

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
March 12, 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: \$11,612.25

School Collection was \$2,551.00.

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

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: Next weekend.



Mass Intentions

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

Monday, March 13

7:00 a.m. Martin De Villa

Tuesday, March 14

7:00 a.m. Sophie Fecht

Wednesday, March 15

7:00 a.m. Mary Jo Murphy

Thursday, March 16

8:15 a.m. Ellen Reeter Friday, March 17 (St. Patrick)

7:00 a.m. 2nd ann Mac McCorvie Saturday, March 18 (St. Cyril of Jerusalem)

4:00 p.m. Parish

Sunday, March 19 (Fourth Sunday of Lent)

7:00 a.m. Michael & Alice Ganta 9:30 a.m. WATCH Intentions

Servers for Saturday, March 18

4:00 p.m. Volunteers Servers for Sunday, March 19

7:00 a.m. Tyson Cramer

9:30 a.m. Riley & Payton Rogers, Abe Jean Jacques

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 \$15-844-7683.

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

Mon Mar 13 8th Volleyball Sectional, home at 6:30pm

Tues Mar 14 Scholastic Bowl, home at 4pm
Wed Mar 15 TAPS Meeting, 6pm in MPR
Saints vs Irish Basketball Game,
12:30pm in new gym

1:30pm Dismissal

Fri Mar 17 No School

Teacher Meetings at Marquette Academy



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN MEALS

There will be NO Fish Fry on Friday, March 17.

On Friday, March 24 we will have Pasta Night featuring Tuna Noodle Casserole and Shrimp Alfredo, in addition to fish.

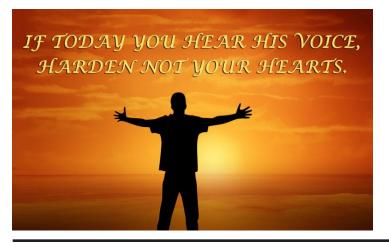
WATCH LENTEN RETREAT: Let the Holy Spirit guide you to a weekend of personal growth in a stress-free atmosphere reflecting and focusing on God's love for us, all while making new friends!! Join the WATCH team March 17 though 19 at the Parish Hall. All meals will be provided. There are sheets at the doors 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 will meet Wednesday, March 15 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.

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 information will be provided closer to the sale date.





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

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DISPENSATION: The obligation to abstain from meat on Fridays of Lent is a significant element of the Church's observance of the penitential nature of this holy season. This year, however, Friday of the third week of Lent corresponds with Saint Patrick's Day (March 17) which, given the great number of Catholics of Irish descent in our diocese, has traditionally been an occasion for joy-filled celebrations. Having considered our past practices and the current circumstances, inasmuch as it would serve the spiritual good of the faithful, Bishop Louis Tylka has granted to the faithful of the Diocese of Peoria, as well as to any visitors or travelers who may be physically present within the territory of this diocese, a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence from meat on March 17, 2023. Those taking advantage of the dispensation, however, are exhorted to undertake a work of charity, an exercise of piety, or an act of comparable penance on some other occasion during the third week of Lent

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE: Tuesday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Extra priests will be on hand to hear individual confessions.

EASTER FLOWERS may once again be purchased in memory or in honor of a loved one to help decorate the church for Easter. All memorials and honors will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please place money and the form below in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" and place it in the collection basket.

PLEASE PRINT NAMES AS YOU WANT THEM TO APPEAR IN THE BULLETIN.

IN MEMO	N MEMORY OF						
IN HONOR OF							
YOUR NAME							
Lily—\$10	Small Mum—\$15	Large Mum—\$20	Azalea—\$30				



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.



= Join US for ===

LEARNING CAN TAKE US



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

If you would like to donate an item for one of our themed baskets, please call Angela Ehrgott at (217) 779-0770 or email angela.ehrgott@gmail.com. Donation deadline March 17.



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 <u>can</u> attend a Catholic School, Financial Assistance Available

Tuition assistance scholarship grants from the endowment fund established as a result of the Diocese of Peoria ROOT-ED 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 eli-Parents must apply online at: gible for an award. 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



St. Mary's School

414 North Main Street, Pontiac, Illinois 61764 Phone 815-844-6585 Fax 815-844-6987 Father Adam Cesarek, Administrator Mrs. Karen Jones, Principal

St. Mary's DrawDown Ticket Order Form Saturday, April 1, 2023 @ Pontiac Elks Lodge

\$100 per ticket, admits 2. This event is for adults (21+) only.

Each ticket admits two adults to the event and includes dinner, draft beer, a chance to win amazing prizes, and the opportunity to participate in live & silent auctions. The dinner menu will feature fried chicken, mostaccioli, baked potato, green beans, lettuce salad, and dinner roll.

Additionally, dessert will be provided compliments of County Market

All tickets will be at the registration table the night of the event. Doors open at 5:00. Dinner served from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Please complete and return by March 17, 2023.						
NAME:						
STREET:						
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:			
PHONE:	EM	AIL:				
Please mark one of the following	:					
2 Guests will be attending a	nd enjoying din	ner.				
1 Guest will be attending an						
I am not able to attend but			people. (please circle number).			
We will not be attending the dinner but would still like to purchase a DrawDown ticket.						
Donation opportunities:						
I will make a dessert to be a	uctioned. Type	of dessert				
I will donate a prize to be au	uctioned. Type o	of prize				
I am interested in being a D	rawDown spons	or. Please contact	me to discuss sponsorship levels.			
Payment:						
Order form and payment may be obasket.	delivered to St.	Mary's School offi	ce or placed in the church collection			
Check enclosed. Please mak	e all checks pay	able to St. Mary's	School.			
My payment has been made	e via my FACTS p	orepay account lab	peled TAPS (SMS parents only).			
THANK YOU	FOR SUPPO	RTING CATHO	DLIC EDUCATION!			
(Office Use) Date Ro	eceived	ті	cket #			

school.stmaryspontiac.org

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 12, 2023

Sunday 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

Monday 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30 **Tuesday**

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 & 7bc, 8-9;

Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20;

Mt 5:17-19

Thursday Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 11:14-23 **Friday**

St. Patrick Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-8a 8bc-9, 10-

11ab, 14 & 17; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday St. Cvril

Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6;

Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41





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.

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 & 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 rvrpeoria@gmail.com All communications are strictly confidential. For more information please visit www.cdop.org/rachels-vineyard or www.rachelsvineyard.org



Hallew Registration Steps:

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



hallow.com/holyday

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.

William & Gina Manker Family, Rick & Amy Lyons Family Mon Mar 13 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 Margaret Legner Family, Matt & Heather Machroli Family Fri Mar 17 Mon Mar 20 Mary Lou Legner Family, Jesus & Maura Madrigal Family Tues Mar 21 Mike Linskey Family, Owen Lyons Family Jerry & Joan LoPiccalo Family, Patrick & Lisa Martin Family Wed Mar 22 Susan Legner Family, Patrick Lyons Family Thurs Mar 23 Fri Mar 24 Dolores Locke Family, Don & Rita Mackinson Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!





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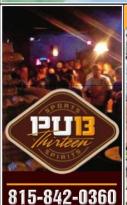
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Grand Knight: Bill Bertram (815) 690-7072

Rev. Adam Cesarek, Chaplain

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