

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
November 26, 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

fjbaker@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: \$11,063.50

Building Maintenance Fund Collection was \$3,152.00.

Bishop's Seminarian Appeal: This weekend.

School Collection: Next weekend.



Mass Intentions

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

Monday, November 27

7:00 a.m. Monty Kohn

Tuesday, November 28

7:00 a.m. Jean Jones

Wednesday, November 29

7:00 a.m. Rockie Rodino & Kristin Walters

Thursday, November 30 (St. Andrew, Apostle)

8:00 a.m. Rita Schaeffer

Friday, December 1

7:00 a.m. 1st ann Colleen Murphy

Saturday, December 2

8:00 a.m. Prodigals of St. Mary's Parish

4:00 p.m. Ray Broerman

Sunday, December 3 (First Sunday of Advent)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Chuck Landrus

Servers for Saturday, December 2

4:00 p.m. Nicholas & Carter Doughan

Servers for Sunday, December 3

7:00 a.m. Haidyn & Harper Francis

9:30 a.m. Zach & Mallory Masching

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.

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 FOR FALLEN AWAY CATHOLICS: Every First Saturday of the month, we offer a Mass at 8am for all the fallen away Catholics from our parish and families. A rosary is prayed at 7:30am prior to Mass. Please join us on **Saturday, December 2**.

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS**

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.

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE OF ILLINOIS VOCATIONS RAFFLE: Raffle tickets to support the Knights of Columbus State of Illinois Vocations Program should be turned in immediately. Drawing is next week.

LECTORS FOR DECEMBER

4:00pm Mike VanSickle
7:00am Paul Giordano
9:30am Lisa M. Martin, Brenda Shaughnessy

EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER

4:00pm Steve Renner, Gary Doughan, Earline Devito
7:00am Chuck & Dianne Hanley
9:30am Carol Faust, Amanda Lauritsen, Sue Smith

GREETERS & USHERS FOR DECEMBER

4:00pm Joanne Coriell, Bill Bertram, Mike Linskey, Jim Sporrer
7:00am Andy & Shirley Eckel, Vickie McBeath, Bob Fox, John Kelly, Tim Kelly, Joe Stock
9:30am Margo Law, Bernie Timmerman, Bill Halpin, Pat Martin

SANCTUARY CLEANERS FOR DECEMBER

Sherri Hatzer, Paula Rosenbaum, Earline Devito, Bernie Brown

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 <https://llsa.social/HC>



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST**

**Sunday, December 3
7:30 to 11:30 a.m.
in the parish hall**

Pancakes with topping bar, Breakfast Casserole,
French Toast Casserole, Sausage and drink.

\$10 per person, \$40 family maximum.

**"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.

★ ★ OUR ★ ★
MILITARY
KIDS

St. Mary's Student Council will be having a Bake Sale on **Sunday, December 3** during the Knights of Columbus Breakfast. The money raised from the bake sale will be going to "Our Military Kids". This organization is the Illinois Association of Junior High Student Council State Service project this year. St. Mary's Kate Lauritsen is the Mideast District Representative that presented this project to the IAJHSC board and won. Let's help support a worthy cause!

We recommend acting soon as this opportunity is on a first come, first serve basis and Caterpillar may reach their cap quickly!



CATERPILLAR
FOUNDATION
CATERPILLAR

In support of Giving Tuesday, the Caterpillar Foundation will provide a limited-time 2:1 match through their Matching Gifts Program for global employee and U.S. retiree gifts made starting November 27 through December 1, 2023 (or once the match total reaches \$2M USD).

Gifts made to St. Mary's School are eligible for the Caterpillar Foundation Matching Gifts Program.
Your \$100 gift could be a \$300 gift!
Please consider the difference you can make!



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!

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





ENCOUNTERING THE EUCHARIST

Prayer Before Holy Communion

Awake, slumbering soul, to bless your God for all His mercies! Remember that He became incarnate for you. Remember that Jesus who was born in the manger of Bethlehem, who conquered death, and who is enthroned at the right hand of His Father, is now really and truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. O thrice holy belief! O greatest of all

consolations! Here, God is really present under the appearances of bread and wine! He, the Almighty One, is ready to take up His abode in my heart and to become entirely mine!
St. Leonard of Port Maurice (1676-1751)

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Sunday (1/21): After 7am Mass Coffee/Doughnuts/Eucharistic Video in the MPR (old gym)



St. Mary's Church uses Flocknote to keep our parishioners informed of special Masses and events and any changes or cancellations that may occur. If you do not receive texts or emails from us, there are two ways to sign up. Text the word PONTIAC to 84576 OR click the Flocknote link at the bottom of the homepage of our website:

church.stmaryspontiac.org

HARVEST MASS

*Tuesday, December 12
5:30 pm in 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!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 26, 2023

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
Monday	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday	Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday	St. Andrew Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 4:18-22
Friday	Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday	Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 95, 86, 87; Lk 21:34-36
Sunday	First Sunday of Advent Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 12:33-37

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.



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.



**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 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.

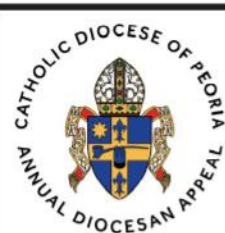
They upgraded so that listeners with newer phones, tablets, and other listening devices can access Catholic Spirit Radio programs and podcasts. Go to Google Play or Apple App store to find the new app:

Catholic Spirit Talk Radio.

New App - Same Quality Catholic Programs!

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 <https://fsc-calledtobe.org> or contact Sr. Julie Ann 920-323-9632.



**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)**

**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 Nov 27	Bernie Timmerman Family, Reid Gray Family
Tues Nov 28	Rosenda Torrez Family, Zander Miller Family
Wed Nov 29	Kathy Telford Family, Ryann Krenz Family
Thurs Nov 30	Jack & Mary Timmerman Family, Zain Pierce Family
Fri Dec 1	Dan & Pat Unzicker Family, Graham Mennenga Family
Mon Dec 4	Diane Thomas Family, Cameron & Maddie Mikeworth Family
Tues Dec 5	Margaret Tolbert Family, Kallen & McKinlee Morgan Family
Wed Dec 6	Brad Trainor Family, Riley & Sammi Salinas Family
Thurs Dec 7	Sam Tomasello Family, Holland & Barrett Tissiere Family
Fri Dec 8	Doug & Maranda Trainor Family, Boston Alsdorf Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

BABY-BULL'S

FAMILY RESTAURANT

Banquet Room
Rt. 116 West
815-844-5757

LYONS BROTHERS
HEATING &
AIR CONDITIONING,
INC.
LENNOX
815-844-3585
727 W MADISON
lyonsbrothers.com

BESTONE PFAFF
TIRE & AUTO CARE TIRE & AUTO INC.
TIRES • ALIGNMENTS • BRAKES • AIR CONDITIONING • TUNE-UPS
CUSTOM EXHAUST • LUBRICATION • SHOCKS • STRUTS
FARM TIRE SERVICE • COMPUTER DIAGNOSTICS

Robert & Sharri Pfaff, Parishioners
815-844-2525
360 S. Deerfield Rd. • PfaffTireandAuto.com

STAMPS BODY SHOP, LLC

920 N Ladd - Pontiac
(815) 844-5727

EWTV.COM/RADIO

EWTV Global Catholic Radio
TUNE IN

Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.

Simply go to
www.DM.CHURCH/1252
...or scan

DISCOVERMASS

State Bank of Graymont
Offices in Chenoa, Graymont, Pontiac, & Saunemin
www.sbofgray.com
MEMBER FDIC

OSF HEALTHCARE
OSFHealthCare.org

catholicmatch®
Illinois

CatholicMatch.com/goll

PONTIAC FAMILY KITCHEN
904 CUSTER AVENUE
815-844-3155
BREAKFAST LUNCH DINNER COCKTAILS
BANQUET SEATING UP TO 80

KITCHEN LADY
MARY D. SOLON, CKD
Certified Kitchen Designer
815-822-0801
mary@kitchenladydesigns.com
Professional Service. Expert Advice.
WOOD HARBOR CABINETRY
QUARTZ & SOLID SURFACE COUNTERTOPS
www.kitchenladydesigns.com

GEM S
CARPET CLEANING PLUS
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
Gerry & Karen Miller Owners
Free Estimates
815.844.4424
www.gemscarpetcleaningplusreviews.com



903 W. Custer Ave., Pontiac
815-844-7111
duffyfuneralhome.com

Pontiac, Cullom, Chatsworth & Forrest
815-844-5151
calvertmemorial.com





DUFFY • BAIER • SNEDECOR
FUNERAL HOME

Calvert & Martin
funeral homes



815-842-0360

**LIVINGSTON
STONE
Company**

FINE QUALITY
AGRICULTURAL LIMESTONE
Crushed Stone
To Your Specifications
RR NO. 4, PONTIAC
www.livstoneco.com
815-844-6341

brazier®
"We Treat You Right"



PONTIAC DAIRY QUEEN
802 N LADD ST.




815-842-1400
321 W Madison St.

Terry Sullivan,
Designated
Managing Broker

Tim Bassett, Broker 815-822-8182
Brett Graves, Broker 815-674-1458
Jackie Mustread, Broker 815-674-2923
www.LyonsSullivanRealty.com

**WILLIAM H.
BERTRAM**
ATTORNEY at LAW

bill@whbtdpc.com
318 North Mill St. | Pontiac, IL
815-842-1100

Kelly Electric
815.844.5921




Your local and reliable Full Service John Deere Dealer!

805 E Howard St.
Pontiac, IL 61764
815-842-1149
prairiestatetractor.com

DRISCOLL

BUICK GMC

601 S Newport Rd, Pontiac • 1-815-842-1143 or
1-800-851-7605
Driscollmotors.com
Service • Sales • Parts • Detailing



Smith's
Plumbing, Heating & A/C
DAN • STEVE
smithsplumbingandheatingil.com
822 East Howard St. • 815-844-7868

Flawless Family Home Care

Servicing Livingston, Grundy,
and LaSalle Counties
(855) 815-1585
WWW.FLAWLESSFAMILYHOMECARE.COM

*"Ask a Knight what you can do
for the Parish."*

Pontiac
KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS Council #854
www.KofC.org

Grand Knight: Bill Bertram
(815) 690-7072
Fr. Joseph Baker, Chaplain
www.facebook.com/kofc854Pontiac

Greg Kurtenbach
State Farm Agent
800-284-8343

GIBSON CITY
FAIRBURY
PONTIAC

State Farm

Carley FAMILY DENTAL

Dr. Ryan Carley | Dr. Natalie Carley
cf dental@frontier.com
815.844.5200
1521 W. Reynolds St • Pontiac, IL

**Pontiac
KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

Grand Knight: Bill Bertram
(815) 690-7072
Fr. Joseph Baker, Chaplain
www.facebook.com/kofc854Pontiac

MADISON STREET

Mexican • Breakfast • American
DINE-IN OR DELIVERY
Only Delivered to Pontiac, Illinois
DAILY SPECIALS
Visit us on Facebook

FAMILY RESTAURANT
SERVING AMERICAN & MEXICAN FOOD
(815) 844-2755 / 107 E MADISON ST.
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



Bank of Pontiac

Pontiac • Odell • Dwight • Forrest • Fairbury • Coal City
Minier • Delavan • Bloomington
Toll FREE 855-844-6151 | www.bankofpontiac.com

Member FDIC

**ADVERTISE
HERE**

PRI PANNONE REALTY
"We Make It Happen"

LISA J. MARTIN
Owner/Managing Broker
405 W. Madison St
Pontiac, IL
www.pannorealty.com
815-844-6771
Parishioners

RICK CAMPBELL
PETER J. MARTIN
KYLE DeLONG

Locally Owned & Operated by Paul & Mary Breznay



**Free Hamburger
with purchase of
any item**

One coupon per visit.
Not valid with any other offers. Expires 12/31/24.
Redeemable Only at Pontiac McDonalds