

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
March 20, 2022

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

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: \$11,028.00

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: This weekend.

Catholic Relief Services Collection: Next weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



Mass Intentions

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES TO THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 19 (St. Joseph)

4:00 p.m. Michael & Alice Ganta Sunday, March 20 (Third Sunday in Lent)

> 7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Henry Michael Shrewsbury

Monday, March 21

Wendall Gassler 7:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 22

7:00 a.m. David Fry

Wednesday, March 23 (St. Turibius of Mogrovejo)

7:00 a.m. Lawrence & Oveta Hepperly

Thursday, March 24 (St. Oscar Romero)

7:00 a.m. **Deceased Priests**

Friday, March 25 (The Annunciation of the Lord)

7:00 a.m. Bill & Inez Craig 5:30 p.m. Edmund "Bud" Cassady

Saturday, March 26

4:00 p.m. Ron Fogarty

Sunday, March 27 (Fourth Sunday in Lent)

7:00 a.m. Parish 9:30 a.m. Amy Wyant

Servers for Saturday, March 26

4:00 p.m. Tristin Bednar

Servers for Sunday, March 27

7:00 a.m. Aidan Greil

9:30 a.m. Samantha Johns, Drew & Abby Lauritsen

EUCHARISTIC 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.

CHENOA & LEXINGTON MASS CHANGES: St. Mary's Church in Lexington has resumed Masses in their church after the fire nearly a year ago. Masses in Lexington will be Saturday at 4pm and Sunday at 9am. Masses at St. Joseph Church in Chenoa will return to their regular schedule of Saturday at 5:30pm and Sunday at 11am.

CONGRATULATIONS to the parents and families of Peyton Michael Collins, son of Ryan & Jordy Collins, and Leo Hayes Standiford, son of Luke & Kacy Standiford, who were recently baptized as members of our faith.

PLEASE PRAY FOR parishioner Dorothy Reis, R.I.P. Our sympathy to her family and friends.

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGES THIS WEEK: Since the school is on Spring Break, the Thursday morning Mass will be at 7:00am this week. On Friday, March 25, we will have an additional Mass at 5:30pm to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption instead of Stations of the Cross.

NO FISH FRY THIS WEEK FRIDAY, MARCH 25



"Making Disciples for the Mission" Program

Last call for Commitment cards. You may return your card by: mailing it to the church using the pre-addressed envelope included with the letter, or bringing it to Mass next weekend, or you may visit our parish website at www.church.stmaryspontiac.org and

complete an electronic Commitment Card. As a friendly reminder, *Online Giving* is an easy, safe and secure way to support St. Mary's Catholic Church. To set-up a recurring weekly, or monthly gift or to make a one-time donation directly from your bank account or credit card, please visit our website and follow the instructions. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE will meet Thursday, March 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!

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

PARISHIONERS NEED HELP: We have a father and mother of two children at St. Mary's School. The mother has a debilitating disease and the father is providing around the clock care to his wife and kids. He needs an occasional break. If you would be willing to volunteer to sit with his wife for a few hours, keep her company, maybe read to her, so he can get out of the house for errands, appointments, or just to tinker in his workshop, please call the parish office at 815-844-7683. No personal care needed other than maybe some minor meal prep.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT for a large, white, three-ring binder that is filled with patterns and instructions for items to sew. It belongs to the Christ Child Society. If you have ANY information, or maybe have seen it, please contact the parish office or Shari at 815-419-8620. No one will be held accountable. We just need it back, if possible. Thank you for your cooperation!



NO STATIONS OF THE CROSS THIS WEEK. Instead we will have Mass at 5:30pm on Friday, March 25 to celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE: Wednesday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Extra priests will be on hand to hear individual confessions.

EASTER FLOWERS may once again be purchased in memory or in honor of a loved one to help decorate the church for Easter. All memorials and honors will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please place money and the form below in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" and place it in the collection basket.

PLEASE PRINT NAMES AS YOU WANT THEM TO APPEAR IN THE BULLETIN.

IN MEMO	ORY OF		
IN HONO	R OF		
YOUR NA	ME		
Lilv—\$10	Small Mum—\$15	Large Mum—\$20	Azalea—\$30

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.



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 <u>can</u> 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 we

What is a matching gift program?



rectly 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.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



St. Mary's School

414 North Main Street, Pontiac, Illinois 61764 Phone 815-844-6585 Fax 815-844-6987 Father Adam Cesarek, Administrator Mrs. Karen Jones, Principal

St. Mary's DrawDown Ticket Order Form Saturday, April 2, 2022 @ Pontiac Elks Lodge \$85 per ticket, admits 2. This event is for adults (21+) only.

Each ticket admits two adults to the event and includes dinner, draft beer, a chance to win amazing prizes, and the opportunity to participate in live & silent auctions. The dinner menu will feature fried chicken, mostaccioli, baked potato, green beans, lettuce salad, and dinner roll.

All tickets will be at the registration table the night of the event

Please complete and return	by March 18, 2022.		
NAME:			
STREET:			
CITY:		_STATE:	ZIP:
PHONE:	EMAI	L:	
Please mark one of the follo	owing:		
2 Guests will be attend	ding and enjoying dinne	r.	
1 Guest will be attend			
We will not be attend			hase a DrawDown ticket.
Donation opportunities:			
I will make a dessert to	be auctioned. Type of	dessert	
I will donate a prize to			
I am interested in beir	g a DrawDown sponsor	. Please contact	me to discuss sponsorship levels.
Payment:			
Order form and payment ma basket.	y be delivered to St. Ma	ary's School offic	e or placed in the church collection
Check enclosed. Pleas My payment has been			School. eled TAPS (SMS parents only).
THANK	YOU FOR SUPPOR	TING CATHO	LIC EDUCATION!
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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 20, 2022

Sunday Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8,11;

1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

Monday 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 & 7bc, 8-9; **Tuesday**

Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday St. Toribio de Mogrovejo Dt 4:1, 5-9;

Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19

Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 11:14-23 **Thursday**

The Annunciation of the Lord Is 7:10-14; 8:10; **Friday**

Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Saturday Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5,6-7; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3,11-32





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 MARCH

For a Christian response to bioethical challenges: We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

SPIRIT

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 online at www.catholicspiritradio.com

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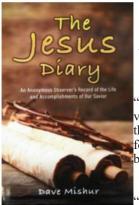
Audio now 605-472-9380

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 DA-VID: 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.

"Readers not only share the sense of marvel at Jesus' works and teachings, but also the confusion and doubt even his closest followers experienced before they embraced him as the Son of God."

-Tom Dermody, Editor, The Catholic Post

"The description of Judas' spiritual ruin is

one of the highlights of this book. As Judas continues to deny all of Jesus' teachings the diarist writes, 'for one brief moment I was sure I was looking in the face of the devil himself."

—Peggy Moen

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 Mar 21 Mary Lou Branz Family, Tristin Bednar's Family Tues Mar 22 Joan Blocker Family, Olivia & Eli Miller's Family

Wed Mar 23 Martin & Anne Bourgeois Family, Marcos Borrego's Family Thurs Mar 24 Robert & Lynette Branz Family, Rhys & Chase Carley's Family

Fri Mar 25 Mary Lee Brown Family, Leah Clement's Family Mon Mar 28 Scott Brazzale Family, Ethan Deal's Family Tues Mar 29 Kim Brown Family, Kendall Demack's Family

Wed Mar 30 Bill & Linda Brummel Family, Chandler Dietz's Family

Thurs Mar 31 Ed Broerman Family, Torey Dodson's Family

Fri Apr 1 Gary & Kristina Brunner Family, Brenna Burgess-Lang's Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!



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Rev. Adam Cesarek, Chaplain

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