

28th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

“Many are invited, but few are chosen.”

Matthew 22:14

Parable of the Great Banquet by Brunswick Monogrammist, Circa 1525
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St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
October 15, 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
frijbaker@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

EVANGELICAL CATHOLIC COORDINATOR: Margo Law
law.margo@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: \$12,299.40

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: This weekend.

World Mission Sunday Collection: Next weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 14 (St. Callistus I, pope)

4:00 p.m. Mary Jo Murphy

Sunday, October 15 (28th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Ron Kennedy

9:30 a.m. Parish

Monday, October 16 (St. Hedwig; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque)

7:00 a.m. Edith Mathis

Tuesday, October 17 (St. Ignatius of Antioch)

7:00 a.m. Fran Meredith

Wednesday, October 18 (St. Luke, Evangelist)

7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE ONLY

**Thursday, October 19 (St. John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues
and Companions)**

8:15 a.m. Patrick Green

Friday, October 20 (St. Paul of the Cross)

7:00 a.m. Kris Martin Ryan

Saturday, October 21

4:00 p.m. 16th ann Agnes Masching

Sunday, October 22 (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Rita Schaeffer

9:30 a.m. Parish

Servers for Saturday, October 21

4:00 p.m. Volunteers

Servers for Sunday, October 22

7:00 a.m. Volunteers

9:30 a.m. Ella Ashcraft, Kaylee & Brooklyn Delheimer

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: The Adoration Chapel is
open each weekday, Monday-Friday from 8am until 8pm and Sat-
urday 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.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: Our goal this year is **\$89,801.** 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.

MASS AT LOCAL NURSING HOME: Mass will be offered at
the new Evenglow on **Friday, October 20 at 10am.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR parishioner Patricia Ochs, R.I.P. Our
sympathy to her family and friends.

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

*The priests will be out of town on Wednesday,
October 18 for Priest Assembly Days. Therefore,
Deacon Ray will offer a Communion Service
at 7am in place of the regular daily Mass.*



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FISH FRY**

**Friday, October 27
5-7 p.m. in the Parish Hall**

**Fried pollack, baked cod, fried shrimp,
potato, green beans, & drink**

**\$11 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6-12, \$35 family max
Carryouts available**

ALL SOUL'S DAY MEMORIAL MASS: As parishioners and family of parishioners pass away we try to acknowledge these people in the bulletin each week. The Bereavement Group is putting together a Memorial Mass to be held on **Thursday, November 2 at 6:00pm**. They have taken names from the bulletin over the past year. If you have lost a loved one since November of last year and did not see their name in the bulletin, please call the Rectory at 844-7683 to add their name to our Memorial list.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet **Thursday, October 18 at 6:30pm** in the Our Lady of the Rosary Room of the parish hall.

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 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: St. Mary's School is looking to start an afterschool program from 3:00pm-5:30pm five days a week. We are asking for your help in supervising it. If you are interested in learning more about this new program, please contact Karen Jones at St. Mary's School, by emailing her at jones.karen@stmaryspontiac.org or calling the school at 815-844-6585.

MISSION APPEAL: Next weekend, **October 21/22** we welcome Fr. John Bosco Mujuni who will speak at all the masses about supporting his home mission Church in the Archdiocese of Mbarara, Uganda, East Africa.

Fr. John Bosco will share the needs of his home mission church that is currently under construction. The new church was necessitated by an increase in the number of Christians in his home area. The old Church that was used since 1983 is very small to accommodate the number of Church participants. It was also constructed with poor materials that cannot make it last longer. The Church under construction has been roofed. The next phase is of completion, which entails: Stained glass windows, internal and external finishing, electric wiring and plumbing; estimated at \$70,000. Any amount you can donate will be highly appreciated.

Currently Fr. John Bosco is one of the African priests serving in our Diocese of Peoria at St. Patrick Parish, Dwight and St. Paul Parish, Odell. As a way of appreciating the services rendered by the priests from Africa and other mission lands, the Diocese of Peoria encourages each parish to have a missionary visit arranged, in order to support some churches in the mission lands.

Fr. John Bosco will have envelopes available where you can put your donation. If you will not be at Mass, you can send your donation by any other envelope of your choice, and mark your donation as Mission appeal. Please let us welcome Fr. John Bosco and be as generous as we can.



VOLUNTEERS & FOOD NEEDED FOR PARISH THANKSGIVING DINNER: Workers, as well as desserts and food items are needed for our dinner on November 12. Please go to:

www.stmaryspontiac.org and click on the link to sign up. If you do not have a computer or are having trouble signing up, please call Bernie Timmerman at 815-822-2961 or 815-844-1479 to sign up with your times or food donations. If donating a pie, it would be appreciated if it was in a non-returnable container in case someone wants to purchase a whole pie. Thank you for your help!



I'd like to announce publicly and offer my congratulations to Megan Lauritsen who recently accepted a position as Director of Youth Ministry for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis! Megan has served the last couple years as the Director of Evangelization and Youth Ministry here at St. Mary's and will begin her new position on October 30. As many of you know, she grew up here in Pontiac and is a young woman of tremendous zeal and love for our Catholic faith. It's a testament to her family and our community of faith that one of our native daughters has been hired for this important position in a large archdiocese. So while I'm certainly sad to see her go, I know she's seeking to follow the Lord's will as she's sent off to a different vineyard where her witness will, no doubt, bring many people to Jesus and His Church. I invite you to join me in offering prayers of thanksgiving for Megan's service to our community the last couple years and also imploring our Blessed Mother to continue to guide Megan as she moves on to Indianapolis. At the present moment I do not have plans to replace Megan. I've spoken to her about her various roles and have had some discussions about how we may proceed without her in the immediate future. This is something I will continue to discern. In the meantime if you or anyone you know is interested in leadership with our youth group, PLEASE reach out to me! Once again, congratulations, Megan!



2024-2025

LITTLE DISCIPLES PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

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- Full-day 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
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- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program
- Flexible tuition payment plans

*Age as of September 1.

Registration Dates

4-year old PreK

- Registration for current PreK3 students and current SMS families begins 12/4/23.
- New family registration begins 1/10/24.

3-year old PreK

- Registration for current SMS families begins 3/1/24.
- New family registration begins 4/3/24.

For more information:

St. Mary's School
(815) 844-6585
school.stmaryspontiac.org



ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 15, 2023

Sunday	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5-6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 or Mt 22:1-10
Monday	St. Hedwig, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98:1bcde, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday	St. Ignatius of Antioch Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday	St. Luke, Evangelist 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9
Thursday	Sts. John de Brébeuf & Isaac Jogues, and Companions Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab; Lk 11:47-54
Friday	St. Paul of the Cross Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32:1b-2, 5,11; Lk 12:1-7
Saturday	Rom 4:13, 16-18; Ps 105:6-7, 8-9, 42-43; Lk 12:8-12
Sunday	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21



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 OCTOBER

For the Synod: We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of 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 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.

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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**

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 Oct 16 | Lynn Smith Family, McKenna Woodcock Family |
| Tues Oct 17 | William Spaniol Family, Cora, Jovi & Colt Aupperle Family |
| Wed Oct 18 | Amy Starker Family, September Brownell Family |
| Thurs Oct 19 | Randy Smith Family, Aden & Bevin Brummel Family |
| Fri Oct 20 | Jim & Kathy Sporrer Family, Aariv Chaudhari Family |
| Mon Oct 23 | Donna Steffens Family, Nora Eppel Family |
| Tues Oct 24 | Steve Smith Family, Harper Highland Family |
| Wed Oct 25 | James Stadel Family, Kennedy Krenz Family |
| Thurs Oct 26 | Cindy Steiner Family, Arkadiy Kukharskiy Family |
| Fri Oct 27 | Sue Smith Family, Anna Loucks Family |



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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