



God took the fragrance
of a flower...
The majesty of a tree...
The gentleness of
morning dew...
The calm of a quiet sea...
The beauty
of the twilight hour...
The soul
of a starry night...
The laughter of a
rippling brook...
The grace of a bird
in flight...
Then God fashioned
from these things
A creation like no other,
And when his
masterpiece was through
He called it simply -
Mother.

~Herbert Farnham

In Honor of Our Mothers

© Diocesan

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
May 14, 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: **\$11,687.75**

School Collection was \$2,035.00.

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

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: Next weekend.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 13 (Our Lady of Fatima)

4:00 p.m. Jim Wallace IV

Sunday, May 14 (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. 50th wedd ann Jim & Pat Bednar

Monday, May 15 (St. Isidore)

7:00 a.m. Mary Jo Murphy

Tuesday, May 16

7:00 a.m. Judith Bohm

Wednesday, May 17

7:00 a.m. Aris Ong

Thursday, May 18 (St. John I, pope)

8:15 a.m. Mary Higgins

Friday, May 19

7:00 a.m. Alvin & Eva Heinrich

Saturday, May 20 (St. Bernardine of Siena)

4:00 p.m. Ann Broerman Miller

Sunday, May 21 (Ascension of the Lord)

7:00 a.m. Larry Baker

9:30 a.m. Parish

Servers for Saturday, May 20

4:00 p.m. Sean Finnegan

Servers for Sunday, May 21

7:00 a.m. Volunteers

9:30 a.m. Graduates Mass

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.

LOOKING FOR DONATED ITEMS: St. Mary's Women's
Guild will host their Annual Parish Thanksgiving Dinner on Sun-
day, November 12. They are working on putting together a raffle.
Do you do woodworking, quilt, crochet or knit? Would you be
willing to donate a handmade item to the raffle? Would you be
willing to purchase a larger item such as a bike or electronics for
the raffle? If you can help, please contact the Women's Guild Pres-
ident, Sue Smith at 815-307-4647.

MSGR. MACK 45TH ANNIVERSARY: All St. Mary's parish-
ioners 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.

DOUGHNUTS, DADS & DEVOTIONS: All dads of the par-
ish are invited to join us on **Thursday, May 25 at 7:15am** in the
parish hall for doughnuts, juice, coffee and fellowship. Please stay
for the school Mass which begins at 8:15am. RSVP to the school
office at 815-844-6585 or email: jones.karen@stmaryspontiac.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEACON JIM WALLACE on the
21st anniversary of his Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate on
May 18.

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet **Wednesday, May 17 at 6:30pm** in the Our Lady of the Rosary Room of the parish hall.

GRADUATES MASS: This year's Senior Graduates Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday, May 21 at the 9:30am Mass**. Invitations have been sent out. If you have a senior graduate and did not receive this invitation, please contact the parish office. RSVPs can be returned in the collection basket or mailed to the parish office.

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.



**MEMORIAL
DAY MASS**

**MONDAY, MAY 29
10:30 AM**

AT ST. MARY'S CEMETERY

This Mass will honor all of our deceased loved ones. Please bring a lawn chair. If the weather is inclement, a Flocknote message will be sent out and the Mass will be held at the church. The City service will be at 9am.



Corpus Christi Procession
JUNE 11, 2023
SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD
OF CHRIST

All are welcome to join in the Corpus Christi Procession through downtown Pontiac. Mass begins at 9:30AM with a half mile Corpus Christi Procession through downtown Pontiac following immediately after Mass.



For those who would like to join but cannot walk the distance, the trolley will be available to drive you with the procession.



HELP SAVE OUR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM!

The "Invest in Kids" Illinois tax credit scholarship program provides income-eligible families with critical scholarships to private schools like St. Mary's. Over the last five years, this program has provided dozens of scholarships to SMS students. Unfortunately, this program is due to expire at the end of this calendar year. We need your help! Please scan this QR code to send an email to your state legislator asking them to 'remove the sunset' so this program does not expire.

Invest in KIDS 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 SCHOOL
PRESENTS



2023 SMS SCRAMBLE

Sunday 2023
July 30

**Wolf Creek
Golf Course**

A flight - ages 16+
B flight - ages 15 & under
Maximum 2 kids per team

**\$30/
player**

**2:00
Shotgun
Start**

9 Hole Scramble
Family Friendly Event
Games & Fun Activities
50/50 Drawing
\$10 Mulligans

Food available for purchase.

Register today at school.stmaryspontiac.org

TOTUS TUUS 2023



Totus Tuus is a fun, spiritual program that allows kids to reach a deeper level of religious education through catechesis, prayer and celebration of the Sacraments. If you want to learn more about your faith and strengthen your relationship with God while having a great time with friends and classmates, join us and our 4 college-aged missionaries this summer!

ENTERING GR 1 TO 6

M - F 9am to 2:45pm

\$40 per child

Lunch provided daily by
the Women's Guild

ENTERING GR 7 TO 12

S - Th 6:30 to 8:00pm

\$20 per teen

\$80 Family Maximum



JUNE 25-30TH

SUMMER PROGRAM

**AT ST MARY'S
PARISH HALL**

**RETURN REGISTRATION FORMS TO
SCHOOL OR PARISH OFFICE**

CONTACT:

Coordinator: Taryn Tissiere
Email: tissiere.taryn@stmaryspontiac.org

We are looking for families to host our missionaries for dinner ONE evening from 5-6pm throughout the week. If you are interested, please contact Taryn.



*Learn about the Catholic faith * Draw closer to Mary * Attend daily Mass * Play games * Pray together * Water Balloon fight * Skits * Celebrate the Sacraments * Study the rosary * HAVE FUN!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 14, 2023

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Sunday | Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20; 1Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21 |
| Monday | St. Isidore the Farmer Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 15:26—16:4 |
| Tuesday | Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11 |
| Wednesday | Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; Jn 16:12-15 |
| Thursday | St. John I, Pope Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 16:16-20 |
| Friday | Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 16:20-23 |
| Saturday | St. Bernardine of Siena Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10; Jn 16:23b-28 |
| Sunday | Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20 |



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.



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 LoPiccolo 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. Typical 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.

EMMAUS DAYS: SESSIONS I & II

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.

Session I June 9-11 Working & College Men

Session II June 23-26 High School Juniors & Seniors

Both sessions held at St. John's Catholic Newman Center, Champaign

EMMAUS DAYS: SESSIONS III & IV

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.

Session III July 16-19 High School Freshmen & Sophomores

Session IV July 19-21 Seventh & Eighth Graders

Both sessions held at Peoria Notre Dame High School

To register for any session, go to:

comeandfollowme.org/emmausdays

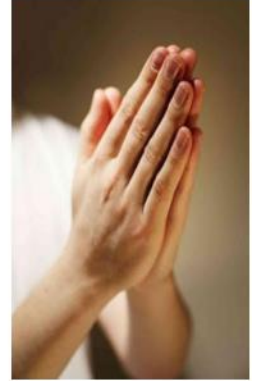


ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

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 May 15 | Pam McCormick Family, Jane Mies Family |
| Tues May 16 | Mary Helen McCorvie Family, Judy Mikel Family |
| Wed May 17 | Kathy McCoy Family, Nick & Nancy Milhauser Family |
| Thurs May 18 | Adam & Christin McDermott Family, Jim & Carol Miller Family |
| Fri May 19 | Ryan McGuckin Family, Karen Miller Family |
| Mon May 22 | Regina McGuire Family, Julie Michel Family |
| Tues May 23 | Kathy McMillan Family, Aaron & Kieran Metcalf Family |
| Wed May 24 | Teri McWethy Family, Tom & Colleen Melvin Family |
| Thurs May 25 | Maddie Mehrkens Family, Mike Melvin Family |
| Fri May 26 | Mark & Kim Mehrkens Family, Jeff & Kenzie Meister Family |



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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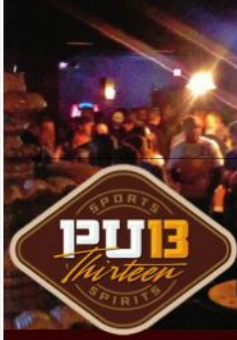
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