

men, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 18:18

© Diocesan

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Pontiac, Illinois September 10, 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. Joseph A. Baker

frjbaker@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

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 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

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: \$11,011.00

School Collection was \$2,444.00.

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

Building Maintenance Collection: Next weekend.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 9 (St. Peter Claver)

4:00 p.m. Mary Jo Murphy

Sunday, September 10 (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. 5th ann Sharon Beller

Monday, September 11

7:00 a.m. Linda Maliwat

Tuesday, September 12 (The Most Holy Name of Mary)

7:00 a.m. Joseph Masching

Wednesday, September 13 (St. John Chrysostom)

7:00 a.m. Janet Hurt

Thursday, September 14 (The Exaltation of the Holy Cross)

8:15 a.m. Sophie Fecht

Friday, September 15 (Our Lady of Sorrows)

7:00 a.m. Boma Family

5:30 p.m. Deceased Children of St. Mary Parishioners

Saturday, September 16 (Sts. Cornelius, pope, & Cyprian)

4:00 p.m. Roselyn Renner

Sunday, September 17 (24th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish 9:30 a.m. Chuck Porter

Servers for Saturday, September 16

4:00 p.m. Nicholas & Carter Doughan

Servers for Sunday, September 17

7:00 a.m. Haidyn & Harper Francis 9:30 a.m. Zach & Mallory Masching

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: The Adoration Chapel is open each weekday, Monday-Friday from 8am until 8pm and Saturday from 8am until 3pm. 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.

BABY BOTTLES FOR HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER: We are still 20 bottles short. Whether they are filled or not, please bring the bottle to church or the parish office as soon as possible so we can return them to the Hope Center.

MASS AT LOCAL NURSING HOME: Mass will be offered at The Pointe on Friday, September 15 at 10am.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Fayetta Thorne (mother of Linda Shrewsbury), Robert Crum (father of Patsy Campbell) and Rich Knackmuhs (uncle of Patsy Campbell), R.I.P. Our sympathy to their families and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS to the parents and family of **Laura Marie Carlson**, daughter of Chance & Katie Carlson, who was recently baptized as a member of our faith.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS Friday, September 15

Fr. Joe will offer a special mass on Friday, September 15 at 5:30pm, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows., for all those who have lost a child, including miscarriage. We will offer our sorrow to Our Blessed Mother, Mary, who knows the sorrow of losing her Son. If this pertains to you, please join us as we remember and honor your child. All are welcome to bring a picture of their child and place it in front of the altar for this Mass.

CCD REGISTRATION: If you have children in Grades K-8 who attend public school, then you will want to sign-up for Religious (CCD) classes to be held on Sundays between the Masses beginning September 10. New registrations welcome! Please call Karen at 815-822-3282 to set up a meeting.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE will meet Thursday, September 14 from 9am to 12:30pm in the parish hall.

ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S GUILD will meet Tuesday, September 19 at 5:30pm in the parish hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

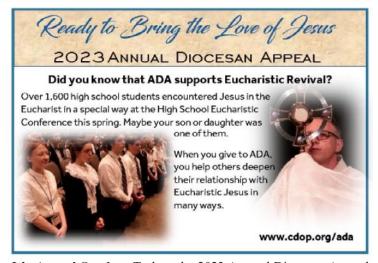
BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: St. Mary's will offer a vicariate-wide Bereavement Support Group beginning **Monday**, **September 25 from 6:30-8pm** and ending on November 2 with the All Souls' Mass. The group will meet in the Rosary Room of the parish hall and follow a series of readings and discussions. All are welcome, no matter who you have lost or how long it has been since your loss. To register or for more information, please call St. Mary's Parish office at 815-844-7683 or Margo Law at 815-579-5102.

ST. MARY'S YOUTH GROUP: All high school students are invited to join us every Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm beginning September 10. Youth group meets in the upstairs of the Parish Center (former rectory). Please use the back door. Youth Group will NOT meet Labor Day weekend.

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

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.

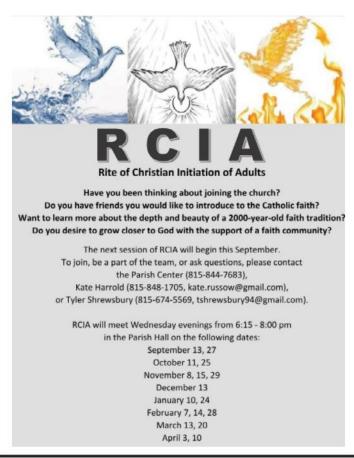
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL QUICK DRAW: You could win money all year long. Tickets are \$25 each and are good for all drawings from September 2023 through May 2024. Prizes of \$200, \$100, or \$50 will be given away five times each month throughout the school year plus three bonus drawings of \$250 each. Every ticket is in every drawing, so there is no limit on a person's chances to win! Tickets can be purchased from any SMS student or call Julie Wenger at 815-252-5947.

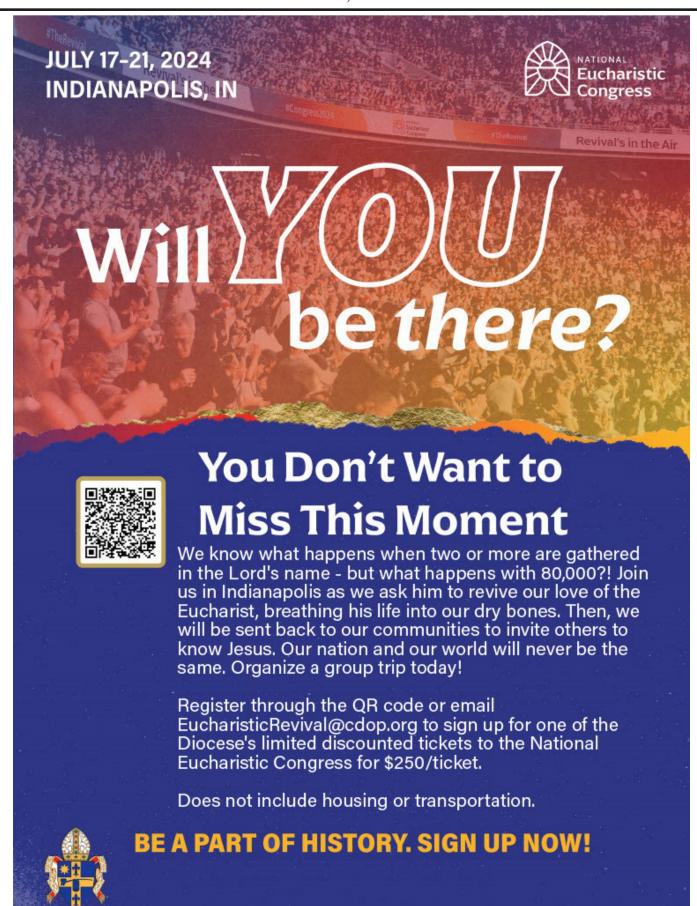


It's Appeal Sunday: Today, the 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal begins in our parish and throughout the Diocese of Peoria. It is time for us to do what we can to support not only our Diocese but the programs and ministries that benefit our parish and our community. If you have not made your pledge by mail, please fill out the pledge card in your pew.

The goal for our parish is \$89,801

and we can reach it only with your help. Contributions can be made by check payable to the Catholic Diocese of Peoria, by a credit or debit card, by direct debit from checking or savings account or online at www.cdop.org/ada. Gifts of appreciated stock, grain, qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) or donor advised funds have special considerations and requirements. Contact 309-671-1550 for more information.





ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

Dear Parishioners,

This upcoming Friday, September 15 is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Sorrows. Traditionally, the Blessed Mother is said to have suffered seven sorrows during her life (or *Dolors, from the Latin word for sorrow, from which we get the name Dolores). The sixth Dolor, or Sorrow, posits that after Jesus was taken down from the Cross, He was placed in the arms of His Blessed Mother who held His lifeless body just*



as she so often held Him as a child. For this reason, the Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows has also been associated with the image of the scene which has long been loved by Catholics, but was made even more famous by Michelangelo and his famous Pieta sculpture (shown in the image) which is housed in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.

With all this in mind, I will be offering a special Mass on September 15 at 5:30pm for those who, like Our Blessed Mother, have experienced the loss of a child. In this Mass, I'd like to invite parents who have experienced this sixth sorrow of Mary in their own lives to also bring a picture of their deceased child to be placed on a table in front of the altar prior to the Mass. By placing the pictures of your sons and daughters in front of the altar, we honor their memory by offering them once again to the Lord, ensuring that their lives are not

forgotten! If you are not comfortable bringing a picture of your child, there is no obligation to do so!



In offering this Mass, I'd like to provide parents who have experienced this unfathomable pain an opportunity to honor, remember, and pray for those who have been called home to the Lord while also asking Jesus to continue to offer His healing and peace. I also want to mention that this invitation is most certainly extended to parents who have suffered from a miscarriage, stillbirth, or abortion. Such great trauma is associated with the loss of children before their birth, and this is a sorrow that is often borne secretly. If this applies to you, know you are not alone. You are also most welcome to bring a picture of your child's ultrasound if you would like.

I pray that on this upcoming Friday, all who have experienced such a difficult loss, one shared with our Blessed Mother, will know of the love and comfort that comes from life lived with her Son. Lastly, if you're reading this and it doesn't apply to you, but you know others for whom it does apply, please pass this information along to them!

Mater Dolorosa (Mother Most Sorrowful), Pray for us.

Fr. Joe

THE PARISH DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!!

If you had your picture taken, you can pick up your free directory at the parish office, Monday-Thursday 9am to 4pm, Friday 9am to noon.
Extra copies are available to purchase for \$20 each





GRATITUDE FOR GRANDPARENTS

Thursday, September 14 in St. Mary's Parish Hall 7:15am-7:45am -Doughnuts, Juice, Coffee, and Fellowship Please stay for the School Mass which begins at 8:15am

Please RSVP by Monday, September 11 by either calling the school office at 815-844-6585 or emailing Mrs. Jones at jones.karen@stmaryspontiac.org (Children are welcome!)

ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

Sunday Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10;

Mt 18:15-20

Monday Col 1:24-2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday The Holy Name of Mary

Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11; Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday St. John Chrysostom Col 3:1-11,

Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab; Lk 6:20-26

Thursday The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Nm 21:4b-9: Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38;

Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Friday Our Lady of Sorrows 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14;

Ps 16:1b-2a & 5, 7-8, 11; Jn 19:25-27 or

Lk 2:33-35

Saturday Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian 1 Tm 1:15-

17; Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5 & 6-7; Lk 6:43-49

Sunday Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:30 - 28:7; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12;

Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35



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*



PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR SEPTEMBER

For people living on the margins: We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.



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

Catholic Spirit Radio has a new free app.

They upgraded so that listeners with newer phones, tablets, and other listening devices can access Catholic Spirit Radio programs and podcasts.

Go to Google Play or Apple App store to find the new app:

Catholic Spirit Talk Radio.

New App - Same Quality Catholic Programs!

BIBLE STUDY AT CATHOLIC SPIRIT RADIO

Why attend Mass? Our very lives depend on it! It's the summit of God's plan for our salvation. So where do we find the Mass in the Bible? What's the relationship between the two? *Parousia: The Bible and the Mass*, an interesting and informative 10-lesson video-study featuring Scott Hahn, answers these questions and more. Sign up for this Bible Study hosted by Catholic Spirit Radio. It begins **Thursday October 12 at 6:30pm**. Attend in-person at Catholic Spirit Radio (108 Boeykens Place in Normal) or participate using "Zoom" program. \$25 materials fee. Contact Tony Pecora (309-750-9062) for registration and to pay by September 30.

13th ANNUAL VERMILLION RIVER CLEANUP: Saturday, September 16 from 8am to 12noon. Volunteers and canoes are needed for the Annual Vermillion River Cleanup. Free lunch provided after the cleanup. If you can help or provide a canoe, please RSVP to Judy at 815-257-3729 or judy.campbell88@gmail.com or visit their website livingstoncountyenvironmental.org.

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 Sept 11	Brad Schwahn Family, Knox & Tucker Grundler Family
Tues Sept 12	Ray & Sue Schnell Family, Addison & Leo Hassinger Family
Wed Sept 13	Theresa Schopp Family, Annie Vogt Family
Thurs Sept 14	Marianne Schwahn Family, Henry Schopp Family
Fri Sept 15	Bryan & Susan Schweigert Family,
	Liam, Brooks & Finley Lawrence Family
Mon Sept 18	Brenda Shaughnessy Family, Case & Oliver Owens Family
Tues Sept 19	Madhu Shrivastav Family, Charlie Popp Family
Wed Sept 20	Peggy Scott Family, Alex Ralph Family
Thurs Sept 21	Richard & Lois Shelby Family, Harper & Scarlett Regnier Family
Fri Sept 22	Jill Seal Family, Elaine Runyon Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!





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Rev. Adam Cesarek, Chaplain

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