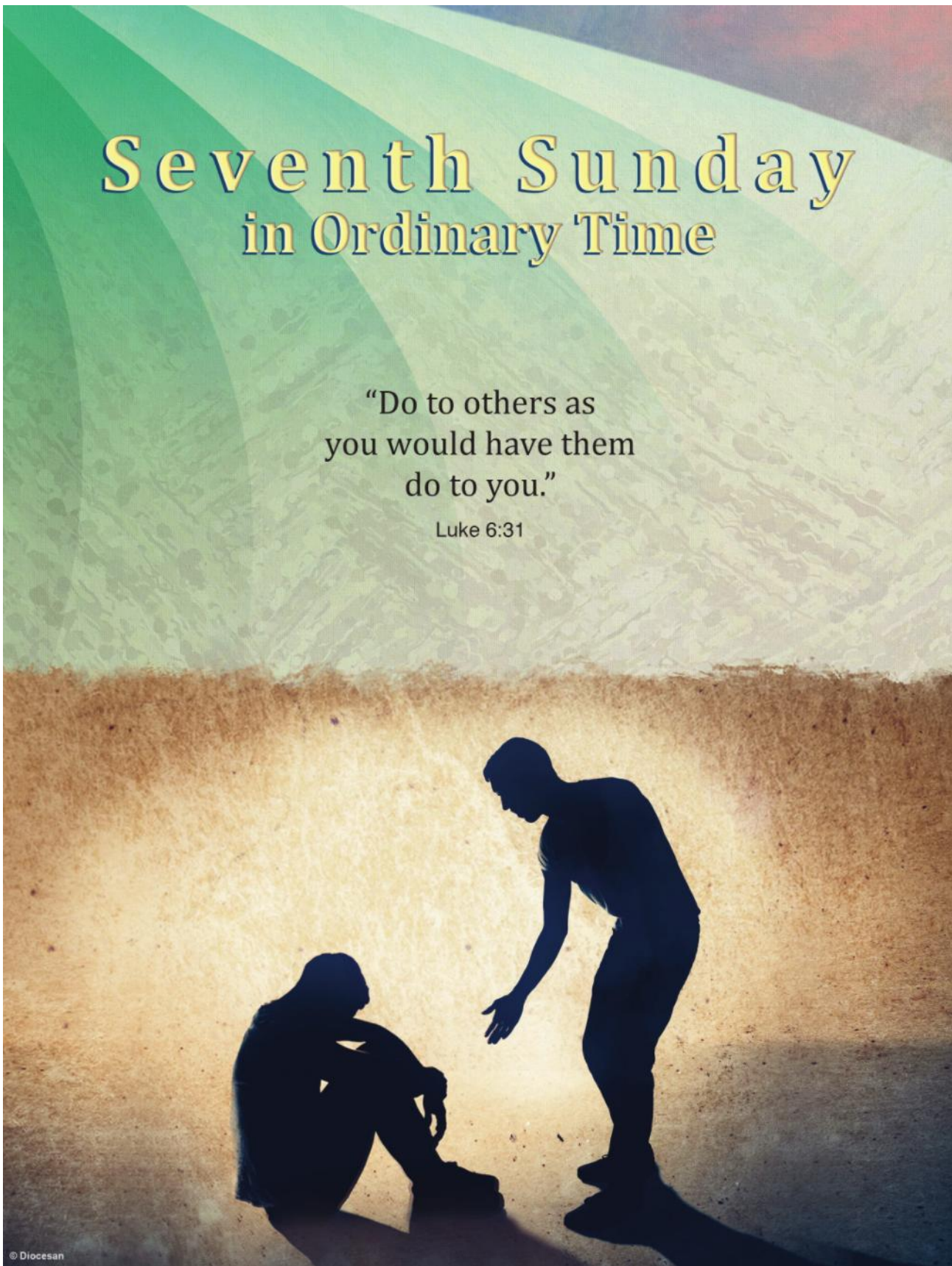


Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Do to others as
you would have them
do to you."

Luke 6:31



© Diocesan

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
February 20, 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: \$14,414.25

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: This weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.

If you are not attending Mass, please consider Online Giving.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 19

4:00 p.m. Jo Schultz

Sunday, February 20 (Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Jesus Calle

Monday, February 21 (St. Peter Damian)

7:00 a.m. Jim Roche

Tuesday, February 22 (The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle)

7:00 a.m. 3rd ann Phyllis LoPiccolo

Wednesday, February 23 (St. Polycarp)

7:00 a.m. Wakey Family

Thursday, February 24

8:15 a.m. Martin & Helen Turner

Friday, February 25

7:00 a.m. 43rd ann Herman Vill

Saturday, February 26

4:00 p.m. Rosemary Brady

Sunday, February 27 (Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Rhonda Steinbach

Servers for Saturday, February 26

4:00 p.m. Kim Deutschmann

Servers for Sunday, February 27

7:00 a.m. Haidyn & Harper Francis

9:30 a.m. Andy, Rosie & Finan Krenz

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is open each weekday, Monday
-Friday from 8am until 8pm. Adoration is in the Chapel except for
Thursdays when it is held in the church. 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.

2021 TAX RECEIPTS have been mailed to all parishioners
who gave a total of \$250 or more in the collection baskets this past
year. If you did not receive a statement but need one, please call
the parish office at 815-844-7683.

CONGRATULATIONS to the parents and families of **Stella
Ann & Smith Allan Doran**, children of **Allan & Savannah
Doran**, and **Gemma Jo Bagnell**, daughter of **Daron Bagnell &
Katie Thomas**, who were recently baptized as members of our faith.

PLEASE PRAY FOR parishioner **Ronald Fogarty, R.I.P.** Our
sympathy to his family and friends.

MASKS ARE NOW OPTIONAL



ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



"Making Disciples for the Mission" Program

Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card to the church. For those parishioners who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card, we invite you to do so. Each and every one of you is a vital mem-

ber of our parish community and we want to hear from you! This is an opportunity to **reflect upon and renew** your sacrificial commitment to support the mission of St. Mary's Catholic Church. For those who are able—there is an opportunity to make a one-time gift to the parish. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. For those of you who would prefer to fill out your Commitment Card online, please visit the parish website at www.church.stmaryspontiac.org

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, February 24 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!

DONATIONS REQUESTED FOR ST. NICHOLAS CHARITY ON WHEELS: St. Nicholas Charity on Wheels is a ministry of Catholic Charities serving families in need across the Peoria Diocese. To aid this mission, Catholic Women are organizing a Diocesan collection of supplies by vicariate each month with March designated for the Pontiac Vicariate. **St. Mary's will collect supplies at Masses the weekend of March 5/6 only. Items needed in March: Laundry Soap, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper. Visa, Walmart and gas gift cards in any amount are also needed. Bulk items can be left at the doors of the church. Gift cards can be placed in the collection basket.** This project will help families in need throughout the Peoria Diocese to make ends meet, care for their families and experience the Catholic faith in action. Matt 25:35 "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,... Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Let us take this Bible verse to heart in giving to the St. Nicholas Charity. This is a Promotion Project of the Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women in cooperation with Catholic Charities.

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

To the Clergy, Religious and Laity of the Diocese of Peoria:

When there is news in our families, whether good or challenging, it spreads quickly. An engagement, the birth of a child or grandchild, or someone taking ill results in a flurry of emails, phone calls, and social media posts sharing our joy or inviting prayer. The Diocese of Peoria is our large family of faith in central Illinois. As with any family it is important that we stay connected,

listen to one another, and make an effort to know one another. And a vital way that is done among our 26 counties is through the print and digital efforts of our excellent diocesan newspaper, The Catholic Post. The Catholic Post is launching its 2022 Delivering Unity Campaign with a theme of "Spread the Word." The theme reflects the call of every baptized Catholic to share the good news of Jesus Christ. It also calls to mind The Catholic Post's mission of reporting on the words and actions of the People of God. Further, it invites readers to assist that mission -- through financial support, prayer, and sharing the Post's stories and photos, including via social media. I strongly urge your support and readership. Details about how to subscribe are printed below. Thank you for choosing to be an informed Catholic, united with your family of faith across our great diocese.

With prayers for your health and for your own efforts to "Spread the Word" in 2022, I am, Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.
BISHOP OF PEORIA

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO AND SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC POST: The subscription price is \$30, but larger gifts in support of the mission are welcome. Subscribe online at thecatholicpost.com; call (309) 671-1550 during business hours; or send a check made out to The Catholic Post to P.O. Box 1722, Peoria, IL 61656. More information, including an envelope, will appear in the Feb. 27 edition of the newspaper.

BISHOP JENKY BIRTHDAY & RETIREMENT: On March 3rd, Bishop Jenky will celebrate his 75th birthday, which is the age when bishops are required by canon law to submit their resignation to the Holy Father. Well wishes on the occasion of his birthday and retirement may be sent to him at the following address:

Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.
Spalding Pastoral Center
419 N.E. Madison Avenue
Peoria, IL 61603



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. 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 website. You may also contact the school office for more information.

SPALDING SCHOLARSHIPS: Your child can attend a Catholic School, Financial Assistance Available

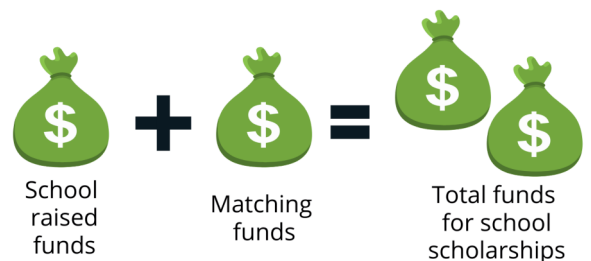
Tuition assistance scholarship grants from the endowment fund established as a result of the Diocese of Peoria ROOTED IN FAITH Campaign and named in honor of Archbishop Spalding, the first Bishop of Peoria, will be available for the 2022-2023 school year for students enrolled in or intending to enroll in grades Kindergarten through 12 in any Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria whose families are active members of a Catholic parish in the diocese. All grants will be based on financial need objectively assessed. Information about the grants and application materials may be obtained from any Catholic elementary or secondary school in the Diocese of Peoria or on the Diocesan website www.cdop.org under **Catholic Education** and then under **Financial Assistance**. Consult the detailed protocols and procedures and checklist for all requirements necessary to be eligible for an award. Parents must apply online at: online.factsmgt.com/aid. Families of students currently receiving grants are reminded that all grants are for one year only, and anyone seeking to renew a grant for the 2022-2023 school year must reapply. Deadline date for the completed application is **April 29, 2022**. Notification of grant awards will be made by the end of June 2022.

Another funding opportunity is also available due to the Invest in Kids Act legislation in Illinois. Students may be eligible for up to 100% of tuition and fees under a new program for tax credit scholarships (TCS). Details on how to apply and who qualifies are available on the Empower Illinois website at www.empowerillinois.org. Students who receive a TCS are ineligible to receive a Spalding award.

MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

Through the Invest in Kids Act, students living at or below the federal poverty level can receive a scholarship to attend St. Mary's School. Scholarships cover up to 100% of private school tuition and fees. **We have 24 students (with tuition totaling \$79,200) who have qualified and are on the waiting list, hoping to receive a scholarship for the 2022-2023 school year.** We are pleased to announce that a generous donor has created a 1:1 matching gift program. For every dollar donated, this donor will match the gift up to \$10,000! **We need to raise \$10,000 by April 15 to unlock the full gift.** Additionally, Caterpillar employees and retirees can have their gift matched by the Caterpillar Foundation. A \$1,000 gift matched twice becomes \$3,000 to SMS! All donations must be made directly to Empower Illinois, our Scholarship Granting Organization. Donors will receive a 75% state tax credit for their donation. If you can help, call the school office at (815) 844-6585 or email Danielle Gill at gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org.

What is a matching gift program?



JOIN US FOR OUR 29TH ANNUAL
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL DRAWDOWN

LIGHTS, CAMERA,

Auction!

*Featuring
Blake Stadel
as emcee*

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

\$85 TICKET ADMITS 2 / PONTIAC ELKS LODGE

**GRAND
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Your \$85 ticket admits two adults to the event and includes dinner, draft beer, a chance to win fantastic prizes, and the opportunity to participate in live & silent auctions.

5:00 pm Doors open
5:30 - 7:30 pm Buffet dinner served
5:30 pm DrawDown of tickets begins
followed by Live Auction

RESERVE YOUR TICKET AT SCHOOL.STMARYSPONTIAC.ORG

ONLY 300 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD! NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN. THIS EVENT IS FOR ADULTS 21+ ONLY.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



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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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Sunday	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/ Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13/ 1 Cor 15:45-49/ Lk 6:27-38
Monday	Jas 3:13-18/ Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/ Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday	The Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle 1 Pt 5:1-4/ Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/ Mt 16:13-19
Wednesday	St. Polycarp Jas 4:13-17/ Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11 Mk 9:38-40
Thursday	Jas 5:1-6/ Ps 49:14ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20/ Mk 9:41-50
Friday	Jas 5:9-12/ Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12/ Mk 10:1-12
Saturday	Jas 5:13-20/ Ps 141:1-2, 3-8/ Mk 10:13-16
Sunday	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sir 27:4-7/ Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16/ 1 Cor 15:54-58/ Lk 6:39-45



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.

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

For religious sisters and consecrated women: We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.



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 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 LoPiccalo 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

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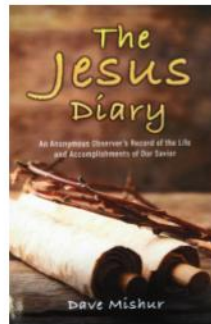
MASS IS BROADCAST EACH MORNING AT 7AM

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.

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.



"The Jesus Diary"

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

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS**

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL FAMILIES THIS YEAR

*For 2022, we ask everyone to pray for specific church and school families each weekday.
A list will be published here in the bulletin and in the newsletter you receive in the mail.
Please remember these families in your prayers each day for them to grow in their faith this year.*

Mon Feb 21	Peter & Shelly Benning Family; Chloe & Bailey Cox's Family
Tues Feb 22	Bill & Georgia Bertram Family; Olivia & Eli Miller's Family
Wed Feb 23	Jeff & Becky Bertrand Family; Chris Gray's Family
Thurs Feb 24	Troy & Katie Bertsche Family; Leleu Thruston's Family
Fri Feb 25	John & Peggy Beyer Family; Reagan Mackinson's Family
Mon Feb 28	Janet Bier Family; Kloey Wagner's Family
Tues Mar 1	Dave & Mary Billington Family, Ben Ehrgott's Family
Wed Mar 2	Mark & Lori Boatman Family, Hunter Fosdick's Family
Thurs Mar 3	Sarah Bowling Family, Ave & Eli Faber's Family
Fri Mar 4	Jim & Mary Billington Family, Keylee Thomas & Gemma Bagnell's Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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Jackie Mustread, Broker 815-674-2923
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Rev. Adam Cesarek, Chaplain
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