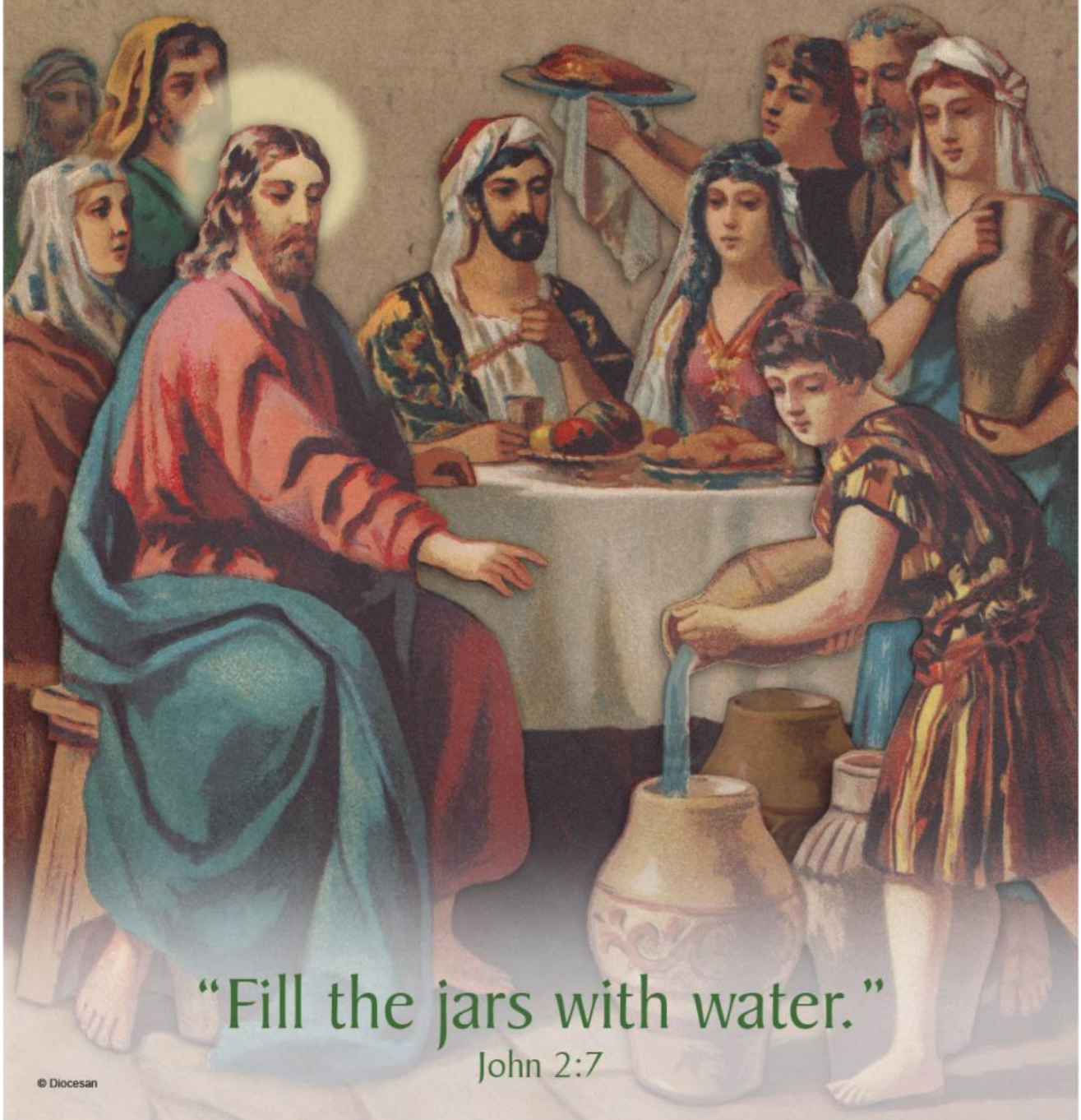


2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



“Fill the jars with water.”

John 2:7

© Diocesan

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Pontiac, Illinois
January 19, 2025

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

ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. David Sabel
fr.david.sabel@gmail.com

PAROCHIAL VICAR: Fr. David Whiteside
frdwhiteside@gmail.com

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

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday 9:00am-12 noon and 1:00-4:30pm

MASS TIMES:

Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 7:00 am & 9:30 am

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7:00 am

Tuesday 5:30 pm

Thursday 8:15 am when school is in session

CONFESSION TIMES:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 6:30-6:50 am

Tuesday 5:00-5:25 pm

Wednesday 12 noon -1:00 pm

Saturday 3:45-4:45 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.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 18

5:00 p.m. 55th wedd ann Harry & Pat Simpson

Sunday, January 19 (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Patricia Lyons

9:30 a.m. Parish

Monday, January 20 St. Fabian; St. Sebastian)

7:00 a.m. Bodee & Banks Heller

Tuesday, January 21 (St. Agnes)

5:30 p.m. Peter Collette

Wednesday, January 22 (Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children)

7:00 a.m. 15th ann Jo Reilly

Thursday, January 23 (St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope)

8:15 a.m. Louis & Karen Krenz

Friday, January 24 (St. Francis de Sales)

7:00 a.m. Edmund "Bud" Cassidy

Saturday, January 25 (Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle)

5:00 p.m. Teresa Stark

Sunday, January 26 (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:00 a.m. Patricia Lyons

9:30 a.m. Parish

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: The Adoration Chapel is open weekdays, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8am until 8pm and Saturday from 8am until 3pm. On Tuesday, Adoration is in the church from 8am to 5:30pm. 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, parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class which takes place on the **third Thursday of each month at 6:00pm**. Call the parish office at 815-844-7683 at least one week in advance to reserve your spot to help us prepare. *Do not select godparents until the class has been attended, this topic will be covered.

MASS AT OSF ST. JAMES HOSPITAL is offered every **Wednesday at 11:30am**. All are welcome to attend.

MASS AT LOCAL NURSING HOME: Mass will be offered at Accolade Health Center on **Friday, January 24 at 9:30am**.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Mary Lou Lischer (sister of Joan Crowley) and Peter Collette (brother of Joanne Coriell), R.I.P. Our sympathy to their families and friends.



STEWARDSHIP

Collection last Sunday: **\$11,403.65**

Building Maintenance Fund Collection: This weekend.

THANK YOU to those who regularly support our parish. We now offer Online Giving through our website. Check it out at www.stmaryspontiac.org

Visiting us for the weekend? Gone for the weekend or the winter? Forgot your envelope? Not a registered parishioner and don't get envelopes? Use this QR code to access Online Giving for recurring or one-time gifts to the Church, School, Food Pantry and Building Maintenance collections. Your gifts are greatly appreciated!



**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 1**



St. Mary's School invites everyone to our **OPEN HOUSE** next Sunday, January 26 from 10:30am-12noon. Please us the Main Street or old gym door entrances.



The Knights of Columbus will also be serving breakfast Sunday, January 26 from 7:30-11:30am. Pancakes & toppings, scrambled eggs, sausage and drink. Please join us after checking out the Open House at St. Mary's School.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SEWING CIRCLE will meet Thursday, January 23 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.

ADULT EDUCATION/OCIA (RCIA): This program is designed for:

- Anyone who is contemplating joining the Catholic Church
- Non-Catholics who have questions or concerns about Catholicism
- Catholics who would like a review of authentic Catholic teaching.

Our goal is to prepare all participants to apply Christian virtues to their daily lives and establish a basis for our beliefs. Please plan on joining us for, any or all, of our upcoming classes.

1/28 Paschal Mystery; 2/04 Christian Destiny; 2/18 Eucharist/Precepts; 03/04 Baptism, Confirmation, Communion; 3/11 Reconciliation, Anointing; 3/25 Holy Orders, Matrimony; 4/08 The Mass Explained. All classes will be offered on Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:00 in the Parish Hall. Please contact Jim (cell 815-419-4022) or Mary (cell 815-674-7197) with questions or suggestions.

HOME ROSARY GROUPS: Fr. Whiteside is encouraging parishioners to create a Home Rosary Group to meet in your home once a month to pray the Rosary. Fr. Whiteside would also like to join you for your group. The prayer time can involve a meal or snack but is not essential to the gathering. If you coordinate a Rosary Group, please call the parish office to let Fr. Whiteside know of your date and place so he can join you.

QUICK DRAW WINNERS: Congratulations to our December winners of the SMS Quick Draw Raffle: Mick & Amanda Lauritsen, Pat Unzicker, Dion Sullivan, Richard Salvator, Regina McGuire and Nick Barrett. Thank you for your support of St. Mary's School. More winners coming in January!

2024 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: CONGRATULATIONS! We have made our goal! We greatly appreciate all who pledged. When all pledges are paid in full, we could see approximately \$2,300 come back to our parish as a refund. **THANK YOU!**



**Come watch Season 4 of
THE CHOSEN
Every Wednesday evening
through February 26
at 6:30pm in the parish hall.
One episode per night.**

**WATCH 2025
Friday evening March 7
All day Saturday, March 8
Sunday, March 9 8am-4pm**

Pope Francis has chosen "Pilgrims of Hope" as the theme for this Jubilee Year. He tells us "The storms that buffet us will never prevail, for we are firmly anchored in the hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ and to overcome sin, fear and death."



(Spes non confundit, 25)
Join us for **WATCH 2025**, as we begin our pilgrimage through the 2025 Lenten season, **Building a Boat anchored in hope!**



ENCOUNTERING THE EUCHARIST

Bethlehem, the *house of bread*, is the Holy Church wherein the Body of Christ, the true bread is given. The manger of Bethlehem is the altar in the church. There, the animals are pastored and fed by Christ, as it is written: *In it shall your animals dwell [Ps 67:11]*. And of the altar, it is written: *You have prepared a table before me [Psalm 22:5]*. In Bethlehem's manger, Jesus was wrapped and covered in swaddling clothes. These wrappings are the veil of the Sacraments; indeed, the species of bread and wine are truly the Body and Blood of Christ. Just as Christ was present in Bethlehem, though covered by swaddling clothes, He is invisibly present in these Sacraments. We have no greater or clearer of a sign of the Nativity of Christ than the holy altar whereupon we daily receive the Body and Blood of Christ, because He who was once born of the Virgin, we daily recognize upon the altar, immolated for our sake.

~St. Aelred of Rievaulx (1110-1167)



JANUARY 19, 2025

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday



PRO

From the womb...



ABUNDANT

...to an infancy...



LIFE

...to childhood...



...we are here for you through every stage of life.

**TEACHERS &
SUPPORT STAFF
NEEDED AT
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
Second Grade Teacher,
Third Grade Teacher,
Jr. High Language Arts/
Literature Teacher,
Full Time Paraprofessional/
Teachers Aide**

Teacher applicants must have a valid Illinois teaching certificate. We are seeking Teachers who know and love 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

Sanctity >> the state or quality of being holy, sacred, or saintly

>What is SOHL?

We believe in the value God places on human life from conception to natural death and every stage in between.

As we celebrate life, we also mourn and remember the over 65 million+ babies lost to abortion.



How do WE help?

Hope Center offers a judgment free space for clients to come and learn, talk, heal, and find genuine help in their current life circumstance.



How can YOU help?

- Be a prayer partner
- Volunteer
- Be a financial partner



815.842.2484



www.pontiachope.org



2025-2026

LITTLE DISCIPLES PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION



4 year-old registration begins 2/3/25.
3 year-old registration begins 5/19/25 (if spots remain).



PROGRAM FEATURES :

- Full-day 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Structured and creative playtime
- Music, art, physical education, and technology
- Minimum one hour daily rest time
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program
- Flexible tuition payment plans
- Bus service available

OPEN HOUSE

Sun., Jan., 26 from 10:30 am - Noon

- ✓ Meet teachers & staff and tour campus
- ✓ Complete visit requirement
- ✓ Receive admissions information

For more information, contact us at:

- ☎ (815) 844-6585
- 🌐 school.stmaryspontiac.org
- ✉ gill.danielle@stmaryspontiac.org

Complimentary
breakfast
for prospective
families in the
Parish Hall
Please RSVP



ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS

**PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE
HOLY FATHER FOR JANUARY**

For the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 19, 2025

Sunday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11
Monday		Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday	St. Agnes	Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday		Heb 7:25—8:6; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
Friday	St. Francis de Sales	Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8, 10, 11-12, 13-4; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday	Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
Sunday	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27; Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21



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.



Seven days a week, 24 hours a day! Catholic Spirit Radio broadcasts EWTN and local programming for you! It's lively, entertaining, and informative. 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 NETWORK
PILGRIMAGE TO MOTHER ANGELICA'S SHRINE OF
THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT IN HANCEVILLE, AL
AND EWTN STUDIOS IN IRONDALE, AL
MONDAY, AUG. 18 to THURSDAY, AUG. 21, 2025**

\$1,100 per person includes tour bus transportation, 3 nights double-occupancy in a hotel, all meals on Tuesday and Wednesday, breakfast on Thursday, snacks, water and entertainment on the bus. Only 40 seats available. Early-bird special: Reserve your seat before January 31, 2025, with a deposit of \$500, and receive \$100 off the total price. Any remaining balance is due May 31, 2025. For more information, contact parishioner Jerry LoPiccalo at 630-514-6221 or Father David Sabel.

TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST (TEC), is a 3 day, overnight, fun filled, and spiritually exciting weekend that is open to teens of all faith from **High School Freshman through age 19**. A TEC weekend provides you with an opportunity to experience the true love that Christ has for all of us. A TEC weekend can be summed up in 4 words: **FAITH, FRIENDS, FUN, and FOOD!** The upcoming weekend is **February 15-17** and will be held at Central Catholic High School in Bloomington. There will be 2 TECs running concurrently. TEC 159 for young ladies, and TEC 160 for young men. So if you have completed the first semester of your freshman year you are eligible. Just go to bn-tec.org to register. Get your application in early to secure your spot, and don't forget to invite a friend!

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 2025-2026 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 Schools* and then under *John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship*. Consult the detailed protocols and procedures and checklist at the bottom of the webpage 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 2025-2026 school year must reapply. Deadline date for the completed application is April 25, 2025. Notification of grant awards will be made June 2025.



**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 Jan 20 Mark & Kristy Masching Family, Matthew Mattingly Family
- Tues Jan 21 Cathy Maubach Family, Nick & Adelle Masching Family
- Wed Jan 22 Teresa Masching Family, Carla Mays Family
- Thurs Jan 23 Claire Mays Family, Tim & Diane Masching Family
- Fri Jan 24 Todd Masching Family, Ricky & Brenda Matuszewski Family
- Mon Jan 27 Nikki McBeath Family, Bill & Michelle Masching Family
- Tues Jan 28 John McCarty Family, Vicki McBeath Family
- Wed Jan 29 Casey & Christine McCaskey Family,
Ryan & Amanda McCluskey Family
- Thurs Jan 30 Mary Helen McCorvie Family, Mike & Kathy McCoy Family
- Fri Jan 31 Adam & Christian McDermott Family, Ryan McGuckin Family



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAMILIES EVERY DAY!

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www.KofC.org

Grand Knight: Nick Ehrgott
(217) 248-0455
Fr. Joseph Baker, Chaplain
www.facebook.com/kofc854Pontiac

Greg Kurtenbach
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800-284-8343

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