

**4th Sunday of Lent - Laetare - Rejoice**  
**March 15, 2026**

“Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7

 Offering	<b>St. Mary</b>	<b>St. Mark</b>
Sunday Contributions	5206.00	837.00
Online Giving	0.00	0.00
Rectory Roof (weekly)	N/A	221.00

**DEVOTIONS DURING LENT**

**ST. MARK**

† **Wednesdays** — Rosary at 5:00 PM

† **Fridays** — One hour of Adoration at 5:00 PM followed by the Stations of the Cross

**ST. MARY**

† **Fridays** — Stations of the Cross at 6:00 PM

**NO** soup or sandwiches after Stations of the Cross.

**Mass Intentions**  
 FOR THE WEEK 

**LITURGY SERVER SCHEDULE**  
**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK**

MONDAY, MARCH 16

8:00 AM (W) **NO MASS** \*

TUESDAY, MARCH 17 St. Patrick

8:00 AM (P) **NO MASS** \*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18 St. Cyril of Jerusalem

8:00 AM (P) **Father Mark Schulte**

THURSDAY, MARCH 19 St. Joseph Spouse BVM

8:00 AM (W) + **Deacon Kim Scott**

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

8:00 AM (P) **NO MASS** \*

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

8:00 AM (P) **NO MASS** \*

6:00 PM (P) **NO MASS** \*

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

8:30 AM (P) + **Ron Grimsley**

10:30 AM (W) + **Edwin and Vivian Schulte**

**NO Saturday Evening Mass**  
**Weekday Masses Wednesday/Thursday**

**LITURGY SERVER SCHEDULE**

**No longer published in bulletin.**

**Refer to monthly schedule as provided.**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY "TODAY" FATHER MARK**



**We have the opportunity to wish Father a very Happy Birthday, today, Sunday, March 15th.**

**We are praying for a speedy recovery for you and that today is the first day toward a speedy and full recovery! HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FATHER!**

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK**



**Pat Dailey — Theresa Cooley — Sandy Davies — Joann Delacruz — Khoy DeWitt**  
**Joan Dieker — Bill Hannant — Gloria Heinen — Laura Hughes — Jace Michael Kunkle**  
**Kris Lundberg — Becky Mann — Aaron McCarter — Aniyah McCarter**  
**Kingston McCarter — Gary McCartney — Dawn Partain — John Peters**  
**Dave Pfeiffer — Kay Rowley — Teresa Shank — Lindell Shireman — Jim Stark**  
**Mary Fran Smith — Donna Smith — Raylan Turnbull — Joshua Turpin**  
**Carol Ward — Kent & Connie Wasson — Gene Whewell**  
**Sharon Wiese — Colleen Wishall**

**Catechetical Corner**

**Examination of Conscience for Children**

The term “Catholic guilt” is still very much a part of our cultural lexicon. It implies that Catholicism teaches us to be ashamed of and feel bad about ourselves. It lives on as a relic of Jansenism, a heresy arising from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries that emphasized our sinful nature and deemphasized God’s mercy and the possibility of real moral progress. Several great saints, such as Alphonsus Liguori, Thérèse of Lisieux, Faustina Kowalska, and John XXIII, were spiritual gladiators who rooted out Jansenistic tendencies and placed a great emphasis on confidence in God’s mercy. Nonetheless, relics of Jansenism live on in public perception, especially among people who got stuck in a childhood understanding of the Faith.

Because none of us wants to wallow in guilt with a sense of doom, we tend to adopt an “I’m OK, you’re OK” approach, along with a vague social contract that includes being nice, tolerant, and a generally “good” person. We stay away from words like “sin” and even farther away from the confessional, where we would have to confront its reality. When it comes to our children, we might avoid the whole topic of sin because we want them to develop a sense of self-esteem rather than a sense of guilt.

Talking to kids about sin can feel delicate. We want to be honest about right and wrong without creating fear or shame. **Ascension Press has created a free guide to help you explain sin in an age-appropriate way while rooted in truth and grounded in God’s mercy. The free guide also includes an Examination of Conscience designed for children.**



<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/examination-of-conscience-free-download-rr>

**PREPARE EARLY FOR HOLY WEEK**

**Holy Thursday (April 2) 7 PM — St. Mary**

**Good Friday (April 3) 5 PM — St. Mark**

**Good Friday (April 3) 7 PM — St. Mary**

**Holy Saturday (April 4) 7 PM — St. Mary**

**Easter Sunday (April 5)**

**8:30 AM — St. Mary**

**10:30 AM — St. Mark**



*A Journey Through Lent*

**Father Mark’s Homilies Online:**  
**www.stmaryspittsfield.org**

## MARCH MASS SCHEDULE:

**DAILY MASS — 8:00 AM**

**Wednesday — ST. MARY**

**Thursday — ST. MARK**

**CONFESSIONS (or by appointment)**

**After daily Mass Wednesday & Thursday**

**Sunday 8:15 AM — ST. MARY**

**Sunday after Mass — ST. MARK**

**NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS**

**ST. MARY**

**SUNDAY MORNING MASSES**

**8:30 AM — ST. MARY**

**10:30 AM — ST. MARK**

**Father appreciates your prayers!**

## ST. MARY

**NEED A CUSHION IN THE PEW?** If you would like to use a black cushion, you will find them as you enter Church, just under the large print missalettes. A few have requested them so they have been made available to you. **Please return them as you leave.**

## ANNUAL DIOCESAN COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Your support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection empowers and brings healing to communities affected by poverty and injustice. Your participation helps MRS and five other Catholic ministries to reveal Christ's love to victims of trafficking, war, and natural disaster, both around the world and here in the United States. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection this year. Excerpts from letter from Bishop Paprocki (You will find envelopes for this collection in our packets.) Thanks for your continued generosity.

**You are invited to Lenten Day of Recollection in Springfield** – Through conferences and personal prayer time, this Lenten Day of Reflection on **Sunday, March 22** at the Villa Maria Retreat Center on Lake Springfield will help you to contemplate on and to experience more deeply the infinite and tender love of Christ for all of humanity. It will also help you prepare for Holy Week and Easter. Arrival is at 2 p.m., and it concludes at 7 p.m. The day includes conferences, adoration, time for prayer, the *Rosary*, confession, and dinner. The cost is \$25. Register by March 15 at [dio.org/events](http://dio.org/events).

**EASTER CHOIR** — We will be practicing **Tuesdays from 4:30 PM to 6 PM in the choir loft at ST. MARY'S**. Please come and join us as we prepare for the Easter Triduum - Men and Women! We need those foundational voices of the men, and we have a good group that you can join right into. You do not have to be a vocal star! Just come and share your talents and God will bless them!

## ST. MARY'S

### Altar and Rosary Society

will sponsor a **bake sale on Sunday, March 29, 2026 in the Gathering Space**. All ladies (*and men if you like to bake*) are asked to donate baked goods for this event. The items will be sold as "free will donation" and all proceeds will go to **St. Mary's Renovation Project Fund**.

Several churches in our Diocese are available for **Special Year of St. Francis pilgrimage so you can receive indulgence** – Pope Leo XIV declared a Special Year of St. Francis to mark the 800th anniversary of his death, **running until January 2027**. During this time, the faithful can obtain a plenary indulgence by visiting Franciscan churches or praying spiritually if unable to travel, following the usual conditions of going to Confession, receiving the Eucharist, and praying for the pope's intentions (e.g., one Our Father and Hail Mary). For example, in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, one can make a pilgrimage to St. Francis of Assisi Church in Teutopolis, St. Francis of Assisi Church in Springfield, or St. Francis Adoration Chapel in Alton (home of the Sisters of St. Francis of Martyr St. George).

Taken from Parish Link

## 4th SUNDAY OF LENT - Laetare - Rejoice

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent and treasure here on earth.

## March 15, 2026 . Fourth Sunday of Lent

### ST. MARY

**Knights of Columbus Meeting** — Monday, March 16, 6:30 PM, Parish Hall.

**Altar Society Bake Sale** — Sunday, March 29, Gathering Space, Free Will Donation!

**Rosary Before and After Mass** — Sundays (to be offered for Father and his healing).

**Easter Choir Practice** — Tuesday evenings from 4:30 to 6:00 PM, church choir loft.

**That Man Is You** — Wednesday mornings, 6:30 AM, Parish Hall.

**PSR Classes** — Wednesday evenings, 6:00 to 7:30 PM.

**Adult Education Class** — Wednesday evenings, 6:30 PM, Parish Hall.

**Hour of Adoration (healing for Father) — Fridays , 3-4 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet 3:00 PM.**

**Stations of the Cross** — Friday evenings at 6:00 PM during Lent.

**Men's Group** — First Saturday, 6:30 AM, Parish Hall.

**Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle** — First Saturday after 8:00 AM Mass.

**Legion of Mary** — Friday mornings, 7:45 AM, Gathering Space except 1st Friday

**Food Pantry Collection** — First weekend each month at Masses (April 4 & 5).

**24-Eucharistic Adoration** — First Friday/Saturday (No Adoration in April / Holy Week) .

### ST. MARK

**Knights of Columbus Meeting** — Monday, March 16, 6:30 PM, **at ST. MARY'S**.

**Rosary** — Tuesday mornings at 8:00 AM.

**Pray Rosary** — Wednesday evenings at 5:00 PM during Lent.

**Men's Group** — Thursday mornings, 6:45 AM, Church Basement.

**Lenten Devotions** — Friday evenings during Lent: 1-Hour of Adoration at 5 PM followed by the Stations of the Cross.

**Bread of Love** — Weeks of: April 13, May 26.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING**  
**Monday, March 16th — 6:30 PM**  
**St. Mary's Parish Hall**



## ST. MARY

226 E. Adams  
Pittsfield, IL 62363

**Website:** [www.stmaryspittsfield.org](http://www.stmaryspittsfield.org)

**Online Giving:** <https://www.pushpay.com/g/stmaryspittsfield>

Office: (217) 285-4321 / Fax: (217) 285-9400 / [secretary@stmaryspittsfield.org](mailto:secretary@stmaryspittsfield.org)

**Weekend Mass:** Sunday 8:30 AM / NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS

**Daily Mass:** Wednesday 8:00 AM

**Confession:** after Wednesday Mass and before Sunday Mass 8:15 AM



## ST. MARK

108 Pearl Street  
Winchester, IL 62694

**Online Giving:** <https://www.pushpay.com/g/stmarkwinchester>

Office: (217) 285-4321 / [secretary@stmaryspittsfield.org](mailto:secretary@stmaryspittsfield.org)

**Weekend Mass:** Sunday 10:30 AM / NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS

**Daily Mass:** Thursday 8:00 AM **Reconciliation:** after Thursday Mass and Sunday Mass



## Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

(217) 698-8500

[www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org)

**Bishop Thomas John Paprocki**

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation Number  
217-321-1155

**Rev. Mark A. Schulte, Pastor**  
**Parish Secretaries:** Pat Galle & Jo Whewell  
217-285-4321  
**Interim DRE/PSR Program:** Mickey Elliott  
217-285-6702  
**Parish Office Hours:** Monday—Friday  
8:30 AM -- 11:30 AM  
12:30 PM -- 4:30 PM

