



3rd Sunday of Easter

© Diocesan

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
April 14, 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

Facebook: St. Mary's Parish-Pontiac

PASTOR: Fr. Joseph A. Baker

fjrbaker@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](https://www.instagram.com/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: \$13,276.50

School Collection was \$3,239.00.

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

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: Next weekend.



Mass Intentions

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

Monday, April 15

7:00 a.m. Bill Wallace

Tuesday, April 16

7:00 a.m. Gail Kats

Wednesday, April 17

7:00 a.m. 24th ann Kevin Casson

Thursday, April 18

8:15 a.m. Bernard Cassady

Friday, April 19

7:00 a.m. Art Schilling

Saturday, April 20

4:00 p.m. Ann Broerman Miller

Sunday, April 21 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

7:00 a.m. Parish

9:30 a.m. Chuck Landrus

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.

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 The Pointe on **Friday, April 19 at 10am**.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Henry Eppel, R.I.P. (father of Mark Eppel and grandfather of Andrew Eppel & Katie Thomas). Our sympathy to his family and friends.



St. Mary's Student Council would like to thank everyone who came and supported our Soup Supper. Thank you to those who donated soup, desserts, or gave of their time to help during the supper. We raised over \$1,000 for the IAJHSC State Service Project "Our Military Kids". Thank you again for your generosity and your prayers.

**CONGRATULATIONS! WE MADE OUR GOAL FOR
THE 2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL!
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED!**

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS



Join us for our upcoming monthly Holy Hour for Vocations which will include time for quiet prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament, group prayers for Vocations, and will conclude with Benediction.

Thursday, April 18 at 6:30pm

Our diocese and our world need many good, holy priests and consecrated men and women, in addition to faithful marriages, to continue God's mission on this earth. Please join us to pray for all vocations.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet **Wednesday, April 17 at 6pm** in the Our Lady of the Rosary Room of the parish hall.

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 at 815-848-1705.

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**

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

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 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.

**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

To receive the Blessed Sacrament worthily, one must have a great desire for union with Jesus Christ.
~St. John Vianney

To withdraw from creatures and repose with Jesus in the tabernacle is my delight; there I can hide myself and seek rest. There I find a life which I cannot describe, a joy which I cannot make others comprehend, a peace such as is found only under the hospitable roof of our best friend.
~St. Ignatius of Loyola

All Eucharistic videos shown the past few months can be viewed at:
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



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Congress

JULY 17-21, 2024 | INDIANAPOLIS, IN

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 14, 2024

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
Monday	Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday	Acts 7:51—8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab; Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday	Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; Jn 6:35-40
Thursday	Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:51; Jn 6:44-51
Friday	Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59
Saturday	Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn 6:60-69
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18



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 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 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!

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 jmbill83@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**

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL FAMILIES THIS YEAR

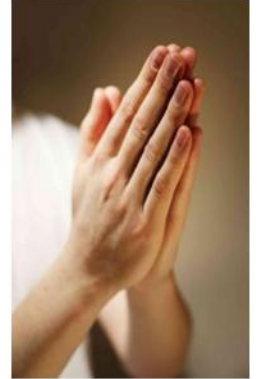
We ask everyone to pray for specific church and school families each weekday.

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 15
Tues Apr 16
Wed Apr 17
Thurs Apr 18
Fri Apr 19
Mon Apr 22
Tues Apr 23
Wed Apr 24
Thurs Apr 25
Fri Apr 26

Betty Benedino Family, Robert & Lynette Branz Family
Jeff & Becky Bertrand Family, Joan Blocker Family
Amy Bednar Family, Martin & Anne Bourgeois Family
Marilyn Benedino Family, Ed Broerman Family
Troy & Katie Bertsche Family, Lori Boatman Family
Jim & Pat Bednar Family, Sarah Bowling Family
Peter Benning Family, Marilyn Broerman Family
John & Peggy Beyer Family, Deb Bromberek Family
Peter Beebe Family, William & Diana Burbridge Family
Dave & Mary Billington Family, Bill & Linda Brummel Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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- PONTIAC



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www.KofC.org

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Fr. Joseph Baker, Chaplain
www.facebook.com/kofc854Pontiac



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sboone@diocesan.com



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Richard Gutknecht

