

# Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Today this scripture  
passage is fulfilled  
in your hearing."

Luke 4:21



**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
**Pontiac, Illinois**  
**January 23, 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](http://www.stmaryspontiac.org)

Facebook: St. Mary's Parish-Pontiac

PASTOR: Fr. Adam Cesarek

[father.adam@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:father.adam@stmaryspontiac.org)

PERMANENT DEACON: Dcn. Jim Wallace

[servant518@outlook.com](mailto:servant518@outlook.com)

PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER: Patti Zehr

[zehr.patti@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:zehr.patti@stmaryspontiac.org)

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR: Danielle Gill

[gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org)

EVANGELIZATION & YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR:

Megan Lauritsen

[lauritsen.megan@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto: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](mailto: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: \$9,771.90**

**Building Maintenance Fund Collection** was \$2,189.00.

**THANK YOU** to those who regularly support our parish. Your  
support over the past two years has been a tremendous blessing to  
our parish. May God bless you all for your generosity!



*Mass Intentions*

**Saturday, January 22 (Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection  
of Unborn Children)**

4:00 p.m. Donald Ocean

**Sunday, January 23 (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Michael Duncan

**Monday, January 24 (St. Francis de Sales)**

7:00 a.m. Leo & Joy Laue

**Tuesday, January 25 (Conversion of St. Paul)**

7:00 a.m. Edward Masching

**Wednesday, January 26 (Sts. Timothy & Titus)**

7:00 a.m. Eleanor Wolf

**Thursday, January 27 (St. Angela Merici)**

8:15 a.m. Elizabeth Fitzgerald Family

**Friday, January 28 (St. Thomas Aquinas)**

7:00 a.m. Margie Stahler Grafton

**Saturday, January 29**

4:00 p.m. Jim & Mary Bertrand

**Sunday, January 30 (Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

7:00 a.m. Larry Kennedy

9:30 a.m. Parish

**Servers for Saturday, January 29**

4:00 p.m. Carrington Gray

**Servers for Sunday, January 30**

7:00 a.m. Haidyn & Harper Francis

9:30 a.m. Riley Rogers, Abe Jean Jacques

**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.

**EUCCHARISTIC 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!

**A PLEA FROM A PARISHIONER TO GIVE BLOOD:** "I am,  
at this moment, sitting in a medical facility with one of our flock  
members who is in need of a blood transfusion. We were told this  
may not be possible due to the nation wide shortage of blood. For-  
tunately, it now looks like blood will be available in a couple days.  
What a wonderful act of love for our neighbors it would be if eve-  
ryone who is eligible would give a pint. Please spread the word  
and the love. Thank you."

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Taja Heinrich (sister of Alvin Heinrich  
Jr.) and Charles "Chuck" Rynning (nephew of David Williams),  
R.I.P. Our sympathy to their families and friends.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



"UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE" by Jeff Cavins, will begin **Monday, February 7 at 7:00pm** in the Rosary Room of the parish hall and meet for an hour and half, every other week for 8 sessions. If you wish to attend or

have questions, please call Bryan Schweigert at 815-867-0958 or Margo Law at 815-579-5102. We look forward to seeing you there! Bring your Bible, please! There is no cost for this Bible Study.

**GONZAGA RETREAT FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH:** The annual Gonzaga retreat for high schoolers will return this **March 11th and 12th!** It will be held right here at St. Mary's. If you are in high school and are interested in attending, or you know someone who would like to attend, pick up a registration form in the back of the church. Completed forms and registration fee can be turned into the parish office or given to Megan Lauritsen.

**CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE** will meet **Thursday, January 27 from 9am to 12:30pm** in the parish hall.

**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!

**KINDERGARTEN TEACHER NEEDED:** St. Mary's School is seeking a Kindergarten teacher who knows and loves Jesus and His Church, to begin August 2022. We seek someone with a desire to make disciples of their students and grow in discipleship with other staff. Candidates must portray abilities of healthy teamwork among colleagues along with a desire to share their knowledge and love of Jesus and their Catholic faith with students and staff. Please send 3 letters of recommendation, along with your resume and cover letter. Please include a copy of your transcripts to Mrs. Karen Jones, St. Mary's School, 414 N. Main St. Pontiac, IL 61764

**PART-TIME CUSTODIAN NEEDED AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL:** 20 hours per week maximum helping with school cleaning and maintenance. Contact the school office at 815-844-6585 for details.

**PLEASE CLAIM YOUR DISHES:** Dishes left over from funeral dinners and other events can be found in the school foyer. Please stop by between 8am and 3pm to claim. Names on dishes: **Nancy Milhauser, Carole Peterson, Jamie Drilling, Kelli Trainor, Sue Smith, Dianne Hanley, Pat Hepperly, Nanette Marx, Val Brown, Diana Woodburn, Shirley Eckel, Brenda Shaughnessy, Jeanette Kuerth, Heather Machroli** and numerous other containers without names. If these items are not picked up, they will be donated to the Women's Guild Rummage Sale in June.

## "Making Disciples for the Mission" Program

Over the next few weeks, you will be hearing about the upcoming "Making Disciples for the Mission" Program at St. Mary's Catholic Church. This effort is very important as we move forward with the mission and vision of St. Mary's Catholic Church. We, as a parish family, have changed so many lives in our community! In order to continue our mission and ministries, we encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the work we do. Our special Commitment Weekend will be celebrated on February 5 & 6. If you have any questions regarding the "Making Disciples for the Mission" Program, please feel free to contact the parish office.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK FOOD DRIVE:** St. Mary's School will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week from **Sunday, January 30 - Friday, February 4**. The school students will be collecting non-perishable foods for St. Mary's Food Pantry throughout the week. **We would like to invite St. Mary's parishioners to bring a non-perishable food item to church on the weekend of January 29/30. There will be containers at the entrances of the church to place your items in.** Thank you in advance for giving to others during Catholic Schools Week

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND WITH FATHER DAVID:** **October 29-November 9.** Deacon Matt Levy will guide this trip with Fr. David offering Masses at each stop along the pilgrim Way of Jesus Christ to the cross. Call Fr. David at 309-536-0027 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](http://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.

# Pray For Peace

## ST. MARY'S SCHOOL NEW FAMILY REGISTRATION FOR GRADES K-8

for the 2022-2023 school year has begun.

Why choose us?

- Full, state private school recognition
- Certified teachers
- Scholarships available
- K-8 building, one class of each
- Religion, music, art, PE and computer classes
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd religion program (grades K-3)

Register online at [school.stmaryspontiac.org](http://school.stmaryspontiac.org). For more information, or to schedule a tour, contact the school office at 815-844-6585.



### SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

*We strive to ensure that our youth are able to receive a Catholic education despite the possible inability to pay. Through the Invest in Kids Act, K - 12 students have the opportunity to receive Illinois tax credit scholarships to attend private schools. This scholarship opportunity is available to all income-eligible St. Mary's families. Scholarships cover up to 100% of private school tuition and fees and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications for the 2022-2023 school year will be accepted beginning January 12, 2022. If you have financial need, please take advantage of this opportunity. Confidentiality is maintained in this process. For complete details on income eligibility guidelines or to submit an application, visit the [Empower Illinois](https://www.empowerillinois.gov/) website. You may also contact the school office for more information.*

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](http://school.stmaryspontiac.org)  
or call (815) 844-6585  
for more information.





# 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](http://school.stmaryspontiac.org)  
or call (815) 844-6585  
for more information.



## Nothing is unplanned to God.

The God of the universe makes no mistakes. Each person was known and planned before creation.

God crafts each unborn child with care and detail. Not a single hair or chromosome is outside the plan He has for that precious new soul. But the value of life is under attack. We have the truth of God's word to share with those who are struggling to see the value in their own life as well as that of their unborn child.

Men and women struggling to see life beyond an unplanned pregnancy can find hope in the love of God. Our education and support programs provide physical and practical help in difficult times. Our new abortion recovery program will help to heal deep wounds through grace and forgiveness. While He may not hand us the blueprints, we know that His plan is for our good and for His glory.

We depend on our supporters to help us stay on track. Whatever gifts God has given – use them for His glory.



- **Volunteer** - Don't worry, we will train you!
- **Become a Financial Partner** - No contribution is too small.
- **Prayer Partner** - Our center is powered by your prayers and support.
- **Be a Church Liaison** - Help us reach our community.

*"The counsel of the Lord stands forever,  
the plans of His heart to all generations."  
- Psalm 33:11*



**Hope Pregnancy Center**  
202 N. Main St. Pontiac, IL 61764  
815-842-2484  
[www.pontiachopec.com](http://www.pontiachopec.com)

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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 23, 2022**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Neh 8: 2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/ Ps 19: 8, 9, 10, 15/ 1 Cor 12: 12-30 or 1 Cor 12:12-14,27/ Lk 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21
<b>Monday</b>	<b>St. Francis de Sales</b> 2 Sm 5: 1-7, 10/ Ps 89: 20, 21-22, 25-26/ Mk 3: 22-30
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Conversion of St. Paul</b> Acts 22: 3-16 or Acts 9: 1-22/ Ps 117: 1bc, 2/ Mk 16: 15-18
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Sts. Timothy and Titus</b> 2 Tm 1: 1-8 or Ti 1: 1-5/ Ps 96: 1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10/ Mk 4: 1-20
<b>Thursday</b>	2 Sm 7: 18-19, 24-29/ Ps 132: 1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/ Mk 4: 21-25
<b>Friday</b>	<b>St. Thomas Aquinas</b> 2 Sm 11: 1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/ Ps 51: 3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11/ Mk 4: 26-34
<b>Saturday</b>	2 Sm 12: 1-7a, 10-17/ Ps 51: 12-13, 14-15, 16-17/ Mk 4: 35-41
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Jer 1: 4-5, 17-19/ Ps 71: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17/ 1 Cor 12: 31 13: 13/ Lk 4: 21-30

**WHY SUPPORT BULLETIN SPONSORS?** By frequenting these advertisers YOU are directly supporting the publication of this bulletin. The sponsorship from these businesses offsets the cost of our weekly bulletin. Local businesses are owned and operated by your neighbors! Local businesses are more accountable to their local communities and donate more money to non-profits. The support of the parish works both ways when it comes to buying from a small business. The next time you need service, please look at the business section and let them know you found them from the St. Mary Bulletin!



**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.catholicspiritradio.com](http://www.catholicspiritradio.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.catholicspiritradio.com](http://www.catholicspiritradio.com)

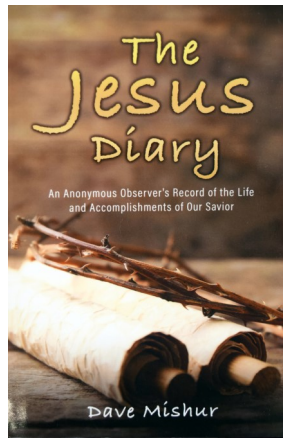
Roku Channel Store

Alexa play Catholic Spirit Radio

Audio now 605-472-9380

**MASS IS BROADCAST EACH MORNING AT 7AM**

**CATHOLIC SPIRIT RADIO PILGRIMAGE: Saturday, March 12.** This all-inclusive trip provides charter bus transportation from Normal to Princeville and Peoria. We will visit the Community of St. John for a Lenten talk, Adoration, Confession, Mass and lunch then to the Archbishop Fulton Sheen Museum & Gift Shop, a talk on Sheen by Katie Bogner followed by her book sale, Sheen's Tomb at the Cathedral and dinner at Obed & Isaac's. Register by February 7 for \$140 or by February 19 for \$155 at [catholicspiritradio.com](http://catholicspiritradio.com). For questions, contact Pam at 217-855-4418 or [elliottbus@gmail.com](mailto:elliottbus@gmail.com)



**"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