

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Scriptures regularly remind us that **“with God all things are possible”** (Mt. 19:26). Over the past couple of years, we at St. Mary’s have walked together through a pandemic, cultural changes of all kinds and social strife. With God, we have weathered the storm and maintained our **call to be joyful disciples** in a world that needs to see joy.

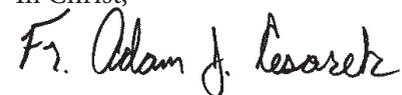
We have been strengthened in our call to discipleship and filled with the joy of Christ in these challenging times. God continues to strengthen us with the sacraments and as a community we have become stronger disciples of Jesus. Praise God for so many committed members of our parish community who have valued sharing their faith and bringing the love of God to our neighbors in these times. We know that with God these things have been possible, and God certainly has even more that He desires to do going forward.

With this in mind, I invite you to respond to St. Mary Catholic Church’s new stewardship program: **“Making Disciples for the Mission”**. Please review the contents of this brochure and prayerfully consider how you and your family can play an active role in how Jesus Christ will continue working through our parish community. Our goal is to increase our Sunday offertory contributions in order to bring Jesus Christ to as many people as possible. This is a difficult task in the world today, but I am confident that our faithful parishioners are up to the challenge.

On February 6, our parish will hold a special Commitment Weekend, inviting the members of St. Mary Parish to connect with one another to make a financial commitment that will allow us to continue this important work. We are counting on you! Please participate in our “Making Disciples for the Mission” Program and help us respond to God’s great gift of love by helping make more joyful disciples for Jesus and His Church.

Thank you for your generosity, prayers and commitment to St. Mary Catholic Church!

In Christ,



Father Adam



Connect with Us

Fr. Adam Cesarek
Pastor
father.adam@stmaryspontiac.org
815-844-7683

Patti Zehr
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper
zehr.patti@stmaryspontiac.org
815-844-7683

Ways to Support & Give to Our Parish



ONLINE

Visit our website to give electronically
at www.stmaryspontiac.org



MAIL

Mail to:
119 E Howard St.
Pontiac, IL 61764



STOCK OPTIONS

Make a Stock Gift. Call the parish
office at 815-844-7683

Scan this QR code with your
smartphone to fill out your
Commitment Card online.



www.stmaryspontiac.org



Making Disciples for the Mission

ST. MARY'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH
PONTIAC, IL



Financial Snapshot:

CHURCH ONLY
July 1 - December 31, 2021

Operating Income

Sunday Collections	\$306,396.00
Building Maintenance Collection	\$14,781.00
Interest Income	\$11,130.00
Rental Income	\$1,281.00
Gifts/Bequests/Memorials	\$82,323.00
Reimbursements from Other Parishes	<u>\$17,202.00</u>
<i>Total Income to Date</i>	<i>\$433,113.00</i>

Operating Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	\$97,163.00
Maintenance & Supplies	\$43,262.00
Property/Liability Insurance	\$27,115.00
Rent & Utilities	\$33,628.00
School Subsidy	\$159,000.00
Other Expenses	<u>\$5,025.00</u>
<i>Total Expenses to Date</i>	<i><u>\$365,193.00</u></i>
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$67,920.00

Making Disciples at our parish

Making Disciples for the Mission is a visible sign of the body of Christ that together we do great things. Nourished by prayer and the sacraments, the members of our parish community are journeying on the path of discipleship and growing in relationship with Jesus Christ daily. We value discipleship and evangelization.

834

Families in our parish

28

Baptisms

14

First Communion

28

Confirmations

31

Funerals

150

Children in Full-time School

35

Children in Faith Formation/CCD

8

RCIA Candidates

Making Disciples for the Lord

As we strive to make disciples, good stewardship plays a key role. Stewardship isn't a code word for financial support. Stewardship is about doing the work of Christ and engaging our many resources to further the ministry and mission of Our Lord. Remembering that everything we have is a gift from our creator.

421

Masses said in our church each year

3,120

Hours devoted to Eucharistic Adoration

4,000

Visits by Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound /nursing home residents

139

Parishioners served in Liturgical Ministry

47

Greeters & Ushers welcomed parishioners

Making Disciples to spread the Good News

We know the importance of spreading the Good News to our neighbors. Through our many ministries, and our social and service-oriented outreach programs, we put into action the truth stated so eloquently by St. John the Apostle: "If God so loved us, we also must love one another" (1 Jn 4:11).

\$77,000

Contributed to St. Mary's Food Pantry

464

Households received Food Assistance

24

Families received Housing Assistance

119

Deceased recognized at our All Soul's Memorial Mass

3,000

Rosaries made for nursing homes, prisons and missions

30

Volunteers keeping our parish grounds in shape