

2nd Sunday of Lent - February 25th, 2024

St. Mary's Church



Theophanes the Greek, Transfiguration icon, 15th century, Tretyakov gallery , Moscow, Russia

Meditations on Sunday Readings and Famous Art

In this icon, we see Peter, James, and John before, during, and after the pivotal event of the Transfiguration. The sequence of events is signified by the positioning of the various participants on the left, center, and right of Mount Tabor. Jesus brings his most intimate circle of Apostles to this Divine revelation. The icon of the Transfiguration portrays the mystery of divinization in the Christian life. Divinization, also known as theopoesis, theosis, apotheosis, and deification, is the process of becoming God-like. Through our baptism and ongoing relationship with Jesus, through the Church and her sacramental life, God comes to consume us. This resembles the lives of the saints when lived out well. Christ comes to live in us through this process of divinization, and we come to radiate with the glory of God on earth. "For the Son of God became man so that we might become God" - St. Athanasius.

In his hand, Christ holds the scroll, which represents the revelation of God, the mysteries of reality, and the words leading to salvation. Jesus has full authority over the scroll because he is both Creator and Redeemer. Moses, on Jesus' left, represents the Law, while Elijah, on Jesus' right, represents the prophets. Combined, the Law and the Prophets make up the entirety of the Old Covenant (Old Testament). Symbolically, this communicates that all of the Old Testament was orienting toward, prefiguring, and preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ.

The blue circles around Jesus represent that the portal to heaven has been opened in the person of Jesus. Jesus is the only path to God and heaven. There is no entering the portal of salvation without going through Christ himself.

Fr. John



Stations of the Cross every Friday Morning after 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Minooka
Stations of the Cross every Friday at Noon and 6:30pm at St Ann's, Channahon



St. Mary's CCW invites all members of the Parish to attend
Stations of the Cross Through the Eyes of Mary

Join us for this beautiful and meaningful presentation of the Stations of the Cross, focusing on the thoughts of our Holy Mother as she bears witness to her Son's suffering.

Thursday, March 14, 2024, 6:30 PM in the Church
Light refreshments to follow in the Parish Center

Lent and Easter Schedule



Recurring Events During Lent:

Weekend Masses:

Saturdays at 5:00pm

Sundays at 7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am

Daily Mass:

Monday through Friday at 8:30am

Stations of the Cross:

Fridays at 9:00am at St. Mary's

Fridays at 12:00 PM & 6:30 PM at St. Ann's, Channahon

Confession:

Thursdays from 7:30am to 8:20am

Saturdays from 4:00pm to 4:45pm

Adoration:

Thursdays from 7:30am to 8:20am

Saturdays from 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday Masses - March 24, 2024:

7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am

Confession with 6 priests present - March 26, 2024

Tuesday from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at St. Ann's, Channahon

Holy Thursday - March 28, 2024:

7:00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday - March 29, 2024:

3:00pm The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday - March 30, 2024:

7:30pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Masses - March 31, 2024:

7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am

Bishop Hicks - February Column

Bishop Hicks' Column

February 2024

PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND



Bishop Hicks with Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN
WE DO NOT KNOW
WHAT TO DO?

Throughout the journey of our lives, we all experience moments of uncertainty, ambiguity, or indecision. We can feel small, inadequate, and almost paralyzed as we face looming problems ranging

from our own personal issues to worldwide crises.

Grounded in faith, Saint Francis of Assisi wisely taught that when we do not know what to do, we should “pray, obey, and love.” Our Catholic tradition reflects his wise counsel.

PRAY In the good times and bad, we turn to God in prayer. Through prayer, we realize that we are not the center of the universe, as we raise our hearts and minds to God. As Jesus taught, “For human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26).

OBEY While prayer is the proper first step, it should not end there. We also need to be obedient to God, always discerning: What is the best response according to God’s command, law, and divine will?

LOVE However we respond to problems, our actions should always reflect Christ’s love, specifically following the greatest commandment: “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind... and you shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22: 37–39).

Since October 2023, the conflicts in the Holy Land have escalated into a horrible war. Most of us follow the news with broken hearts and feel helpless.

Recently, I attended a dinner in Chicagoland (*photo above*) at which His Beatitude Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, spoke about the realities in the Holy Land.

Born in Italy in 1965, Cardinal Pizzaballa entered the Franciscan Order. He serves as the Latin Patriarch and Archbishop of Jerusalem. On January 27, 2024, we gathered at a dinner hosted by the Arab American Catholic Community (AACC), which exists to unite and support Catholic Arabs within the United States. In attendance were also many Knights and Dames from the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre. Its mission includes supporting and promoting the Holy Land and protecting the Christian presence there. I am humbled to

belong to this ancient and noble order and am proud to witness the local members’ dedication and commitment to this mission.

Known for his constant efforts to promote solidarity, cultural and historical preservation, interreligious dialogue, and embrace and advocate for peace, justice, and reconciliation, Cardinal Pizzaballa’s 45-minute presentation literally quieted the entire banquet room, as even the waitstaff stopped to listen to his every word. He called for a ceasefire and spoke of the Catholic Church’s boundless efforts to provide food, shelter, housing, healthcare, and spiritual care for those affected by the war.

He also prophetically commented that instead of striving for peace in the current war, both sides unfortunately are fighting only for victory — a victory that clearly delineates a winner and a loser. “Peace is not victory,” said Cardinal Pizzaballa. “It is the willingness on both sides to give something up for the greater good.”

He spent a lot of time laying the foundation for the need for true peace, a peace which is reflected only in Jesus. He reminded us that peace is not the absence of conflict. Instead, it includes the presence of justice, reconciliation, discernment of God’s will, and the desire for the common good.

This Lent, as we prepare ourselves to enter this season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, you might consider donating to a reputable organization or charity that aids and services to those in need in the Holy Land; some suggestions are included at the bottom of this article. Also, on Good Friday, throughout the Diocese of Joliet, a collection will be taken up to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land.

The Holy Land holds a powerful place in our hearts and in salvation history. It is where Jesus was born, grew up, taught, prayed, performed miracles, suffered, died, and was resurrected. In solidarity, let us join Cardinal Pizzaballa’s call for an end to the violence and for a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land as we turn to God with prayer, obedience, and love.

Jesus, Prince of Peace, pray for us.

Holy Land Humanitarian Agencies

- Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher Humanitarian Fund
- Catholic Relief Services (U.S. arm of Caritas International)
- Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land Humanitarian Programs
- Catholic Near East Welfare Association
- Emergency Holy Land Fund



Scan the QR code
for links or visit
diojoliet.org

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



FAMILY FUN EVENT!!

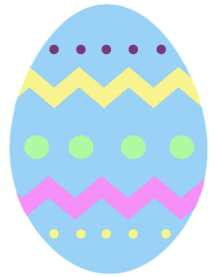
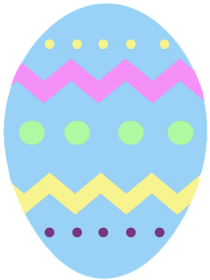
EASTER EGG HUNT and PARTY

Sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women

Saturday, March 16th

10:00am – 12:00pm

Parish Center



Bring your own basket for eggs!

Area divided into age groups

The “hunt” starts at 10:30 for under 4 years

11:00am 5-7yr and 11:30 8 yr and up

Crafts, games, cookie decorating will be on going until 12:00pm

The Easter Bunny will be there
for pictures so bring your camera!

Easter Bunny Needs Help!!

The Easter Bunny is asking for
Easter Candy donations by
March 3rd. SMALL WRAPPED candy
may be dropped off at
the back of church
or
at the KC February Breakfast.



PRAY FAST WITNESS

The Spring Campaign for 40 DAYS FOR LIFE will begin on Ash Wednesday February 14 and end on Palm Sunday March 24. During this time, Christians from around the world will once again join together for the most powerful PRO-LIFE effort the world has experienced.

During these 40 days, parishes in our area will be asked to participate in our local effort of **40 DAYS FOR LIFE AURORA**. Each day, one area church will commit to praying to end abortion. Prayer Vigils will be from 8 AM to 5 PM Monday through Saturday at Waterleaf Woman's Center at 3055 E. New York St. Aurora, IL, directly across from Aurora Planned Parenthood.

The vigil date for our parish will be Wednesday February 28th. Please join our parish in prayer at Waterleaf anytime between 8 AM and 5 PM. **Father John Honiotes will be praying at the Center from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM**. To sign up for our vigil day, please go to 40daysforlife.com/aurorawebsite. If you are unable to attend, we ask that on the day of our parish vigil, please offer a ROSARY FOR LIFE to save a baby at risk of abortion. Also, please feel free to pray with any other church group on any day during the 40 Days for Life Campaign. You can also show your love and commitment through prayer and fasting.

For additional information or assistance please contact Cathy Glover at 815-409-8145.

	Mass Coordinator	Lector	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Altar Servers
Saturday, March 2nd 5:00pm	Peg & Jim Furto	Carolyn Healy	Pat Favero Mary Stith	Libby Nugent
Sunday, March 3rd 7:30am	Lucy Feeney	Rose Ruettiger	Katie Liveratore Nita Caruso	Bridget Phillips
Sunday, March 3rd 9:00am	Chris Gregory	Mike Schramm	Jon Lamlech Nathan Dollinger	Sara Folsom Alex Folsom
Sunday, March 3rd 11:00am	Mike Folsom	Brenda Rittorf	Jessica Folsom Jane Spray	Teagan Saelens

St. Mary's Catholic Church
**CORNER BEEF &
CABBAGE DINNER**

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER



SUNDAY

PARISH CENTER

300 W. ST. MARY'S ST.
MINOOKA, IL 60447

MARCH 3, 2024

QUILTERS' RAFFLE

\$1 per ticket 8 for \$6

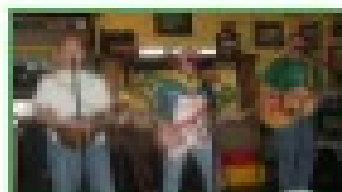
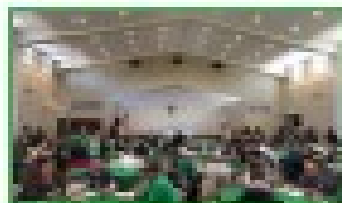
*'Season's of
St. Mary's'*

SERVING FROM NOON - 6:00PM

Great food & desserts,

LOCAL CRAFT BEER,

WINE & BOTTLED WATER AVAILABLE FOR DONATION



*Great line up of Irish Music and
entertainment all afternoon!*

Special Thank You To:

Jewel-Osco

Two Scholarship Opportunities from the Council of Catholic Women

The Bishop Blanchette Scholarship is for students attending a Catholic High School in the Joliet Diocese. 8 -11 graders may apply. Parents MUST complete FACTS online.

The deadline to return the application packet to the Parish Office is March 27th.

The Fr. John Sebahar Servant Leadership Award is based on service and no financial information is needed.

It's for graduating high school Seniors going on to college.

The deadline for this application is due by March 27th.

Both of these Scholarship Applications are available to pick up on the Parish Office Porch.

Any questions call Kathy at (815) 941-4419



Bes-TEA Party Celebrating Friendship



CCW 3rd Annual Tea Party

Sunday, April 14 1:00 – 3:00pm

Doors open at 12:30p

Sweet treats, finger sandwiches,
cheese and crackers, and fruit.

Beverages will be a variety of tea, ice tea,
coffee and pink lemonade.

Midwest Chorus will entertain us!

Gather all the important girls and women in your life and come celebrate with them at our 3rd Annual Tea Party. We will have Basket Raffles and Split the Pot

Wear a hat and get a free raffle ticket!!

Tickets go on sale on March 10th at Donut Sunday

Deadline for tickets is April 7th or until sold out

No tickets will be sold at the door.

Ticket prices: 14 year – and up \$10.00

13 year – 5 year \$5.00

4 and under Free

St. Mary's Grief Share Program

Monday evening parish center

Spring Session 04/1– 5/20

6:00 p.m – 7:30 p.m

To register call parish office

Mary 815-467-2233 or Kathy 467-4228



Monday - Wednesday & Friday
Rosary at 8:00am

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 24	5:00pm	+Bill Chivatero	Jackie & Ken Bersano
Sunday, February 25	7:30am	+Gloria Maxwell	Warren & Doris Boehm
	9:00am	Bishop Hicks & his intentions	
	11:00am	+Dawn Derby	The Family
Monday, February 26	8:30am	Parishioners	
Tuesday, February 27	8:30am	+Fr. Jim Lennon	
Wednesday, February 28	8:30am	+Harriet, Pat & Mickey McDonald & John Brown	The Family
Thursday, February 29	8:30am	+Fr. Mark Fracaro	
Friday, March 1	8:30am	Intentions of our Pastor	
	Following Mass	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday, March 2	5:00pm	+Gary Stith	The Family
Sunday, March 3	7:30am	+Tom Walsh	Nita Caruso
		Megan & Baby	
	9:00am	+Francis R. Dollinger	St. Mary's Church
	11:00am	+Ken Kinsella	Debbie Jo & Family

English/Spanish Class

Jean Tyrell leads a English/Spanish class to help Spanish speaking women learn the English language. The group meets weekly in the Parish Center.



CMAA

Pledge your gift to the CMAA

This is commitment weekend for the 2024 Catholic Ministries Catholic Appeal (CMAA). The appeal is a beautiful way we can put our faith into action by supporting the mission and important ministries of the Diocese of Joliet. This year's CMAA theme is *For the Glory of God*. Caring for our brothers and sisters in need is a magnificent way to celebrate His glory. Through our annual appeal, our parish joins with other parishes in the diocese to enrich the lives of those most vulnerable among us, grow our children in deep faith, and strengthen vocations. We could not foster these and the many other ministries the CMAA supports on our own. This is a diocese-wide effort.

Seventy percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us, a wonderful re-gifting of sorts, that affords us the opportunity to invest in the needs of our own parish.



Police & Firefighters
Special Intention
Leonard & Winona Bols

If you would like a
candle lit outside for a
Special Intention, please
call the Parish Office
At 815-467-2233.



Please Pray For the Sick of our Parish Family

Denise Tonarelli
Kimberly Gaydula
Paul Thien Phu
Bill Reed
Larry Goodwin
Karen Lombardo

Sara Lovell
Wren Wagoner
Baker Family
Bayley Webb
Aberie Skiba
Kathy Ly
Fred Lotarski

Lorenzo Benitez
Marlena Benitez
Judy Stafford
Ruth Kesselring
Olivia Arenella
Lisa Pelton

Robert Fonck
Marilyn Wilkens
Gerald Magolan
Joe Overbeck
Sheila Tonger

Jerry Moreno
Connie Hamilton
Jim Novotny
Ralph Westbrook
Phill Wizorek

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please email
office@stmarysminooka.com or call the parish office at 815-467-2233.

<p><u>Fr. John Honiotes - Pastor</u> 815-467-2233 Pastorsdesk@stmarysminooka.com <u>Kathy O'Hagan- Pastoral Associate,</u> <u>Co-Website Editor</u> 815-467-4228 Pastoral@stmarysminooka.com <u>Chris Traub, Director of Evangelization,</u> <u>Religious Education and Youth Ministry</u> (815) 467-2769 RE@stmarysminooka.com</p>	<p>Ctraub@stmarysminooka.com <u>Mary Blatti- Office Manager, Bulletin Editor,</u> <u>Co-Website Editor</u> 815-467-2233 ext. 100 Office@stmarysminooka.com <u>Mary Mogensen - Bookkeeper</u> 815-467-2233 ext. 101 Business@stmarysminooka.com <u>Rebecca Carmack-Regennitter -</u> <u>Music Director</u></p>	<p>815-467-2233 ext. 109 Music@stmarysminooka.com <u>Chris Gregory -Facilities Manager-Volunteer</u> Facilities@stmarysminooka.com <u>Dave Clark - Asst Facilities Manager-Volunteer</u> Dclark@stmarysminooka.com Website- www.stmarysminooka.com 815-467-1760 Facebook - St.Mary'sMinooka.com</p>
<p><u>MASSES:</u> Saturday- 5:00pm Sunday- 7:30am (simple chant) 9am and 11am Weekday - daily at 8:30am <u>OFFICE HOURS:</u> Mon-Wed 8am-4pm Thurs- 10:30am-4:00pm Fri- 8am-12pm <u>OFFICE PHONE:</u> (815) 467-2233 <u>NEW PARISHIONERS:</u> St. Mary's Parish warmly welcomes everyone to our community. Please call the</p>	<p>Parish office to register at 815-467-2233 or Office@stmarysminooka.com <u>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:</u> Saturdays at 4:00pm - 4:45pm And upon request <u>ADORATION OF THE BLESSED</u> <u>SACRAMENT:</u> Thursdays - 7:30am-8:30am Saturdays - 4:00pm-5:00 <u>SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:</u> 2nd & 4th Sunday of each Month <u>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:</u></p>	<p><i>Six months preparation required.</i> <i>Visit the website for more information.</i> <u>SICK, HOMEBOUND AND HOSPITAL VISITS:</u> Contact the parish office if you would like communion, if you would like someone from St. Mary's to visit you in the hospital, or if we can help you in any other way. Privacy policies do not permit the hospital to contact us directly. <u>ANNOINTING OF THE SICK</u> - Please call the parish office at 815-467-2233.</p>