



24th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

“You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?”

Matthew 18:32-33

Parable of the Unforgiving Servant by Claude Vignon, 1629
© Diocesan

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
September 17, 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

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](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: \$12,206.25

Building Maintenance Collection: This 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, 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

Monday, September 18

7:00 a.m. Larry Russell

Tuesday, September 19 (St. Januarius)

7:00 a.m. Special Intentions

Wednesday, September 20 (Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang & companions)

7:00 a.m. Angelo Ganta

Thursday, September 21 (St. Matthew)

8:15 a.m. Karen Ferguson

Friday, September 22

7:00 a.m. Steve Hogan

Saturday, September 23 (St. Pius of Pietrelcina)

4:00 p.m. Robert A. Legner

Sunday, September 24 (25th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. 2nd ann Robert Harty

Servers for Saturday, September 23

4:00 p.m. Volunteers

Servers for Sunday, September 24

7:00 a.m. Volunteers

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

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

CONGRATULATIONS to the parents and family of **Addilyn Grace Hindman**, daughter of Devan & Kaitlyn Hindman, who was recently baptized as a member of our faith.

PLEASE PRAY FOR parishioners Mary Weber & Phyllis Ryan, Wendy McBeath (daughter of Jerry Marcin) and Darrel Condon (father of Theresa Flatt) R.I.P. Our sympathy to their families and friends.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS NOW AVAILABLE. TALK TO FR. JOE IF NEEDED.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
BREAKFAST**

Sunday, September 24
7:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the parish hall

Scrambled eggs, breakfast casserole,
sausage patties, pancakes & drink

\$10 per person
\$40 family maximum

PLEASE JOIN US!



This breakfast is being held in lieu of our annual Tootsie Roll Drive with all proceeds going to those with intellectual disabilities in our community.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet **Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30pm** in the Our Lady of the Rosary Room of the parish hall.

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.

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 are being held on Sundays between the Masses and began on September 10. New registrations welcome! Please call Karen at 815-822-3282 to set up a meeting.

ST. MARY'S YOUTH GROUP: All high school students are invited to join us **every Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm**. 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.

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.

Ready to Bring the Love of Jesus

2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Did you know that ADA supports Evangelization?

In 22 parishes of our Diocese, over 1,600 young people were learning about their faith while having a lot of fun this summer. Totus Tuus summer program helped them to understand and grow in their faith in Jesus Christ through catechesis, evangelization, Christian witness and Eucharistic worship. This program, which is coordinated through the Office of Vocations, is made available to your parish with the support of ADA.

Give online at www.cdop.org/ada.



The 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal is now underway in our parish. Thank you to all who have already pledged to the appeal. No gift is too small, and our parish is trying to reach 100% participation. If you received your pledge card in the mail, please complete it and mail it back to the diocese. If you did not receive a card in the mail, there are pledge cards at the doors of the church that can be returned in the collection basket. Our goal this year is **\$89,801**. Every dollar raised over our goal will be returned to our parish.

**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*

"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?"



JULY 17-21, 2024
INDIANAPOLIS, IN



Will **YOU**
be there?



You Don't Want to Miss This Moment

We know what happens when two or more are gathered in the Lord's name - but what happens with 80,000?! Join us in Indianapolis as we ask him to revive our love of the Eucharist, breathing his life into our dry bones. Then, we will be sent back to our communities to invite others to know Jesus. Our nation and our world will never be the same. Organize a group trip today!

Register through the QR code or email EucharisticRevival@cdop.org to sign up for one of the Diocese's limited discounted tickets to the National Eucharistic Congress for \$250/ticket.

Does not include housing or transportation.



BE A PART OF HISTORY. SIGN UP NOW!



ENCOUNTERING THE EUCHARIST

"When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus love you now."
-St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 24 after 7:00 and 9:30 Masses

Eucharistic Video in the parish hall at the Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Sunday, October 15 after 9:30 Mass

Coffee/Donuts/Eucharistic Video in the MPR (old gym)

Tuesday, November 7 at 6:00pm

Holy Hour in Church with Diocese of Peoria Traveling Monstrance



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.



RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Have you been thinking about joining the church?
Do you have friends you would like to introduce to the Catholic faith?
Want to learn more about the depth and beauty of a 2000-year-old faith tradition?
Do you desire to grow closer to God with the support of a faith community?

The next session of RCIA will begin this September.
To join, be a part of the team, or ask questions, please contact
the Parish Center (815-844-7683),
Kate Harrold (815-848-1705, kate.russow@gmail.com),
or Tyler Shrewsbury (815-674-5569, tshrewsbury94@gmail.com).

RCIA will meet Wednesday evenings from 6:15 - 8:00 pm
in the Parish Hall on the following dates:
September 13, 27
October 11, 25
November 8, 15, 29
December 13
January 10, 24
February 7, 14, 28
March 13, 20
April 3, 10

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.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

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

Monday 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9; Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday St. Januarius 1 Tm 3:1-13;
Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6; Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Paul Chöng Ha-sang,
& Companions
1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 7:31-35

Thursday St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Mt 9:9-13

Friday 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20;
Lk 8:1-3

Saturday St. Pius of Pietrelcina
1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 8:4-15

Sunday Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18;
Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a



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.catholicspiritradiocom 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

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.



**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 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
- Mon Sept 25 Kelly Shoemaker Family, Crew Spaniol Family
- Tues Sept 26 Harry & Pat Simpson Family,
Nora, Wilson & Otis Sweitzer Family
- Wed Sept 27 Humberto & Rosa Serna Family, Josie & Noah Wenger Family
- Thurs Sept 28 Karen Sholders Family, Olivia & Eli Miller Family
- Fri Sept 29 Tim & Rebecca Shafer Family, Sophia & Jozie Brannan Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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