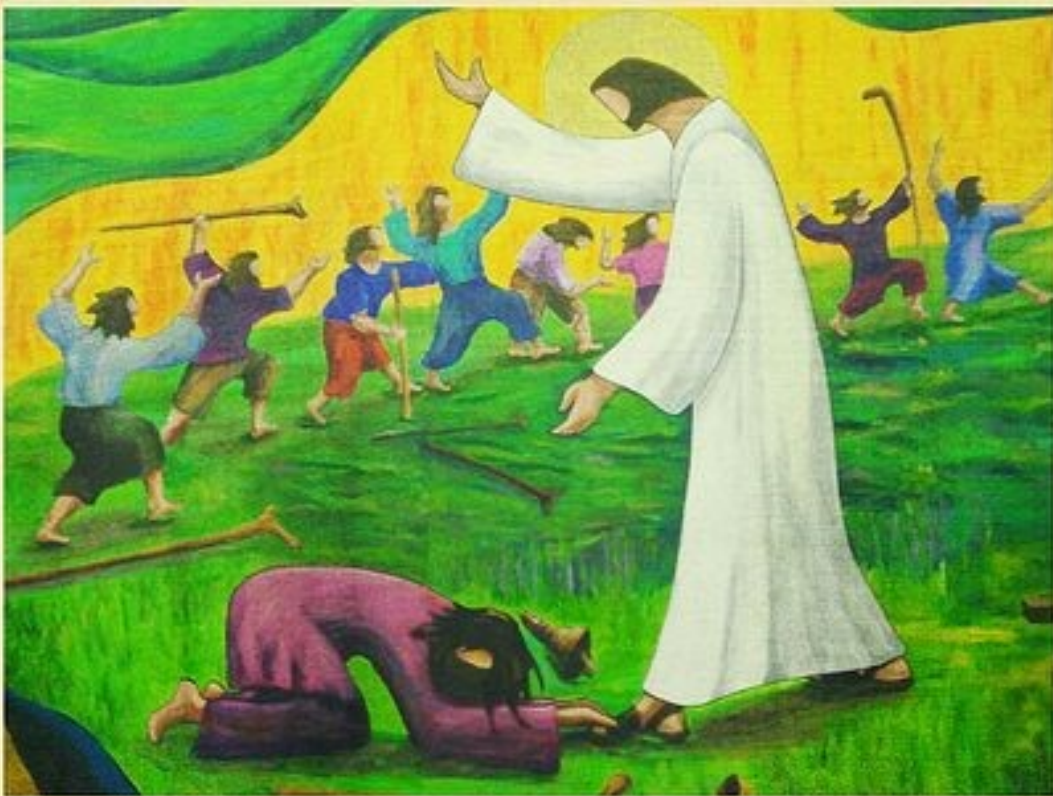


# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Fr. Tuan Van Nguyen



One of them, when he saw  
he was healed, came back,  
praising God in a loud voice.  
He threw himself at Jesus' feet  
and thanked Him.  
(Luke 17:15-16)

Sunday, October 9, 2022

Contact Information:

P.O. Box 456

Minooka, IL 60447

Parish Office: 815-467-2233

Parish Email: [stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net)

# Bishop Hicks Column - October 2022

**October 2022**

## **Pruning our diocesan tree so that we may thrive and grow**

For anyone who lives in the Midwest or northern regions of the United States, news of consolidations, mergers and closings of Catholic parishes and schools has become a frequent reality. Across the country, Catholic dioceses and archdioceses are implementing or have completed restructuring processes, including Cincinnati, Columbus, Boston, Pittsburgh and St. Louis.

Closer to home, our neighbors on our diocesan borders also have begun or have been attending to these same issues. Specifically, the Archdiocese of Chicago has been engaged in a seven-year, proactive process of structural and spiritual renewal known as "Renew My Church." Also, just recently, the Diocese of Peoria announced its two-year process of pastoral planning called "Growing Disciples."

When I was installed as the bishop of the Diocese of Joliet two years ago, I was immediately inundated with statistics of too few pastors to cover too many parishes, especially as we project the numbers into the near future. I was also confronted with declining Mass attendance and budgetary issues, all exacerbated by the pandemic.

Many people have continued to ask me, "Bishop, are you planning on running a 'Renew My Church' in our diocese?" My answer has been consistent and constant: "Our parishes and schools will need to be looked at. However, before that, I need to get my own house in order." "My own house" refers to the diocesan offices and the Catholic Schools Office, which are housed in the Blanchette Catholic Center (BCC.)

To do so, I hired consultants known as The Reid Group. They are practicing Catholics who know and love the Church. They are also excellent at intensive listening, identifying issues and making recommendations to help dioceses change in order to thrive. Following their recommendations, we have streamlined the BCC's staffing from 99 to 70 employees and updated our organizational chart to reflect an approach that is outward-focused, effective and efficient. While this change has been successful in reducing our operating deficit and achieving a balanced budget, I am also keenly aware of the real-life impact of this process. Severance packages and an extremely healthy job market may have eased the transition for the affected individuals, yet this type of change is never easy. Please join me in my continuing prayers for the individuals impacted by the changes.

The Reid Group also recommended that after getting "my house in order," we should embark on a second phase to review diocesan parishes and schools. They emphasized that if we are going to ensure continued vitality in our diocese, then we would need to consider possible mergers, consolidations, or closures.

To begin this process, since July, I have gathered my senior staff at the BCC with the eight pastors who serve as deans – or leaders – of the eight deaneries – geographic regions – of the diocese. So far, we have met to listen to facts and trends, and have had discussions about potential parishes and schools that may need to merge, consolidate or close. At these initial meetings, I have been clear that I will NOT ask all our parishes and schools to participate in this process. Instead, we will focus on specific areas in the Diocese of Joliet to address specific situations. To reiterate, phase two will NOT be a diocesan-wide process. Instead, it will occur over the next two to three years in what I am calling a targeted restructuring.

Some people have already asked me -- some jokingly and some seriously -- if I already have a secret list in a vault in my office containing the names of the parishes and schools that will be affected. The answer to that question is an emphatic "No!" My senior staff and the deans will discern and collaborate to create a list of parishes and schools whose futures will need to be addressed in three stages: Urgent; in the next year; and in two to three years. When we have reached consensus on what parishes and schools will be affected by this targeted restructuring process, we will continue to share and publish the information through various channels, including our diocesan website.

Once specific parishes and schools are informed they will be engaged in targeted restructuring, they will begin a process of preparation, assessment and discernment before final decisions are made or changes implemented. Please know we are committed to actively listening to the voices of the pastors, principals, parishioners, parish employees and volunteers.

During these past two years, you have often heard me praise the Diocese of Joliet. We are a great diocese filled with amazing laity, religious and priests. We are experiencing so much success implementing my vision of catechesis, evangelization and faith into action. Why, then, am I leading us into this targeted restructuring? It is because most of us want to see a Church that is focused on the mission of Jesus Christ and not on the preservation of our buildings. As missionary disciples, we should all desire a Church that is thriving, growing and following the Gospel. In other words, everything we do as a Church needs to be about the salvation of souls.

At the end of the day, I do not want us to be viewed as a diocese that buried its head in the sand or kicked the can down the road. Instead, with deep faith in God, we need to prune some of the structural branches, so that our Church can continue to produce great fruit.

Soon, we will announce which parishes and schools in our diocese will participate in the urgent phase of the targeted restructuring process. We ask that you receive this news with an open, collaborative heart focused on the common good of our diocese. Please join me in praying for this process so that we all may seek and hear the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we begin this journey together.



# A Message from Fr. Tuan

Dear Parishioners,

Please help me welcome our Bishop of Joliet, Bishop Ronald Hicks, to St. Mary's on October 30th. He will be here to say 11:00am Mass for us.

Here is a reflection for this weekend's readings, The 28th Sunday in ordinary time , Year C:



We are called to be the tenth leper. Few of us have had the same experience of ten lepers in the Gospel: cast out from the rest of society, afflicted with a terrible disease.

But our sins can be like that disease, separating us from a loving relationship with God and with our neighbor. Jesus heals the lepers, curing them of their leprosy and readmitting them to society. Only the tenth leper, a foreigner, returned to the Lord, to give thanks. The word Luke uses for giving thanks is *euchariston*. When we come here each week to celebrate the Eucharist, we, like the tenth leper, are returning to the Lord to give thanks. We have been cleansed as well, for Jesus suffered and died for our sins, redeeming us despite our sinfulness. We are called, like the tenth leper, to live lives of gratitude, lives of thanksgiving, living centered in the Eucharist, since all that we have and all that we may attain are given to us by God. May we too hear the words the tenth leper did: "Stand up and go' your faith has saved you" (Luke 17:19).

How can you be a Eucharistic person, giving thanks for all you have received from God?

Love and Prayers,

Fr. Tuan



Tickets for CCW's November 6th Bunco Fundraiser will go on sale October 8th after all masses and at Donut Sunday. Tickets are \$10.00. We will be serving desserts and light snacks. We will also have our Raffle Baskets and Split the Pot Raffle.

If you have any questions please text/call Jeanne at 815-545-2354 or email at [jeanchuck73@gmail.com](mailto:jeanchuck73@gmail.com)

## Undy Sunday

October 16th

Next weekend is the annual UNDY SUNDAY collection. We will be collecting underwear and socks in sizes 3T to 5T. There is a box in the back of church for any donations. Thank you!





## Joyful Again

*If you have been recently widowed and are still struggling with the loss, or if you have been wid-*

*owed for some time and*

*need something to get you “over the hump” because you seem stuck in one spot, this program is designed to help you move on with life while still treasuring your past and its precious memories*

*This unique retreat/workshop will be held at*

**Nazareth Retreat House, Batavia, Illinois.** The Joyful

Again! program is for both men and women (all ages)

who have been widowed and are still trying to find hope and new joy in life. All are welcome.

**What: Retreat/workshop for Widowed Men & Women**

**When: November 5 & 6 (2-day program – overnight only)**

**Where: NAZARETH Retreat House, Batavia, Illinois**

**For further information, call: 708-354-7211.**

Euchre October 15th



**Euchre will be in the Parish Center, Oct 15 after Mass.**

## Question of the Week

Q. I heard people talking the other day about how we are saved. I always thought we could only be saved by Jesus, but some of them said we could be saved by good works. What's the right answer?

A. Interestingly, the two answers are not opposed to each other!

So how are we saved? By Jesus or by being good? I think, in practice, many people believe, whether they realize it or not, that they will make it to Heaven if they try to be good. Though there is some truth to this, it's important to explain how this works. Otherwise we may fall into the trap of thinking that we can save ourselves by doing good. And that's just not possible.

First of all, there is only one way to Heaven; Jesus! Jesus did not come to die on the Cross just so that some people could get to Heaven through Him and others could find their own way. No, Jesus is the one and only way we are saved. In fact, if someone who knows nothing about Jesus, because they have never been taught, dies and goes to Heaven, they made it to Heaven because of Jesus. For example, if a baby dies and goes to Heaven that child has not been able to consciously acknowledge Jesus as his or her savior while in life. But this is not their fault given their age. But Jesus is their savior and the savior of everyone in Heaven.

With that said, what about good works? Can good works save us? Well, kind of, in a sense. But it has to be understood what is really happening. You see, if we are living in God's grace then we are in what's called "a state of grace." This means that the gift of Jesus' death and resurrection is active and alive in our lives. It also means that if we die in this state of grace we will go to Heaven once we are purified of all remnants of sin. But, regarding our good works, we need to see a certain essential connection to the saving grace of the Cross and how we live. The fact of the matter is that if we have Jesus' grace alive in our lives, we will do good works. And on the flip side, if we are not doing any good works, it is a clear sign that we are not in His grace and thus will not be saved. So the grace of Jesus as our savior will be seen in our actions too.



# Religious Education

Good Morning RE Families,

We trust your RE year is going well and we hope that your children are enjoying their classes!

We have over 350 students this year in RE!! A great number!!

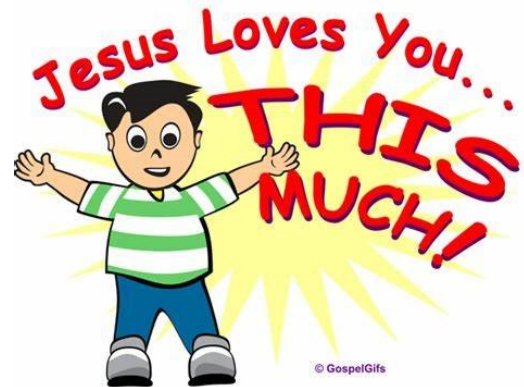
Thank you to all of our Catechists and volunteers who make our RE program the best in the area!!

Just wanted to let you know that my door is always open to you if you have any questions or needs.

Please reach out to me.

Peace and Blessings,

Deacon Fred Ban  
Director of Faith Formation



## Spiritual Adoption

If you would like the entire publication in a booklet form please go to [dioceseofjoliet.org](http://dioceseofjoliet.org) and in the search box type in spiritual adoption.



### Week 29

"It seems unbelievable, but if I were to be born today, I would have about an 80% chance of surviving. Can you believe how far I've come? I don't want to enter the world just yet. I still have some growing to do, but it's nice to know that if I was born today, I'd have a good chance. Even though I am not growing a whole lot longer, I am still gaining weight slowly to prepare for my life with my family. Please keep praying for me."

## *Adult Faith Formation*



**MONDAYS AT 4 30PM IN THE PARISH CENTER**

Last week, Bishop Barron reminded us that God does not need our sacrifice, but we need to sacrifice.

This week, Fr. Burke Masters will reveal the background and the importance of the Preface, the Sanctus, and the Eucharistic Prayer.

# Saint of the week

St Calistus:

When Zephyrinus died in 219, Callistus was proclaimed pope over the protests of his rival candidate Hippolytus. He seemed to have as strong a hatred of heresy as Hippolytus, however, because he banished one of the heretics named Sabellius.



Callistus came to power during a crucial time of the Church.

Was it going to hang on to the rigid rules of previous years and limit itself to those who were already saints or was it going to embrace sinners as Christ commanded? Was its mission only to a few holy ones or to the whole world, to the healthy or to the sick? We can understand Hippolytus' fear -- that hypocritical penitents would use the Church and weaken it in the time when they faced persecution. But Callistus chose to trust God's mercy and love and opened the doors. By choosing Christ's mission, he chose to spread the Gospel to all.

Pope Callistus is listed as a martyr but we have no record of how he was martyred or by whom. There were no official persecutions at the time, but he may well have been killed in riots against Christians.

As sad as it is to realize that the only story we have of his life is by an enemy, it is glorious to see in it the fact that the Church is large enough not only to embrace sinners and saints, but to proclaim two people saints who hold such wildly opposing views and to elect a slave and an alleged ex-convict to guide the whole Church. There's hope for all of us then!

## SAVE THE DATE

St. Mary's Chili Cook-Off

And

Ice Cream Social



Saturday, November 12th

In the Parish Center

Taste Testing and Voting will Begin at 6:00pm

**Saturday, November 12** n  
**in the Parish Center**

And Kids Activities

While you wait to hear the winner announced

For more info or to sign up to be a contestant

Please Email JeanChuck73@gmail.com

*Start Perfecting Those Recipes!*

## Learn English at St. Mary's.

We are starting a beginner English Class on October 20th, from 9:00- 10:30am on Thursdays. We will meet at the Parish Center at 303 W. St. Mary's Street, across from the church.

Learn, visit, and practice.

Aprende, Visita y Practica Inglés.

To register, call Jean (815) 467-5006 or Maria

(Spanish) (815)  
557-9091

Por favor,  
registrar  
llamada Jean o  
Maria.





**THANK YOU**

**THANK YOU**

**THANK YOU**

Thank You to everyone from CCW who donated baked goods,  
helped plate and serve, or helped with cleanup at Oktoberfest.

The assortment of bakery was fantastic!

Many compliments were received about the great selection.

Your donations of bakery and time is greatly appreciated!



# Volunteer Schedule

	<b>Altar Server</b>	<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	<b>Lector</b>
<b>Saturday, October 15, 5:00pm</b>	<b>Brooklyn Lehner</b>	<b>Roy Sabuco</b>	<b>Carolyn Healy</b>
<b>Sunday, October 16, 7:30am</b>	<b>Antonio Esquivel</b>	<b>Carole Fremarek</b>	<b>Ric Offerman</b>
<b>Sunday, October 16, 9:00am</b>	<b>Molly Schramm</b>	<b>Erica Schramm Sydney Yunker</b>	<b>Mike Schramm</b>
<b>Sunday, October 16, 11:00am</b>	<b>Keighera Fleming</b>	<b>Jessica Folsom Jane Spray</b>	<b>Bruce Ukockis</b>

## Welcome to St. Mary's Church!

**Would you like to become a Registered Parishioner?**

We are so blessed to have you with us today and every day! Our liturgies are made better by your presence and participation. We hope that you find the experience here at St. Mary's to be a warm and inspiring experience of the Eucharist and the faith that we profess.

If you are not registered and would like to be, please fill out the form below and mail it to the Parish office at St. Mary's, P.O. Box 456, Minooka IL 60447.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ New Parishioner

☐ New Email

☐ New Address

☐ New Phone Number



# MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

## DATE

## TIME

## MASS INTENTION

## FROM

**\*\* The Rosary is Prayed every weekday morning at 8:00am\*\***

Saturday, Oct 8	5:00pm	Bill Stafford Laly Cyr Living and Deceased members of the Golubiak Family	Virginia Mysliwiec The Family
Sunday, Oct 9	7:30am	Lonny Bartuello	Pat & Judy Tierney The Family
	9:00am	Raymond Noel	The Family
	11:00am	Thomas Hucik	Maria Atilano
Monday, Oct. 10	8:30am	Clementina Jimenez	Mary Jane Borzym
Tuesday, Oct. 11	8:30am	Francis Roger Dollinger	Mary Jane Borzym
Wednesday, Oct 12	8:30am	Bill Stafford	
Thursday, Oct 13	8:30am	Communion Service	
Friday, Oct. 14	8:30am	Communion Service	
Saturday, Oct 15	5:00pm	Emma Hozian	Parishioners of St. Mary's
		Bill Stafford	Mary Jane Borzym
		Helen Mackay	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Williams
		Whitey Miller	Carole & Family
		Birthday Remembrance	
		Leroy McBroom	Helen Furto & Family
Sunday, Oct. 16	7:30am	Fr. Tuan's Brothers	
	9:00am	Fr. Tuan's Parents	
	11:00am	John O'Hagan	The Family

### *This week candles were lit for :*

- Police & Firefighters
- An end to the Corona Virus
- Scott Tezak

**If you would like a candle lit  
outside for a special intention,  
please call the Parish Office at  
815-467-2233.**



## *Parish Sick List*

Denise Tonarelli	Sara Lovell	Lorenzo Benitez
Kimberly Gaydula	Wren Wagoner	Marlena Benitez
Dylan Pickett	Sue Burich	Gerald Boucher
Paul Thien Phu	Jerry Davidson	Gerry Loucks
Deidra Hogan	Linda Bradley	Judy Stafford
Robert Fonck	Baker Family	Irene Davidson
	Maureen Donovan	Fr. Don McLaughlin

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list,  
please email [st.marysminooka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:st.marysminooka@sbcglobal.net) or  
call the parish office at 815-467-2233.

## STAFF

### **Fr. Tuan Van Nguyen- Pastor**

815-467-2233 ext.106

[stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net)

### **Deacon Fred Ban- Director of RE**

815-467-2769, [deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com](mailto:deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com)

### **Kathy O'Hagan- Pastoral Associate/**

#### **Co-Website Editor**

815-467-4228 [stmary3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stmary3@sbcglobal.net)

### **Mary Blatti- Office Manager/Bulletin Editor/**

#### **Co-Website Editor**

815-467-2233 [stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net)

### **Mary Mogensen - Bookkeeper/**

#### **Foundation for Faith**

815-467-2233 ext. 101, [stmarysbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysbusiness@gmail.com)

### **Rebecca Carmack-Regennitter - Music Director**

815-467-2233 ext. 109,

[Rebecca.stmarymusic@gmail.com](mailto:Rebecca.stmarymusic@gmail.com)

## MASSES

### **Weekend Masses-**

Saturday- 5:00pm

Sunday- 7:30am, 9am Livestream and 11am

### **Weekday Masses**

Mon, Tues, Fri- 8:30am

### **Communion Service-**

Wed, Thurs - 8:30am

### **Confession-**

**Saturday's 4pm-4:45pm in the Church**

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Fr. Tuan is available for personal anointing at home, nursing home, hospice etc. please call the rectory 815-467-2233.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### **Parish Rectory Office-**

Mon-Thurs-8am-4pm

Fri- 8am-12pm

### **Rectory Phone-**

815-467-2233

### **Website-**

[www.stmarysminooka.com](http://www.stmarysminooka.com)

### **Fax-**

815-467-1760

## ST. MARY'S COMMISSIONS

<b>Administration-</b> John Jun <a href="mailto:Drjohnedd@aol.com">Drjohnedd@aol.com</a>	<b>Education-</b> Mary Kimble <a href="mailto:mtk2553@aol.com">mtk2553@aol.com</a>	<b>Prayer Squares Group-</b> Peg Francisco <a href="mailto:stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net">stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Parish Council-</b> Anne Schrishuhn <a href="mailto:ponzovista@gmail.com">ponzovista@gmail.com</a>
Rebecca Carmack-Regennitter <a href="mailto:Rebecca.stmarymusic@gmail.com">Rebecca.stmarymusic@gmail.com</a>	<b>Eucharistic Ministers-</b> Fr. Tuan <a href="mailto:stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net">stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Prayer Tree-</b> Peg Francisco <a href="mailto:stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net">stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Youth Ministry-</b> Joanne Ban <a href="mailto:joban4smym@yahoo.com">joban4smym@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Bible Study-</b> Cathy Fouts <a href="mailto:cathyfouts@comcast.net">cathyfouts@comcast.net</a>	<b>Finance Committee-</b> Dan Friant <a href="mailto:daf1852@gmail.com">daf1852@gmail.com</a>	<b>Protecting God's Children</b> -Deacon Fred Ban <a href="mailto:Deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com">Deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com</a>	<b>ProLife-</b> Kathy Glover (815)467-2233
<b>Building and Grounds-</b> Dave Clark <a href="mailto:chiefengin@sbcglobal.net">chiefengin@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Fishers of Men-</b> Kevin Pullara <a href="mailto:kevinapullara@gmail.com">kevinapullara@gmail.com</a>	<b>Quilters-</b> Carole Fremarek <a href="mailto:cfremarek@sbcglobal.net">cfremarek@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Religious Education -</b> Deacon Fred Ban <a href="mailto:deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com">deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Children's Liturgy-</b> Karen Resar <a href="mailto:karenresar@yahoo.com">karenresar@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Funeral Luncheon-</b> Anne Schrishuhn <a href="mailto:ponzovista@gmail.com">ponzovista@gmail.com</a>	<b>Worship Commission-</b> Chris Gregory <a href="mailto:cslkgreg@msm.com">cslkgreg@msm.com</a>	<b>Facebook-</b> Kathy Williamson 815-467-2233
<b>Children's Mass Coordinator-</b> Katrinka Kochanek <a href="mailto:KKochanek@divfin.com">KKochanek@divfin.com</a>	<b>Greeters-</b> Fr. Tuan <a href="mailto:stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net">stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>RCIA-</b> Deacon Fred Ban/ Kate Ross <a href="mailto:deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com">deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com</a>	
<b>Christmas Giving Tree-</b> Kathy Williamson 815 467-2233	<b>Knights of Columbus-</b> Brian Flanigan <a href="mailto:brianflanigan@yahoo.com">brianflanigan@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Welcoming Committee-</b> Doris Boehm <a href="mailto:wdb Boehm@att.net">wdb Boehm@att.net</a>	
<b>Council of Catholic Women-</b> Jeanne Rapp <a href="mailto:Jeanchuck73@gmail.com">Jeanchuck73@gmail.com</a>	<b>Lectors-</b> Kathy O'Hagan <a href="mailto:stmary3@sbcglobal.net">stmary3@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Daybreak Shelter</b> Debbie Bols 815-210-8351	



# Thank you for your financial support to St. Mary's



## Please Remember St. Mary's in your will or trust

As Catholics. We are called to plan ahead and share the blessings of our lives with our loved ones and future generations. To help you be a steward of everything God has entrusted to your care, the Diocese of Joliet is sharing free, online will writing tools. It is cost-free and takes 20 minutes or less to protect your family and your assets and create a gift to pass the Catholic faith onto future generations. Get started at [FreeWill.com/DioceseofJoliet](http://FreeWill.com/DioceseofJoliet).



Thank you for your financial support to the good works of our Diocese.

PLEDGE REPORT: 10/02/2022

Parish Goal:	\$44,600.00
Amount Pledged:	\$49,840.00
Balance Due:	\$ 3,457.00

Please continue to make your 2022 pledge payments. Once we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the additional funds received will be returned to the parish for our use.

## Help Wanted

### Part-time Parish Secretary – St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL

**St. Margaret Mary Parish is now accepting applications for a part-time Parish Secretary. This person will work 18 hours per week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Must bring a positive, others first, and joyful attitude as receptionist and coordinator of sacraments for parishioners. Often the first point of contact, the Parish Secretary represents our church with “radical hospitality” to all who call or enter the office, and anyone who inquires about baptisms, weddings, or funerals. To view a full job description, visit:**



**[The Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet in Illinois.](http://TheRomanCatholicDioceseofJolietinIllinois.com)**

**If you are interested in this amazing opportunity, please send a cover letter and resume to Rochelle Luciano at [rluciano@smmp.com](mailto:rluciano@smmp.com).**

**CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —**

Saint Mary #512192

**ADDRESS —**

P.O. Box 456  
Minooka, IL 60447

**PHONE —**

815-467-2233

**CONTACT PERSON —**

Mary Blatti  
Fr. Tuan Van Nguyen

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