



St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
May 1, 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: \$12,324.75

School Collection: This weekend.

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

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 30 (St. Pius V, pope)

4:00 p.m. 44th wedd ann Steve & Linda Renner

Sunday, May 1 (Third Sunday of Easter)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Randy Brubaker-First Communion

Monday, May 2 (St. Athanasius)

7:00 a.m. Henry Michael Shrewsbury

Tuesday, May 3 (Sts. Philip & James)

7:00 a.m. Jane Gore

Wednesday, May 4

7:00 a.m. Ronald Paska

Thursday, May 5

8:15 a.m. Martin & Helen Turner

Friday, May 6

7:00 a.m. Rosie Duffy

Saturday, May 7

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

4:00 p.m. Parish

Sunday, May 8 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

7:00 a.m. Pat Lyons

9:30 a.m. Carolyn Harty

Servers for Saturday, May 7

4:00 p.m. Kim Deutschmann

Servers for Sunday, May 8

7:00 a.m. Hunter Trainor

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

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.

BAPTISM PREP CLASS: If you are looking to get your first
child baptized, or are expecting your first child and would like to be
prepared for the sacrament of Baptism when they arrive, please call
the parish office at 815-844-7683 to set up a date and time for Bap-
tism prep class.

PROCESSIONAL CANOPY: Beginning June 19 this year,
Bishop Tylka has designated the next three years to promoting the
Eucharist. One way of doing this locally will be our Corpus Christi
Procession. In preparation for this procession, we have purchased a
canopy with the Women's Guild and Knights of Columbus helping
to offset some of the expense. If you would like to make a dona-
tion to St. Mary's Church to specifically help with this expense,
please place your donation in an envelope marked "Canopy" and
place it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the parents and family of **Parker
Greyson Lisewski**, son of Gary & Emily Lisewski, who was re-
cently baptized as a member of our faith.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
FATHER DAVID ON MAY 2nd!**

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



This Sunday at the 9:30am Mass, the following students will receive their First Holy Communion. Our congratulations to:

Gemma Bagnell
Louie Cordani
Kendall Demack
Stella Doran
Benjamin Ehr Gott
Eli Faber
Amelia Finnegan

Knox Grundler
Leo Kapper
Isaac Mackinson
Cristal Romero
Ava Thompson
Angelene Wertz

GRADUATES MASS: This year's Graduates Mass will be for SENIORS ONLY and will be celebrated on **Sunday, May 15 at the 9:30am Mass**. Invitations have been sent out. If you have a senior graduate and did not receive this invitation, please contact the parish office. RSVPs can be returned in the collection basket or mailed to the parish office.

WATCH RETREAT: We would like to invite you to attend a one day renewal retreat, **FANNING THE FLAME**, sponsored by WATCH. The day is open to everyone, even if you have never attended a prior WATCH retreat. Join us on **Saturday, June 11 from 9am to 3:30pm** at St. Mary's Parish Hall. A light lunch will be provided and there is no cost to attend but freewill offerings will be accepted. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Sherri Hatzler at 815-848-6787.

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.

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: 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!

ATTENTION PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

If your organization has news for the mid May issue of the Parish Newsletter, please submit your copy to the parish office no later than Tuesday, May 10. **THE PARISH NEWSLETTER IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO KEEP PARISHIONERS INFORMED, AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE MORE DETAILS THAN BULLETIN SPACE PERMITS. PARISH ORGANIZATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO USE THIS PUBLICATION TO GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT MEETINGS, PARISH MEALS, SPECIAL EVENTS, MEMBERSHIP, AND FUNDRAISERS.** This information can be submitted as an article or advertisement. Pictures are welcome also. Contact the parish office if you have any questions.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL NEW FAMILY REGISTRATION FOR GRADES K-8 FOR 2022/23

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 (K-3)



Register online at school.stmaryspontiac.org. For more information, or to schedule a tour, contact the school office at 815-844-6585.

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

EMMAUS DAYS 2022: Session 1 and 2 participants deepen their faith and focus on discerning God's will through prayer and the sacraments. By listening to and spending time with priests and seminarians, participants get a glimpse into their lives. These sessions are for those who are in college, as well as single men in their 20s and 30s who are discerning their vocation.

Session 1

June 10-12

Session 2

June 24-26

Both sessions are at St. John's Catholic Newman Center in Champaign.

Sessions 3 and 4 are led by seminarians where participants hear God's call to become real Christian men. The experience includes prayer, talks and activities like basketball, soccer, ultimate Frisbee and card games.

Session 3

July 17-20

Session 4

July 20-22

Freshmen & Sophomores

7th and 8th Graders

Both sessions are at Peoria Notre Dame High School

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

Ann Miller- Broerman Family

DWELLING PLACE CLOSING: After 23 years serving the local Catholic community, the Dwelling Place in Normal will be closing May 31. Beginning Monday, May 2, all merchandise in the store (books, jewelry, rosaries, wall crucifixes, framed art) will be on sale, including school uniforms. All sales are final, in-stock merchandise only.



ST. MARY'S PARISH
MARCH 2022



"They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed; every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which he has given you."

~ Deuteronomy 16:16-17

WE THANK YOU

We continue to be truly humbled by the generosity of our parishioners. Thank you to those who generously responded to our recent "Making Disciples for the Mission" campaign. We are already reaping tremendous results! Every contribution is greatly appreciated. Prayerfully consider the impact you can have.

A QUARTERLY UPDATE ON OUR
FINANCIAL JOURNEY

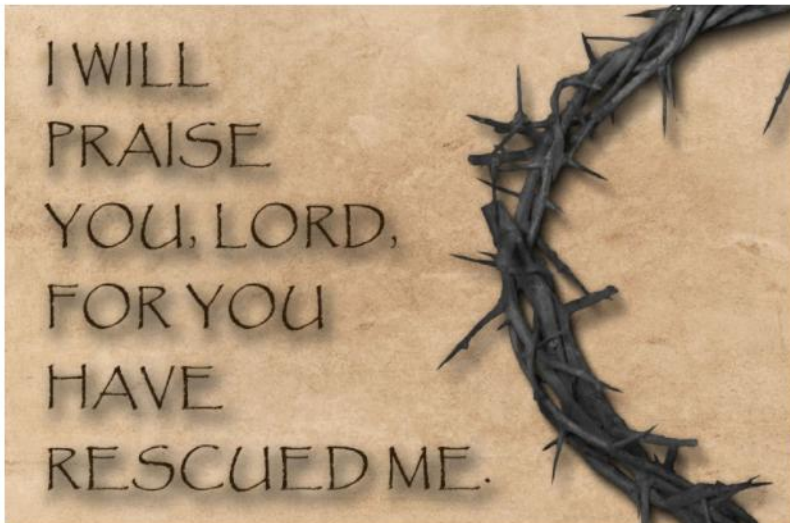
	Previous Fiscal Year July 1 - March 31, 2021	Current Fiscal Year July 1 - March 31, 2022
REVENUES	\$1,833,686.94	\$1,208,513.75
EXPENSES	\$1,112,372.12	\$1,082,414.95
GAIN/(LOSS)	\$721,314.82	\$126,098.80

- Report covers both Parish and School Operations

Please be reminded that at this time last year we had received a very generous bequest of farm land from the Fitzgerald Family totaling \$740,731.00. This money has been set aside for future needs and was not used for ordinary expenses such as salaries and utilities. As you can see, even with increases in utility costs and other expenses, we have kept our total expenses less than last year as we do our best to be good stewards of the gifts you have given to us. We continue to encourage everyone to use your weekly envelopes or use Online Giving through our website: www.stmaryspontiac.org See details below.



Pray For Peace



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.

NOTE OF GRATITUDE

Making Disciples for the Mission

God's love certainly unites us!

This is evident in the parish response to our recent annual stewardship outreach. THANK YOU! I am humbled and grateful for your commitment to St. Mary's Catholic Church, especially during challenging times. Through your commitment, our parish remains vibrant, engaged and Christ-centered in the Eucharist and in serving one another.

God's work is never done! Your prayerful response both materially and spiritually is setting the groundwork for a path forward as we plan for the future of our parish and continuation of critical ministries and service programs. St. Mary's Catholic Church continues to grow as a strong, faith-filled stewardship community because of parishioners like you!

I am humbled to serve as your pastor as we continue to demonstrate true discipleship.

In Christ,

Fr. Adam J. Lesarek
Father Adam



Highlights

\$74,128

in additional offertory
commitments
(contributions not yet
realized)

\$28,145

committed in
one-time gifts

56%

response rate
from those actively
supporting the parish

1

new family welcomed
into our parish
community

19

additional electronic
giving participants

If you have not yet renewed your commitment to our parish, please return your commitment card within the next few weeks. We are looking for 100% participation from our parish families! Each response makes a huge impact!

We Invite You To:

Love Your Parish

Joyfully worship and make the Eucharist our core and Summit

- Attend Mass in-person
- Attend Adoration
- Actively participate in the Liturgy
- Pray with others

Love Your Savior

Develop and grow a personal relationship with Christ

- Through scripture and Bible study
- Celebrate the Sacraments
- Join a book study, small group, or class
- Pray to find Christ in everything and to grow in faith

Love Your Neighbor

God asks us to share our gifts for the good of others

- Join a parish ministry
- Volunteer to charitable causes
- Practice corporal works of mercy
- Give in faithful response as a generous steward

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE NOW HAVE AN AMAZONSMILE

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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 MAY 1, 2022

Sunday	Third Sunday of Easter Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Rev5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14
Monday	St. Athanasius Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Mt4:4b; Jn6:22-29
Tuesday	Sts Philip and James 1Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Jn 14:6b, 9c; Jn 14:6-14
Wednesday	Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; Jn6:35-40
Thursday	Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:51; Jn 6:44-51
Friday	Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:56; Jn 6:52-59
Saturday	Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn 6:60-69
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 13:14, 43-52; Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5; Rev 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-30



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

Faith-Filled Young People: We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.



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 LoPiccolo at 630-514-6221.

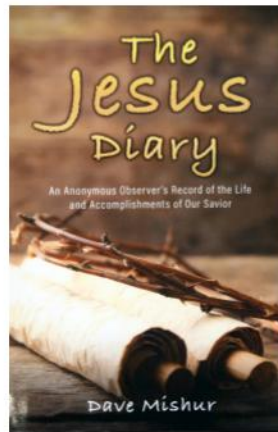
ROSARY ON CATHOLIC SPIRIT RADIO: Everyday at 4:30am and 8:30pm.

Five ways to listen! Catholic Spirit Radio on 88.3 FM online at www.catholicspiritradio.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. 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 May 2	Jacob Campbell Family, Nolan & Graham Mennenga's Family
Tues May 3	Randy & Sandy Carstens Family, Everett & Bruce Meiner's Family
Wed May 4	Janet Cassady Family, Jaxon Rambo's Family
Thurs May 5	Rick & Kathy Campbell Family, McKinlee & Kallen Morgan's Family
Fri May 6	John & Jeanne Cassady Family, Grayson & Keeley Monroe's Family
Mon May 9	Crystal Chalkey Family, Ella Ashcraft's Family
Tues May 10	Thomas & Jane Cassidy Family, Jaxon Rich's Family
Wed May 11	Lance & Vicki Champlain Family, Blythe & Vaughn Schulta's Family
Thurs May 12	Jerry & Nancy Cohlman Family, Gavin Schaidle's Family
Fri May 13	Jorj Ann Casson Family, Case Owen's Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!



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for the Parish."*

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