

FIRST SORROWFUL MYSTERY



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

The Agony in the Garden

©Diocesan / Christ at Prayer on the Mount of Olives - Noel Coypel, 1705

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
February 26, 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

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](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: \$12,417.25

Building Maintenance Fund Collection was \$2,525.00

School Collection: Next weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



Mass Intentions

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

Monday, February 27 (St. Gregory of Narek)

7:00 a.m. Rosemary Brady

Tuesday, February 28

7:00 a.m. James Berta

Wednesday, March 1

7:00 a.m. Lori Duffy

Thursday, March 2

8:15 a.m. Dick & Millie Johnson

Friday, March 3 (St. Katharine Drexel)

7:00 a.m. Jim & Ileen McGinn

Saturday, March 4 (St. Casimir)

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

4:00 p.m. 24th ann Don Ocean

Sunday, March 5 (Second Sunday of Lent)

7:00 a.m. John Pouliot

9:30 a.m. Parish

Servers for Saturday, March 4

4:00 p.m. Nicholas & Carter Doughan

Servers for Sunday, March 5

7:00 a.m. Haidyn & Harper Francis

9:30 a.m. Ella Ashcraft, 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.

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.

MASS FOR FALLEN AWAY CATHOLICS: Every First Sat-
urday of the month, we offer a Mass at 8am for all the fallen away
Catholic from our parish and families. A rosary is prayed at
7:30am prior to Mass. Please join us!

THANK YOU: The Kevin Casson Family would like to thank
all the sponsors who helped support the Kevin Casson Tournament
this year.

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

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

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 19 at the Parish Hall. All meals will be provided. There are sheets at the doors of the church with 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.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
LENTEN MEAL**

**Friday, March 3
5-7 p.m. in the Parish Hall**

**Seafood Chowder, Cheesy Broccoli Soup,
Garden Vegetable Soup,
fish sandwich, grilled cheese, dessert & drink.**

\$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12, \$35 family max

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



*Join us 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.

*All are welcome.
No registration
necessary.*

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

JOIN US FOR LEARNING CAN TAKE US EVERYWHERE!



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
6:30 pm DrawDown of tickets begins followed by Live Auction



CAN YOU HELP A CHILD RECEIVE A CATHOLIC 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.



Hallow Registration Steps:

1. Scan QR code or go to 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 US FOR SMALL GROUP OFFERINGS THIS LENT:

Tuesday at 10:30 AM

Tuesday at 6:00 PM

Wednesday at 6:00 PM

Wednesday at 8:00 PM-
online meet*

Email Kel Krenz or use
the QR code to sign up



Lenten small groups begin the week of March 6th

***The online group will begin March 1st**

LECTORS FOR MARCH

4:00pm Earline Devito
7:00am Raul & Cynthia Mangubat
9:30am Kim Frauli, Sarah Bowling
EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS FOR MARCH
4:00pm Paula Rosenbaum, Bob & Shari Paris
7:00am Bryan & Susan Schweigert
9:30am Pat Hepperly, Bob Kane, Cece White

GREETERS & USHERS FOR MARCH

4:00pm Joanne Coriell, Lynn DiNardi,
Joe Cleary, Joe & Kristy Duda
7:00am Beth Legner, Julie Wenger,
Brad Follmer, Mike Follmer,
Chad Trachsel, Joe Stock
9:30am Megan Lauritsen, Linda Rhodes,
Bernie Timmerman

SANCTUARY CLEANERS FOR MARCH

Margaret Stamm, Linda Rhodes,
Ellen Gayon, Paula Rosenbaum

DONATIONS REQUESTED FOR ST. NICHOLAS CHARITY ON WHEELS: St. Nicholas Charity on Wheels is a ministry of Catholic Charities serving families in need across the Peoria Diocese. To aid this mission, Catholic Women are organizing a Diocesan collection of supplies by vicariate each month with March designated for the Pontiac Vicariate. **St. Mary's will collect supplies at Masses the weekend of March 5/6 and 11/12. Items needed: paper towels, toilet paper, toothbrushes & toothpaste, household cleaner, dish soap, hand soap and deodorant. Visa, Walmart and Casey's gas gift cards in any amount are also needed. Bulk items can be left at the doors of the church. Gift cards can be placed in the collection basket.** This project will help families in need throughout the Peoria Diocese to make ends meet, care for their families and experience the Catholic faith in action. This is a Promotion Project of the St. Mary's Women's Guild and Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women in cooperation with Catholic Charities.

FREE CHORAL CONCERT: Grand View University Choir from Des Moines, Iowa will be presenting a free concert on **Saturday, March 11 at 7pm** at First Lutheran Church, 311 W. Grove St., Pontiac. Freewill donations accepted. All are welcome!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26, 2023

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
Monday	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday	Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Friday	St. Katharine Drexel Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday	St. Casimir Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday	Second Sunday of Lent Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

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



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 MARCH**

For victims of abuse: We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.



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

CATHOLIC POST: Did you know you can place a message at the top of a page of The Catholic Post, our diocesan newspaper? Your special message will be seen in 10,000 Catholic households! Give thanks for blessings, such as a new grandchild or a marriage anniversary; recognize a favorite pastor or teacher; or remember a deceased loved one. A page sponsorship of \$100 is one suggested level of giving in The Catholic Post's subscription drive, which is underway. Subscribe instantly via credit or debit card online at the-catholicpost.com; call (309) 671- 1550 during business hours; or send a check to The Catholic Post, P.O. Box 1722, Peoria, IL 61656. The regular subscription rate remains at \$30.

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 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 Feb 27
Tues Feb 28
Wed Mar 1
Thurs Mar 2
Fri Mar 3
Mon Mar 6
Tues Mar 7
Wed Mar 8
Thurs Mar 9
Fri Mar 10

Mary Landrus Family, Danielle MacZura's Family
Danielle Lang Family, Adam Lawrence's Family
Margo Law Family, Rhiannon Long Family
Bill Legner Family, Marge Loughran Family
Amber Lanning Family, Erik & Grace Limberg Family
Jack Leach Family, JoAnn Lower Family
Dale & Jenny Larkin Family, Larry & Lucille Limberg Family
Gene & Sue Ledford Family, Jane LoPiccalo Family
Doris Legner Family, Carl & Margaret Lucht Family
Jane Larkin Family, Mary Lucus Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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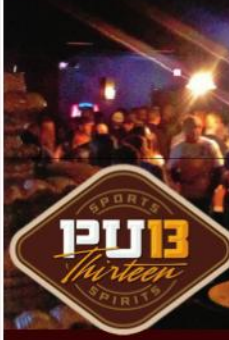
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www.KofC.org

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www.facebook.com/kofc854Pontiac

Greg Kurtenbach
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