



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said,  
“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”

*John 1:29*

© Diocesan  
St. John the Baptist, 1657, by Philippe de Champaigne

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
**Pontiac, Illinois**  
**January 15, 2023**

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 DEACONS:

Dcn. Jim Wallace [servant518@outlook.com](mailto:servant518@outlook.com)

Dcn. Ray White [rj.white@me.com](mailto:rj.white@me.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)

LEADERSHIP & DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR: Kel Krenz

[krenz.kel@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:tissiere.taryn@stmaryspontiac.org) or 815-979-7663.



## STEWARDSHIP

Collection last Sunday: \$16,846.18

St. Mary's Food Pantry Collection was \$6,737.26

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: This weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



## Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 14

4:00 p.m. Paul & Mary Rittenhouse

Sunday, January 15 (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Larry Kennedy

9:30 a.m. Parish

Monday, January 16

7:00 a.m. Earl Gschwendtner

Tuesday, January 17 (St. Anthony)

7:00 a.m. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Wednesday, January 18

7:00 a.m. Bill Fox

Thursday, January 19

8:15 a.m. Mac McCorvie

Friday, January 20 (St. Fabian; St. Sebastian)

7:00 a.m. Elaine Toureen, Wayne & Keith DeJaynes

Saturday, January 21 (St. Agnes)

4:00 p.m. Don Ocean & Michelle Ocean

Sunday, January 22 (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. 12th ann Jesus Calle

Servers for Saturday, January 21

4:00 p.m. Carrington Gray

Servers for Sunday, January 22

7:00 a.m. Christopher Corrigan

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.

**REGISTER WITH THE PARISH OFFICE:** We find that  
many young adults who have been members of the parish all their  
lives do not re-register themselves when they move out on their  
own. A simple phone call to the parish office at 815-844-7683 is  
all it takes to properly register your new household. Please call!

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** parishioner Constance Duffy, and Bill  
Fox (brother of Richard Fox), R.I.P. Our sympathy to their fami-  
lies and friends.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the parents and family of **Amelia  
Mae Popp**, daughter of Dustin & Katilyn Popp, who was re-  
cently baptized as a member of our faith.

# Pray For Peace



**ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS**

**BUCK\$ 4 BOOKS:** 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.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** will meet **Wednesday, January 18 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.

**THANK YOU ST. MARY'S PARISH** for your very generous support of our annual Bootie Drive in November!! We collected over 200 items (many were diapers) which go into the layettes for at risk families of newborn babies who are born at area hospitals. It is very much appreciated! Christ Child Society, Pontiac Circle.

**BOOK BORROWING LIBRARY** has been set up in the back vestibule of the church by the Legion of Mary for all to use. On the honor system, you may take home and enjoy books, CDs, DVDs, cassette tapes and videos to assist in your spiritual growth.

**ORGAN TO DONATE:** A parishioner has an organ to donate to a good home, business or organization. If you have a need for an organ, please call Mary Monical at 815-844-6034.

**TRIVIA NIGHT TO BENEFIT ST. PAUL SCHOOL:** St. Paul School will host a Family Trivia Night on **Saturday, January 28** at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Odell. Doors will open at 6:30pm and questions will begin at 7pm. Due to limited space, reservations are required and can be made by calling 815-998-2194. Teams can be made up of 6-10 people. The cost is \$10 per person. This event is kid-friendly and children are welcome to play. In between rounds of questions there will be bonus games in which teams can also compete for bonus points. Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase. Teams are encouraged to come up with a team name and dress according to their team's theme. A prize will be given for the best-costumed table. Players may want to bring extra cash for purchase of mulligans (free correct answers), snacks, drinks, and more.

**BE A BULLETIN SUPPORTER!**

We are fortunate to have so many bulletin sponsors to defray the publishing costs of this bulletin and our parish newsletter. There are still some spaces available. If you own a business or you work for a business that is not currently advertising in our bulletin, please consider placing an ad. This can be done anytime by contacting Susie at 269-226-0064 or [sboone@diocesan.com](mailto:sboone@diocesan.com).



**ST. MARY'S MEN'S GROUP**

SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH  
7:30-9:00PM

Join in fellowship, Bible study, prayer and discussions relating to challenges for Catholic men in a modern world.


To sign up, scan the QR code or Contact Kel Krenz at [krenz.kel@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:krenz.kel@stmaryspontiac.org) or 815-419-5027  
Meeting location TBD

As iron sharpens iron,  
so one man sharpens another.  
-Proverbs 27:17



Join us for  
**Praying the Gospels  
with Fr. Mitch Pacwa:  
Jesus' Miracles in Galilee**

Groups will run for six weeks on:  
Tuesday: 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
Tuesday: 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: 6:00-7:00 p.m.



To sign up, scan the QR code or contact Kel at [krenz.kel@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:krenz.kel@stmaryspontiac.org) or 815-419-5027

Groups begin the week of January 9th.



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](http://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](mailto: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](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.factsmtg.com/aid](http://online.factsmtg.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](http://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**

- Mon Jan 16 No School
- Tues Jan 17 4/5/7/8 Boys BB, home at 5pm  
7/8 Volleyball at Odell 5:30pm
- Wed Jan 18 TAPS (Teachers & Parents Group) meeting at 6pm
- Thurs Jan 19 School Mass at 8:15am  
7/8 BBB at Forrest 5:30pm  
7/8 Volleyball, home at 5pm
- Sat Jan 21 7/8 Volleyball, home at 10am  
7th Grade Boys BB Regional, home at 2pm




2023-2024 TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP  
**RESERVATION OPENS**

RESERVATION OPENS  
**6:30 PM**

CLICK TO SUBMIT  
**7:00 PM**



For more information, visit  
[EmpowerIllinois.Org/Apply](http://EmpowerIllinois.Org/Apply)



JANUARY  
18  
2023

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



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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 JANUARY 15, 2023**

Sunday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34
Monday	Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday	St. Anthony Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 & 10c; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110: 1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday	Heb 7:25-28 8:6; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
Friday	Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8 & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday	St. Agnes Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 3:20-21
Sunday	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 8:23—9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23



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 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.



**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

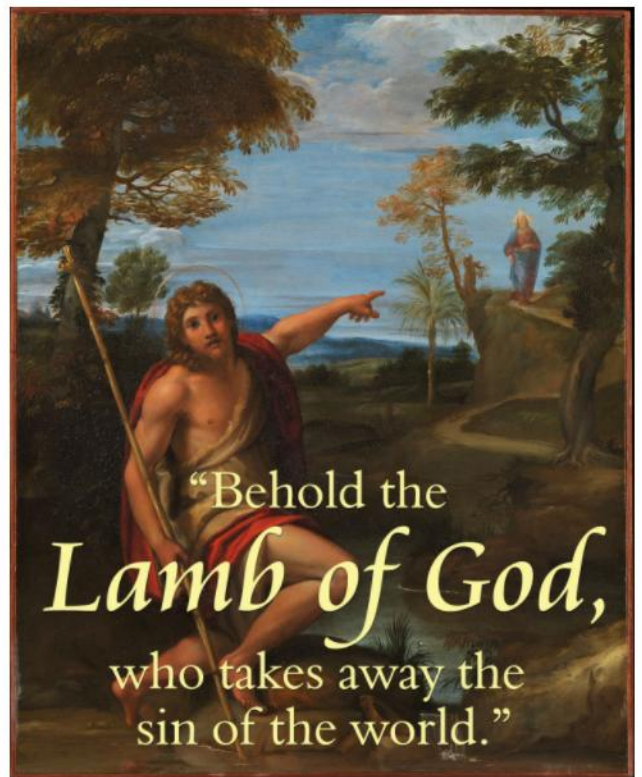
[www.catholicspiritradio.com](http://www.catholicspiritradio.com) We would like

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**

If you haven't already, plan to listen to Catholic Spirit Radio in the New Year! When you are driving to and from work, school, or errands, tune in. To use when you're outside or not near a radio, download the "Spirit Radio 89.5" free app from the Apple or Android app store so you can listen on your cell phone. While using your computer, stream [catholicspiritradio.org](http://catholicspiritradio.org). While doing home chores or sitting in your favorite chair, tune your home radio to 88.3 FM from Pontiac throughout Livingston County. In Lexington & throughout McLean County, you can hear their affiliate on 89.5 FM. If you have Alexa, say "Alexa, play Catholic Spirit Radio." Broadcasting 24 hours a day, Catholic Spirit Radio IS FOR YOU!



ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

**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 16   | Leo Kelly Family, Carol Hepner Family                   |
| Tues Jan 17  | Jan Kennedy Family, Marie Becker Family                 |
| Wed Jan 18   | Philip & Michael Ann Kelly Family, Anne Corrigan Family |
| Thurs Jan 19 | Bob & Steph Kennedy Family, Patsy Delheimer Family      |
| Fri Jan 20   | Jeff Keller Family, Katy Sartoris Family                |
| Mon Jan 23   | Ryan Kelly Family, Taryn Tissiere's Family              |
| Tues Jan 24  | Nikki Kiest Family, Amanda Lauritsen's Family           |
| Wed Jan 25   | Eric & Lisa Kelley Family, Heidi Gregory's Family       |
| Thurs Jan 26 | Tom & Becky Kelly Family, Karen Jones' Family           |
| Fri Jan 27   | Kevin & Sandra Knittel Family, Mark Corrigan's Family   |



**MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!**

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