

SECOND SORROWFUL MYSTERY



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

The Scourging at the Pillar

©Diocesan / The Flagellation of Our Lord Jesus Christ - William-Adolphe Bouguereau, 1864

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
March 5, 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: \$11,012.00

School Collection: This weekend.

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

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



Mass Intentions

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

Monday, March 6

7:00 a.m. Mark Harringer

Tuesday, March 7 (Sts. Perpetua & Felicity)

7:00 a.m. Ron Fogarty

Wednesday, March 8 (St. John of God)

7:00 a.m. John Gschwendtner

Thursday, March 9 (St. Frances of Rome)

8:15 a.m. In gratitude for anonymous donation to SMS teachers & staff

Friday, March 10

7:00 a.m. 15th ann Tim Murphy

Saturday, March 11

4:00 p.m. Celeste Margherio

Sunday, March 12 (Third Sunday of Lent)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. WATCH Team

Servers for Saturday, March 11

4:00 p.m. Volunteers

Servers for Sunday, March 12

7:00 a.m. Volunteers

9:30 a.m. Zach & Mallory Masching

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 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.

CATHOLIC POST: The Catholic Post, award-winning newspaper of the Diocese of Peoria, now has 7,800 followers on Facebook. If you're not one of them, you should be! The social media outreach is just one aspect of the newspaper's commitment to be "Media for the Mission." Subscribe instantly via credit or debit card online at thecatholicpost.com; call (309) 671-1550 during business hours; or send a check to The Catholic Post, P.O. Box 1722, Peoria, IL 61656. Subscription rate remains at \$30.

PLEASE PRAY FOR parishioner Jean Jones, R.I.P. Our sympathy to her family and friends.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
LENTEN FISH FRY**

**Friday, March 10
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
March 24 & 31. NO MEAL ON MARCH 17.**

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

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE will meet
Thursday, March 9 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.

**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 or 815-419-5027
Meeting location TBD

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

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 week-
end 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.

WOMEN'S GUILD RUMMAGE SALE FUNDRAISER: The
Women's Guild will be holding a Rummage Sale Fundraiser in the
parish hall on **Friday, June 23 & Saturday, June 24**. Donated items
in good condition are needed for the sale such as books, jewelry,
linens, toys, household items, decorations and miscellaneous
items. **NO CLOTHES!** Start saving your items. Drop off infor-
mation will be provided closer to the sale date.

**DONATIONS REQUESTED FOR ST. NICHOLAS CHARI-
TY ON WHEELS:** St. Nicholas Charity on Wheels is a minis-
try 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 cooper-
ation with Catholic Charities.

THANK YOU to all who visited our Boutique Sale tables at the
Fish Fry on Ash Wednesday. Congratulations to Nancy Milhau-
ser, who won the FREE quilt drawing! We will have tables set up
at all the KC meals this Lent and hope you will stop and visit us
again. We may have some new items for you to see and another
free quilt give away. Just come and browse and be sure to put
your name in for the drawing. Thank you to The Knights of Co-
lumbus who cooked another awesome dinner. **HAVE A
BLESSED LENT!** Christ Child Society, Pontiac Circle

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

Mon March 6 Scholastic Bowl, 4pm at Odell
7th Volleyball Sectional, 6:30pm at home
Tues March 7 8th Volleyball Regional at Odell
Wed March 8 8th Volleyball Regional at Odell
Thurs March 9 School Mass at 8:15am
Fri March 10 7th Volleyball State at Clinton
Sat March 11 7th Volleyball State at Clinton

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

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



**MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY
ANNOUNCED: 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. We recently learned that a generous donor has created a 1:1 matching gift program. For every dollar donated, this donor will match the gift up to \$10,000! We need to raise \$10,000 by April 15 to unlock the full gift. Additionally, Caterpillar employees and retirees can have their gift matched by the Caterpillar Foundation. A \$1,000 gift matched twice becomes \$3,000 to SMS! Please consider making a gift to help these families provide a Catholic education for their children. 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.

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.

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**

CAN YOU HELP A COLLEGE STUDENT? Parishioner Cori Martin is a Junior at the University of Illinois and leads a bible study through the missionary organization on campus called FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. She has received a last minute opportunity to spend her spring break in Cincinnati, OH, on a FOCUS mission trip. Several Illinois college students, FOCUS missionaries, and a priest will accompany her to Cincinnati to serve and work alongside locals with an organization called BLOC Ministries. They will be directly ministering to their material and spiritual needs, as well as simply visiting people who may feel forgotten and insignificant –honoring their dignity as sons and daughters of God. She is seeking parishioners to help support her on this mission with your prayers or with a financial gift. She is hoping to raise at least \$500 by Tuesday, March 7. There are no minimums or maximums, and all gifts of treasure or prayers are truly appreciated! If you would like to join her mission support team, simply go online and donate by credit card or bank transfer at (<https://tinyurl.com/yc8chsjt>). Gifts made online, and checks made payable to FOCUS are tax-deductible, charitable gifts. If you prefer to send a check instead, please contact her mom Lisa Martin (815) 674-6644 ASAP, and she will be happy to pick one up from you.

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST: Sunday, March 5 from 7am to 12 noon at Graymont School. \$8 for ages 10 and up, \$5 for those under age 10. Hosted by Graymont Achievers 4-H Club.

CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER: Sunday, March 12 from 2-5pm at Sacred Heart Church in Campus. Corned Beef & Cabbage and all the fixings. \$15 for adults, \$10 for children.

SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON: Thursday, March 16 from 11am to 1pm St. Andrew Catholic Church, 110 E. Ash Street, Fairbury. Serving Ham, Salads, Rolls & Beverages. By Donation Only. Carry-outs available. Hosted by the Altar & Rosary Society of St. Andrew Church.

**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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 5, 2023

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 Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11 & 13; Lk 6:36-38
Monday	Sts. Perpetua and Felicity Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 & 23; Mt 23:1-12
Tuesday	St. John of God Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16; Mt 20:17-28
Wednesday	St. Frances of Rome Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Lk 16:19-31
Thursday	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Mt 21:33-43. 45-46
Friday	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Saturday	Third Sunday of Lent Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42
Sunday	



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 & 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

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT: The wound of abortion is real. So is healing. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat offers healing for those who struggle with the emotional and spiritual pain of a past abortion. This retreat is for singles or married couples; mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, or anyone impacted by an abortion experience. If you are searching for peace and inner healing from a past abortion, this retreat is for you. Register for the March 24-26 retreat by calling 309-264-1489 or emailing rivrpeoria@gmail.com. All communications are strictly confidential. For more information please visit www.cdop.org/rachels-vineyard or www.rachelsvineyard.org



St. Mary's Parish is now offering Online Giving.

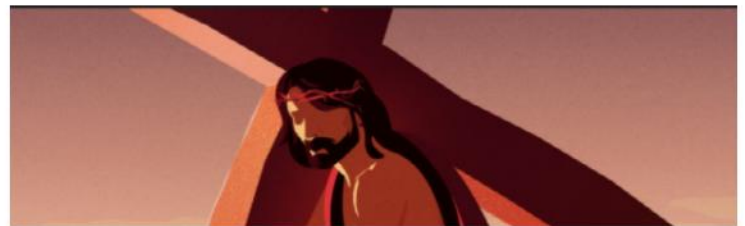
Online Giving can be used to give to:

- 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.



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



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 Mar 6 | Jack Leach Family, JoAnn Lower Family |
| Tues Mar 7 | Dale & Jenny Larkin Family, Larry & Lucille Limberg Family |
| Wed Mar 8 | Gene & Sue Ledford Family, Jane LoPiccalo Family |
| Thurs Mar 9 | Doris Legner Family, Carl & Margaret Lucht Family |
| Fri Mar 10 | Jane Larkin Family, Mary Lucus Family |
| Mon Mar 13 | William & Gina Manker Family, Rick & Amy Lyons Family |
| Tues Mar 14 | Ed Legner Family, Harold Lyons Family |
| Wed Mar 15 | Alicia Legner Family, Kay Lyons Family |
| Thurs Mar 16 | Beth Legner Family, Mike & Pam Lyons Family |
| Fri Mar 17 | Margaret Legner Family, Matt & Heather Machroli Family |



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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for the Parish."*

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