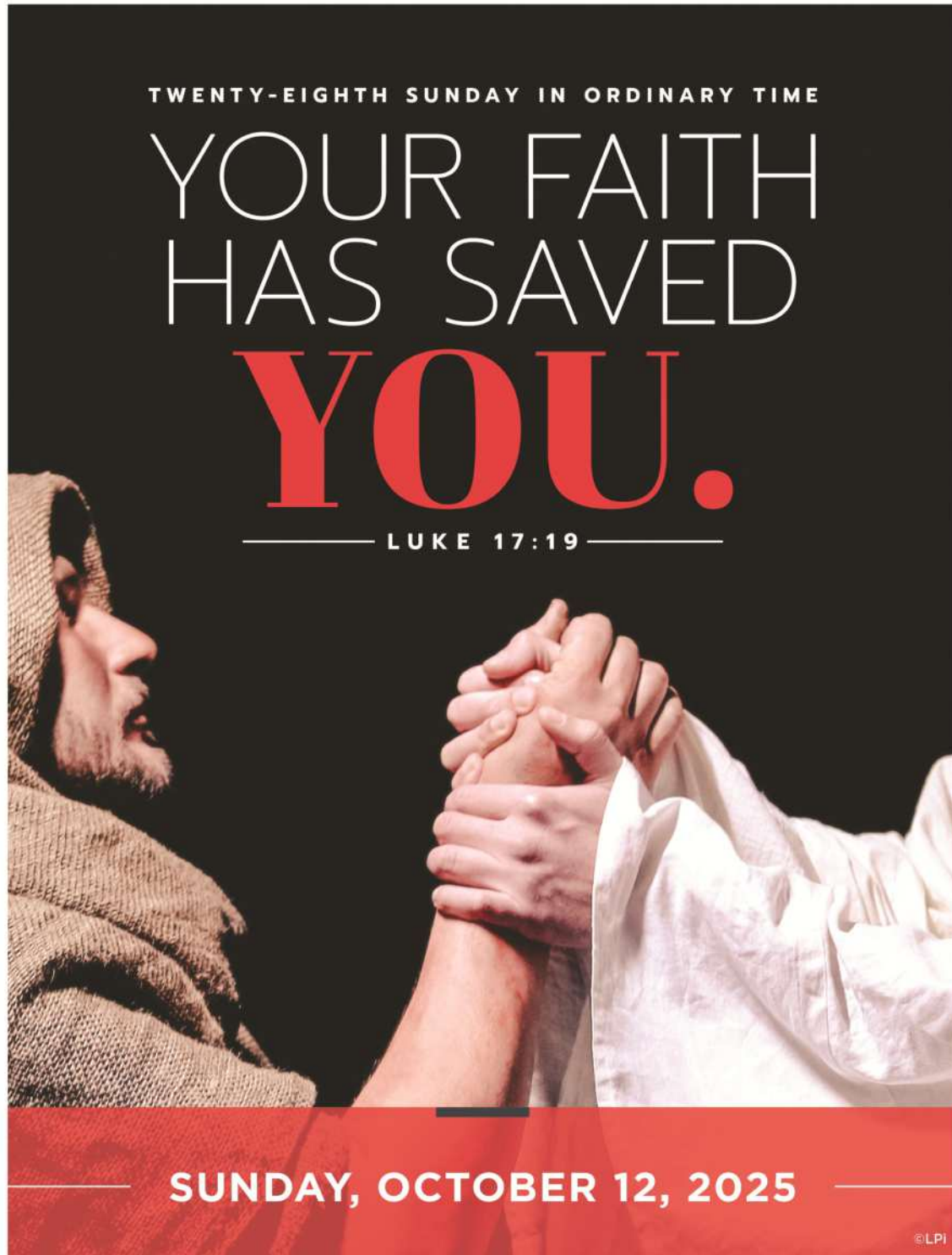


SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

"Send, O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church."



THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS IS OFFERED:**DAILY MASS**

8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, June - August

7:30 a.m. Wednesday from start of school year until May

***SATURDAY VIGIL MASS**

5:00 p.m.

***SUNDAY MASSES**

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN - DOOR #3**OFFICE HOURS:****MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY****8:30 A.M.- 4:00 P.M.****PARISH DIRECTORY**

Pastor: Fr. Joe Gasta

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Welbert Suarez

DEVOTIONS:**DAILY ROSARY**

7:30 a.m.

8:00 a.m. on Wednesdays from the start of the school year until May

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evenings

DAILY DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET; INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

8:30 a.m.

8:00 a.m. on Wednesdays from the start of the school year until May

LAUDS;

7:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings

ADORATION

Perpetual Adoration available at Old St. Mary.

Please contact the Parish Office for the code.

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS:

Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.

Saturday 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

First Saturdays 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Deacons:

Deacon Peter Manning

Deacon John Rex

Deacon Kevin Plankinton

Deacon Dave Stanton

Parish Office:

Parish Secretary, Karen Dilger

Business Manager, Stephen J. Warunek

Maintenance Supervisor, Gerardo "Gerry" Iniguez

Morning Maintenance, Thomas Pritchard

Director of Faith Formation, Megan Murray

Assistant Director of Faith Formation, Danielle Kuboushek

Assistant Director to the Clergy/Program Coord., Erica Sestak

Director of Religious Education, Tami Brongiel

Assistant Director of Religious Education, Suzy Olsen

RE Office Assistant, Kathy Brzeszkiewicz

Directors of Liturgy, Deacon Pete Manning and John Brett

Director of Christian Service, Donna Hungerford

Director of Sacred Music, Joseph Berardi

Youth Minister, Matt Jung

Bulletin Editor, Cailin Valente

Funeral Coordinator, Susan Rizzo

Offertory and Database Administrator, Leticia Clark

Financial Secretary, Paula Perry

Sacristan, Zina Habib

School Office:

School Secretary, Charlotte Catchings

School Principal, Michele Alday-Engelman

School Assistant Principal, Michelle Huizinga

Marketing & Enrollment, Danelle Bernas

708-326-9300 Deaconpete@aol.com

708-326-9300 DeaconJohn@StMaryMokena.org

708- 326-9300 DeaconKevin@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9300 Deacondave@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9300 Parish Fax Number 708-326-9301

708-326-9305 Secretary@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9309 Swarunek@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9314 giniguez@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9314 tpritchard@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9313 Mmurray@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9353 Dkuboushek@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9355 Esestak@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9356 Tbrongiel@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9357 Solsen@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9352 RE@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9352 Kbrez@stmarymokena.org

deaconpete@aol.com, jbrett@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9312 Dhungerford@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9302 JBerardi@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9354 Mjung@StMaryMokena.org

Bulletin@StMaryMokena.org

815-953-7228

708-326-9311 Lclark@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9310 Pperry@StMaryMokena.org

Zhabib@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9330

708-326-9332 office@stMaryMokena.org

708-326-9348 mengelman@stMaryMokena.org

708-326-9347 MHuizinga@stmarymokena.org

dbernas@stmarymokena.org

RCIA - Interested in becoming Catholic? Please contact the Director of Faith Formation at 708-326-9313.**BAPTISMS** - Baptisms are usually scheduled the first and third Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m. following 11:00 a.m. Mass. Please contact the parish office to make arrangements for the baptismal preparation class.**MARRIAGES** - Weddings need to be scheduled at least 6 months in advance upon approval of a priest. Remember to secure the church date before the reception hall. Please stop in the parish office to begin this process.**REGISTRATION** - New to St. Mary? Please stop in the parish office to complete our registration form or visit our website at www.stmarymokena.org.**ANointing of the Sick** - Please contact the parish office at 708-326-9300.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, October 13

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 6:00 p.m. SPRED Meeting (Fatima)
 6:30 p.m. Rosary (Church)

Tuesday, October 14

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 6:30 p.m. Bereavement Support (Chapel)
 7:00 p.m. Scripture Study (Lourdes and Fatima)
 7:00 p.m. Roses of Mary (JP II)
 7:00 p.m. K of C Council Meeting (Guadalupe)

Wednesday, October 15

5:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
 7:00 a.m. Confessions
 7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:00 a.m. Scripture Study (Guadalupe and Lourdes)
 11:00a.m. Young at Heart Set Up (Guadalupe)
 1:00 p.m. Young at Heart Set Up (Guadalupe)
 6:30 p.m. The Search (Guadalupe)

Thursday, October 16

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 6:30 p.m. CCW General Meeting (Guadalupe)
 7:00 p.m. Welcome (Fatima)

Friday, October 17

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 2:00 p.m. Rite of Lector Reception Set Up (Church Hall)
 7:00 p.m. Rite of Lector Mass (Church)
 8:00p.m. Rite of Lector Reception (Church Hall)

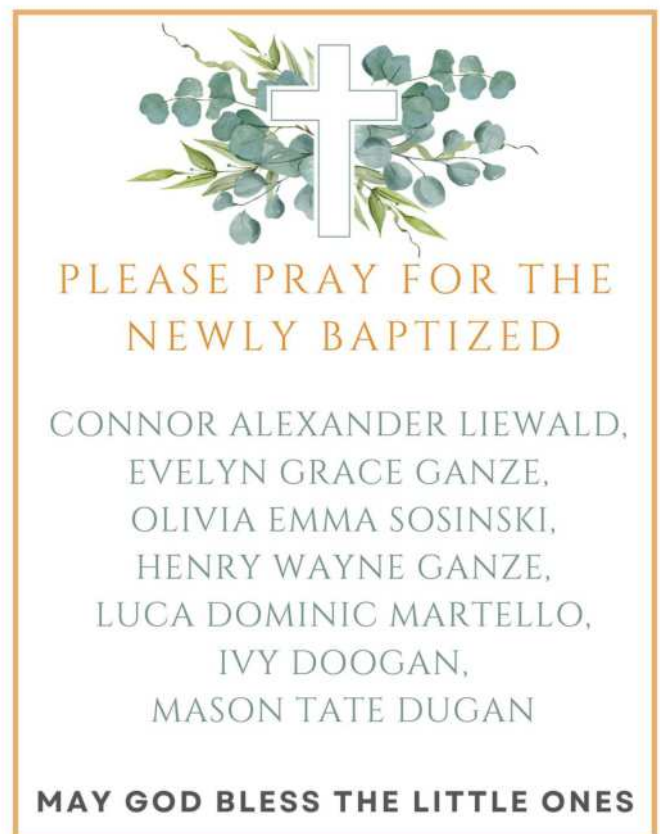
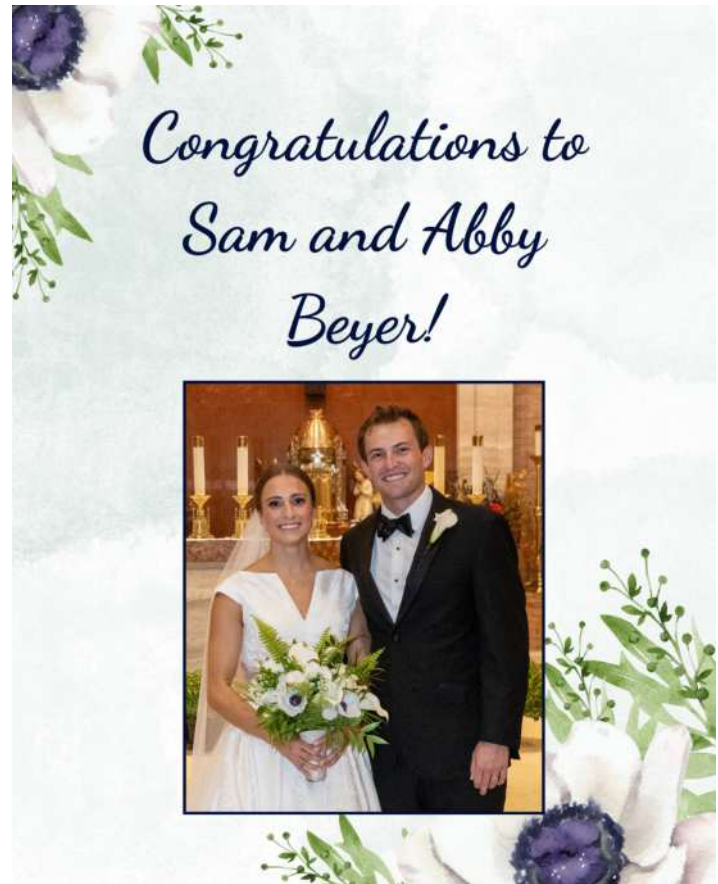
Saturday, October 18

7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 8:00 a.m. Men's Ministry (Guadalupe)
 3:30 p.m. Confessions (Church)
 5:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

Sunday, October 19

Donut Sunday

7:15 a.m. Lauds (Church)
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:30 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:30 a.m. RE Classes Gr. K-6 (Classrooms)
 11:00a.m. Mass (Church)
 12:00p.m. The Search 2025 Fall Launch (Guadalupe)
 12:30p.m. Baptisms (Church)
 6:00 p.m. Mass (Church)
 6:00 p.m. Youth Ministry (Guadalupe)



Mass Intentions

Monday, October 13

8:00am: Robert Allen Scott

Tuesday, October 14

8:00am: Elizabeth Plaza, Stefania Barlog, Carol Thompson, The Farhat family

Wednesday, October 15

7:30am: David Heniff

8:30am: Mary Ann Cullen

Thursday, October 16

8:00am: Margaret Gustafson

Friday, October 17

8:00am: Mary Farhat and Kyle Griffin

Saturday, October 18

8:00am: Sharon Pavelich

5:00pm: James Kane, Larry Jagman, Edward Bean, Nancy Schram, Robert and Geraldine Menclewicz, Sean Cassidy, Mildred and Rudolph Cerny, James Hughes, Mary V Hugelet

Sunday, October 19

8:00am: Bill Delladio

9:30am: James Trevor, Elizabeth Curtner

11:00am: Deacon Gary Bednar

6:00pm: Joseph Rottman

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Dan Albrecht, Brett Anderson, Joe, Austin, Tammy Balamut, Lisa Barber, Lisa Bernhard, Florence and Gino Bondi, Agnes Breslin, Alan Brown, Darlene Broadhurst, Rachel Butler, Brian Butler, Francis Bulow, Brenda Castile, Dolores Castro, Bonnie Caper, James Caper, Michael Carey, Monica DiGiovanni, Janet Drobick, Vincent Felice, Barb Finn-Figliulo, John Finili, Bradley Frank, Marcia Frank, Mary Ann Franson, Debbie Geren, Bonnie Gondek, Richard Grabenhofer, Colleen Grabenhofer, Jerry Grabowski, Kelly Hampton, Natalie Haran, Jeremiah Hartmann, Bobbie, Howie, Mary Ingala, Daniel Izzo, Richard Junge, Les Kazmierczak, Sherley Keene, Joseph Kerke, Hattie Kerke, Diane Klootwyk, Beverly Klosowski, Richard Kolovitz, Jan Kosmatine, John Kurator, Fr. Roger Kutzner, Jennifer Naril, Dan Lahy, Andy Lihosit, Chet Lockwood, Vernadine Lumpkin, Jay Lutsky, Shirley Lyons, Terrence McKenna, Jack Manuszak, Robert Margalus, Jeanne Matug, Bill Maynard, John McGeehan, Joelee McMaster, Thomas Meehan, Heidi Meekma, Janice Melisi, Ginny Meyer, Rich Milkieris, Isabella Miller, Angel Munoz, Pat Murphy, Sue Murphy, Lisa Hunt Nichols, Jim Narel, Celine Narel, Geraldine Nykaza, Kenneth O'Gradney, Irene Okoniewski, Callie Olson, Bruce Omastak, Matthew Orr, Bob and Jackie Pasqualoni, Ed Polzin, Janelle Portman, Rosemary Purcell, Dave Racine, Eileen Redican, Eduardo Reyes, Sean Rio, George Rohrer, Judy Roque, Barbra Rusin, Joseph Santago, Midge Saunders, William Schlieman, Dan and Brenda Schmiedel, Diane Schoneich, Marie Shaw, Wendy Sifuentes, Karen Singer, Barbara Smith, Brandon Smith, Phyllis Stanton, Geoffrey Sullivan, Tom Sullivan, Joshua Swarez, Victor Tamosaitis, Terri Kelso-Tamer, Tiffany Theresa, John Turas, Judy Turas, Marion Walles, Kathy Wereldsma Leo Wilczek, Tim Weber, Jodie Weber, Jonathan Weber, Dan Wolf, Jerry Wolff, Karen Yaeger, Kathleen Yonker

May God grant them healing!

God Bless Our New Parishioners

The Brandon Murphy family,
The Hemenover family,
The Arroyo family,
The Bembenek Family



Please Pray for our Faithfully Departed Brothers and Sisters

Carmen Izzo, Owen Joyce



*Eternal rest grant unto them and let
perpetual light shine upon them!*



**Almighty God, watch over and protect our
nation's military members and
their families. Take them into your most gracious
protection. Amen.**

SSG Jarred Andras, ARNG
PFC Jenson Andras, USMC
Capt Lukasz Bokun, ANG
Lt Col Joseph A. Budzyn, USAF
TSgt Loretta Caplinger, USAF
E3 Colette Gagen, USN
ET2 Nicholas Gambino, USCG
PFC Noah Genz, USA
CPT Andrew Jacobs, USA
MIDN Isabella Judeh, USMMA
CPT Kevin Kelly, USA
PV3 Devin Klinger, USA
Cpl John P. Morrison, USMC
Sgt Cody Nicks, USAF
PO3 John O'Brien Nolan, USN
Capt Steven Pieczynski, USAF

SSG August Pintarro, USA
PFC Joshua Poplin, USA
E-3 Sydney Quatrochi, USAF
Cpl Ryan J. Schwartz, USMC
MA3 Greg Siegmund, USN
CPT David Skrzypiec, USAR
LT Kevin Skrzypiec, USN
Sgt Luke Swiatek, USMC
LCDR Nicholas Swiatkowski, USNR
Maj Jennifer Tenumah, USAF
CPT Vincent R. Teodoro, USA
Cpl Blanton Vego, USMC
PO3 John David Villaseñor, USN
MAJ Bryan Welch, USA
MMN3 Peter Weygandt, USN
CPT Christopher Zolner, USA

IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE NAME OF SOMEONE CURRENTLY SERVING
IN THE MILITARY PUBLISHED HERE, PLEASE EMAIL THEIR
NAME, RANK, AND BRANCH OF SERVICE TO BOB CORNEJO,
BCORNEJO@STMARYMOKENA.ORG.
THANK YOU.



From Your Pastor

My dearest parishioners,

I greet you with love and peace in the name of Jesus!

Over the past few months, some of you have come to me with heavy hearts, asking for prayers for your sons, daughters, or other loved ones who seem to be drifting away from the Church. I want you to know that I hear you. And please know that I carry each of these intentions with me in my daily prayers. With that, I would like to let you know about a ministry we already have here in the parish called *Monica's Mission*. This ministry was initiated by our two deacons: *Pete and John*, along with Megan and Tom Blue. It was inspired by St. Monica, the mother of St. Augustine. She spent years praying for her son to come back to God, and her prayers were answered.

Monica's Mission is for anyone who carries this kind of burden, the pain of seeing a loved one walk away from their faith. Whether it's your child, spouse, sibling, or friend, know that you are welcome to attend. This is a space where you can come and pray with other parishioners who understand exactly what you are going through. This ministry is about walking with each other, just like Jesus walks with us. The group gathers once a month for Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, simple conversations and talks. It's a place to be encouraged and reminded that God is still at work, even when we don't see it right away.

Think of it like a support group, but one that's deeply rooted in prayer. It's a space where your story is safe and your pain is understood. If this resonates with you, I really encourage you to reach out to Deacon Pete or Deacon John. Whether you are ready to be part of the group or just need someone to talk to, they are here for you. The whole ministry is here for you.

Moving forward, let's keep praying for our loved ones. Let's not lose hope. Like St. Monica, let's trust that God never stops working in the hearts of those we love, even when we cannot see it yet. God bless you!

"Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church"

With love in Christ,

Fr. Joe Gasta, RCJ
Pastor

St. Mary Parish will start
celebrating

First Friday Masses

as part of the First Friday Devotion
to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**First Mass: Friday, November 7th
12:00 PM**

The First Friday Devotion consists of:

- Receiving Communion on the First Friday of each month for nine Fridays in a row
- Offering Communion in honor of Christ's Sacred Heart and in reparation for the sins committed against His Sacred Heart

**ST. MARY'S CO-DIRECTOR OF LITURGY
JOHN BRETT IS PREPARING TO BE A
PERMANENT DEACON!**

JOIN US FOR THE

Rite of Lector Mass

TO HELP SUPPORT HIM
AND THE REST OF THE CLASS OF 2027!

**THIS FRIDAY (OCTOBER 17TH)
7:00 PM**

**MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED
BY BISHOP DENNIS SPIES.**

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN THE HALL
SPONSORED BY THE
PERMANENT DIACONATE CLASS OF 2029.

October 18 - October 19: Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 9:30 AM	Sunday, 11:00 AM	Sunday, 6:00 PM
Lector	Andy Lihosit Anne Trovato	Antoinette Bria Susan Rizzo	Denise L Bartolotta Chris McGeever	Bob Cornejo Art Wilson	Ed Pluchar
Eucharistic Minister	Bob Gombas Karen Gordon Andy Lihosit Lora Oldham	Cris Pirelli Robert Rafferty Susan Rizzo Nancy Santry	Roger Brown Michael Dilger Frank Dundek Pam Sanders	Michael Crowley Remo Lucci Bob Meyers NOT FILLED	Heidi Adducci Siena Adducci NOT FILLED
Altar Server	Seamus McGarry Charleigh Widelski Scarlett Widelski NOT FILLED	Hannah Johnston Gerard Sima NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Dennis Dilger Hazel Dilger CJ Strzelczyk Emma Strzelczyk	Natalie Galka Ryan Gross Christian Taylor NOT FILLED	Charlie Pluchar Stella Pluchar Therese Pluchar
Usher	Mary Ann Braasch Jim Grady Maurice Helm Mark Miron James Palermo Joe Toman	Chris Cichowicz Ed Dorey Rich Gavillet Roy Mueller	John Delladio Ed Dorey Jim Kulesa Diane Mucia Phillip Sparacino	Ed Dorey William Farhat David Larson Sandra Tome Gladys Weber	Gabriella Carens Linda Drake Maggie Knable NOT FILLED
Greeter	Mary Ann Braasch	Ed Dorey	Ed Dorey	Carolyn Farhat	NOT FILLED
Live Stream			Eugene Satrun		

Serving God as an Altar Server is a wonderful way for a child to grow in faith as well as in responsibility, friendship, and other virtues. At St. Mary, we are blessed with an amazing team of Altar Servers. We thank you for giving up your time to serve the Lord and St. Mary. "We also thank our wonderful team of Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Greeters, and Live Streamers for their dedication and outstanding service."

If you are assigned and are unable to serve, please request a substitute via the Scheduler.



All men are invited to join us for our next meeting

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 **CALLED TO MORE:** **THE ADVENTURE OF** **DISCIPLESHIP**



Join us for our 8th Anniversary!

Fr. Joe Gasta will lead a discussion on what it means to be a disciple, the virtues needed for this journey, and how to live our lives for Christ.

8am Mass - 10:30am
St. Mary, Mokena
Church Hall

Breakfast served--RSVPs encouraged!
SMPmensministry@gmail.com



FIT SHEPHERDS AIMS TO HAVE EVERY MAN IN OUR COMMUNITY BE IN THE BEST PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL SHAPE OF THEIR LIVES.

BE BETTER

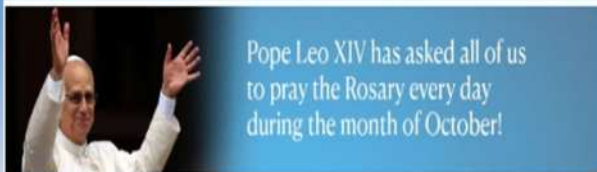
Better son...Better husband
Better brother...Better father



Fit Shepherds are formed through
Demanding workouts
Fraternity
Discipleship

A Fit Shepherd wants to model his life after the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

Please join us every Saturday morning in any kind of weather at 7:00 am (also Wednesdays at 5:00 am) in the St. Mary parking lot



Throughout the month of the Rosary, we'll be answering his call to pray for peace nightly at 7pm CT. The Rosary is a powerful tool we can use to pray together as one voice, asking Our Mother Mary to hear our prayers and intercede for us.



Family Rosary
ACROSS AMERICA
NIGHTLY • 7 PM CT

Tune in on relevantradio.com, on the free Relevant Radio app, or any station across the country!

Giving+

Rooted in Gratitude
Giving with Grace

Support our ministries this fall through faithful generosity.

The Offertory for
October 5th

Online Giving	\$22,686.65
Envelopes	\$24,980.81
	\$47,667.46

Budget \$34,000
Thank you so much for your generosity!

Online Giving

Give your gift today.
Scan the QR Code



October is the Month of the Rosary

The Rosary is an **important and powerful prayer**, given to us by the Blessed Virgin Mary herself, as a gift to St. Dominic in the early 1200s.

The Rosary was an answer to his prayers for help at the time.

The Rosary has also been a **tool used for protection against any and all foes**. In 1571, a Catholic fleet was being attacked by a strong opponent. St. Pope Pius V asked for all of Europe to pray the Rosary for the fleet's safety and victory. The Catholic fleet won! This victory took place in October of that year. Since then, October has been associated with the Rosary, specifically with the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7th).

The Rosary initially consisted of **fifteen Mysteries**.
In 2002, St. Pope John Paul II added **five new Mysteries**.

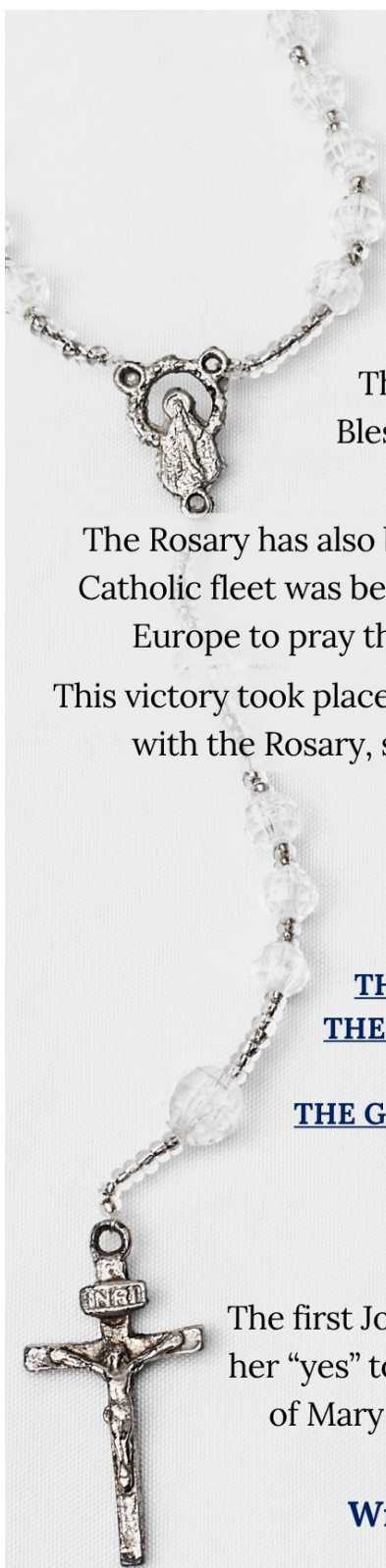
THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES FOCUS ON CHRIST'S EARTHLY BEGINNING.
THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES FOCUS ON CHRIST'S EARTHLY MINISTRY.
THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES FOCUS ON CHRIST'S PASSION.
THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES FOCUS ON CHRIST'S VICTORY OVER DEATH.

While the Rosary focuses on Christ's life,
it begins and ends with our Blessed Mother.

The first Joyful Mystery is the Annunciation, where our Blessed Mother gave her "yes" to God's plan. The fifth and final Glorious Mystery is the Crowning of Mary Queen of Heaven, where she reigns with her Son, Jesus Christ.

**Without our Blessed Mother, Christ's life – and our
salvation – would not be possible.**

Check out St. Mary's new YouTube "Shorts" on the Rosary!
**Visit our channel and be on the lookout for
new shorts every Friday in October!**



Support Our Youth Ministry Programs



October 19th All Morning Masses

While Supplies Last

**All proceeds go back to our youth
ministry events**



Contact Youth Minister, Matt Jung, with any questions.

mjung@stmarymokena.org



Youth Ministry

Women's Welcome Weekend

formerly Christ Renews His Parish

NOVEMBER 8 & 9

everything

beautiful

This incredible one and a half day renewal weekend will help restore balance, rediscover the peace of Christ, connect you with other women, and renew your relationship with God.

This weekend is for women of all ages!

Get ready for a weekend of good food: we provide Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast and lunch.

Free registration at

www.stmarymokena.org/welcome

Limited space available.

Email Danielle with any questions, dkuboushek@stmarymokena.org or call the parish office, (708) 326-9300.



MOMS Podcast Club

Join other Catholic moms of school-age children and younger for conversation on the "Real + True" podcast.

Thursday, October 30

9:30 am

in the Church Hall
Season 3, Episode 8

"Family, Trauma, and Honoring Your Father and Mother with Brya Hanan"

Listen to podcast prior to gathering (search "Real + True" wherever you listen to podcasts) but even if you don't get to it, we'd love to have you join us! Children are welcome and snacks and toys are provided.

Questions?

Email DKuboushek@StMaryMokena.org

Soul to Soul Coaching

Helping singles attract healthy, holy, and happy relationships

Monica Braun is a Catholic Relationship Coach and the founder of Soul to Soul Coaching. Inspired by the lessons learned through dating, Monica developed the Intentional Dating & Discernment Method. As a devout Catholic, Monica integrates faith, virtue, and intentionality into her work with singles.

www.monicamariebraun.com

Services Offered

Catholic Matchmaking:

Personalized virtue based connections rooted in shared faith and values.

One-on-One Relationship Coaching:

For clarity, remote marriage preparation, and understanding masculine/feminine relationship dynamics.

Catholic Singles Events:

Hosting speed dating events/dance socials for singles ages 21–39 across Illinois.

Connect with Monica:

email: soultosoul@monicamariebraun.com

facebook: facebook.com/soulfuldatingcoach

Instagram: [@monicabraun_soultosoulcoaching](https://www.instagram.com/monicabraun_soultosoulcoaching)

Save
the
Date

St. Mary Mokena



FAMILY Day

An Opportunity to Grow in Faith at Every Age

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23
12-3 PM

All parishioners, regardless of age, are warmly invited to an afternoon filled with faith-based activities, a shared meal, and memories made together at St. Mary's! Here's what you can look forward to:

- ✓ Lunch all together as a Parish Family
- ✓ Split into age groups (adult, teen, grade school, and nursery) for an age-appropriate talk or activity
- ✓ End with a communal time of prayer



Registration coming soon!

**Dear Community Partner,**

On October 24, 2025, St. Mary Catholic School is hosting our 4th Annual Fun Run, and we wish you to become a sponsor. Your support is crucial in helping us provide an enriching, Christ-centered education for our students. This year, the funds raised will go towards continuing building enhancements.

Why Sponsor the Fun Run?

Your support benefits every student at St. Mary School in Mokena, a non-profit Catholic institution dedicated to excellence and spiritual growth. The Fun Run is a celebration of school spirit, bringing together families, faculty, and local supporters for a day of fitness, fun, and fellowship. Thanks to generous sponsors like you, last year's event raised over \$50,000 for curriculum enhancements, teacher development, and student resources.

Sponsorship Opportunities**Run! — \$1000 Donation**

- Logo on event T-shirts worn by students, staff, and volunteers
- Featured on 99pledges.com fundraising site
- Prominent placement on event welcome signage
- Advertising board placement around the track
- One-year gym banner display
- Recognition in the St. Mary Catholic Church bulletin

Jog! — \$500 Donation

- Logo on event welcome signage
- Advertising board placement around the track
- One-year gym banner display
- Featured on the 99pledges.com fundraising site
- Recognition in the St. Mary Catholic Church bulletin

Walk! — \$200 Donation

- Logo on event welcome signage
- Logo included on materials distributed to participants
- Inclusion on the Fun Run page of 99pledges.com
- Recognition in the St. Mary Catholic Church bulletin

If you have any questions or would like to confirm your sponsorship, please contact one of our Fun Run Committee members Bryan Bishop 708-299-6260, Anna Carmine 708-305-7972, Bill Johnson 708-473-5749 or via email smsfunrun@stmarymokena.org. October 3rd deadline to have company logo on fun run tee shirts.

Thank you for your support,

SMS School Board Dr. Michele Engelman - Principal Mrs. Michelle Huizinga - Assistant Principal



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Doors Open 6:30 pm

First Roll 7:00 pm

Church Hall

**RESERVE EARLY!
TABLE OF 4 - \$60**

*You don't need a table of four to play!
Everyone will be divided up into tables
and will rotate throughout the evening.*



Breast Cancer has touched many of us and we come together in honor of all the women, those who lost their battle and those that are survivors, to help raise funds so that scientists may continue to research and eradicate this disease in the near future.

Come with a friend, a family member, your Bunco group, fellow parishioner or come on your own. **This event is a great way to meet new friends as the tables rotate throughout the evening. Bunco is very easy to learn and follow, we teach everyone how to play before we start playing for the night.**

WALK-INS ARE WELCOME!

**Beer, Wine, Soft Drinks, Appetizers,
Split the Pot, Amazing Raffle Baskets and Prizes**

Be sure to bring cash to purchase Split the Pot, Raffle Basket Tickets and drinks!

Yes, I will attend the St Mary PTC Bunco for Breast Cancer fundraising event!!

Fee is \$20.00 per person, or \$60.00 for a table of 4. Please make checks payable to St Mary PTC.
Please return completed form to the school office, attention: Missy Biondo.

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

I cannot attend, enclosed is my donation of _____ to the St Mary PTC Bunco for Breast Cancer event.

This is a PTC sponsored event, 100% of the proceeds from this evening go to
The Breast Cancer Research Foundation!





Religious Education

Service Opportunity

Looking for an opportunity to help your community? Here is a great chance to get your family involved!



BY
OCT.
23RD

Hat and Glove drive for kids

- Collecting NEW Hats and Gloves for kids to keep warm this winter
- Please drop off your donations at the RE office inside door 3 by Oct. 23rd



re@stmarymokena.org

QUESTIONS?: 708-326-9352

Gratitude is the key to a stewardship way of life. Today's readings demonstrate the power and vital importance of gratitude in the life of the Christian disciple, for gratitude leads us to worship God who offers us salvation.

We see the power of gratitude on display in the Gospel passage from Luke after Jesus heals ten lepers. "And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned." Only one of the ten recognized the tremendous blessing he had received from Jesus and returned to

thank him. While it's easy to feel indignant at the failure of the nine others to return and thank Jesus, how often do we fail to recognize the blessings, answered prayers, and healings (both physical and spiritual) that the Lord showers upon us, day and night?

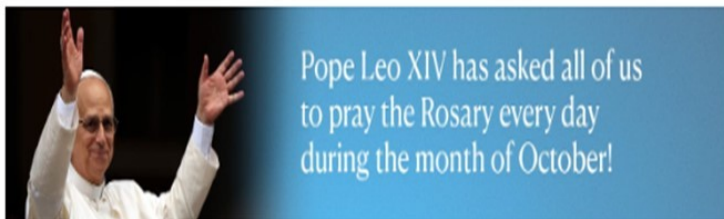


The truth is that our very lives and every breath we take are His gift to us. But we can get so caught up in the stresses and distractions of daily life that we lose touch with this truth.

The Samaritan reacts to his gift of healing with the proper response to our loving God. Recognizing what he had just received from the Lord, he "returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked Him." He was grateful for what God had done for him, and this gratitude led to worship. And because of this response, Jesus offered him a far more precious gift than physical healing; He offered him the gift of salvation. "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."

Too often, we hear the phrase, "Count your blessings," and write it off as nothing more than a trite saying. Today's Gospel shows us otherwise. Gratitude is powerful. It deepens our faith in God and leads us to fitting worship of Him.

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Throughout the month of the Rosary, we'll be answering his call to pray for peace nightly at 7pm CT. The Rosary is a powerful tool we can use to pray together as one voice, asking Our Mother Mary to hear our prayers and intercede for us.

PRAY WITH US TONIGHT AT 7PM CT

Pro-Life Testimony

Many women who take the abortion pill soon realize they made a big mistake...and they would do anything to save their babies. Fortunately, many of them can. Abortion Pill Reversal (APR) sounds too good to be true, but it has saved thousands of babies worldwide.

A first-time mom in Fayetteville, North Carolina, visited Planned Parenthood for the abortion pill. As she left the appointment, she spoke with prayer warriors, who gave her APR information. The seeds planted that day sprouted the next morning, when the woman woke up filled with regret. She visited the local pregnancy center to ask for help reversing her abortion.

The doctor wasn't in, so Fayetteville 40 Days for Life leader Felisha drove the worried mom 90 minutes to the next closest APR doctor. Felisha also drove the mom to the pharmacy to get her prescription, took her to breakfast, and accompanied her to a prenatal appointment.

"Hearing the strong heartbeat of her sweet baby was an experience I'll never forget," Felisha recalled. "Her baby is a fighter, and we'll forever be a part of his story." The expectant mother doesn't have her own transportation, so 40 Days for Life volunteers are taking her to all of her doctor's appointments.

"She just entered her second trimester," Felisha said. "She is doing great. Our community has stepped up to surround her with love and convinced her to make a baby registry. She's been sending me "thank you" messages because items are already arriving."

40 DAYS FOR LIFE, Day 15: March 29, 2023



**Father Joe will join
us on
October 28th!**

Sign up for a different day or
get more information by visiting
40daysforlife.com/flossmoor

**Help save lives in your local
community!**

Join the St. Mary Pro-Life Committee
as we pray at the following locations:

Saturday, October 18 - 9:30 a.m.

Access Clinic

1700 75th St.

Downers Grove

Tuesday, October 28 - 9:30 a.m.

Flossmoor Planned Parenthood

19831 Governors Hwy

Flossmoor

Please gather with us as unified followers of Christ!

Flyers/reminders can be picked up in the Narthex.

Consider joining the St. Mary Pro-Life Committee. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Church Hall at 9:00 a.m. We welcome new members and new ideas!



The Council of Catholic Women

The next **Board Meeting** will be
Wednesday, October 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the
Church Hall, Fatima Room

The next **General Meeting** will be Thursday,
October 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall,
Guadalupe Room

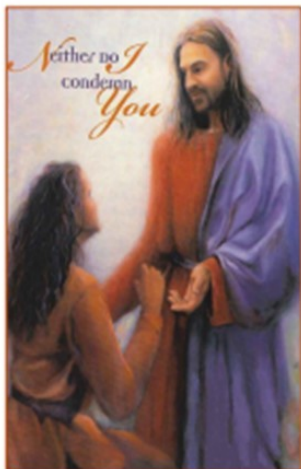
We will have a speaker from the Purple Project!



St. Mary's Young at Heart Club

**All are welcome to join
no matter your age and bring a friend!**

We meet the first and third
Wednesday of each month
Membership Dues are \$25.00
The next meeting will be Wednesday,
October 15th at 1:00 p.m. in the
Church Hall



MERCY, COMPASSION, FORGIVENESS...

If you are suffering from grief after having
had an abortion, remember that God always
offers forgiveness. Nothing is unforgivable
and the Church is the hospital of healing.
Just as the father ran to the prodigal son
when he came home, so too is God waiting
with open arms to receive you back home!

2025 Retreat Dates

May 16-18

Oct. 17-19

Our Lady of the Angels Retreat Center
at Sisters of Mt. Assisi - Lemont, IL

Rachel's Vineyard Retreats for Healing After Abortion

Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreats offer a
beautiful opportunity for healing to any
woman or man who has struggled with
the emotional or spiritual pain of an
abortion.

The retreat is a chance to get away from
the daily pressure of work and family, to
focus on a painful time in life, and to
begin healing through a supportive and
non-judgmental process.

Many preconceived fears of
condemnation are transformed into
blessings; memories of abandonment,
pain, and confusion are replaced by
reconciliation, grace and peace.

Spiritual exercises focusing on God's
forgiveness, compassion, and mercy are
shared through psychological exercises
that help participants work through
repressed grief and anger that may exist.

The retreat concludes with a Memorial
Service. The weekend will help your soul
find a voice and transform the pain of the
past into love and hope.

Information, prayer, registration call:

815-370-8118 or 815-634-3796

or go to

www.rachelsvineyard.org

Do not continue to live in the shame, fear or
numbness - call the Rachel's Vineyard toll-
free national hotline at

877 HOPE 4 ME (877-467-3463)



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The next **Officer Meeting** will be
Tuesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. in
the Church Hall, Lourdes Room

The next **Council Meeting** will be
Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m.
in the Church Hall, Guadalupe Room

**Thank you to the
St. Mary Knights of Columbus
for installing the Pro- Life Crosses
every October on the church lawn.**
These crosses remind us of the innocent lives lost
due to abortion.
Please pray for understanding!



REVELATION

Discover the keys to understanding this most
misunderstood book of the Bible.

Saturday, October 11, 2025 - 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Rev. Robert Miller and Dr. Mark Nimo

Return to guide us to better understand the profound importance of this
book to the Bible and to Christianity.

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Saint Jude Catholic Church, Meeting Room 3 & 4
241 West Second Avenue, New Lenox, IL 60451

Revelation is the Bible's most misunderstood book - surreal, fascinating,
confusing, symbolic and yet immensely Hope-full! We will unpack the keys to
understanding this amazing book, walking through some of the powerful images
that give hope and peace amidst turmoil and persecution. Jesus is the "One who
is, was and who is to come!"

Are you interested in deeper spiritual growth, as well as a better understanding
of the Word of God and our Christian faith? This retreat will open up new insights
about the role of the Lord of History in our difficult and conflict-ridden world.
You will experience personal spiritual renewal and be uplifted through prayer,
singing, preaching and renewal of faith commitments.

This could be the most insightful & fulfilling retreat you ever have. Feel closer to
God, deeper in your Faith, more confident of being loved, and more renewed in
your commitment to be a disciple of the Lord.

Bring your bible and writing materials to take notes.

A luncheon meal will be available for a free-will offering. Please register by October 7.
Contact John Kocourek, 815-557-8990 or Jeanette Convey, 815-341-2339.



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

'I am building God's kingdom.'

When I was little, I remember a teacher asking me, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Right away, I envisioned myself drawing buildings and houses. I wanted to become an architect. That dream became real but in a different way, for God had another blueprint for my life — to help build his kingdom.

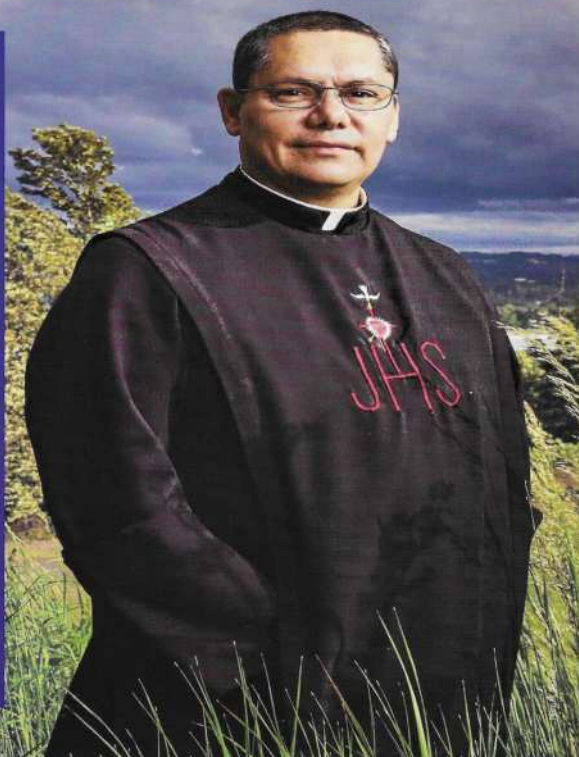
When I was 25 years old, I attended a "Come and See" retreat with the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit, not knowing what to expect. During that retreat, I realized I liked living in community, and I also loved centering everything around the Eucharist.

Letting go of my dreams of becoming an architect and of getting married was difficult, but I sensed a deep fire within me that could not be contained. I thought, "This is something I could happily see myself doing."

Now, 20 years after joining the congregation, I'm blessed to serve as vocations director and a spiritual director. In this way, I firmly believe I am building God's kingdom as an architect for the Lord.

Brother Lucio Galicia

Missionaries of the Holy Spirit
Cristó Rey de Guadalupe Council 15016
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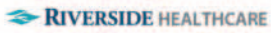
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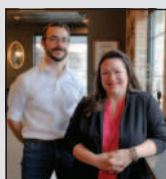
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