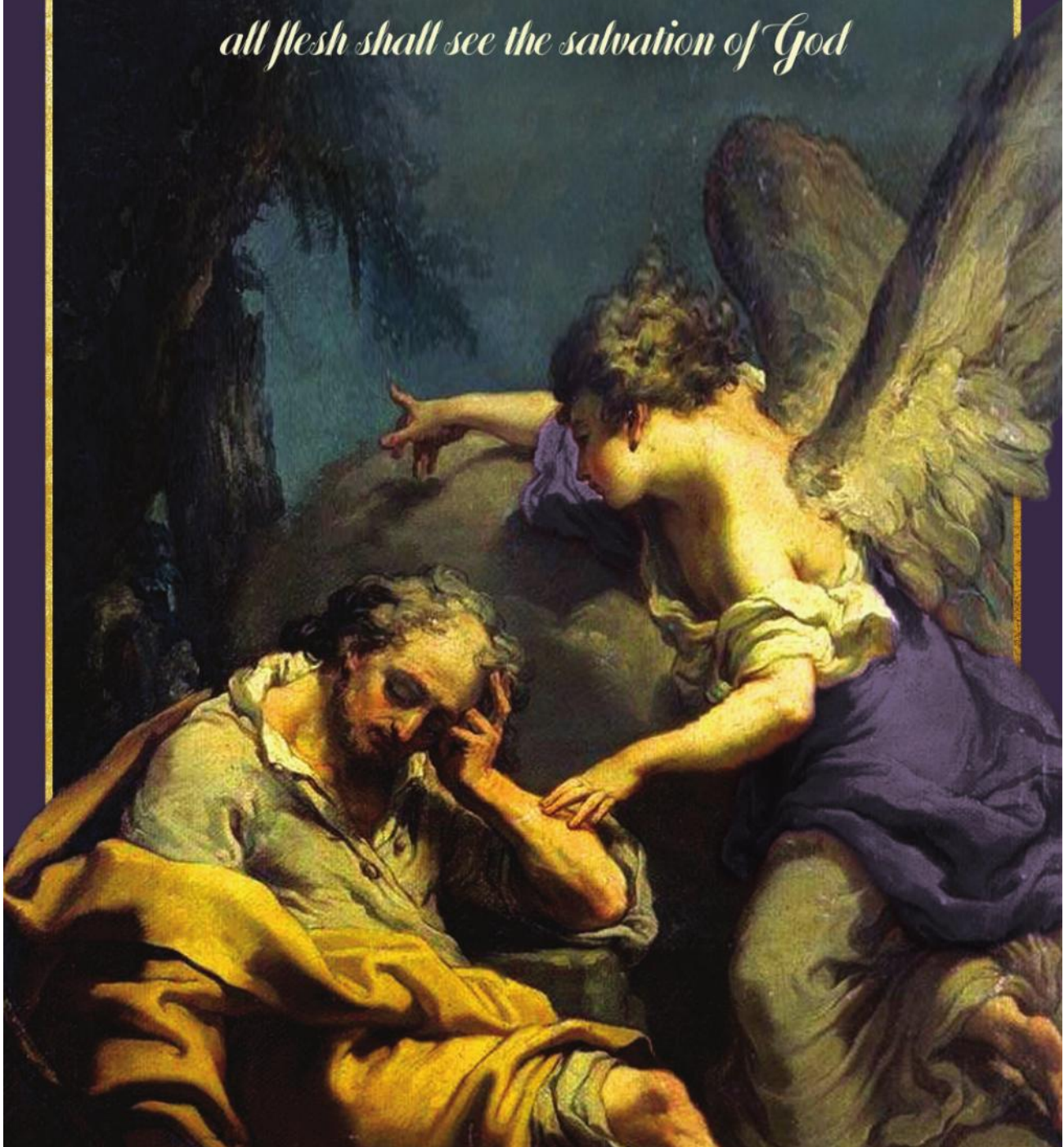


PEACE

all flesh shall see the salvation of God



St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
December 4, 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

LEADERSHIP & DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR: Kel Krenz

krenz.kel@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 8:15 am

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: SCRIP is now an electronic only format using the
RaiseRight app or at www.raiseright.com. If you do not have an
online account and would like to set one up, please contact Taryn
Tissiere at tissiere.taryn@stmaryspontiac.org or 815-979-7663.



STEWARDSHIP

Collection last Sunday: \$11,247.25

Bishop's Seminarian Appeal was \$1,946.00.

School Collection: This weekend.

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



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 3 (St. Francis Xavier)

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

4:00 p.m. Ron Paris

Sunday, December 4 (Second Sunday of Advent)

7:00 a.m. Pat Lyons

9:30 a.m. Parish

Monday, December 5

7:00 a.m. Rita Tibbs

Tuesday, December 6 (St. Nicholas)

7:00 a.m. 3rd ann Pat Mullen

Wednesday, December 7 (St. Ambrose)

7:00 a.m. Edmund "Bud" Cassady

5:30 p.m. Parish

Thursday, December 8 (Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

6:00 a.m. 1st ann Lori Bristow

8:15 a.m. Jo Reilly

Friday, December 9 (St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin)

7:00 a.m. John F. Gschwendtner

Saturday, December 10

4:00 p.m. Ray Broerman

Sunday, December 11 (Third Sunday of Advent)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. William Crowley

Servers for Saturday, December 10

4:00 p.m. Volunteers

Servers for Sunday, December 11

7:00 a.m. Volunteers

9:30 a.m. Kaylee & Brooklyn Delheimer

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Adoration is open each week-
day, Monday-Friday from 8am until 8pm and Saturday from 8am
until 3pm. 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, 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.

NEW SECURITY SYSTEM: The new security system is final-
ly in place. We greatly appreciate those who helped bring this pro-
ject to fruition. The old key fob cards will no longer work for the
church. You can dispose of them. New key fobs have been or-
dered. We will let you know when they arrive and can be distribut-
ed to those who need them.

CONGRATULATIONS to the parents and family of **Maria Teresa Wahl**, daughter of Alex & Kathie Wahl, and **Mae Ellen Sweitzer**, daughter of Ryan & Emily Sweitzer, who were re-
cently baptized as members of our faith.

PLEASE PRAY FOR parishioners Evelyn Ribordy and Patrick Heenan, R.I.P. Our sympathy to their families and friends.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

**COME JOIN US FOR AN
ADVENTure THIS WEEKEND!**

- ♦ **NATIVITY WALK:** *Saturday, December 3 from 3:30-6pm & Sunday, December 4 from 8-11:30am*

Please enter through the MPR (old gym) doors to view Nativities of our school and parish families.

- ♦ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST:** *Sunday, December 4 from 7:30-11:30am in the parish hall*

Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Egg Casserole, French Toast Casserole & Drink. \$10 per person, \$40 family maximum. *Santa is unable to attend this year, but all children will receive a gift*

- ♦ **RECEPTION FOR DEACON RAY WHITE:** *Sunday, December 4 after 9:30 Mass in the parish hall*

Come congratulate Deacon Ray who was ordained on Saturday, December 3 at the Cathedral in Peoria

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

MASS TIMES

Wednesday, December 7

Pontiac 5:30pm

Flanagan 5:30pm

Thursday, December 8

Pontiac 6am & 8:15am

Chenoa 8am

Lexington 5:30pm

Chatsworth 6pm



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE will meet **Thursday, December 8 from 9am to 12:30pm** in the parish hall.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet **Thursday, December 8 at 6:30pm** in the Our Lady of the Rosary Room of the parish hall.

LEGION OF MARY: Want to tell the world about Jesus through Evangelization? Become a disciple. Join the Legion of Mary **every Thursday at 7:00pm** in the Parish Center. 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 starting September 11. Youth group meets in the upstairs of the Parish Center (former rectory). Please use the back door.

ST. MARY'S FOOD PANTRY wishes to thank everyone who so generously donated to the Turkey Envelopes this season. \$3,597 was collected to provide turkey and all the fixings to families in need at our pantry. God bless you all!



JESSE TREES in the front corners of the church will have new ornaments added each week symbolizing the Old Testament people "waiting" for the Messiah. Packets at the doors of the church will name the Old Testament symbols for the four weeks of Advent and the Bible verses which explain them. Pick up a packet and take it home to read the verses indicated for each day of Advent with your family.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SHUT-INS: In the pews this weekend, you will find Christmas cards that we are asking everyone to sign. Please sign as many cards as you can. We want lots of signatures so our shut-ins know we care!

BLESSING OF THE BABY JESUS: On the weekend of **December 10/11**, bring the Baby Jesus from your Nativity to Mass to have it blessed.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: **Tuesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m.** in the church. Extra priests will be on hand to help with individual confessions.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS: Baskets are at the doors of the church for those wishing to donate non-perishable food items or paper products to the St. Mary's Food Pantry.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Pontiac 4:00 & 8:00 pm

Lexington 4:00 pm

Dwight 4:00 pm & 12 midnight

Chenoa 7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Pontiac 7:00 & 9:30 am

Flanagan 8:00 am

Lexington 9:00 am

Chatsworth 10:00 am

Odell 10:30 am

Chenoa 11:00 am

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS may once again be purchased in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please place your money and the form below in an envelope marked "Christmas 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 _____

Poinsettia 6 1/2 inch pot \$10.00 Poinsettia 7 inch pot \$15.00
Poinsettia 8 inch pot \$20.00

LITTLE DISCIPLES
PRESCHOOL



2023-2024 REGISTRATION

Kindergarten

- Registration for current PreK4 students and current SMS families begins 12/5/22.
- Registration for new families begins 1/4/23.

4-year old PreK

- Registration for current PreK students, re-enrolling in PreK, and current SMS families begins 12/5/22.
- Registration for new families begins 1/4/23.

3-year old PreK

- Registration for current SMS families begins 3/1/23.
- Registration for new families begins 5/1/23.

For more Information:

school.stmaryspontiac.org

815-844-6585



TEACHER NEEDED: St. Mary's School has an immediate teacher opening for Junior High ELA (Language Arts and Literacy): Must have a valid Illinois teaching certificate, Middle school/Junior High Endorsement in ELA preferred. *We have hired a long term substitute to fill this position until a full time teacher can be found.*

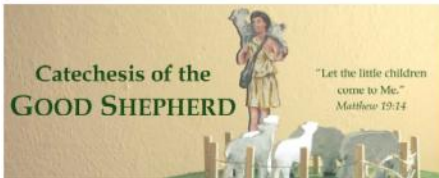
We are seeking a Jr. High ELA Teacher who knows and loves Jesus. We seek someone with a desire to make disciples of their students and grow in discipleship with other staff. Candidates must portray abilities of healthy teamwork among colleagues along with a desire to share their knowledge and love of Jesus with students and staff.

Please send 3 letters of recommendation and a copy of your transcripts, along with your resume and cover letter to Mrs. Karen Jones, St. Mary's School, 414 N. Main St. Pontiac, IL 61764 or you may email these items to: jones.karen@stmaryspontiac.org

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



SCRIP FOR CHRISTMAS: Just a reminder that SCRIP orders are now placed through the app Raise Right. The program has moved to 100% electronic. When you are shopping, you **MUST** select "E-cards" **ONLY**. Any orders for physical gift cards will not be processed. For any questions, email Taryn Tissiere at tissiere.taryn@stmaryspontiac.org



ATRIUM REQUESTING ITEMS: The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium is looking for Bibles in foreign languages. We already have Catholic Bibles in Greek, Korean and German. In the Atrium, we learn that the Word of God is for all people in all places! We are also looking for smaller Catholic Bibles (about 5x7 inches) in English, preferably not paperback. Please keep your eyes open if you are a person who likes to browse used bookstores and thrift stores! If you have any of these items and would be willing to donate them to the Atrium, please drop them off at the school or church office. **THANK YOU!**

We recommend acting soon as this opportunity is on a first come, first serve basis and Caterpillar may reach their cap quickly!



CATERPILLAR
FOUNDATION

CATERPILLAR

In support of Giving Tuesday, the Caterpillar Foundation will provide a limited-time 2:1 match through their Matching Gifts Program for global employee and U.S. retiree gifts made starting November 28 through December 12, 2022 (or once the match total reaches \$2M USD).

Gifts made to St. Mary's School are eligible for the Caterpillar Foundation Matching Gifts Program.
Your \$100 gift could be a \$300 gift!
Please consider the difference you can make!

**2022 ANNUAL
DIOCESAN APPEAL**

Thanks to all who made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. No gift is too small. If you have not yet made a gift to the ADA, we invite you to do so today. Every dollar raised to make our goal supports important diocesan services and every dollar raised over our goal will be returned to the parish.

This year's goal: \$78,088
Pledged to date: \$57,735
(as of Nov. 3)

TOTUS TUUS 2023:

**Mark your calendars
for June 25-29 for
junior high and high
school students, and
June 26-30 for those
entering 1st-6th grades.**

TRAVELING OVER THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS? Call 1-800-MASS-TIMES (1-800-627-7846) or log on to www.masstimes.org to find a church and Mass times at your destination. 22,000 parishes and missions are in the database to provide travelers with times of Masses and other worship services, as well as church location, telephone, and handicapped accessibility.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Salvation Army is looking for volunteers to ring the bell for this holiday season's Red Kettle Campaign. Kettles are inside at County Market and outside at Walmart. Even an hour is appreciated. If you can help, please call Pontiac Salvation Army at 815-844-5005.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 4, 2022

Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12
Monday	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday	St. Nicholas Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 & 10ac, 11-12, 13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday	St. Ambrose Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Friday	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday	Our Lady of Loreto Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11



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 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 DECEMBER

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations: We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



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.

MASS IS BROADCAST EACH MORNING AT 7AM

This fall, let's fall in love with God through the sacraments and thanks to helpful homilies. Another method for inspiration available any day or time is to listen to the variety of ways the hosts at Catholic Spirit Radio share their relatable insights. **Listen on 88.3 FM from Pontiac. You can also use their free app or listen online at catholicspiritradio.com or tell Alexa: "Alexa, Play Catholic Spirit Radio Eighty Nine Point Five."** May God embrace you through the words that you hear!



FAST and PRAY for



"But this kind is not cast out but by prayer and fasting." Mt 17:21

Heavenly Father, You have given us great hope by gifting us with the reversal of Roe v. Wade. Bless the State of ILLINOIS with good and holy leaders to guide and place us on the right path. We offer You our prayers and fasting in thanksgiving and for this intention.

PRAY & FAST every Friday for the CONVERSION of ILLINOIS.

(Clip out this prayer & keep as a reminder)

**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 Dec 5	Andrew & Donnell Hoeniges Family, Adam Vitzthum's Family
Tues Dec 6	Pat Hogan Family, Jack DeYoung's Family
Wed Dec 7	Janet Hurt Family, Lanie McGuckin's Family
Thurs Dec 8	Tom Hogan Family, Chris Gray's Family
Fri Dec 9	Thomas & Karen Hinz Family, Chase & Rhys Carley's Family
Mon Dec 12	Mike & Mary Hoffman Family, Owen & Lydia Kelly's Family
Tues Dec 13	Patricia Honig Family, Jack & Kevin MacZura's Family
Wed Dec 14	Judy Hoffrichter Family, Avery Van Waes' Family
Thurs Dec 15	Jennifer Horrie Family, Maddie & Cameron Mikeworth's Family
Fri Dec 16	Janet Hogan Family, Emma & Ava Lind's Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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ATTORNEY at LAW

bill@whbltdpc.com
318 North Mill St. | Pontiac, IL
815-842-1100

423 W. Madison St.
Pontiac, IL

M-F 5:30-3
Sat 5:30-2



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