

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
January 1, 2023

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 DEACONS:

Dcn. Jim Wallace servant518@outlook.com

Dcn. Ray White rj.white@me.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

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: \$11,214.25

School Collection: This weekend.

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

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 31 (St. Sylvester I, pope)

4:00 p.m. Parish

Sunday, January 1 (Mary, the Holy Mother of God)

7:00 a.m. Sergio Mangubat

9:30 a.m. Jane Ellis

Monday, January 2 (Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen)

7:00 a.m. Don & Vera Schopp

Tuesday, January 3 (The Most Holy Name of Jesus)

7:00 a.m. David Fry

Wednesday, January 4 (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)

7:00 a.m. Susan Fox

Thursday, January 5 (St. John Neumann)

8:15 a.m. 9th ann John Timmerman

Friday, January 6 (St. Andre Bessette)

7:00 a.m. Mary Margaret "Peg" Hoffman

Saturday, January 7 (St. Raymond of Penafort)

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

4:00 p.m. Parish

Sunday, January 8 (The Epiphany of the Lord)

7:00 a.m. John Giovanini 9:30 a.m. 9th ann Jan Brubaker

Servers for Saturday, January 7

4:00 p.m. Nicholas & Carter Doughan

Servers for Sunday, January 8

7:00 a.m. Haidyn & Harper Francis 9:30 a.m. Finan & Rosie Krenz

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Adoration is open each weekday, 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 Baptism prep class.

90TH BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE: All are invited to stop in and wish Kay Lyons a Happy 90th Birthday at an Open House hosted by her sons/family. The Open House will be Sunday, January 1st from 1-3pm at St. Mary's Parish Hall. Desserts and refreshments will be provided. No gifts, please. Kay Lyons was born January 19, 1933 so if you can't join in person, you still have time to send her a card c/o Evenglow Inn, 1200 Evenglow Lane, Pontiac, Illinois 61764.



BUCK\$ 4 BOOK\$: Christ Child Society Pontiac Circle, in conjunction with Catholic Schools Week, and in keeping with our commitment to our CCS Literacy Campaign, is sponsoring a Buck\$ 4 Book\$ campaign. All money raised from this campaign will go directly to St. Mary's School teachers for wish list books for their classrooms. Envelopes will be in the pews the first two weekends of January. Donations will be collected through the month of January. After envelopes are removed from the church, donations can be mailed to the school at 414 N. Main St., Pontiac, IL. 61764. All checks should be made payable to St. Mary's School with a designation to Buck\$ 4 Book\$. Please do not make cash donations without an envelope.

JOIN US FOR AN EXPLANATORY MASS! Have you ever wondered why we do some of the things we do at Mass? Then join our next RCIA class on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:15pm in the church for an explanatory Mass where Fr. Adam will walk us through the Mass parts and their significance.

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.

WHY SUPPORT BULLETIN SPONSORS? By frequenting these advertisers YOU are directly supporting the publication of this bulletin and our parish newsletter. The sponsorship from these businesses offsets the cost of our weekly bulletin and parish newsletter. Local businesses are owned and operated by your neighbors and they are more accountable to their local communities. The support of the parish works both ways when it comes to buying from a small business. The next time you need service, please look at the business section and let them know you found them from the bulletin!

(MEMORIALS APPEAR IN BOLD TYPE)

Jim Cahill-Donna Cahill
Geraldine Eppel-Love, Steve & Michelle
(Eppel) Wall, Skyler Roach & Henry
Eppel



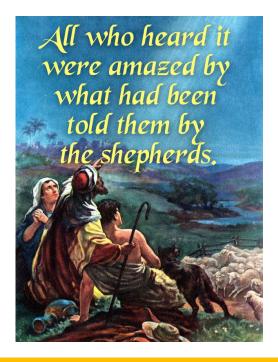


Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone who sent such thoughtful Christmas cards, gifts, desserts, gift cards or cash gifts to me this Christmas season. I am blessed to be here, and I was reminded of what a great place this is and what great people we have by your many acts of kindness. May God bless each of you for your thoughtfulness to me and my family in this holy season of Christmas. Thank you all again and know of my continued prayers and well wishes for you as we begin 2023!

With great gratitude, Fr. Adam

I want to thank the St. Mary's parishioners for your generous Christmas gifts. I have been so blessed during my priesthood by having loving, caring and helpful people who care about their priests and their churches. As we move into the new year, let's continue to pray, work and care for the people of God. Thank you again for your generosity. Stay warm and safe this winter season.

Fr. David



LAST CALL FOR GONZAGA XII

We are excited to welcome all high school students next weekend, January 7 & 8, for an overnight retreat here at St. Mary's. Please arrive at the parish hall on Saturday morning at 10am. Registration forms can be found at the doors of the church. Contact Megan Lauritsen at lauritsen.megan@stmaryspontiac.org with any questions you may have.



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

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 2023-2024 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 2023-2024 school year must reapply. Deadline date for the completed application is April 28, 2023. Notification of grant awards will be made in June of 2023. 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 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.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL SECRETARY JOB OPENING

We are seeking an individual who is a faithful professional, desiring to be a Saint and helping others to become Saints. The candidate should be able to share their faith, be joyful and always willing to put God and others before themselves. This individual should be comfortable working with a team who prays together and actively lives out their faith through daily interactions with staff, students, and parents. Duties/Responsibilities will be discussed during the interview. Salary: TBD Start Date: July 5, 2023 Secretarial experience desired, but not required. Please send a cover letter, resume, and 3 letters of recommendation to: Mrs. Karen Jones, Principal. We plan to begin interviews by the end of January. Thank you for your interest.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

- Jan. 2-10 5th/6th Boys Basketball Tournament at Saunemin
- Jan. 3-7 7th/8th Boys Basketball Conference Tournament at Woodland
- Jan. 4 School Resumes
- Jan. 5 7th/8th Girls Volleyball at Forrest
- Jan. 7 8th Girls Volleyball Tournament at Morris





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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2023

Sunday Mary, the Mother of God Nm 6:22-27;

Ps 67:2-3, 5,6,8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen Monday

1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28 Tuesday 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42

Thursday St. John Neumann

1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Jn 1:43-51

Friday 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147: 12-13, 14-15, 19-20;

1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 & 6a & 9b; Saturday

Jn 2:1-11

Sunday Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13;

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12





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 JANUARY

For educators: We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

SPIRIT

CATHOLIC SPIRIT RADIO

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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.

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!



PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL FAMILIES THIS YEAR

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 Jan 2	Victor & Tammy Johns Family, Gemma Bagnell's Family
Tues Jan 3	Colleen Huxtable Family, Bryson Hall's Family
Wed Jan 4	Judy Hynes Family, Marcos Borrego's Family
Thurs Jan 5	Kari Johnson Boyd Family, Ben Ehrgott's Family
Fri Jan 6	Keran Johnson Family, Ava & Eli Faber's Family
Mon Jan 9	Todd & Julie Jacobs Family, Knox Grundler's Family
Tues Jan 10	Bill & Kathy Kallas Family, Leo Kapper's Family
Wed Jan 11	Marshall & Patricia Johnson Family,
	McKinlee & Kallen Morgan's Family
Thurs Jan 12	Mike & Joan Kane Family, Sophia Forbes' Family
Fri Jan 13	Bob & Marie Kane Family, Graham Mennenga's Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!





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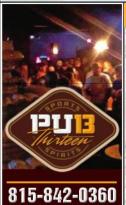
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