

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5:44

© Diocesan

Sorrowful Mother Shrine Chapel (Bellevue, Ohio) - stained glass, Jesus Zealous for Souls - detail

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Pontiac, Illinois February 19, 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 deacon.ray@stmaryspontiac.org

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: \$15,705.25

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: This weekend.

Collection to Aid Eastern Europe Churches: This annual collection will be taken up at all Masses on Ash Wednesday.



Mass Intentions

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES TO THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 18

4:00 p.m. Jo Schultz

Sunday, February 19 (Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Colleen Murphy

Monday, February 20

7:00 a.m. Pat Heenan

Tuesday, February 21 (St. Peter Damian)

Joseph Masching 7:00 a.m.

Wednesday, February 22 (Ash Wednesday)

6:00 a.m. Joseph Ruddy Patricia Collette 8:15 a.m.

4th ann Phyllis LoPiccalo 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 23 (St. Polycarp)

7:00 a.m. Inez Gokoo

Friday, February 24

7:00 a.m. Kenneth Snyder

Saturday, February 25

4:00 p.m. 1st ann David Fry Sunday, February 26 (First Sunday of Lent)

> 7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Wanda Lee Garnica

Servers for Saturday, February 25

Sean Finnegan 4:00 p.m.

Servers for Sunday, February 26

Brock, Drew & Leah Clement 7:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Abby, Drew & Kate Lauritsen

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.

2022 TAX RECEIPTS have been mailed to all parishioners who gave a total of \$250 or more in the collection baskets this past year. If you did not receive a statement but need one, please call the parish office at 815-844-7683.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Mary Ann Hall (mother of Amy Lyons), R.I.P. Our sympathy to her family and friends.

THANK YOU: The Christ Child Society Pontiac Circle would like to thank all the parishioners who helped make our Buck\$ 4 Book\$ campaign a huge success. We are happy to announce our collections totaled \$1,241. These dollars will help our SMS teachers purchase wish-list books for their students. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S GUILD will meet Tuesday, February 21 at 5:30pm in the parish hall. All women of the parish are invited. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE will meet Thursday, February 23 from 9am to 12:30pm in 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.

WATCH LENTEN RETREAT: Let the Holy Spirit guide you to a weekend of personal growth in a stress-free atmosphere reflecting and focusing on God's love for us, all while making new friends!! Join the WATCH team March 17 though 19th at the Parish Hall. All meals will be provided. There are sheets at the doors of the church with more information about the weekend along with a registration form which you can return in the collection basket or drop in the mail. For any questions contact Sherri Hatzer at (815) 848-6787.

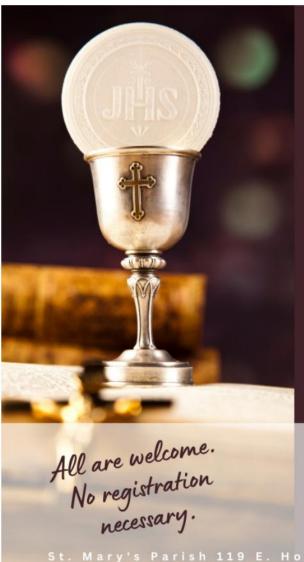


Hallew Registration Steps:

- 1. Scan QR code or go the the website below.
- 2. Type in Pontiac and click on St. Mary.
- 3. Continue with your email or through Google.
- 4. Download the app onto your phone.
- 5. Enter the same email you used to register.
- 6. You will be sent a verification code.
- 7. Fill out the rest of your information.



hallow.com/holyday



Join ns for a three-day Parish Mission featuring Fr. Luke Spannagel

with praise & worship music by Matt Faley

About our guests:

Fr. Spannagel is one of 50 Eucharistic preachers in the country and is from the Diocese of Peoria.

Matt Faley is the Chief of Mission for the Diocese of Peoria and is a Christian recording artist.

Program highlights:

Sunday: True presence of the Eucharist; Eucharistic miracles Monday: Mass from a sacrificial lens; explanatory Mass Tuesday: Unity as the Body of Christ; Eucharistic Adoration

Mission made possible by the Teresa Stark Memorial Fund

When:

February 26 @ 4:00 pm February 27 & 28 @ 6:00 pm

Where:

All sessions will be held in the church and will last 90 minutes.

St. Mary's Parish 119 E. Howard St. Pontiac, IL 61764 (815) 844-7683

==== JOIN US FOR ====

LEARNING CAN TAKE US EVERYWHE

THE 30TH ANNUAL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL DRAWDOWN

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 \$100 TICKET ADMITS 2 PONTIAC ELKS LODGE FEATURING BLAKE STADEL AS EMCEE

Our 30th Annual DrawDown event will give our guests the opportunity to bid on 30 silent auction baskets taking them EVERYWHERE...the movies, the golf course, the spa....to name a few. Your \$100 ticket includes dinner, draft beer, a chance to win fantastic prizes, and participate in games and a live auction. Only 300 tickets will be sold. Tickets can be purchased from St. Mary's students, in the school office, or online at school.stmaryspontiac.org. This event is for adults 21+.

5:15 pm Doors open 5:30 - 7:30 pm Buffet dinner served

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

Mon Feb 20 NO SCHOOL-President's Day

5/6 Volleyball, 5:30pm at home

Tues Feb 21 Scholastic Bowl away

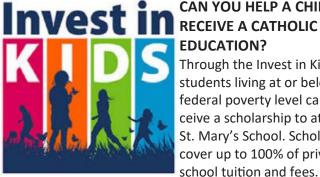
6/7/8 Volleyball, 5pm at Woodland

Wed Feb 22 Ash Wednesday School Mass at 8:15am 7/8 Volleyball, 5pm at Normal Metcalf Thurs Feb 23

Volleyball Extravaganza begins at SMS

Fri Feb 24 Volleyball Extravaganza at SMS Sat Feb 25 Volleyball Extravaganza at SMS

CATHOLIC POST: Subscribers to The Catholic Post, our award-winning diocesan newspaper, have received materials to renew their subscriptions for another year. Now is the time for those who haven't subscribed yet to do so and we encourage all member of our parish family to receive and support this valuable resource for Catholic living, Lenten opportunities, and the National Eucharistic Revival.. Subscribe instantly via credit or debit card online at the catholic post.com or call 309-671-1550 during business hours. It is also possible to send a check to **The Catholic** Post, P.O. Box 1722, Peoria, IL 61656. Envelopes can be found at the doors and mailed directly to the address above. The subscription rate remains at \$30. Additional levels of support are available.



CAN YOU HELP A CHILD EDUCATION?

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. These

scholarships are 100% funded by donations. Donors will receive a 75% tax credit for their donation. We have 27 students who have qualified and are on the waiting list, hoping to receive a scholarship for the 2023-2024 school year. Please consider making a gift to help these families provide a Catholic education for their child. Caterpillar employees and retirees can have their gift matched by the Caterpillar Foundation. Your \$1,000 becomes \$2,000 to SMS! All donations must be made directly to Empower Illinois, our Scholarship Granting Organization. If you can help, call the school office at (815) 844-6585 or email Danielle Gill at gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRY

Ash Wednesday, February 22 5-7 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Fried pollack, baked cod, fried shrimp, grilled cheese, mac & cheese, cole slaw, 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.

Other Fish Fry/Lenten Meals will be offered on Fridays, March 3, 10, 24 & 31





ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22: Ashes will be distributed at all Masses. We will also take up the Collection to Aid Eastern Europe Churches.

Pontiac: 6am, 8:15am (School Mass so please sit in the back half of church) & 5:30pm

Flanagan: 5:30pm Lexington 5:30pm Chenoa: 7pm Chatsworth: 7pm

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

REGULATIONS FOR LENT AND THE EASTER TRIDU-UM

- 1. Lent is the principal season of penance in the Christian Year. Priests, religious and laity are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial, attentiveness to prayer, and especially to works of charity and mercy.
- 2. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, February 22, and all the Fridays of Lent
- 3. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday, February 22 and Good Friday, April 7.
- 4. On these two days of fast and abstinence, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
- 5. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is a serious matter.



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.



amazonsmile The AmazonSmile program will be discontinued effective February 20, 2023. We greatly ap-

You shop. Amazon gives.preciate the support of everyone who participated in this program over the last several years. God bless you for your support!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19, 2023

Sunday **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13;

1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29 Monday **Tuesday**

Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40;

Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday Ash Wednesday

JI 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 & 17;

2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Lk 9:22-25 **Friday** Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15 Saturday Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday **First Sunday of Lent**

> Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 or Rom 5:12, 17-19; Mt 4:1-11





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 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 FEBRUARY

For parishes: We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

SPIRIT

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 LoPiccalo at 630-514-6221.

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

MASS IS BROADCAST EACH MORNING AT 7AM

Learn more about your Christian Family Tree! Catholic Spirit Radio and St. Mary's Church in Bloomington invite you to a 12week inspiring Bible Study beginning Thursday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m. Via Zoom or in-person at the radio station, you'll engage with twelve beautifully produced lessons and group discussions about The Bible and the Church Fathers (a study from the St. Paul Center). You will find out who has gone before us in the Faith, where they came from, and how they shaped the way we read Scripture. \$20 includes the book. Registration is required with coordinator Anthony Pecora at 309-750-9062 or

Perio2000@frontier.com. Learn more at catholicspiritradio.org under the Bible Study tab.

The Catholic Diocese of Peoria is seeking a Director of **Development**. The FULL-TIME position involves instituting the Annual Diocesan Appeal along with assisting the parishes, schools and institutions across the Diocese with Stewardship needs. Full Benefits available along with Salary commensurate with experience. Forward by email a Letter of Introduction and Resume to: humanresources@cdop.org



EPIPHANY PARISH IN NORMAL INVITES EVERYONE to a free Lenten mission event on Sunday, February 19 at 4pm. Shaun Garrison, speaker, worship leader, and songwriter will lead us in a night of praise and worship, reflection for Lent, Adoration, and Confession. Shaun's event will conclude at 6pm and will be followed by cookies, chocolate, and hot cocoa in the parish hall. The event is free of charge but the number of people attending is needed so please go to the Epiphany website, epiphanyparish.com/event then scroll down to Lenten Parish Mission 2023 to sign up for this event and the free childcare which is also available with signing up.

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 Feb 20 Pat & Paulette Krippel Family, Donna Gray's Family Tues Feb 21 George & Georgette Kutsor Family, Christy Jones' Family Wed Feb 22 Michael & Maria Kreush Family, Mary Helen McCorvie's Family Thurs Feb 23 Jennifer Krueger Family, Kelly Krenz's Family Don & Linda Lambert Family, Megan Lauritsen's Family Fri Feb 24 Mon Feb 27 Mary Landrus Family, Danielle MacZura's Family Tues Feb 28 Danielle Lang Family, Adam Lawrence's Family Margo Law Family, Rhiannon Long Family Wed Mar 1 Bill Legner Family, Marge Loughran Family Thurs Mar 2 Amber Lanning Family, Erik & Grace Limberg Family Fri Mar 3



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

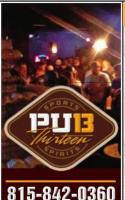




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