

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
July 2, 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. Joseph A. Baker

fjrbaker@stmaryspontiac.org 309-657-0966

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-Friday 7:00 am

Thursday 8:15 am when school is in session

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: \$17,941.30

School Collection: This weekend.

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

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 1 (St. Junipero Serra)

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

4:00 p.m. Teresa Stark

Sunday, July 2 (Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Bill Vallow

9:30 a.m. Parish

Monday, July 3 (St. Thomas, Apostle)

7:00 a.m. Alice Ganta

Tuesday, July 4 (Independence Day)

8:00 a.m. Helen Stoeckel

Wednesday, July 5 (St. Anthony Zaccaria;
St. Elizabeth of Portugal)

7:00 a.m. Larry Hepperly

Thursday, July 6 (St. Maria Goretti)

7:00 a.m. Ruth Masching

Friday, July 7

7:00 a.m. 10th ann Dan Devito

Saturday, July 8

4:00 p.m. Johnny DiNardi

Sunday, July 9 (Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Henry Hogan

9:30 a.m. Parish

Servers for Saturday, July 8

4:00 p.m. Volunteers

Servers for Sunday, July 9

7:00 a.m. Volunteers

9:30 a.m. Abby, Drew & Kate Lauritsen

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 have 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 reserve your spot. Baptism preparation classes will take place on the **third Thursday of each month at 6:00pm.** *Please do not ask godparents until the class has been attended, as this will be a topic that is covered.

HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER BABY BOTTLE PROJECT: If you have not returned your baby bottle, please do so as soon as possible. Return the bottles in the collection basket or to the church office.

SUMMER HOURS: The parish office will be closed on Friday afternoons through Labor Day.

CONGRATULATIONS to Caleb Leach & Madalyn Mehrkens who were recently married in our church.

MASS ON THE 4TH OF JULY will be at 8:00am.

**SCHOOL PARKING LOT WILL BE CLOSED
JULY 5, 6, 7 FOR SEAL COATING**

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



4-H FAIR KITCHEN: The Livingston County Ag & 4-H Fair is scheduled for **July 19-22**. It's time to begin signing up to help work at the St. Mary's Kitchen. If you are able to help bake, grill, serve, take money, etc., please go to our website www.stmaryspontiac.org to sign up to help. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and have fun helping out St. Mary's. Also, Mark & Anne will need help cleaning and setting up the week before the fair. Contact them for dates and times. Any questions, please contact Mark & Anne Corrigan at 815-848-3066 or 815-848-6767.

FANNING THE FLAME returns in August – 1 Day Only!! We would like to invite you to attend a one day renewal retreat: **FANNING THE FLAME** sponsored by WATCH. The day is open to everyone even if you have never attended a prior WATCH retreat. Bring a friend and join us **Saturday, August 26 from 9am-3:30pm** at St. Mary's Parish Hall. A light lunch will be provided and there is no cost to attend but free will offerings will be accepted. For more information and to RSVP please contact Sherri Hatzler at (815) 848-6787.

ST. MARY'S YOUTH GROUP: All high school students are invited to join us throughout the summer on **Monday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm**. Youth group meets in the upstairs of the Parish Center (former rectory). Please use the back door. Please feel free to join us any Monday you are free throughout the summer!

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.

MEN'S GROUP: Come join the men of St. Mary's Parish. Our Men's Group meets the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 7:30-9pm**. We are currently studying the Book of John and would love to have you join us! Meeting location varies so please reach out to Kel Krenz if you are interested: krenz.kel@stmaryspontiac.org

FAITH FORMATION TEACHERS NEEDED: Adults committed to sharing our Catholic Faith with public school students on Sunday mornings may call Karen at 815-822-3282. Be a disciple this year.

25TH AND 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: If you are celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage during the year 2023, please call the Rectory at 844-7683 by July 25 so that we can submit your names to the diocese for recognition by the Bishop.

THANK YOU! St. Mary's Women's Guild would like to thank everyone who supported their recent Rummage Sale. \$2,900 was earned from the event. Special thanks to those who donated items, worked to set up and clean up, and those who made purchases.

CORNELL SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: The Village of Cornell will celebrate its sesquicentennial September 8-10, 2023. The committee is planning a "Birthday Party" fundraiser on **Saturday, July 8** with a Pork Chop Dinner at the Cornell Firehouse. The menu includes pork chop, apple sauce, coleslaw, green beans & drink. Birthday cake and ice cream also included. \$12 for adults, \$8 for kids ages 3-12, extra pork chop is \$4.

FROM THE PASTOR'S
DESK

Dear Parishioners,

At some parishes the pastor has had a custom of offering a weekly reflection in the bulletin. This isn't something I've done weekly in the past, but I have had a habit of offering some personal thoughts in the bulletin from time to time, not according to a specific schedule, but more like every month or so. This is something I'll plan to continue here at St. Mary's. Many times my bulletin articles will be an advertisement of some upcoming event in the parish, other parish news that I think should be communicated, an explanation of some aspect of our liturgical life, or anything in between. It will typically speak to a topic I don't specifically cover in my Sunday homilies.

As an introduction in this bulletin, I really have no agenda or earth-shattering news to share. I do want to reiterate, though, how edified and grateful I am to many of you who have been so generous and welcoming as I begin my ministry here in Pontiac. I shared from the pulpit that moving from one parish to another is without a doubt the hardest thing we do as priests, so it's always nice to be greeted by smiling faces! I also shared that I've long had a positive opinion of Pontiac. So far your acceptance of me has not altered my thoughts! I am particularly grateful for your kind reception last Sunday after the 9:30am Mass. It was great to meet so many of you. I won't remember all your names, but please remind me when you see me, and I promise, eventually, I WILL KNOW YOU!

I know St. Mary's is a parish with much activity, lots of groups, and real evangelization occurring. It's been a joy to be a part of Totus Tuus this past week and be acquainted with many of our youth. I look forward to being involved with all the various groups and programs as we go forward. I do want to say, though, it will be a process. I'm not able to just jump right in and begin leading programs or directing various groups as Fr. Adam was perhaps in a position to do. As I write this, I actually still don't even know how to lock and unlock the church!!! I'm meeting with Fr. David six minutes from now to learn that (*I better hurry up and finish this*).

All that is to say, it takes a long time to learn the community, develop relationships, know who people are, what skills various people possess, etc. I was at my last parish for only three years, and it was just as I was getting ready to leave that I felt I finally had gained this understanding of the community. So just to clarify, it's these things on which I will especially be focusing for my first year or two at St. Mary's in addition to doing all the other priestly activities that are a part of being a pastor. As always, if you have additional questions or maybe even something you'd like me to address here in the bulletin, I'm always open to your feedback. My cell phone number is (309) 657-0966 and is listed in the bulletin. I'm fine with anyone calling or texting at any time. Sometimes I do get behind, but I'll do my best to get back to you in a timely fashion. If I don't respond within a few days, just reach out again. I won't be offended! Your persistence will likely move you up on the list of people to reach out to.

Know of my daily prayers for you, and I humbly ask you to keep me in your own! We're on the mission of becoming saints together.

Laudate Dominum (Praise the Lord)!

Fr. Joe



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.

Join us this summer for

The CHOSEN

Every Wednesday May 31 - Aug. 16
6:30 pm in the Parish Hall*
Two episodes shown each week
*June 21 & 28 in the MPR

We will have:

- Raffles
- Complimentary popcorn
- Activities for kids
- Chairs available

You are welcome to bring your own chairs, blankets, drinks, and snacks.



I am making another pilgrimage to the Holy Land beginning October 1, 2024 and I am inviting you to join me. This is the same trip I took last time so I am no longer a rookie. It was a beautiful experience. I hope to have the same guide and bus driver who made the pilgrimage a spiritually strengthening and fun-filled trip. I made many new friends and hope to make more this trip. Instead of printing out information and applications, I will email you the info so you can look at it in the comfort of your own home. Email me at fr.david.sabel@gmail.com if you want the information you need to make an informed decision. You can also catch me at church or call the office. Let the Holy Land and Our Lord build your faith!

Fr. David

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 SCHOOL
PRESENTS



2023 SMS SCRAMBLE

Sunday
July 30 2023

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

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 2, 2023

Sunday	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42
Monday	St. Thomas, Apostle Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 20:24-29
Tuesday	Gn 19:15-29; Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12; Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday	St. Anthony Zaccaria and St. Elizabeth of Portugal Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 8:28-34
Thursday	St. Maria Goretti Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Mt 9:1-8
Friday	Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5; Mt 9:9-13
Saturday	Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:14-17
Sunday	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

*PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE
HOLY FATHER FOR JULY*

For a Eucharistic life: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.



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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

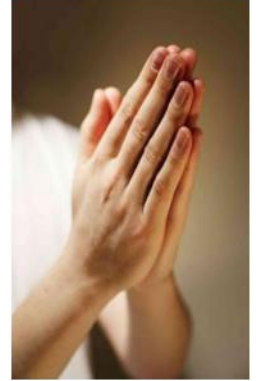


ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

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 July 3	Tom & Kathryn Oestmann Family, John & Barbara Pagel Family
Tues July 4	David & Allison Pelnarsh Family, Richard & Mary Olson Family
Wed July 5	Gerry Panno Family, Jose & Otilia Perez Family
Thurs July 6	Dakota & Sarah Opperman Family, Bob & Shari Paris Family
Fri July 7	Marie Rice Family, Matthew & Daisy Rigsby Family
Mon July 10	John Pfaff Family, Robert & Sharri Pfaff Family
Tues July 11	Joe & Melissa Pina Family, Alzina Porter Family
Wed July 12	Clay Pfeiffer Family, Jose Pina Family
Thurs July 13	Jim & Denise Potter Family, Paula Pflieger Family
Fri July 14	Dennis & Connie Ping Family, George Pouliot Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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Rev. Adam Cesarek, Chaplain
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