

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Fr. Tuan Van Nguyen



*Then they
opened their
treasures and
offered him*

**GIFTS OF GOLD,
FRANKINCENSE,
AND MYRRH.**

Matthew 2:11

January 8, 2023 • The Epiphany of the Lord

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Sunday, January 8, 2022

Contact Information:

P.O. Box 456

Minooka, IL 60447

Parish Office: 815-467-2233

Parish Email: stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net

Message from Fr. Tuan

Dear Parishioners,

Here is a reflection for this weekend's readings, The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, Year A:

Where do you suppose the magi expected to end up when they began their journey from the east? A bright star like the one they had seen at its rising was regarded as a sign that a great ruler was born. As they traveled, they must have marveled at this especially bright star growing brighter and brighter each night as they drew closer to Bethlehem. We are told that their initial destination, however, was nearby Jerusalem. Of course! It was the most prominent city in the area, the capital of Judea, the site of the temple, the home of the king. Where else would they look for a newborn ruler as powerful as this star? But God's signs are rarely as straightforward as we would like. Much as David was the unexpected choice among Jesse's sons, the Son of David was not found where the magi expected--not in Herod's home, not in a palace, not in Jerusalem at all. They found the newborn king in a feeding trough, in a stable, in the last place they would have expected. Before his death, Jesus himself surprises his disciples as to where they can find him, telling them he is found in the least among them. Then and now, he can be found where we least expect him.

May we reorient our vision. Where can you look for Christ? Have others found Christ within you?

Love and Prayers,



Fr. Tuan



The 2023 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal is now underway

As the Diocese of Joliet launches the 2023 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we are asking all parishioners to pledge their support to this important effort for our community of faith.

This year's CMAA theme is *We Belong to God*. Through our support, we ensure that the mission and ministries of Christ's Church are available to everyone. Together, we help the poor and vulnerable, increase vocations and educate people of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities in the faith. Our parish could not accomplish all of this on its own.

Our parish's goal for the 2023 CMAA is \$46,100.00 and 70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us. Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet this month and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal.

If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office.

The English/Spanish class will not meet again until Thursday, January 12.



January 2023

Dear Friends,

Soon our diocese will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. This national collection supports many pastoral projects that benefit the faithful in Latin America and the Caribbean.

An example of a beneficiary of this collection are the priests in the Diocese of Guantánamo-Baracoa, who traverse bad roads over rough terrain to bring the sacraments and the Word of God to the faithful living there. The mountainous territory that makes up 75% of the diocese's total land area makes travel not only difficult but also more expensive for priests due to higher fuel consumption, vehicle maintenance, and repair costs compared to other regions.

Catholics like you who generously contribute to the Collection for the Church in Latin America help Guantánamo-Baracoa's priests stay on the road with funds given to the diocese to offset fuel and vehicle repair costs. In places such as Cuba, you help bring the Good News to the poor when you participate in the collection.

An important fact that you must know is that 25% of this diocesan collection goes to support our own diocesan mission work. Since 1994 our diocese has sent missionaries to Sucre, Bolivia to not only offer our support with concrete actions, but to build relationships with the people who are so grateful for our presence and work there. We are blessed to have our Bolivian friends.

Let us all become missionaries by strengthening the Church in Latin America with a donation to the second collection on the weekend of January 21-22.

Paz y bien,

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

CCW
Wine and Cheese
Tasting
All women of the Parish
are invited to a
fun night of
wine and cheese tasting
on Thursday, January 19th.
At 6:30 in the Parish center.
Non- alcoholic drinks will
also be served



Religious Education

Good Morning RE Families!!

WELCOME BACK!!

RE resumes this week.

Grades K-2 Tuesdays 4:30 - 5:45

Grades 3,4,5 Wednesdays 4:30 - 5:45

Grades 6,7,8 Wednesdays 6:15 - 7:30

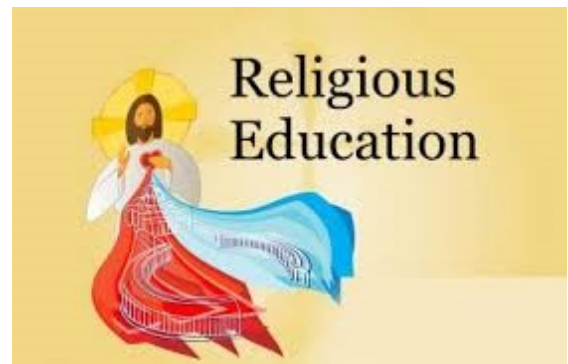
Our 2nd graders will be making their First Reconciliation on Monday Jan 9th at 6:30 in the Church

Our Confirmation Students will be making their Sacrament of Confirmation on Thurs Feb 9th at 6:30 at St Ann Channahon

Looking forward to a great 2nd half of RE!!

Peace and Blessings!!

Deacon Fred Ban
Director of Faith Formation



Communion For the Homebound

If you or someone you know would benefit from a Communion Visit, please call the rectory at 815-467-2233.



Week Day Morning Rosary



Morning Rosary will not be prayed during the cold winter months of January and February. It will resume in the spring.
Thank you.

MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>MASS INTENTION</u>	<u>FROM</u>
Saturday, Jan. 7	5:00pm	Theresa & Christopher Russo (in honor of wedding)	Jeff & Sue Schmitz
		Laly Cyr	The Family
		Fran Delrose	The Family
		Tom Fabek	The Family
		Lonnie Bartuello	Kimble Family
Sunday, Jan. 8	7:30am	Dorothy Bickel	The Family
	9:00am	Kata Eric	Milovan Eric
	11:00am	Sara Szumski	Virginia Mysliewicz
Monday, Jan 9	8:30am	Helen & Ed Vercelli	
Tuesday, Jan 10	8:30am	Lou Maffeo	The Family
		Michael Mance	Bonnie Rentschler
Wednesday, Jan 11	8:30am	Communion Service	
Thursday, Jan 12	8:30am	Communion Service	
Friday, Jan. 13	8:30am	Fr. Tuan's Brothers	
Saturday, Jan 14	5:00pm	Bob Kahler	CCW
Sunday, Jan 15	7:30am	Parishioners	
	9:00am	Steve Papp	The Family
	11:00am	Larry Nelson	Cheryl Nelson & Family
		Russell & Marie Starks	Sean & Kathy O'Hagan

**Read and Understand the Bible
with *The Bible in a Year* Podcast
with Fr. Mike Schmitz!**



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—Ignacio G.

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Volunteer Schedule

	Altar Server	Eucharistic Ministers	Lector
Saturday, Jan 14th 5:00pm	Jada Akroush	Roy Sabuco	Pete Quirk
Sunday, Jan 15 7:30am	Kevin Looney	Rose Ruettiger	Brenda Ritoff
Sunday, Jan 15 9:00am	Molly Schramm	Slice Mayr Erica Schramm	Mike Schramm
Sunday, Jan 15 11:00am	Keighera Fleming	Kathy O'Hagan Glenda Smiath	Child Lector

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 _____

☐ New Parishioner

☐ New Email

☐ New Address

☐ New Phone Number



STAFF

Fr. Tuan Van Nguyen- Pastor

815-467-2233 ext.106

stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net

Deacon Fred Ban- Director of RE

815-467-2769, deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com

Kathy O'Hagan- Pastoral Associate/

Co-Website Editor

815-467-4228 stmary3@sbcglobal.net

Mary Blatti- Office Manager/Bulletin Editor/

Co-Website Editor 815-467-2233

ex100,stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net

Mary Mogensen - Bookkeeper/

Foundation for Faith

815-467-2233 ext. 101, stmarysbusiness@gmail.com

Rebecca Carmack-Regennitter - Music Director

815-467-2233 ext. 109,

Rebecca.stmarysmusic@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

Fax-

815-467-1760

ST. MARY'S COMMISSIONS

Administration- John Jun Drjohnedd@aol.com	Education- Mary Kimble mtk2553@aol.com	Prayer Squares Group- Peg Francisco stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net	Parish Council- Anne Schrishuhn ponzovista@gmail.com
Rebecca Carmack-Regennitter Rebecca.stmarysmusic@gmail.com	Eucharistic Ministers- Fr. Tuan stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net	Prayer Tree- Peg Francisco stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net	Youth Ministry- Joann Ban jmb3072@yahoo.com
Bible Study- Cathy Fouts cathyfouts@comcast.net	Finance Committee- Dan Friant daf1852@gmail.com	Protecting God's Children -Deacon Fred Ban Deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com	ProLife- Kathy Glover (815)467-2233
Building and Grounds- Dave Clark chiefengin@sbcglobal.net	Fishers of Men- Kevin Pullara kevinapullara@gmail.com	Quilters- Carole Fremarek cfremarek@sbcglobal.net	Religious Education - Deacon Fred Ban deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com
Children's Liturgy- Karen Resar karenresar@yahoo.com	Funeral Luncheon- Anne Schrishuhn ponzovista@gmail.com	Worship Commission- Chris Gregory cslkgreg@msm.com	Facebook- Kathy Williamson 815-467-2233
Children's Mass Coordinator- Katrinka Kochanek KKochanek@divfin.com	Greeters- Fr. Tuan stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net	RCIA- Deacon Fred Ban/ Kate Ross deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com	Senior Luncheon Gail Flattness prettynanaofsix@gmail.com
Christmas Giving Tree- Kathy Williamson 815 467-2233	Knights of Columbus- Brian Flanigan brianflanigan@yahoo.com	Welcoming Committee- Doris Boehm wdb Boehm@att.net	
Council of Catholic Women- Jeanne Rapp Jeanchuck73@gmail.com	Lectors- Kathy O'Hagan stmary3@sbcglobal.net	Daybreak Shelter Debbie Bols 815-210-8351	Food Pantry Jean Jun Virginia Guertin 815-467-2233

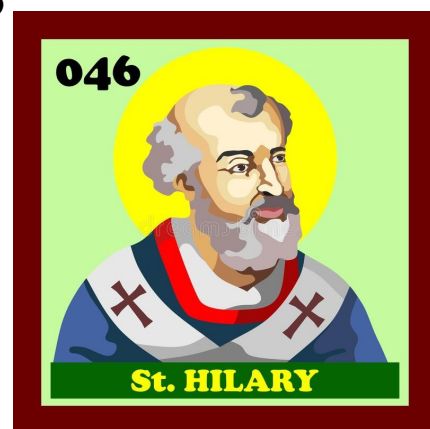
Our Saint this week is: Saint Hilary of Poitiers

This staunch defender of the divinity of Christ was a gentle and courteous man, devoted to writing some of the greatest theology on the Trinity, and was like his Master in being labeled a “disturber of the peace.” In a very troubled period in the Church, his holiness was lived out in both scholarship and controversy. He was bishop of Poitiers in France.

Raised a pagan, he was converted to Christianity when he met his God of nature in the Scriptures. His wife was still living when he was chosen, against his will, to be the bishop of Poitiers in France. He was soon taken up with battling what became the scourge of the fourth century, Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ.

The heresy spread rapidly. Saint Jerome said “The world groaned and marveled to find that it was Arian.” When Emperor Constantius ordered all the bishops of the West to sign a condemnation of Athanasius, the great defender of the faith in the East, Hilary refused and was banished from France to far off Phrygia. Eventually he was called the “Athanasius of the West.”

While writing in exile, he was invited by some semi-Arians (hoping for reconciliation) to a council the emperor called to counteract the Council of Nicea. But Hilary predictably defended the Church, and when he sought public debate with the heretical bishop who had exiled him, the Arians, dreading the meeting and its outcome, pleaded with the emperor to send this troublemaker back home. Hilary was welcomed by his people.



The Question of the Week

Why do different Catholic Churches do Mass different ways?

A. There are a couple of different ways to look at this question. First, there is the Roman Catholic Rite, but there are several other “Rites” such as the Byzantine Catholic Rite, Armenian Catholic Rite, and Syro-Malabar Rite, just to name a few. All of these Rites are in union with the Pope, but the way they celebrate Mass is different, because these Rites evolved differently over the centuries influenced by language and culture. These Rites, while different, also show how the Church is Catholic, since in Greek the word “catholic” means universal.

A second way to look at this question is to focus on why one Roman Catholic parish celebrates Mass one way but another Roman Catholic parish down the street celebrates it another way. This can be frustrating for Catholics who are trying to understand the Mass. If one would look at the Missal, the book the priest has on the altar, one would see writing in both red and black. The red words are the instructions or rubrics (coming from the Latin word, rubrus—like ruby) for what we should do in Mass. The black writing is what the priest should say. These two parts, the black and the red, are meant to bring uniformity to the Mass. Sadly, some parishes choose to ignore or treat the exact words and the rubrics more like suggestions. When this happens, confusion on exactly what is happening at Mass can set in. The Missal is not meant to restrict prayer but rather guide the people of God in celebrating the most important thing in one’s life, the sacrifice of Christ. Catholics should be able to go to different parishes and feel right at home when it comes to worship.



Here are the final batch of answers to our quiz.

Hope you had fun with it!!

James & John asked Jesus if he should rain fire down on a Samaritan village.

Jesus appeared to his unknowing disciples after the Resurrection on the road to Emmaus .

In John chapter 6, Jesus told his disciples that if they eat His Body and drink His Blood they would abide in him, and he in them.

The angel Gabriel called Mary full of grace, rather than by her name.

David was an Old Testament Prophet and King, who was a shepherd, was born in

Bethlehem, started his Kingship at 30 years of age, and foretold that evil men would cast lots for the Messiah's clothes.

Following the death of King Solomon in 930 BC, the nation of Israel split into the Northern Kingdom, called Israel, and the southern Kingdom, called Judah.

Of the 12 tribes of Israel, 10 were in the northern kingdom, and 2 were in the southern kingdom.

The capital of the northern kingdom was Samaria, while the capital of the southern kingdom was Jerusalem.

In 722 BC, the northern kingdom was taken captive by Assyria.

In 587 BC, the southern kingdom was taken captive by Babylon.

The southern kingdom eventually returned home after 70 years of exile.

The northern kingdom assimilated with pagan countries and was never heard from again.

Jesus said that a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand.

According to 2 Maccabees, Jeremiah buried the Ark of the Covenant containing the 10 Commandments in a cave on or near Mount Nebo.

Also according to 2 Maccabees, the long dead prophet Jeremiah appeared to the former high priest Onias and to Judas Maccabee and presented a golden sword to Judas. Onias said the prophet prays much for the people and the holy city.

Straight out of the Bible, the Seven Sorrows of Mary are the Prophecy of Simeon, the Flight into Egypt, Jesus is lost in the Temple, Mary meets Jesus on the way to His Crucifixion, The Crucifixion, Mary takes Jesus down from the Cross, Mary lays Jesus in His Tomb.

King Antiochus, a biblical type of the antichrist, in 2 Maccabees desecrated the Jewish temple.

The Feast of the Re-dedication of this temple, attended by Jesus in John 10, is known today as Hannukah.

The name "Maccabee" means "Hammer" in English.

This week candles were lit for :

- Police & Firefighters
- George & Evelyn Glad
- Paul & Anna Fabek
- Tom Fabek
- Charles, Marge & Kathy Rapp
- Bernadette Hadaway
- Gloria Ziebler
- Scott Tezak
- Lucy McDonald

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



Please Pray For:

Denise Tonarelli	Sara Lovell	Lorenzo Benitez
Kimberly Gaydula	Wren Wagoner	Marlena Benitez
Dylan Pickett	Sue Burich	Judy Stafford
Paul Thien Phu	Jerry Davidson	Irene Davidson
Deidra Hogan	Linda Bradley	Phyllis Artusa
Robert Fonck	Baker Family	Ruth Kesselring
		Olivia Arenella

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

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/DiocesefJoliet.



PLEDGE REPORT: 12/25/2022

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

Parish Goal: \$44,600.00
 Amount Pledged: \$51,834.00
 Balance Due: \$ 2,220.00
 2022 Rebate: \$ 3,510.00

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.

Collection Totals for the Weekend of: Dec 17/18, 2022

		Dec 10/11	Dec 17/18	
	Collected	Online	Online	Total
Weekly Offering	\$11,456.00	\$2,056.00	\$2,919.00	\$16,431.00
Foundation for Faith	\$413.40	\$125.00	\$595.00	\$1,133.40
Major Maintenance	\$655.00	\$65.00	\$1,565.00	\$2,285.00
Needy in Community	\$418.00	\$290.00	\$345.00	\$1,053.00
Christmas	\$605.00	\$0.00	\$378.00	\$983.00
Flowers	\$37.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$57.00
Immaculate Conception	\$1,567.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$1,707.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$75.00	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$135.00
Retired Religious	\$1,945.00	\$373.00	\$45.00	\$2,363.00
YTD Weekly Offering Collected	\$215,278.06			
YTD Weekly Offering Needed	\$213,235.25			

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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