# Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Since it must be treated from conception as a person, the embryo must be defended in its integrity, cared for, and healed, as far as possible, like any other human being. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2274

St. Mary's Catholic Church Pontiac, Illinois January 21, 2024

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## 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 6:30-6:50 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: \$9,512.30

**St. Mary's Food Pantry Collection** was \$1,363.00.

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: This weekend.

**THANK YOU** to those who regularly support our parish.

# Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 20 (St. Fabian, pope; St. Sebastian) Rose Ann Lyons 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 21 (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time) 7:00 a.m. Amy Follmer Wyant 9:30 a.m. Parish Monday, January 22 (Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of **Unborn Children**) 7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SÉRVICE Tuesday, January 23 (St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope) 7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE Wednesday, January 24 (St. Francis de Sales) 7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE Thursday, January 25 (The Conversion of St. Paul) 7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE Friday, January 26 (Sts. Timothy & Titus) COMMUNION SERVICE 7:00 a.m. Saturday, January 27 (St. Angela Merici) 2nd ann Rhonda Steinbach 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 28 (Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time) Patricia Lyons 7:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Parish Servers for Saturday, January 27 Madyson Herkert, Samantha Salinas 4:00 p.m. Servers for Sunday, January 28 7:00 a.m. Volunteers

9:30 a.m. St. Mary's Students

**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.

MASS AT LOCAL NURSING HOME: Mass will be offered at Accolade Health Center on Friday, January 26 at 9:30am.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Chris Kinate & Ally Krenz** who were recently married in our church, and to **Lance Elare & Lendy Aranas Elare** who recently had their marriage convalidated in the church.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Helen Garvey (mother of Jane Larkin) and Amy Rutherford (sister of Becky Bertrand), R.I.P. Our sympathy to their families and friends.

BOTH PRIESTS WILL BE GONE THIS WEEK. THERE WILL BE COMMUNION SERVICES ONLY EACH MORNING AT 7AM. THERE WILL BE NO NOONTIME CONFESSIONS ON WEDNESDAY.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 3

St. Mary's School invites everyone to our OPEN HOUSE after 7am and 9:30am Masses next Sunday, January 28. Please us the Main Street or old gym door entrances.

The Knights of Columbus will also be serving breakfast next Sunday, January 28 from 7:30-11:30am. Scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits & gravy, hashbrowns and drink. \$10 per person, \$40 family maximum. Please join us after checking out the Open House at St. Mary's School.

**ATTENTION LADIES IN YOUR 20'S AND 30'S:** Join us the **third Wednesday of every month** for fellowship as we work our way through the Gospel of Luke in 2024. Come to as few or as many as you can make. If interested or if you have any questions, text or call Kate Harrold 815-848-1705.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE will meet Thursday, January 25 from 9am to 12:30pm in 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.

**PART-TIME CUSTODIAN NEEDED:** St. Mary's Parish is looking to hire an able-bodied individual to serve as a part-time custodian for St. Mary's School. Qualifications for this position include: striving to live a Christian life - be practicing the faith if Catholic, if not Catholic, have a respect for the Catholic Church and be comfortable working in a Catholic environment, possessing knowledge, skills, and experience in handling janitorial equipment and basic maintenance tools; assisting the head custodian in duties/ projects as needed; maintaining security of buildings, equipment, and tools. Duties would be cleaning of classrooms, hallways, gym following games, offices, pre-K area, and the parish hall, setting up and taking down of tables and chairs as needed, making sure all lights are out and doors are locked, and collecting trash or anything else determined by the maintenance director. Hours would be late afternoon/early evening. If interested, please send a letter of interest, stating qualifications and references, to Fr. Joseph Baker, P.O. Box 374, Pontiac, IL 61764 or drop it off at the church office.



A huge thank you to our parishioners, alumni, and school families who have given so generously to the St. Mary's School Annual Fund this year. We set a goal of \$36,000 and we have raised \$57,395! We are truly humbled by the outpouring of generosity and support that we have received. Please know that you are in our prayers.

 $\sim$  St. Mary's Students and Staff



## **TEACHER NEEDED**

St. Mary's School has a teacher opening for Junior High ELA (Language Arts and Literacy): Job will start August

**2024.** Must have a valid Illinois teaching certificate, Middle school/Junior High Endorsement in ELA preferred.

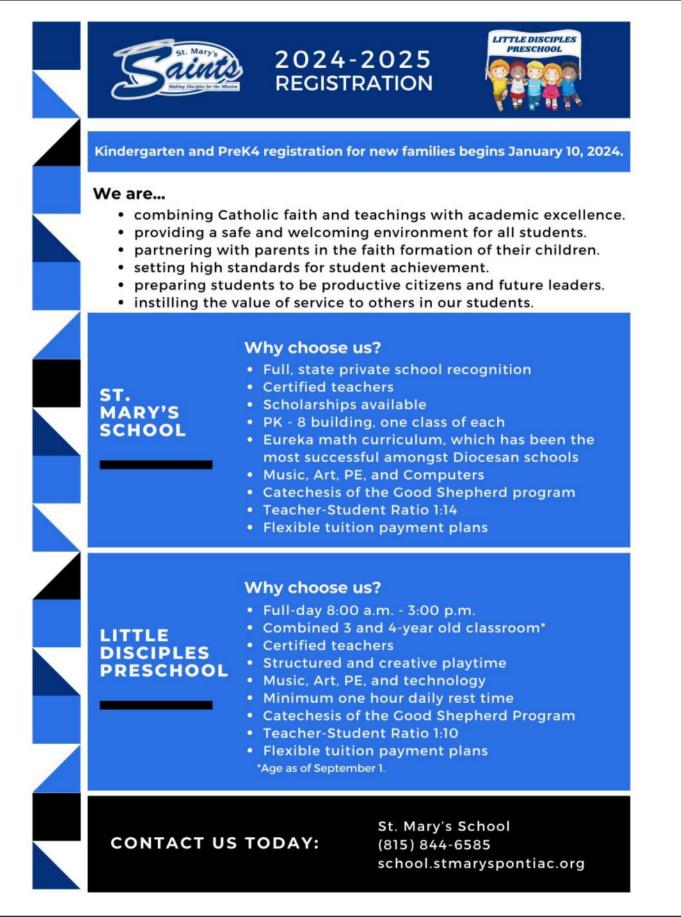
We are seeking a Jr. High ELA Teacher who knows and loves Jesus. We seek someone with a desire to make disciples of their students and grow in discipleship with other staff. Candidates must portray abilities of healthy teamwork among colleagues along with a desire to share their knowledge and love of Jesus with students and staff.

Please send 3 letters of recommendation and a copy of your transcripts, along with your resume and cover letter to Mrs. Karen Jones, St. Mary's School, 414 N. Main St. Pontiac, IL 61764 or you may email these items to: jones.karen@stmaryspontiac.org

SPALDING SCHOLARSHIPS: Your child can attend a Catholic School, Financial Assistance Available Tuition assistance scholarship grants from the endowment fund established as a result of the Diocese of Peoria ROOTED IN FAITH Campaign and named in honor of Archbishop Spalding, the first Bishop of Peoria, will be available for the 2024-2025 school year for students enrolled in or intending to enroll in grades Kindergarten through 12 in any Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria whose families are active members of a Catholic parish in the diocese. All grants will be based on financial need objectively assessed. Information about the grants and application materials may be obtained from any Catholic elementary or secondary school in the Diocese of Peoria or on the Diocesan website www.cdop.org under Catholic Education and then under Financial Assistance. Consult the detailed protocols and procedures and checklist for all requirements necessary to be eligible for an award. Parents must apply online at: online.factsmgt.com/aid. Families of students currently receiving grants are reminded that all grants are for one year only, and anyone seeking to renew a grant for the 2024-2025 school year must reapply. Deadline date for the completed application is April 26, 2024. Notification of grant awards will be made in June of 2024.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: Have you felt a desire to grow closer to God through prayer and the sacramental life of the Church? Do you sense a nagging tug to take a step toward greater devotion and love of Jesus, His Church, and the Blessed Mother or maybe you just need a pick-me-up in your life with God? If so, Spiritual Direction might be something for you. Spiritual Direction is an ancient practice in the Church in which one Christian meets with another to discuss his/her personal life with God with the goal of growing in intimacy and relationship While many priests and religious offer Spiritual Direction, we're also blessed here at St. Mary's to have a parishioner, Mary A. Billington, who is a licensed Spiritual Director, having graduated from the Cenacle of Our Lady of Divine Providence School of Spiritual Direction in Florida in 2010. Mary is trained in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, a specific form of direction in the Church, and is passionate about helping others grow deeper in knowledge and love of Jesus. If this is something that speaks to you, reach out to Mary at (815) 674-7197 or imbill83@gmail.com. To learn more about the practice of Spiritual Direction, take a look at spiritualdirection.com, a website run by the Avila Institute, a Catholic movement dedicated to spiritual formation of the faithful.

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



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



## **ENCOUNTERING THE EUCHARIST**

The sacrifices of the Lord manifest a Christian unamity, joined to a firm and inseparable love. For when the Lord calls the bread his body, brought together by the joining of many grains, he is indicating our united people whom he receives. And when he calls the wine his blood, squeezed out of many grapes and berries and meshed into one, he signifies our flock, joined together by a mixture of a united multitude. ~St. Cyprian of Carthage (c. 210 - 258)

UPCOMING EVENTS Sunday (1/21): After 7am Mass Coffee/Donuts/Eucharistic Video in the MPR (old gym) Sunday (1/28): After 9:30am Mass Catholic Schools Week Open House Sunday (2/11): After 9:30 Mass Coffee/Donuts/Eucharistic Video in the MPR (old gym) March 1-10: The Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit will be here at St. Mary's > More details & viewing schedule will be shared in upcoming bulletins



St. Mary's Church uses Flocknote to keep our parishioners informed of special Masses and The events and any changes or cancellations that may occur. If you do not receive texts or the word PONTIAC to 84576 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



January 21, 2024



# Children are a gift from the Lord: they are a reward from Him. Psalm 127:3

Contact Us

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Church Liaison - Help us reach our community.

Prayer Partner - Our center is powered by your prayers and support.

Financial Partner - No contribution is too small.

Volunteer - We'll train you!



**JANUARY 21, 2024** 

PAGE 5 **3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** 

## **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 2024**

Sunday	<b>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Jon 3:1-5, 10;
Monday	Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20 Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn
	<b>Children</b> 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10;
	Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday	St. Vincent and St. Marianne Cope
	2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10;
	Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday	St. Francis de Sales
	2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30; Mk 4:1-20
Thursday	The Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle
	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2;
	Mk 16:15-18
Friday	Sts. Timothy and Titus 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5;
	Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday	St. Angela Merici 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17;
	Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Mk 4:35-41
Sunday	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35;
	Mk 1:21-28

## **Pray For Peace**





## 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 JANUARY

**For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church:** Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.



## 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.

FESTIVAL CHOIR TOUR TO IRELAND AND SCOTLAND:

The St Anthony Camerata Chorale Festival Choir is leading a tour to Ireland and Scotland with an optional 4-night extension to London, July 29 through August 7, 2024. You don't have to be a choral person to join us, all travelers are most welcome! Anyone wishing to sing with the choir living out of the area to comfortably make rehearsals for the tour, we will gladly send you music you can rehearse on your own. Deadline has been extended another month... we would love to have you join our merry band as we enjoy the wonderous sights and sounds of our Gaelic adventure! Text or email Mary Ann Fahey-Darling for a brochure. Text: 309-678-9166 or faheyirish19@gmail.com

**PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LOURDES:** Please join us on a pilgrimage with Fr. Charles Robinson, F.I. to Fatima and Lourdes, with a stop in Avila, Spain, as well as Azpeitia, Spain where St. Ignatius of Loyola was born, and more! Daily Mass. September 10-19, 2024. \$3595/per person. **\$150 early bird discount if registered by Feb. 15th, 2024.** For more information please visit <u>www.QoHTours.com</u> or call us at 1-800-213-4295

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

## 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 Jan 22	Chuck & Lisa Vitzthum Family, Marcia Hills Family
Turs Jan 23	Dcn. Jim & Laura Wallace Family, Dianne Hanley Family
Wed Jan 24	Sarah Walters Family, John Mackinson Family
Thurs Jan 25	Judy Weber Family, Margaret Legner Family
Fri Jan 26	Rita Washko Family, Judy Donze Family
Mon Jan 29	Larry & Marla Weber Family, Linda Rhodes Family
Tues Jan 30	Mike & Jean Ann Wenger Family, Fr. Joe Baker Family
Wed Jan 31	Ron & Lynn Watson Family, Fr. David Sabel Family
	Ron & Lynn Watson Family, Fr. David Sabel Family
Thurs Feb 1	Ed & Karen Doughan Family, Adam Lawrence Family
Fri Feb 2	Leo & Rita Weller Family, Carol Hepner Family



## MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!



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