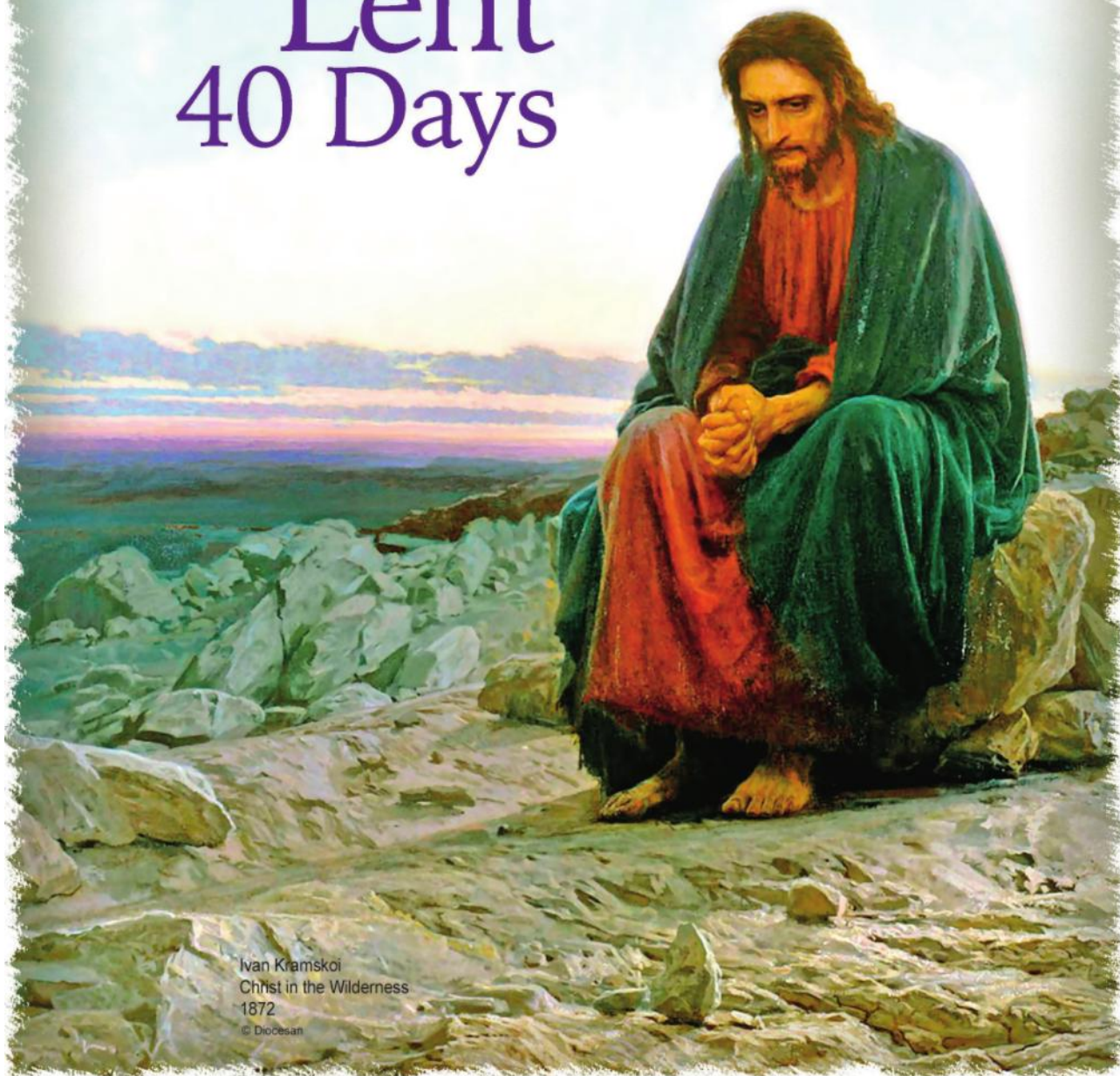


Return to me with  
your whole *heart*.

*Joel 2:12*

# Lent 40 Days



Ivan Kramskoi  
Christ in the Wilderness  
1872  
© Diocesan

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
**Pontiac, Illinois**  
**March 27, 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

**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: \$14,837.00

Building Maintenance Fund Collection was \$4,329.00.

Catholic Relief Services Collection: This weekend.

School Collection: Next weekend.



*Mass Intentions*

**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

**Monday, March 28**

7:00 a.m. Carol Wunderlin

**Tuesday, March 29**

7:00 a.m. Eileen Gschwendtner

**Wednesday, March 30**

7:00 a.m. James & Claudia McGinn

**Thursday, March 31**

8:15 a.m. Mark "Marc Edwards" Harringer

**Friday, April 1**

7:00 a.m. Louise Molla

**Saturday, April 2 (St. Francis of Paola)**

8:00 a.m. Prodigals of St. Mary's Parish

4:00 p.m. Consecration of Russia & Ukraine to the  
Immaculate Heart of Mary

**Sunday, April 3 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)**

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Consecration of Russia & Ukraine to the  
Immaculate Heart of Mary

**Servers for Saturday, April 2**

4:00 p.m. Kim Deutschmann

**Servers for Sunday, April 3**

7:00 a.m. Haidyn & Harper Francis

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

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Mildred Bradley (mother of Jan Zehr),  
Mark Grundler (brother of John Grundler), Ellen Reeter (mother of  
Bea Meiner) and Richard Kowalewski (brother-in-law of Bernie  
Brown) R.I.P. Our sympathy to their families and friends.

***THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND MASS RESUMES  
PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND, APRIL 9/10. Per Bish-  
op Tylka, "The time has come to rescind the dispensa-  
tion from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Each  
year on Palm Sunday, we mark Jesus' triumphant en-  
trance into Jerusalem as we begin Holy Week. This  
year, it will also mark our Church's triumphant re-  
newal of Sunday worship. It must be noted that  
watching Mass on TV or via the internet—even when  
it is live-streamed—does not fulfill the Sunday obliga-  
tion. As has always been the case, those who are ill or  
homebound, along with those who care for them, are  
not obliged to attend Mass. Charity indicates that if  
you are contagious, you should stay home."***



ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
LENTEN FISH FRY

Friday, April 1  
5-7 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Fried pollack, tuna noodle casserole,  
shrimp alfredo, vegetable, dessert & drink

\$12 for adults, \$7 for children ages 6-12, \$40 family max

*Due to a significant increase in the cost of fish, we will NOT  
be offering All-You-Can-Eat. Cost above is per plate.  
We apologize for the inconvenience.*

**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. 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!

**WOMEN'S GUILD RUMMAGE SALE FUNDRAISER:** The Women's Guild will be holding a Rummage Sale Fundraiser in the parish hall on **Friday, June 24 & Saturday, June 25**. Donated items in good condition are needed for the sale such as books, jewelry, linens, toys, household items, decorations and miscellaneous items. **NO CLOTHES!** Start saving your items. Drop off information will be provided closer to the sale date.

LECTORS FOR APRIL

4:00pm	Patti Zehr
7:00am	Mick Peterson
9:30am	Nanette Marx & Brenda Shaughnessy
<b>EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS FOR APRIL</b>	
4:00pm	Earline Devito, Gary Doughan, Joanne Coriell
7:00am	Chuck & Dianne Hanley
9:30am	Paula Corrigan, Carol Faust, Bob Kane, Margo Law



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held each Friday of Lent, except Good Friday, at 5:30 p.m. in the church.

**LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES:** **Wednesday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m.** in the church. Extra priests will be on hand to hear individual confessions. St. Joseph's in Chenoa will have a Penance Service on **Wednesday, March 30 from 6-7pm**

**EASTER SUNDAY MASSES:** For Easter Sunday ONLY, Masses will be offered at 7:00am, 9:00am and 10:30am.

**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 MEMORY OF** \_\_\_\_\_

**IN HONOR OF** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

Lily—\$10    Small Mum—\$15    Large Mum—\$20    Azalea—\$30

**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!

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org).

What is a matching gift program?



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: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mark one of the following:**

\_\_\_\_ 2 Guests will be attending and enjoying dinner.

\_\_\_\_ 1 Guest will be attending and enjoying dinner.

\_\_\_\_ We will not be attending the dinner but would still like to purchase a DrawDown ticket.

**Donation opportunities:**

\_\_\_\_ I will make a dessert to be auctioned. Type of dessert \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I will donate a prize to be auctioned. Type of prize \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I am interested in being a DrawDown sponsor. Please contact me to discuss sponsorship levels.

**Payment:**

Order form and payment may be delivered to St. Mary's School office or placed in the church collection basket.

\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed. Please make all checks payable to **St. Mary's School**.

\_\_\_\_ My payment has been made via my FACTS prepay account labeled TAPS (SMS parents only).

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION!**

(Office Use) Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Ticket # \_\_\_\_\_

[school.stmaryspontiac.org](http://school.stmaryspontiac.org)



ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE NOW HAVE AN AMAZONSMILE

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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.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 27, 2022**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b> Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
<b>Monday</b>	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2 & 4, 5-6, 11-12a & 13b; Jn 4:43-54
<b>Tuesday</b>	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
<b>Wednesday</b>	Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
<b>Thursday</b>	Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47
<b>Friday</b>	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 & 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St. Francis of Paola</b> Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12; Jn 7:40-53
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11



**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.

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

**Health Care Workers:** We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.



**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](http://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.

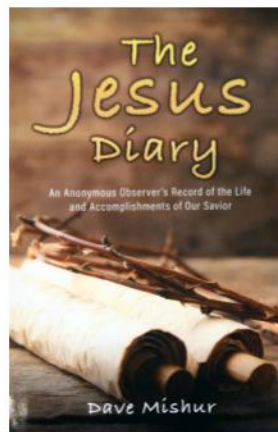
**ROSARY ON CATHOLIC SPIRIT RADIO: Everyday at 4:30am and 8:30pm.**

Five ways to listen! Catholic Spirit Radio on 88.3 FM online at [www.catholicspiritradi.com](http://www.catholicspiritradi.com) Roku Channel Store, Alexa play Catholic Spirit Radio 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](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.

**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.

"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

**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 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
Mon Apr 4	Marilyn Broerman Family, Knox Grundler's Family
Tues Apr 5	Valerie Brown Family, Weston Haan's Family
Wed Apr 6	Barbara Brunskill Family, Zander Miller's Family
Thurs Apr 7	Deb Bromberek Family, Owen & Lydia Kelly's Family
Fri Apr 8	Mark & Michele Brummel Family, Rosie, Ryann & Kennedy Krenz's Family



## MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!



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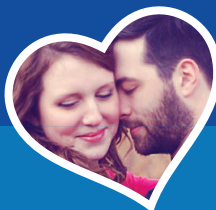


Chenoa Office  
815-945-7871

Graymont Office  
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**Brett Hendren**, Financial Representative  
901 W. Howard St. Pontiac, IL 61764  
[Brett.hendren@countryfinancial.com](mailto:Brett.hendren@countryfinancial.com)  
815-842-2881 office  
309-261-7037 cell

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Designated  
Managing Broker

Tim Bassett, Broker 815-822-8182  
Brett Graves, Broker 815-674-1458  
Jackie Mustread, Broker 815-674-2923  
[www.LyonsSullivanRealty.com](http://www.LyonsSullivanRealty.com)

**JOHN DEERE** **PRAIRIE STATE TRACTOR**

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[trevor@visionhomesgroup.com](mailto:trevor@visionhomesgroup.com)

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