Thanks giving Day Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the goodness of our people and for the spirit of justice that fills this nation. We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the land and the challenge of the cities.

We thank you for our work and our rest, for one another, and for our homes. We thank you, Lord: accept our thanksgiving on this day. We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

© Diocesan

St. Mary's Catholic Church Pontiac, Illinois November 19, 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 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: \$11,058.50

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: This weekend.

Bishop's Seminarian Appeal: Next weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.

Mass Intentions

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 Monday, November 20 7:00 a.m. 17th ann Kathy Murphy Jackson Tuesday, November 21 (Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary) 7:00 a.m. 1st ann Mary Jo Murphy Wednesday, November 22 (St. Cecilia) 7:00 a.m. Dal & Betty Estes Thursday, November 23 (Thanksgiving Day) 8:00 a.m. 15th ann Ruth Benedino Friday, November 24 (St. Andrew Dung-Lac & companions) 8:00 a.m. **Boma Family** Saturday, November 25 (St. Catherine of Alexandria) 4:00 p.m. John DiNardi Sunday, November 26 (Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe) 7:00 a.m. Parish 9:30 a.m. Raymond Grove Servers for Saturday, November 25 4:00 p.m. Madyson Herkert, Samantha Salinas Servers for Sunday, November 26 7:00 a.m. Volunteers

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

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.

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

MASSES ON THANKSGIVING DAY AND FRIDAY THIS WEEK WILL BE AT 8:00AM

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

PAGE 2

ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

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.



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY BOOTIE TREE: At the doors of the church you will find baskets 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.

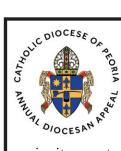
ADVENT DIVINE MERCY SERVICE: All are invited to celebrate Advent by attending a Pontiac Vicariate-wide Divine Mercy Service on **Sunday, December 10 at 5:00 pm at St. Joseph Church in Chenoa.** The Illinois Wesleyan choir, under the direction of Dr. Scott Ferguson, will provide beautiful music for this prayer service where we will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and have confession and benediction.



LAST CALL FOR KNIGHTS OF COLUM-BUS STATE OF ILLINOIS VOCATIONS RAFFLE TICKETS: 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 **NO LATER THAN NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEM-BER 26** 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.

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

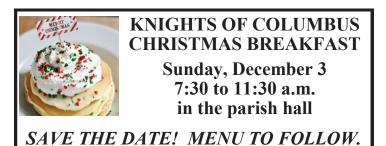


2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

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: \$60,176 (as of Nov. 7)



THANK YOU: St. Mary's Women's Guild would like to thank all the people who helped make our Thanksgiving Dinner a successful event! Thank you to those who enjoyed a meal, purchased 50/50 raffle tickets and bid on silent auction items. Thank you to those who prepared food, set up, served, cleaned up, and donated food or monetary gifts.

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.

LIFE LINE SCREENING, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at St. Mary's Catholic Church - Parish Hall on Wednesday, January 3, 2024. A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)

An ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries (a pair of blood vessels in the neck that deliver blood to your brain) for buildup of fatty plaque. This buildup, called atherosclerosis, is one of the leading causes of stroke.

Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening

An Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs. It is important to screen for PAD because it increases the risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack, or stroke.¹

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)

An ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm. AAA can lead to a ruptured aortic artery, which is a serious medical emergency.

Atrial Fibrillation A 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for Atrial Fibrillation. AFib can lead to blood clots, stroke, and heart failure, and other heart-related complications.²

These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <u>https://llsa.social/HC</u>

ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

"PURPLE IS FOR PREPARATION" ATRIUM ADVENT FAMILY EVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 IN THE PARISH HALL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 9:30 MASS

YOUR CHILD CAN SHARE WITH YOU THE ATRIUM WORKS INCLUDING THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR AND LITURGICAL COLORS. WE WILL HAVE SOME TABLES AND CRAFTS TO KICK OFF ADVENT.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL ALSO BE SERVING BREAKFAST. ALL ARE WELCOME!

The Atrium can use old Christmas and Easter cards with holy and beautiful images. They can also use scrapbooking paper with classic or solid design, embroidery scissors, crafting felt of all colors, and Catholic religious items received in the mail, but no longer wanted. There will be some cutting work for parishioners if you want to watch for Ziploc bags in the back of church in the coming weeks.

Calling all SMS Alumni Share your talents and testimonial with the next generation of SMS Alums. We would love to hear from you! Visit our website: school.stmaryspontiae.org/alumni

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 <u>school.stmaryspontiac.org</u> and click on "Alumni". Thank you!

2=1

2024-2025 REGISTRATION DATES

Kindergarten

- Registration for current PreK4 students 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

Saluts V

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

PAGE 4

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08=C



ENCOUNTERING THE EUCHARIST

Beloved, we are not only commanding you with an admonition, but also reminding ourselves. We are in the same arena, and the same contest is set for us. So, let us leave the empty and futile ways of thought, and come to the renowned and pious rule of our tradition. Let us observe what is beautiful, pleasing, and acceptable in the sight of Him who made us. Let us fix our gaze on the blood of Christ, and know how precious it is to his Father. Because, having shed it for our salvation, He brought the grace of repentance to the whole world.

Pope St. Clement of Rome (d. 99)

UPCOMING EVENTS Saturday, November 18 after 4:00 Mass

Wine/Cheese/Crackers/Eucharistic Video in the MPR (old gym) Sunday (12/3): Atrium Advent Family Event in the parish hall after 9:30 Mass Saturday (12/9) & Sunday (12/10): Nativity Walk in the MPR after all Masses



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. So far, we have received more than 1,000 surveys and emails. 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 next step will be for the Core Team to incorporate the views of the priests and laity and prayerfully discern a final set of parish models to present to the Pastoral Planning Commission for their input.

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.

HARVEST MASS

Tuesday, December 12 5:30 pm ín Blackstone



To celebrate another beautiful year of prosperity for our farmers of the Pontiac Vicariate, we want to thank God for all the blessings that Our Lord has endowed upon us. We will celebrate this by having a Harvest Mass for the farmers of our churches on **Tuesday, December 12, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, at the John Duffy Farm (address: 16383 East 3200 North Road, Blackstone, IL) The service will begin with the rosary of our Blessed Mother at 5.30pm with Mass at 6pm. After Mass, we will have a fellowship meal as a farming community. The meal will be hosted by the parishioners of St. Patrick's Church in Dwight. Please RSVP to St. Mary's (815-844-7683) or St. Patrick's (815-584-3522) by December 5th so we can plan for the meal. I will also take signups for your farms to be blessed for the next planting season. Come, let's thank the Lord for the food He gives us! We will have tables and chairs but bring a lawn chair just in case!**

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 19, 2023

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
Monday	1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63;
	Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; 1; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday	St. Cecilia 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31;
	Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday	St. Clement I, Pope; St Columban; Bl. Miguel
	Austin Pro 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-
	15; Lk 19:41-44
	Thanksgiving: Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9;
	Lk 17:11-19
Friday	St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and Companions
	1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59;
	1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11d-12a, 12cd; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday	St. Catherine of Alexandria 1 Mc 6:1-13;
	Ps 9:2-3, 4 & 6, 16 and 19; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
	Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6;
	1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46





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 <u>www.stmaryspontiac.org</u> 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 CO RADIO

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, Baby Bulls Restaurant & 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.

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



NOVEMBER 19, 2023

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 20 Tues Nov 21 Wed Nov 22 Thurs Nov 23 Fri Nov 24 Mon Nov 27 Tues Nov 28 Wed Nov 29 Thurs Nov 30	Ted & Becky Sullivan Family, Flynn Eggleston Family Gabe & Alison Tarr Family, Grace Becker Family John Tibbs Family, Daxell Collins Family Lanette Tooley Family, Champ Daily Family Lindsay Taylor Family, Bianca & Adrian Gill Family Bernie Timmerman Family, Reid Gray Family Rosenda Torrez Family, Zander Miller Family Kathy Telford Family, Ryann Krenz Family Jack & Mary Timmerman Family, Zain Pierce Family
Fri Dec 1	Dan & Pat Unzicker Family, Graham Mennenga Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!





DIOCESAN To Advertise 1-800-783-1623 Online at Diocesan.com/Business VISA Contraction of the second DISC VER 1252