

**Third Sunday of Lent
March 8, 2026**

“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again.” JOHN 4:13

| | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Offering  | St. Mary | St. Mark |
| Sunday Contributions | 3084.00 | 690.00 |
| Online Giving | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Rectory Roof (weekly) | N/A | 248.00 |

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 SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 9 St. Frances of Rome
8:00 AM (W) **NO MASS ***

TUESDAY, MARCH 10
8:00 AM (P) **NO MASS ***

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
8:00 AM (P) **Debbie Davidson**

THURSDAY, MARCH 12
8:00 AM (W) **Barbara Ann Moore**

FRIDAY, MARCH 13
8:00 AM (P) **NO MASS ***

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
8:00 AM (P) **NO MASS ***
6:00 PM (P) **NO MASS ***

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY, MARCH 15
8:30 AM (P) + **Becky Ghrist**
10:30 AM (W) + **Dr. John Dailey**

NO Saturday Evening Mass
Weekday Masses Wednesday/Thursday

LITURGY SERVER SCHEDULE

ST. MARY

NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS

MARCH 15 - 8:30 AM - SUNDAY

Lector – Gabe Wheelen
Ushers – Volunteers
Server – Bodie & Asher Marable, Timothy Wessing

ST. MARK

MARCH 8 - 10:30 AM - SUNDAY

Lector — Jenny Schmidgall

MARCH 15 - 10:30 AM - SUNDAY

Lector — Andy Moss

PRAY FOR OUR SICK



**Pat Dailey — Theresa Cooley — Sandy Davies — Joann Delacruz — Joan Dieker
Bill Hannant — 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

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

One important spiritual discipline that can help us to deepen our spiritual life through Scripture is called “lectio divina”, which is Latin for “sacred reading.” The early Christians imitated the Jewish model of using Scripture (the Old Testament) as a gateway into prayer. Once the New Testament books were written, Christians approached these sacred texts in the same way. They understood that God was the author of Scripture, and that he was personally present in the words of Scripture. They read the words in a way that connected them to God. They learned how to read the Word of God with their hearts as well as their minds.

According to Pope Benedict XVI in the post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *Verbum Domini* (nos. 86-87), “lectio divina” is broken down into the following phases:

1. Reading (Lectio), “What does the text say?”
2. Meditation (Meditatio), “What does the text say to me?”
3. Prayer (Oratio), “What do I say to God in response to this text?”
4. Contemplation (Contemplatio), “What is God saying to me?”
5. As a result of the encounter with God in Scripture, we are also called to Action (Actio). Although this phase is often not considered to be a part of “lectio divina” proper, it is an essential result of the encounter with God in Sacred Scripture. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote, “We do well also to remember that the process of “lectio divina” is not concluded until it arrives at Action (Actio), which moves the believer to make his or her life a gift for others in charity” (no. 87).

If we are to pray “lectio divina” successfully, we need to learn some new habits. First, we must slow down. Sacred reading takes time. We also need to learn to read differently. We’re accustomed to reading texts to understand the information they convey. It’s a cognitive process, an act of the intellect. The goal of “sacred reading,” however, is to seek God. It’s an exercise of the heart and a process that’s led by the Holy Spirit.

www.catholicreview.org/ www.thereligionteacher.com/ www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/post-synodal-apostolic-exhortation-verbum-domini-23602

Ames, Fr. Mark-Mary. (2024). The Rosary in a Year Prayer Guide. Ascension Publishing Group, LLC.

Please pray for repose of the souls:

BECKY GHRIST
(member of **St. Mary's Parish**)

HELEN HEINEN
(mother of Gloria Heinen
former DRE at **St. Mary's Parish**)

DR. JOHN DAILEY
(member of **St. Mark's Parish**)

We offer our prayers and sympathy to their family and friends. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in the peace and love of our dear Lord.



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!

Attention 2026 Catholic Female High School Graduates! Apply for \$2,000 scholarship

The Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (SDCCW) is awarding four \$2,000 scholarships to graduating female seniors from the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois who exemplify the SDCCW mission. The mission of the SDCCW is to support and empower Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. The SDCCW is affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW). Applications must be received by April 15. For more information, contact our parish office.

Parish link

St. Mary's Seasonal Church Cleaning

We are looking for helping hands to deep clean **ST. MARY'S Church** prior to our Easter Celebration. Any day, any time can be arranged for your convenience prior to March 27, 2026. Examples of projects to be undertaken include: windows (valences and blinds), overhead lights, baseboards cleaned, black cassocks and white surplices washed, etc. Work at your own pace! Form your own crew. Cleaning supplies will be provided.



Congratulations Yvonne DiPrizio!

St. Mary's 2026 Woman of Distinction

We thank Yvonne for her gifts of humility, love, kindness, and generosity. May we all follow her example and strive to have the "heart of a servant"!



ST. MARY'S BAKE SALE

Sunday, March 29 — Gathering Space
Proceeds go to parish hall renovation!

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!



San Damiano College for the Trades in Springfield, is happy to announce that we will have \$5,000 scholarships available for five incoming freshmen in the fall of 2026.

These scholarships are only available for students who reside in a Tracy Family Foundation County.



Please contact Joanne Gaston at igaston@sandamianotrades.org for further information and to schedule a campus visit.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us over the long run. When we build our lives around material possessions we will always want more, and no amount will ever satisfy our desire. True joy and peace only come when we follow Jesus — when we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered."

March 8, 2026 . Third Sunday of Lent

ST. MARY

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

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.



Daylight saving time began TODAY, Sunday, March 8, 2026.

ST. MARY

226 E. Adams
Pittsfield, IL 62363

Office: (217) 285-4321 / Fax: (217) 285-9400 / 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

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



ST. MARK

108 Pearl Street
Winchester, IL 62694

Office: (217) 285-4321 / 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**

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



Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

(217) 698-8500

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

