-25, 2022. For more information, please contact co-host Bonnie Newman at (309) 737-0059 or email bonnie@bluehorizon.net. Proceeds from this tour will go to the Monsignor Carton Scholarship Fund to help finance the seminarians in the Diocese of Peoria.

BOOK BORROWING LIBRARY has been set up in the back vestibule of the church by the Legion of Mary for all to use. On the honor system, you may take home and enjoy books, CDs, DVDs, cassette tapes and videos to assist in your spiritual growth. There are even a few items for children and teens.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 2022

Sunday	Epiphany of the Lord Is 60: 1-6/ Ps 72: 1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13/ Eph 3: 2-3a. 5-6/ Mt 2: 1-12
Monday	Holy Name of Jesus 1 Jn 3: 22- 4: 6 Ps 2: 7bc-8. 10-12a/ Mt 4: 12-17. 23-25
Tuesday	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 1 Jn 4: 7-10/ Ps 72: 1-2. 3-4. 7-8/ Mk 6: 34-44
Wednesday	St. John Neumann 1 Jn 4: 11-18/ Ps 72: 1-2. 10. 12-13/ Mk 6: 45-52
Thursday	1 Jn 4: 19-5: 4/ Ps 72: 1-2. 14 and 15bc. 17/ Lk 4: 14-22
Friday	1 Jn 5: 5-13/ Ps 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20/ Lk 5: 12-16
Saturday	1 Jn 5: 14-21/ Ps 149: 1-2. 3-4. 5 and 6a and 9b/ Jn 3: 22-30
Sunday	Baptism of the Lord Is 40: 1-5. 9-11/ Ps 104: 1b-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-28. 29-30 (1)/ Ti 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7/ Lk 3: 15-16. 21-22



**PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE
HOLY FATHER FOR JANUARY**

For true human fraternity: We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



CATHOLIC SPIRIT RADIO

7 days a week, 24 hours a day! Catholic Spirit Radio broadcasts EWTN and local programming for you! It's lively, entertaining, and informative. Catholic Spirit Radio is on 89.5 FM and 92.5 FM, and now on 88.3 FM in the Pontiac area, and online at www.catholicspiritradi.com

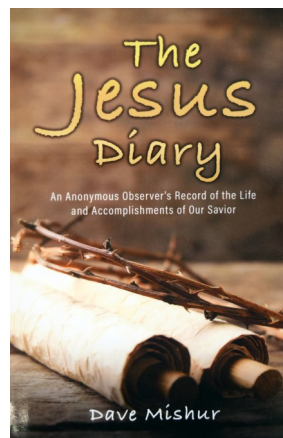
We would like to thank the following local businesses for underwriting the efforts of Catholic Spirit Radio: Knights of Columbus Council #854, Edinger's Filling Station, Fogarty's Garage & Lyons-Sullivan Realty. If you would like to support CSR, please contact Jerry LoPiccolo at 630-514-6221.

CHILDREN'S ROSARY ON CATHOLIC SPIRIT RADIO:

Every Sunday and Wednesday at 8:30pm, tune in to hear St. Mary's School students pray the Rosary. Five ways to listen!

Catholic Spirit Radio on 88.3 FM
online at www.catholicspiritradi.com
Roku Channel Store
Alexa play Catholic Spirit Radio
Audio now 605-472-9380

MASS IS BROADCAST EACH MORNING AT 7AM



"The Jesus Diary"

by parishioner Dave Mishur is on sale at Amazon and available for purchase at the parish office, \$15 per copy with purchase price going to the church.

"Mishur takes the widely known—but highly condensed-Gospel accounts and adds imaginary color...Readers share the sense of marvel at Jesus' works and teachings"

—Tom Dermody, Editor, The Catholic Post

"Would you like an uplifting escape from the present malaise in Church and Country? Then read Dave Mishur's 'The Jesus Diary:...an outstanding Christmas gift. Highly recommended."

—Peggy Moen, Editor, The Wanderer

"This book is tailor made for real life understanding without all the jargon that feels stuffy and judgmental."

—Amazon customer

