



CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL WHO WERE
CONFIRMED BY
BISHOP JENKY
LAST SUNDAY!



St. Mary's Catholic Church

Pontiac, Illinois November 12, 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

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

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: \$15,411.25

School Collection was \$2,676.00.

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

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: Next weekend.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 11 (St. Martin of Tours)

4:00 p.m. George Renner

Sunday, November 12 (32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. John DiNardi

Monday, November 13 (St. Frances Xavier Cabrini)

7:00 a.m. Elzie Fry

Tuesday, November 14

7:00 a.m. Wakey Family

Wednesday, November 15 (St. Albert the Great)

7:00 a.m. 3rd ann Bernadine Denaple

Thursday, November 16 (St. Margaret of Scotland;

St. Gertrude)

8:15 a.m. Deceased Priests

Friday, November 17 (St. Elizabeth of Hungary)

7:00 a.m. Deceased of Legion of Mary

Saturday, November 18 (Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter & Paul; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne)

4:00 p.m. Jim Broerman

Sunday, November 19 (33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. 8th ann Ernie Charlier

Servers for Saturday, November 18

4:00 p.m. Chloe & Bailey Cox

Servers for Sunday, November 19

7:00 a.m. Volunteers

9:30 a.m. Finan, Rosie & Ryann Krenz

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.

DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO LEAD OUR HIGH SCHOOL

YOUTH? We are in need of an individual, or perhaps a married couple, to lead our high school youth group program. If interested, or if you have any questions, please contact Fr. Joe.

7:00AM SUNDAY LECTORS NEEDED: Anyone interested in being a lector at the 7am Sunday Masses, please contact Bernie Timmerman at 815-822-2961.

MASS AT LOCAL NURSING HOME: Mass will be offered at The Pointe on Friday, November 17 at 10am

PLEASE PRAY FOR parishioner Monika Herkert; John "Archie" Krieghauser (brother of Paul Krieghauser & Regina McGuire), Marian Dixon (mother-in-law of LeAnn Dixon) and Jean Donze (mother-in-law of Judy Donze), R.I.P. Our sympathy to their families and friends.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet Wednesday, November 15 at 6:30pm in the Our Lady of the Rosary Room of the parish hall.

ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S GUILD will meet Tuesday, November 21 at 5:30pm in the Rosary Room. All women of the parish are encouraged to attend.

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 FOOD PANTRY TURKEY PROJECT: You can provide a turkey for a family in need. Special envelopes are available in the pews. St. Mary's Pantry hopes to distribute approximately

200 frozen turkeys to pantry patrons in November in time for a nice Thanksgiving meal. Any additional dollars collected will be used to buy other Thanksgiving dinner items such as canned sweet potatoes, instant mashed potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy, chicken broth, pie filling, canned cranberries, etc. Donations of these kinds of food items may be dropped off at the pantry on Thursdays from 9am–3 pm. **Thank you for your support!**

REQUESTING HELP: As many of you know, Monika Herkert passed away on November 1st. She leaves behind a husband and two children, Mady in 8th Grade and Dominik in 5th Grade. This family has been through a lot since Monika was diagnosed with Huntington's Disease in 2017. Due to the amount of time and effort it has taken to care for her necessities and daily care, the family is needing assistance in many aspects of life. They could use financial help towards the funeral, medical bills, household needs, and day to day living. If you are willing and able to help this family, please feel free to put a donation in an envelope addressed to Herkert Family. You can drop this donation off at St. Mary's School, St. Mary's Parish Office, or mail it to St. Mary's Parish Office at 119 Howard Street, Pontiac, IL 61764. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Heidi Legner at 815-844-6585.

A CELEBRATION OF BLESSINGS

PARISH THANKSGIVING DINNER

Sunday, November 12 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Hall

Please use the Main Street door or enter from the east at the courtyard between the buildings. Carryouts use Chicago Street entrance.

Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, sweet potatoes, vegetables, cranberry sauce, roll, dessert & drink

\$10 for adults \$5 for children Grades 1-8 Free for children 5 and under \$30 family max—immediate household

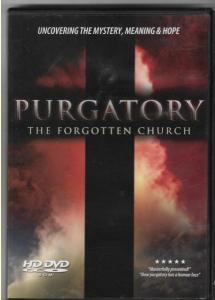


Silent Auctions & 50/50 Drawing Need not be present to win

HOSTED BY ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S GUILD

BOOTIE TREE: The Christ Child Society will have a Christmas tree in the parish hall on **November 12** (at the Thanksgiving Dinner), adorned with "booties" for needy babies. Please take a bootie (or 2 or 3), purchase the item on the bootie, then return the bootie and item to the bin in the back vestibule no later than November 26. Please do not wrap the gift. Sizes needed are newborn and preemie. Thank you for your help.

BOUTIQUE TABLE: The Christ Child Society will also have a Boutique Table at the Thanksgiving Dinner with handmade items that can be purchased to help fund the work of the Society in providing layettes to newborns in need. There will also be a quilt, made by one of the talented members of the Society, that will be up for raffle.



Dear Parishioners,

Some years back I viewed the 85 minute documentary titled *Purgatory: The Forgotten Church.* It's a film that details the history of the Church's teaching on Purgato-



ry and the afterlife with many fascinating first-hand accounts from people who have undergone near-death experiences or had notable or impossible-to-explain (i.e. supernatural) encounters with departed souls.

Last year I decided to show this film at my parish in the month of November, the month dedicated to praying for the faithful departed, and it ended up being a very successful event. I'd like to do the same thing here at St. Mary's this year. So I invite you to come **this upcoming Thursday, November 16 at 6pm to our parish hall** to view the film and learn more about Purgatory and the after-life! Maybe it seems like a less-than-exciting topic, but this film really is fantastic and full of interesting information. I don't know about you, but I'm kinda thinking I may be there one day, so it'll be good to know a bit about it in advance of my arrival there!! We'll have time for discussion and/or sharing after the film is complete as well. If you join us for the event, I think you'll find the Church's beliefs make a lot of sense, and hopefully you'll be even more encouraged to remember the faithful departed in your daily prayers! I hope to see you there.

In the meantime, know of my prayers, Fr. Joe



and current SMS families begins 12/4/23.

New family registration begins 1/10/24.

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:

school.stmaryspontiac.org or 815-844-6585







The Invest in Kids Act has awarded scholarships 📉 to 87 SMS students since 2018 and is scheduled to end December 31, 2023. Last week, Reps. Guerrero-



Cuellar, Burke, Moylan, and Deputy Majority Leader Hernandez cosponsored House Bill 4194, which will extend the Invest in Kids Act Scholarship Program. We are grateful for their leadership and determination to fight for kids across Illinois. Please take 1-2 minutes to reach out to your legislator at https://p2a.co/uR86Gyz and ask them to urge the Speaker of the House and Senate President to 'Call House Bill 4194' for a vote and ask the General Assembly to put their vote on the board. Additionally, reach out to Governor Pritzker at https://p2a.co/1gDEx14 and urge him to call on his fellow government officials to do the right thing and remove the program's impending sunset. Thank you.



Attention SMS Alums: Did you or your children graduate from St. Mary's School? Help us keep our alumni database current by sending us contact information for SMS graduates. Go to

school.stmaryspontiac.org and click on "Alumni". Thank you!



ENCOUNTERING THE EUCHARIST

Offer your heart to God at Mass, and before beginning your prayer, purify and detach it from all earthly thoughts, preparing it to receive the inflow of divine love that inundates and fills the hearts of those who assist.

St. Mechtilde of Hackeborn (1240-1298)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, November 18 after 4:00 Mass
Wine/Cheese/Crackers/Eucharistic Video in the MPR (old gym)

Saturday (12/2) & Sunday (12/3): Atrium Open House after all Masses Saturday (12/9) & Sunday (12/10): Nativity Walk in the MPR after all Masses



Thank you to the generous parishioners who purchased 100 copies of the *Praying the Rosary without Distractions* booklet Fr. Joe spoke about a few Sundays back. You can find these booklets at the entrances to the church. They have brief meditations and pictures of all 20 mysteries of the Rosary as well as additional information on how to say the Rosary. Consider picking one of these up if you'd like help in praying the Rosary without distractions and bringing the Rosary alive in your spiritual life!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE OF ILLINOIS VOCATIONS RAFFLE: Raffle tickets to support the Knights of Columbus State of Illinois Vocations Program are available at all doors of the church. A book of 15 tickets is \$15 with a chance to win \$10,000! Take a book and return it to the collection basket the following weekend with your check made payable to Knights

of Columbus. Proceeds from this raffle will allow us to support seminarians from our Diocese who are needed to help make our churches strong and lead our Church into the future. If you have any questions, please call Mark Corrigan at 815-848-3066.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING: Susie Boone, a representative from Diocesan, our bulletin publisher, will be contacting current advertisers to renew their parish bulletin ads in the coming weeks. Did you know that advertising in the bulletin allows us to print it each week, in addition to our bi-monthly newsletter, at no cost to the parish? Please continue your support, and if you are interested in sponsoring an ad, please call Susie at 269-226-0064.



Parishes across the Diocese of Peoria have completed their parish meetings for Growing Disciples, the multiyear pastoral planning process for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria to renew discipleship and enhance relationships with Jesus Christ in every corner of our region. Bishop Tylka is reading, listening to and praying about all the feedback he is receiving. Your input is needed and valued as he discerns the future landscape of the Diocese of Peoria. You have until November 22 to provide feedback on the second draft of proposed parish models by going to growingdisciplescdop.org

The Diocese of Peoria is constantly updating the website, so check back frequently. Please continue to pray that all our efforts today will bear fruit for a brighter tomorrow.



2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Thanks to all who have made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. No gift is too small. If

you have not yet made a gift to the ADA, we invite you to do so today. Every dollar raised to make our goal supports important diocesan services and every dollar raised over our goal will be returned to the parish.

This year's goal: \$89,801 Pledged to date: \$47,996 (as of Sept. 29)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12, 2023

Sunday Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8;

1 Thes 4:13-18 or 1 Thes 4:13-14; Mt 25:1-13

Monday St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139: 1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10; Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday Wis 2:23-3:39; Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19;

Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19

Thursday Wis 7:22b-8:1; Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135, 175;

Lk 17:20-25

Friday St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5ab; Lk 17:26-37

Saturday Dedication of the Churches of Peter and Paul;

St. Rose Philippine Duchesne

Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43;

Lk 18:1-8

Sunday Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 or Mt 25:14-15, 19-21

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY: Single Catholic Women 20-35: Franciscan Sisters invite you to inperson and on-line Discernment Events designed for you. Discover your calling and purpose. Visit https://fscc-calledtobe.org or contact Sr. Julie Ann 920-323-9632.





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 NOVEMBER

For the Pope: We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

SPIRIT

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!

HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Come volunteer with OSF Hospice! We have a variety of opportunities that help serve our patients and their families. Available opportunities: visiting with patients, crocheting prayer shawls, sewing fidget blankets, office help etc. Training is provided. For more information on requirements or to obtain an application please call 309-451-5925 Ext 7 or email Mary.Cox@osfhealthcare.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 Nov 13 Mike & Angie Sweeting Family, Gavin Wehri Family Tues Nov 14 Sabrina Stotler Family, Henry Yedinak Family Wed Nov 15 Dennis & Nancy Sullivan Family, Harlow & Hadley Noonan Family Keith & Judy Sypult Family, Conner Trachsel Family Thurs Nov 16 Scott & Madeline Stover Family, Avery & Cecilia Alsdorf Family Fri Nov 17 Ted & Becky Sullivan Family, Flynn Eggleston Family Mon Nov 20 Gabe & Alison Tarr Family, Grace Becker Family Tues Nov 21 Wed Nov 22 John Tibbs Family, Daxell Collins Family Lanette Tooley Family, Champ Daily Family Thurs Nov 23 Lindsay Taylor Family, Bianca & Adrian Gill Family Fri Nov 24



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!



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