

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
April 30, 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: \$10,704.90

School Collection: Next weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish. We now offer Online Giving through our website. Check it out at www.stmaryspontiac.org



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 29 (St. Catherine of Siena)

4:00 p.m. 45th wedd ann Steve & Linda Renner

Sunday, April 30 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

7:00 a.m. Jesus Padilla 9:30 a.m. Parish

Monday, May 1 (St. Joseph the Worker)

7:00 a.m. Lilia Alday **Tuesday, May 2 (St. Athanasius)**

7:00 a.m. 10th ann Jim Brown Wednesday, May 3 (Sts. Philip & James)

7:00 a.m. Ben Erickson

Thursday, May 4

8:15 a.m. Susan Fox (May Crowning)

Friday, May 5

7:00 a.m. Magdalena Miranda

Saturday, May 6

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

4:00 p.m. Selma Simpson Sunday, May 7 (Fifth Sunday of Easter)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Bernard & Gertrude Gschwendtner

Servers for Saturday, May 6

4:00 p.m. Nicholas & Carter Doughan

Servers for Sunday, May 7

7:00 a.m. Haidyn & Harper Francis

9:30 a.m. Jonathan & Zach Becker, Hudson Simmons

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.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Sophia Olson**, who received her First Communion last Sunday.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Tristin Duden & Kelsey Grieff**, who were recently married in our church.

MSGR. MACK 45TH ANNIVERSARY: All St. Mary's parishioners are invited to Immaculate Conception Church in Monmouth to celebrate the 45th Anniversary of Msgr. Mack's Ordination on Sunday, June 11. Mass at 1pm followed by a Reception Lunch. RSVP by May 19 to 309-734-7533.



HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY TO FR. DAVID SABEL ON MAY 2!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



This Sunday at a special Mass, the following students will receive their First Holy Communion. Our congratulations to:

Elliott Bauman **Everett Meiner** Max Bland Cameron Mikeworth Rhys Carley Kallen Morgan Savannah Drilling Melissa Romero Myers Hinz Landry Saxton Knox Kiest Holland Tissiere Kevin MacZura Harry Trainor Palmer Masching Avery VanWaes

MARY, MOMS, MUFFINS & MASS: All Mothers of the parish are invited to join in fellowship on Thursday, May 4 at 7:15am in the parish hall for a light breakfast prior to the School May Crowning Mass at 8:15am. RSVP on Monday to the school office at 815-844-6585 or email jones.karen@stmaryspontiac.org

GRADUATES MASS: This year's Senior Graduates Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday**, **May 21 at the 9:30am Mass**. Invitations will be send out soon.

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.

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.

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.

LECTORS FOR MAY

4:00pm Jerry LoPiccalo 7:00am Beth Legner

9:30am Brenda Shaughnessy, Bernie Timmerman

EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS FOR MAY

4:00pm Steve Renner, Mary Lynn Schopp, Earline Devito

7:00am Joan Duffy, Mick Peterson

9:30am Marie Kane, Carol Schopp, Nancy Milhauser

GREETERS & USHERS FOR MAY

4:00pm Arlene Fry, Joe & Kristy Duda, Mike VanSickle

7:00am Jill Francis, Pat Duffy, Chuck & Dianne Hanley, Joe Stock

9:30am Kathy Campbell, Carol Miller, Roger & Paula Corrigan,

Bob Kane

SANCTUARY CLEANERS FOR MAY

Nanette Marx, Earline Devito, Dianne Hanley, Joan Duffy

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On May 23, 2015, I was ordained a priest of Jesus Christ by Bishop



Jenky, and I was blessed to learn that I would be named the parochial vicar in multiple parishes in the Pontiac Vicariate. God's desire for me was to begin my life as a priest right here in Livingston County. A few years later, I was given the great privilege of being named administrator of St. Mary's in Pontiac. For the past three years, I have been blessed to be the pastor of St. Mary's. These eight years with you have allowed me to experience all my "firsts" as a priest, and I will never be able to thank you enough. It is extremely rare for a new priest to spend as many years at one location as I have been blessed to spend here in Pontiac. I cannot thank God enough for it being here and with all of you, holy people.

Nearly two weeks ago, I was asked by Bishop Lou to begin a new adventure. He has asked me to be the pastor at Blessed Sacrament in Morton as my second assignment, and I have agreed to follow where our chief shepherd has called me. I cannot begin to say everything that I would want to say to you all, as my whole priesthood has been spent with you. The most important thing to say is that I love you all. I will never be able to thank you enough for walking with me in my first assignment. My hope is that I have been able to help lead you all to a deeper relationship with Jesus and our Catholic faith. I thank God for all of you, your kindness and patience with me as I learned how to be a priest of Jesus Christ. I ask forgiveness for any hurts I may have caused and pray that you continue to follow the Holy Spirit with JOY, tangible faith and always putting Jesus before yourselves.

God is doing amazing things in Pontiac, and I know the Holy Spirit will continue to walk with you. I am also excited to have you welcome your next pastor, Fr. Joe Baker. Fr. Joe and I are classmates – ordained together in 2015. He is a good friend with a deep love of Jesus and our Catholic faith. He has many gifts and a deep love for the people he is called to shepherd. He also comes with one of the best senses of humor I know. I cannot wait to hear how Jesus will work through him and you all working together. Fr. Joe will arrive here on Wednesday, June 14th and I will begin my work at Blessed Sacrament in Morton on the same day. I will greatly miss you all, but I know the Holy Spirit will be walking with you all and me as we begin new adventures with Jesus.

I am blessed to have six more weeks with you at St. Mary's, but am forever blessed to have walked with you in my first eight years as a priest. Please pray for me as I prepare for this transition in life. St. Mary's will forever be in my prayers and memories with great love and affection. May we all keep walking with Jesus in His Catholic Church and may He bless us on our journey.

In Love of Jesus Christ, Father Adam Cesarek





A QUARTERLY UPDATE ON OUR FINANCIAL JOURNEY

	Previous Fiscal Year July 1 - March 31, 2022	Current Fiscal Year July 1 - March 31, 2023
REVENUES	\$1,208,513.75	\$1,340,850.21
EXPENSES	\$1,082,414.95	\$1,180,337.60
GAIN/(LOSS)	\$126,098.80	\$160,512.61

Report covers both Parish and School Operations

We continue to rely on your prayers and generosity to provide what we need to run our operations, and we work hard to be good stewards with the gifts we have been given. The Increased Offertory Appeal held just over a year ago was most beneficial and we encourage you to continue those commitments made. We kindly ask everyone to use your weekly envelopes or use Online Giving through our website: www.stmaryspontiac.org

EMMAUS DAYS: SESSIONS I & II

Session I June 9-11, 2023

impact you can have.

Working & College Men

is greatly appreciated. Prayerfully consider the

St. John's Catholic Newman Center, Champaign

Session II June 23-26, 2023

High School Juniors & Seniors

St. John's Catholic Newman Center, Champaign

Sessions I and II are overnight retreats. Participants deepen their faith and focus on discerning God's will through prayer and the sacraments. By listening to and spending time with priests and seminarians, participants get a glimpse into their lives. Along with prayer and other devotions, activities like various sports and card games are played.

EMMAUS DAYS: SESSIONS III & IV

Session III July 16-19, 2023

High School Freshmen & Sophomores Location: Peoria Notre Dame High School

Session IV July 19-21, 2023 Seventh & Eighth Graders

Location: Peoria Notre Dame High School

Sessions III and IV are overnight retreats. Led by seminarians, participants hear God's call to become authentic Christian men. The experience includes prayer, talks from seminarians and activities like basketball, ultimate frisbee, card games, and swimming.

To register for any session, go to: comeandfollowme.org/emmausdays

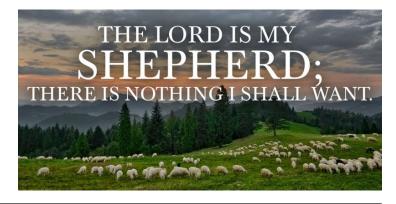
Pray For Peace



CAN YOU HELP US CLEAR THE LIST AND HELP A CHILD RECEIVE A CATHOLIC EDUCATION?

There are 27 students who need financial assistance to be able to attend St. Mary's School next year. So far, we have been able to raise

funds to help 10 of these students. To 'CLEAR THE LIST' and help the remaining students, we need to raise an additional \$51,587. Through the Invest in Kids Act scholarship program, 75% of every dollar you donate will come back to you as a State of Illinois tax credit next year. Additionally, employers like Caterpillar, State Farm, and Exelon will match gifts made by employees and/or retirees. 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, contact Danielle Gill at gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 30, 2023

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 2:14a, 36-41;

Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

Monday St. Joseph the Worker Acts 11:1-18;

Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4; Jn 10:11-18 or Mt 13:54-58

Tuesday St. Athanasius

Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday Sts. Philip and James, Apostles

1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Jn 14:6-14

Thursday Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 & 27;

Jn 13:16-20

Friday Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-7, 8-9 10-11ab; Jn 14:1-6 **Saturday** Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 6:1-7;

Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12





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 MAY

For church movements and groups: We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

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

PARISH FAMILY IN NEED: Looking for a strong, youthful, mature female that could assist with volunteer care for 2-6 hours/1-2 days a week, scheduling flexible! Volunteer would help as a caregiver assistant for a neurologically disabled middle aged lady that has weakened motor controls, speaking/eating difficulties and mobility issues. tasks would be assisting in feeding, meal prep, walking assistance, general comfort and personal companionship. This family tries to take the patient on regular outings for lunch, shopping and events. The volunteer is welcome to join the family on these outings, refreshments and transportation provided by the family. If caregiver would become comfortable with the patient's companionship they would be welcome to take her shopping or for a walk as well. Please contact the parish office at 815-844-7683 if you would be willing to help this family.



HOUSE-PARENTS NEEDED: Elizabeth Home is thanking you for your prayers and asking you to continue! We are currently searching for whom God may be leading into this Life-changing ministry! All Rent & groceries provided! Would you join us in prayer? Here is a snapshot of the qualifications:

- Christian adults with personal integrity and Godly character.
- Christians willing to move to our Pontiac ministry house and make their homes with single mothers in residential care.
- Christians willing to offer non-judgmental, unbiased love.
- Christians willing to provide residents with emotional and social support, and appropriate affection.

If you are feeling the Holy Spirit's nudge, or may know of someone with these qualities, please call us at 309-824-8270 or visit our website for more information www.ehpontiac.org We are confident that the Lord has many years of love and nurturing in store for these hurting hearts, needing Jesus! May we be used as hands and feet of Him!

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.

Mark & Kristy Masching Family, Linda Minar Family Mon May 1 Tues May 2 Bill & Michelle Masching Family, Helen Million Family Wed May 3 Jerry & Jeannine Mathia Family, Santos & Letisia Molina Family Thurs May 4 Ricky & Brenda Matuszewski Family, Nicole Mills Family Charles & Cathy Maubach Family, Rob Miller Family Fri May 5 Mon May 8 Carla Mays Family, Karen Moen Family Claire Mays Family, Mike & Tammie Mills Family Tues May 9 Wed May 10 Vicki McBeath Family, Megan Miller Family John McCarty Family, Bob & Bea Meiner Family Thurs May 11 Fri May 12 Casey & Christine McCaskey Family, Susan Michel Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!





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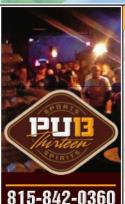


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Grand Knight: Bill Bertram (815) 690-7072

Rev. Adam Cesarek, Chaplain

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