



**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
**Pontiac, Illinois**  
**April 7, 2024**

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](http://www.stmaryspontiac.org)

Facebook: St. Mary's Parish-Pontiac

PASTOR: Fr. Joseph A. Baker

[frijbaker@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:frijbaker@stmaryspontiac.org) 309-657-0966

PERMANENT DEACONS:

Dcn. Jim Wallace [servant518@outlook.com](mailto:servant518@outlook.com)

Dcn. Ray White [deacon.ray@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:deacon.ray@stmaryspontiac.org)

PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER: Patti Zehr

[zehr.patti@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:zehr.patti@stmaryspontiac.org)

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR: Danielle Gill

[gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto:gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org)

EVANGELICAL CATHOLIC COORDINATOR: Margo Law

[law.margo@stmaryspontiac.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:tissiere.taryn@stmaryspontiac.org) or 815-979-7663.



## STEWARDSHIP

Collection last Sunday: \$11,491.44

School Collection: This weekend.

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

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish.



## Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 6

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

4:00 p.m. Phyllis LoPiccalo

Sunday, April 7 (Divine Mercy Sunday)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Rick Dunham

Monday, April 8 (The Annunciation of the Lord)

7:00 a.m. Marsha Follett Pauly

Tuesday, April 9

7:00 a.m. Blaze Masching

Wednesday, April 10

7:00 a.m. Rita Schaeffer

Thursday, April 11 (St. Stanislaus)

8:15 a.m. Ann Moffett

Friday, April 12

7:00 a.m. Boma Family

Saturday, April 13 (St. Martin I, pope)

4:00 p.m. Frances Russow

Sunday, April 14 (Third Sunday of Easter)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Wakey Family

**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, please call the parish office at 815-844-7683 to reserve your spot in our Baptism preparation class which takes 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.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED AT HOSPITAL:** We are looking for 5 Eucharistic Ministers to offer Communion to any Catholic patients at St. James Hospital in the event that the Chaplain would be absent. If you would be willing to assist in this very important ministry please call Bryan Schweigert at (815)-867-0958. Your help would be greatly appreciated !

**FALLEN AWAY CATHOLICS:** Do you know a member of our church who has stopped attending Masses since Covid, or for another reason? We would like to reach out to these church members. Please call the parish office at 815-844-7683 with names.

**MASS AT LOCAL NURSING HOME:** Mass will be offered at Goldwater Care on **Friday, April 12 at 9am**.

## 2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

We are almost there! If you have not yet made a gift to the ADA, please consider doing so. All gifts are greatly appreciated!

**This year's goal: \$89,801**

**Pledged to date: \$88,863.22 (as of March 4)**

ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATION:** The first Sunday after Easter is celebrated as the Feast of the Divine Mercy. St. Mary's will have a Divine Mercy Service on **Sunday, April 7 at 3pm**. Fr. Joe will offer a reflection along with confessions and the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. You are also welcome at St. Joseph Church in Chenoa to join in their Divine Mercy celebration on **Sunday, April 7 at 5pm**.

**CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE** will meet **Thursday, April 11 from 9am to 12:30pm** in the parish hall.

**ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S GUILD** will meet **Tuesday, April 16 at 5:30pm** in the Rosary Room of the parish hall. All women of the parish are encouraged to attend.

**NEW SMALL GROUP BOOK STUDY STARTING:** All are welcome to join in a Small Group Book Study that will meet every **Thursday from 10-11am beginning April 18**. The book study will be held at Heartland Community College Pontiac Campus (upstairs of the Pontiac Public Library, there is an elevator). Questions can be directed to Sue Smith, 815-307-4647

**ST. MARY'S YOUTH GROUP:** All high school students are invited to join us every Sunday evening from 6:30-8pm. Youth group meets in the upstairs of the Parish Center (former rectory). Please use the back door.

**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.

**WOMEN'S GUILD RUMMAGE SALE FUNDRAISER:** The Women's Guild will be holding a Rummage Sale Fundraiser in the parish hall on **Friday, June 7 & Saturday, June 8**. Donated items in good condition are needed for the sale such as books, jewelry, linens, toys, household items, decorations and miscellaneous items. **NO CLOTHES!** Start saving your items. Drop off information will be provided closer to the sale date.



**SAVE THE DATE  
SMS GOLF OUTING  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 4  
MORE DETAILS  
COMING IN MAY**



*Easter Memorial  
Flowers*

Frank Wynant-Shirley  
Marion & Kay Vill-Nieces Frances Becker & Shirley Wynant



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
vs A.I.R. 66ers**

**Sunday, April 14  
1:00 p.m.**

**St. Mary's School Gym**

Freewill donations at the door,  
50/50 drawing,  
dessert raffles, concession stand

**All proceeds will go to A.I.R.!**

Everyone is invited to attend this fun afternoon which supports  
A.I.R. (Adaptive & Inclusive Recreation)

All Knights of Columbus members are invited to play.  
For more information, contact Bill Bertram at 815-690-7072

**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.

**EMMAUS DAYS: SESSIONS I & II**

**Session I June 7-9 College & Young Adult Men**

**Session II June 21-24 High School Juniors & Seniors**

Sessions I and II are overnight retreats at St. John's Catholic Newman Center in Champaign. Participants deepen their faith and focus on discerning God's will through prayer and the sacraments. By listening to and spending time with priests and seminarians, participants get a glimpse into their lives.

**EMMAUS DAYS: SESSIONS III & IV**

**Session III July 7-10**

**High School Freshmen & Sophomores**

**Session IV July 10-12 Seventh & Eighth Graders**

Sessions III and IV are overnight retreats at Peoria Notre Dame High School. Led by seminarians, participants engage in masculine fraternity and learn to become real Christian men. The experience includes prayer, talks and activities like basketball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, card games, and swimming.

To register for any session, go to:  
[comeandfollowme.org/emmausdays](http://comeandfollowme.org/emmausdays)

# ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

## 2024-2025 K - 8 Registration Open

### Why choose us?

- Full, state private school recognition
- Certified teachers
- Scholarships available
- K - 8 building, one class of each
- Music, Art, PE, and Computers
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd religion program

### We are...

- providing a safe and welcoming environment for all.
- partnering with parents in the faith formation of their children.
- setting high standards for student achievement.
- preparing students to be productive citizens and future leaders.
- instilling the value of service to others in our students.



*Sow the Seeds of Success:  
Join Our School Family Today!*



**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](http://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](http://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.

**Join us for the 3rd Annual  
Nun Run for Cancer  
Saturday May 4 @ 8 am  
Downtown Peoria**

**SCAN TO REGISTER:**



Proceeds  
benefitting  
the OSF  
HealthCare  
Cancer  
Institute

**NUN  
RUN** for Cancer



## ENCOUNTERING THE EUCHARIST

I have only to approach you, Divine Jesus, present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar, who are ever here as on a throne to receive our praise and adoration, for you to fill me with every kind of grace. In any state I find myself—whether in dryness, sorrow, or temptation—I have only to come before you to find relief from my troubles and help in my difficulties so that I may overcome all obstacles and do

what is right. You are always ready to come to my aid. You give me refuge when I am distressed. When I am weak, it is you who animates me to do what is right. And when I find myself lukewarm, I have only to call upon you who are a God of love, and who has a tender love toward us in your Divine Sacrament, and you are able to pierce me through, filling me with what is lovable and loving in you, and inspiring me with ardent Charity for you and others. Here, I may become united with you, O My Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament to be a victim for my sins, since in this Sacrament you continually offer the merits of your Passion and death to the Eternal Father as a satisfaction for my transgressions.

~St. Jean-Baptiste de La Salle (1651-1719)

All Eucharistic videos shown the past few months can be viewed at:  
[church.stmaryspontiac.org](http://church.stmaryspontiac.org) > News & Events > Encounter the Eucharist

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 14: After 7 & 9:30 AM Masses Coffee/Donuts/Eucharistic Video in MPR

July 17-21: 10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis

> <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/register>

## Be There When God Moves

July 17-21, 2024, tens of thousands of passionate Catholics will experience an outpouring of grace on a scale this generation has never seen. This historic moment is called the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. Catholics from every corner of the U.S. will be in Indianapolis for this transformative gathering, and YOU are invited to represent our parish at this pivotal moment!

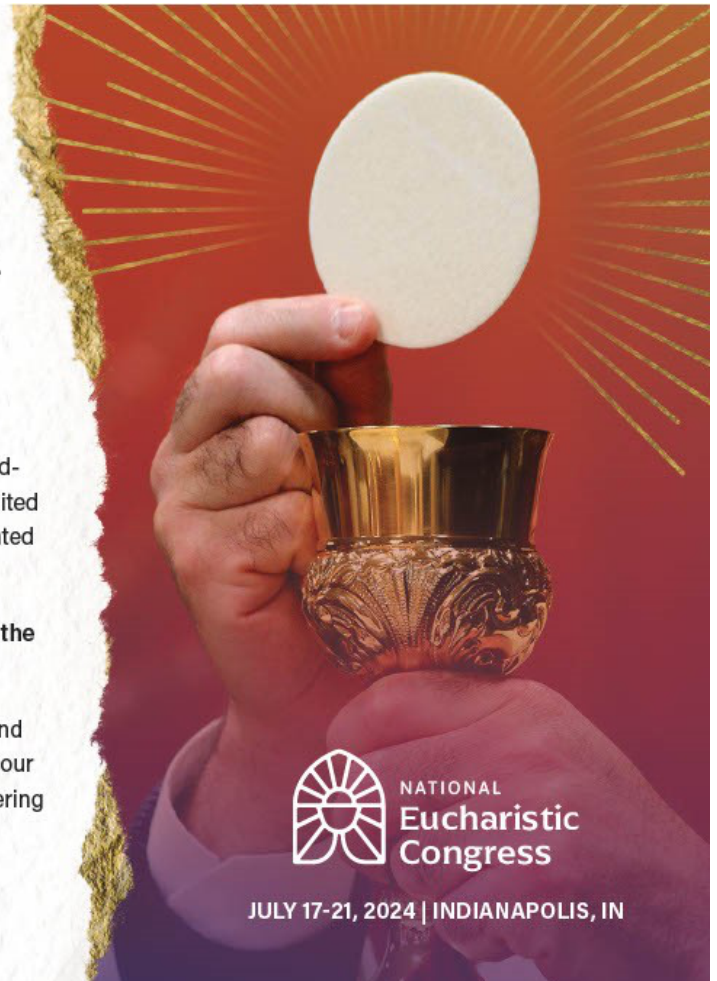
Whether you join us for the full experience or one day, you'll enjoy world-class teaching from some of the most trusted Catholic voices in the United States. Come encounter and worship Jesus in a new way, and be anointed to share those graces with our community when you return home.

More than ever, you will be proud to be Catholic and excited about the future of the Church in America.



Scan the code to learn more about the event and explore the full schedule for each day. Contact our parish office for more information about registering with your fellow parishioners.

[eucharisticcongress.org](http://eucharisticcongress.org)



NATIONAL  
Eucharistic  
Congress

JULY 17-21, 2024 | INDIANAPOLIS, IN

ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 7, 2024

Sunday	Sunday of Divine Mercy Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31
Monday	Annunciation of the Lord Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday	Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday	Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday	St. Stanislaus Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36
Friday	Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday	Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
Sunday	Third Sunday of Easter Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48



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](http://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 APRIL

**For the role of women:** We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts 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.catholicspiritradi.com](http://www.catholicspiritradi.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.**

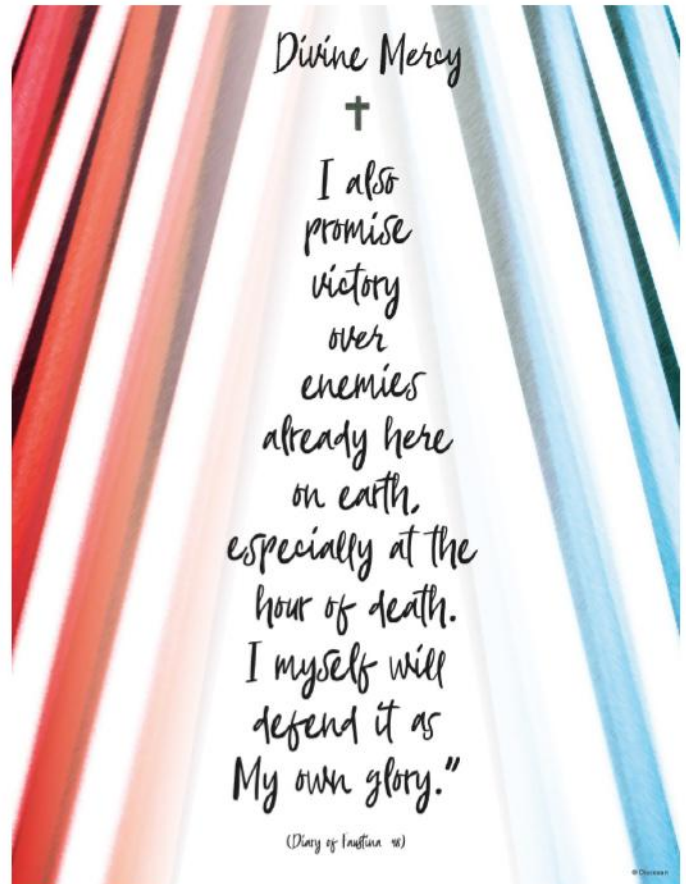
**MASS IS BROADCAST EACH MORNING AT 7AM**

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!*



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

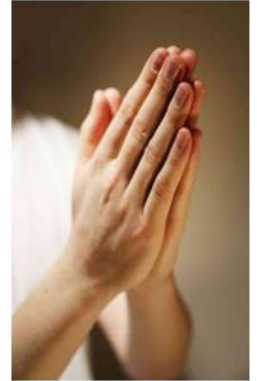
**PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL FAMILIES THIS YEAR**

*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 Apr 8    | Joyce Ashcraft Family, Dona Blair Family             |
| Tues Apr 9   | Mary Barrett Family, Nancy Boitnott Family           |
| Wed Apr 10   | Frances Becker Family, Mary Lou Branz Family         |
| Thurs Apr 11 | John Beller Family, Maria Blair Family               |
| Fri Apr 12   | Bill & Georgia Bertram Family, Joan Bolen Family     |
| Mon Apr 15   | Betty Benedino Family, Robert & Lynette Branz Family |
| Tues Apr 16  | Jeff & Becky Bertrand Family, Joan Blocker Family    |
| Wed Apr 17   | Amy Bednar Family, Martin & Anne Bourgeois Family    |
| Thurs Apr 18 | Marilyn Benedino Family, Ed Broerman Family          |
| Fri Apr 19   | Troy & Katie Bertsche Family, Lori Boatman Family    |



**MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!**

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**Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.**

Simply go to [www.DM.CHURCH/1252](http://www.DM.CHURCH/1252)

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Jackie Mustread, Broker 815-674-2923  
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**Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will**

For further information, please call the parish office.

**Carley FAMILY DENTAL**

Dr. Ryan Carley | Dr. Natalie Carley  
[cfidental@frontier.com](mailto:cfidental@frontier.com)  
**815.844.5200**  
1521 W. Reynolds St • Pontiac, IL

**WILLIAM H. BERTRAM**  
ATTORNEY at LAW

[bill@whbltdpc.com](mailto:bill@whbltdpc.com)  
318 North Mill St. | Pontiac, IL  
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822 East Howard St. - 815-844-7868

**Pontiac KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** Council #854  
[www.KofC.org](http://www.KofC.org)

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

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

**Pontiac KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** Council #854  
[www.KofC.org](http://www.KofC.org)

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

**Greg Kurtenbach**  
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