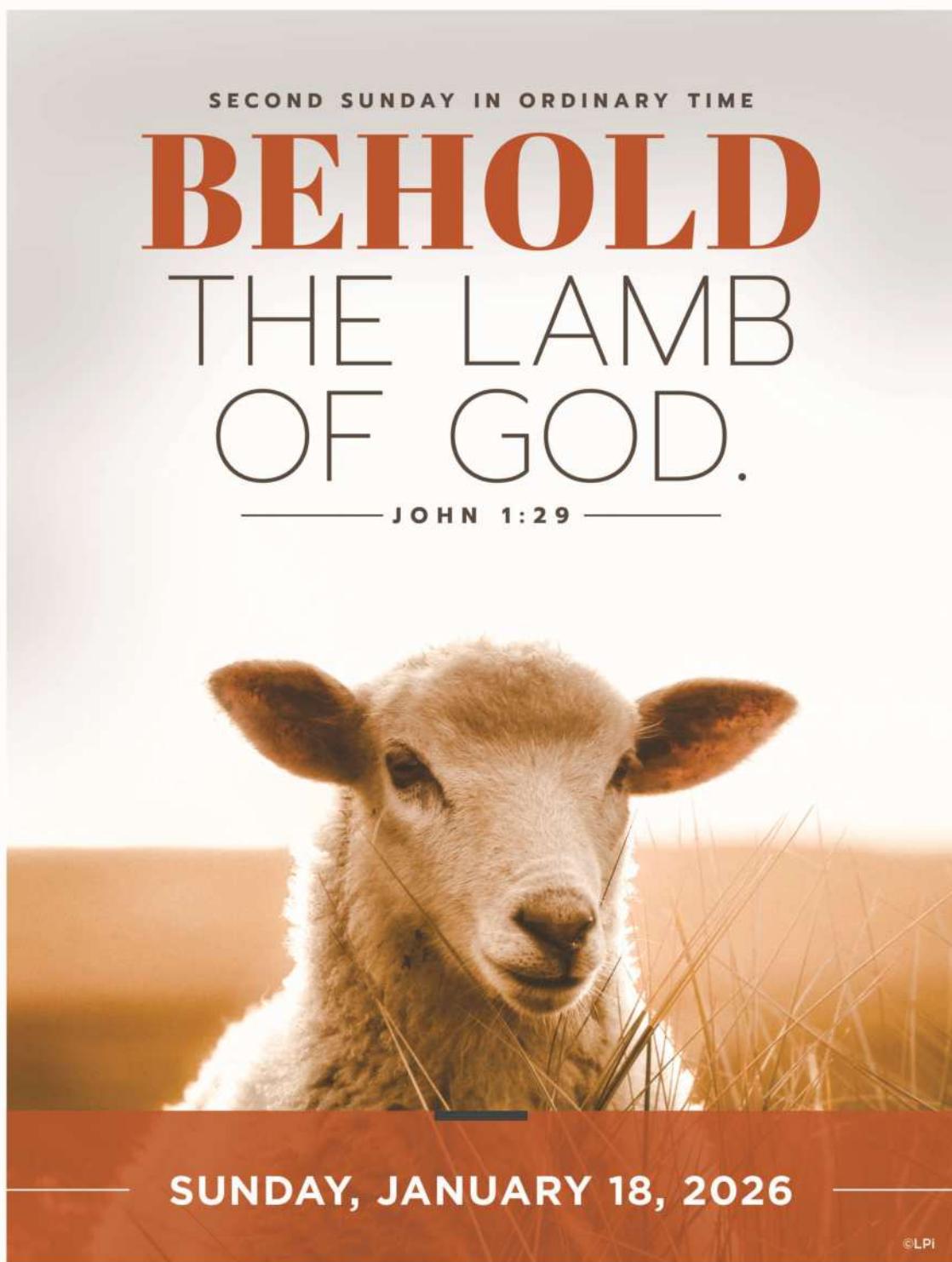


SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

"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.

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/CONFESIONS:

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.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Pastor: Fr. Joe Gasta

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Welbert Suarez

708-326-9307 frjose@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9304 frwelbert@stmarymokena.org

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 perry@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.

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 19

8:00am: Janice Sullivan, Judah Winkler

Tuesday, January 20

8:00am: Stan Ruminski, Richard Feltz, Vincent Sheridan, Guy Cesario III, Joseph Kelso

Wednesday, January 21

7:30am: Deacon Daniel Carroll

8:30am: Therese Hanley

Thursday, January 22

8:00am: Carmen Gambino

Friday, January 23

8:00am: Gerald Everson

Saturday, January 24

8:00am: Chuck Halper

5:00pm: Leonard Kuboushek, Martin Plecki, Timothy Seeber, Ann King, Fiore Maria Petrassi

Sunday, January 25

8:00am: James Emerson

9:30am: Patrick Blayney

11:00am: Victoria Doyle

6:00pm: Father Richard Young

**Please Pray for our Faithfully
Departed Brothers and Sisters**

Ronald Lynn,

Thomas McInerney,

Thomas McAvoy,

Loretta Szafranski



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

God Bless Our New Parishioners



The Faltin family,
The McCollum family



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

SP4 Arhan Atreya, USA

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

MAJ Steven Pieczynski, USAF

SSG August Pintarro, USA

PFC Joshua Poplin, USA

E-3 Sydney Quattrochi, 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.

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, Emma Harrison, Jeremiah Hartmann, Bobbie, Howie, Mary Ingala, Daniel Izzo, Richard Junge, Les Kazmierczak, Shirley Keene, Joseph Kerke, Hattie Kerke, Diane Klootwyk, Beverly Klosowski, Richard Kolovitz, Jan Kosmatine, John Kurator, Joseph Kurczewski, 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, Joelle McMaster, Thomas Meehan, Heidi Meekma, Patty Melei, Janice Melisi, Ginny Meyer, Rich Milkeris, 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 Omastiak, 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 Santiago, 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, Diana Woods, Karen Yaeger, Kathleen Yonker

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, January 19 Parish Office Closed

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, January 20

7:00 a.m. Confessions
8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
4:30 p.m. RE Gr. K-6 (Classrooms)
4:45 p.m. RE Adoration (Church)
6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)
6:45 p.m. RE Adoration (Chapel)
7:00 p.m. Scripture Study (Guadalupe)
7:30 p.m. Youth Ministry Bible Study (JPII Room)

Wednesday, January 21

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 (Church Hall)
11:00a.m. Young at Heart Set Up (Guadalupe)
1:00 p.m. Young at Heart Meeting (Guadalupe)
4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-8 (Classrooms)
4:45 p.m. RE Adoration (Church)
6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)
6:45 p.m. RE Adoration (Chapel)
7:00 p.m. Liturgy Committee Meeting (Lourdes)

Thursday, January 22

7:00 a.m. Confessions
8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-8 (Classrooms)
4:45 p.m. RE Adoration (Church)
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth Ministry (School Cafeteria)

Friday, January 23

7:00 a.m. Confessions
8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
8:30 a.m. Adoration for Increased Vocations (Church)

Saturday, January 24

7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
8:00 a.m. Men's Ministry (Guadalupe)
10:00a.m. Altar Server Training (Church)
11:00a.m. Casino Night Set Up (Church Hall All)
3:30 p.m. Confessions (Church)
5:00 p.m. Mass (Church)
6:00 p.m. Casino Night (Church Hall All)

Sunday, January 25

7:15 a.m. Lauds (Church)
8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
9:30 a.m. Mass (Church)
11:00a.m. Mass (Church)
12:00p.m. OCIA Meeting (Lourdes)
1:00 p.m. Baptism Prep (Fatima)
6:00 p.m. Mass (Church)
6:00 p.m. Youth Ministry (Guadalupe)

Spend time in Jesus' presence at

Behold

Thursday, January 29th
7:00 pm in the Church

A Night of Prayer, Music,
Confession and Adoration



"Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."

St. Peregrine DEVOTION AND HEALING SERVICE

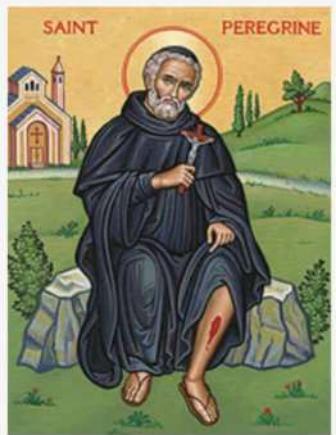
PATRON OF THOSE WHO SUFFER WITH
CANCER OR ANY INCURABLE DISEASE
OR CONDITION

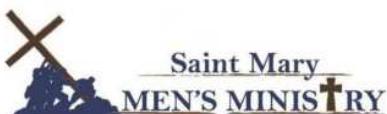
29
JANUARY
6:30PM

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
SIDE CHAPEL

EVERY LAST THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH!

- ST. PEREGRINE DEVOTIONAL
PRAYERS
- RECONCILIATION
- ADORATION OF THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT



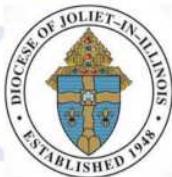


All men are invited to join us for our next meeting

**SATURDAY,
JANUARY 24**

Double Header Meeting:

**A Brief History of the
Diocese of Joliet**
with Jim Lynch



**Grow in Faith and Fellowship:
The Power of Small
Group Formation**
with Bob Cornejo

**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

EVANGELIZATION

1:1 Series

Session 4
Evangelization: For Love of Christ & His Church

DIOCESE OF JOLIET Office of Mission

Do you love your Catholic faith? Let's talk about it! Join parishioners from around the Diocese of Joliet for a chance to practice sharing your faith!

Presenter
Nick LaBanca
Joliet Chapter Team Captain
St. Paul Street Evangelization

3 February 2026
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Blanchette Catholic Center

Register Using the QR Code

Questions? Contact Alex Buldak
abuldak@dioceseofjoliet.org
815-221-6256

Giving

**Rooted in Gratitude
Giving with Grace**

Support our ministries this fall through faithful generosity.

**The Offertory for
January 11th**

Online Giving	\$13,246.65
Envelopes	\$16,819.95
	<hr/>
	\$30,066.60

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

Online Giving
Give your gift today.
Scan the QR Code





From Your Pastor

My dearest parishioners,

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

Today, January 18, we begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Over the next eight days, through January 25, Christians across the world join in prayer with a shared hope: *that followers of Christ may grow closer to one another, just as Jesus prayed that His disciples would be one (John 17:21)*. This annual observance traces its roots back to the early 20th century. In 1908, an Anglican priest named Fr. Paul Wattson felt deeply moved to invite Christians to pray together for unity. *He was convinced that true reconciliation among believers could only happen when hearts were first turned toward God in prayer.* Later in his life, Fr. Wattson entered into full communion with the Catholic Church and was ordained as a Catholic priest. What began as a small initiative has since grown into a worldwide observance embraced by many Christian traditions including the Catholic Church as a sign of trust in God's desire to heal divisions.

Why is this week important for us here at St. Mary? For many of us, the call to unity is not abstract. It touches our everyday lives. We have loved ones, friends, neighbors, and coworkers who believe in Jesus but worship in different Christian communities. *While our traditions and practices may differ, our faith in the same Lord truly unites us even as we continue to pray and work toward the fullness of unity that Christ desires for His Church.* Division among Christians can be painful and confusing especially when the Gospel calls us to love. By praying for unity, we show to the world that Christian faith is meant to build communion rather than create distance.

This week is not about setting aside our Catholic beliefs or pretending that differences do not exist. Instead, it invites us to grow in mutual respect, to listen with humility and to recognize that God is actively at work in all who sincerely seek to follow Christ according to the gifts and grace He has given them. *True unity in the Church does not mean uniformity, but communion lived with love and patience while remaining faithful to the truth entrusted to us.* As we enter this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, let us allow it to touch our hearts personally. Let us lift up our families, parish, and world in prayer, and may we reflect on how we can be more welcoming, compassionate, and authentic witnesses to Christ in our daily lives. May these days of prayer draw us closer to the Lord and closer to one another. And may St. Mary Parish continue to be a place where God's love brings people together and strengthens the bonds among us.

Send, O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

With love in Christ,

Fr. Joe Gasta, RCJ
Pastor



Called to Serve

High School Young Men freshman to seniors

Are invited to become a

KNIGHT OF THE HOLY TEMPLE

St. Mary Parish in Mokena is excited to be part of a fairly new ministry in the Diocese of Joliet. Our parish will be launching the ministry of Knights of the Holy

Temple. Young men high school age along with their parents are invited to an information meeting being held on **Sunday January 18, 2026** after the 11:00 a.m. mass in the parish hall. A light lunch will be provided. Learn more and explore the possibility of becoming a Knight of the Holy Temple here at St. Mary Parish. Please

RSVP by calling the parish office 708 326-9300 on or before Wednesday January 14, 2026 let us know how many will be attending.



Mission Statement:

-The purpose of the Knights of the Holy Temple is to assist high school-aged men to experience **Godly masculine adventure, battle, and beauty**, with a foundation firmly grounded on **fraternity, formation, prayer, and parish service**.

-The Knights encourage its members to grow in virtue and to learn how to become Catholic gentleman. The Knights help members gain a deeper understanding of the Catholic Church, to commit to properly live out our Catholic faith.

The Knights hold monthly meetings that are run by the young men who are its members. Within the guidelines of the Knights of the Holy Temple, all activities are decided by the members of the Knights. The Knights will develop friendships with each other and have opportunities for Christian formation. Engaging with Knights at other Catholic parishes in the Diocese of Joliet and outside our Diocese in service and social settings will also provide opportunities for friendship and fun.



An Evening for Married Couples with Dr. Edward & Beth Sri

Nationally Renowned Catholic Speakers • Authors of *The Good, the Messy, and the Beautiful*

Hosted by 

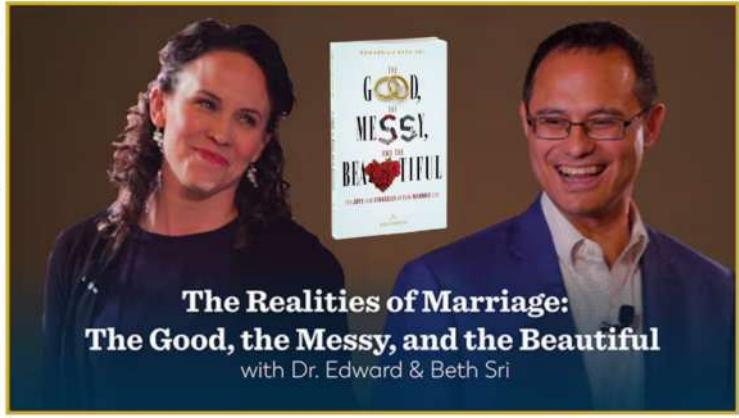
Save the Date

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 4, 2026 @7:00PM

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH, 701 S. EOLA ROAD, AURORA, IL 60504

Whether you've been married one year or forty, don't miss this powerful and inspiring evening! With humor, honesty, and deep faith, the Sris will share real-life insights into Catholic marriage—the joys and the struggles—and how God uses it all to draw spouses closer to Him and to each other.

Come be renewed in your vocation... and invite another couple to join you!
\$50 PER COUPLE (MARRIED, ENGAGED, OR DATING)
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



**The Realities of Marriage:
 The Good, the Messy, and the Beautiful**

with Dr. Edward & Beth Sri

REGISTER NOW TO SECURE YOUR SEATS ➤ ➤ ➤ bit.ly/srisatolm



January 24 - January 25: Third 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	Bridget Barron Andy Lihosit	Denise L Bartolotta Kathy Mihalek	SMS Student1 SMS Student2	Guy Cesario Sean Gleason	Andy Habib
Eucharistic Minister	Mary Ann Braasch Ted Kopczynski John Mitoraj Sue Murphy	Joan Aust Robert Rafferty Nancy Santry Stefanie Walthier	Kathy Judge Gretchen Nenn Joshua Sifuentes Kathleen Sifuentes	Michael Crowley Bob Meyers Patti Pertchi NOT FILLED	Karen Haugh Robert Koch Judy Siegmund
Altar Server	Charleigh Widelski Scarlett Widelski NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Jillian Ferin Liam Sullivan NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Frankie Fulton Grace Fulton Lucas Pilon Noah Pilon	Natalie Galka Luke Tyrka Zachary Tyrka NOT FILLED	Allison Eiden Caitlin Eiden Gretchen Eiden McKenna Griffin
Usher	Mary Ann Braasch Jim Grady Maurice Helm Mark Miron James Palermo Tom Siemieniec Joe Toman	Chris Cichowicz Ed Dorey Rich Gavillet Roy Mueller Gregory Santry	John Delladio Ed Dorey Joanette Kulesa 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	Joan Aust	Ed Dorey	Ed Dorey	Ed Dorey
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.

Come and See

January 25 7pm

The St Mary Parish Youth Ministry program invites all teens in eighth grade through senior year in high school to encounter the person of Christ in a true and authentic way.

Join us for an introductory night into faith and relationship with Jesus. This night is designed to welcome teens that are new to belief or those coming back to the faith along with students with a solid foundation already built.

Come and build relationship with other young people growing in their faith. Experience our large group discussions, small group conversations, and share a meal with each other!



Donut Sunday January 18th

Join us in the church hall after all morning masses while supplies last. All proceeds go to support our Youth Ministry Program!

Need High School service hours? Reach out for our sign-up form

Contact Youth Minister, Matt Jung, with any questions.

mjung@stmarymokena.org



save the date

LENTEN SILENT RETREAT

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 28
SHRINE OF ST. THERESE
DARIEN, IL

More info and registration coming soon!

MOMS
Podcast Club

Join other Catholic moms of school-age children and younger for conversation on "The Road to Emmaus with Scott Hahn."

Friday, January 30
9:30 am
in the Church Hall
"Offer it Up vs. Suck it Up with Megan Hjelmstad"

Listen to podcast prior to gathering (search "The Road to Emmaus with Scott Hahn" 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



BE FORMED

SEASON 12: THE CREED – JESUS CHRIST

FEBRUARY 13 – MAY 13, 2026

Learn more about the Creed and the identity of Jesus Christ through this 90-Day Discipleship Ministry! For more information, visit our website at beformed.net.

REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 5, 2026

St. Mary Mokena

FAMILY Day
An Opportunity to Grow in Faith at Every Age

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
12-3 PM

Unlocking the Power of Prayer

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

Register by January 25 at www.stmarymokena.org/family

Questions? Contact Megan, mmurray@stmarymokena.org





Register
today!

St. Mary Mokena



FAMILY Day

An Opportunity to
Grow in Faith at Every Age

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
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



Register by January 25 at
www.stmarymokena.org/family



SCHOOL



ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Open House Dates

January 15, 2026 from 5:00 - 7:30 PM
VIP Sneak Peek Night

and

January 25, 2026 from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Open House & Tours

Both events will be an outstanding opportunity for prospective families to take private tours led by SMS teachers, staff, administration, clergy, students, and alumni. These tours provide an inside look at the vibrant academic and community life at St. Mary Catholic School. **RSVP is required.**

The St. Mary Difference

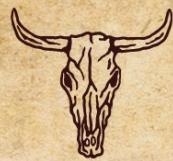
- Rooted in Catholic values, we welcome families of all faiths
- Will County's Largest Catholic Elementary School
- Rigorous Academic Curriculum
- High School Readiness with Advanced Algebra
- Multi-Student Discount
- Safe & Loving Place to Learn

SCAN
ME



For additional questions, contact Marketing & Enrollment Coordinator Danelle Bernas at dbernas@stmarymokena.org.

SADDLE UP & PUT ON YOUR BOOTS FOR



ST. MARY SCHOOL

CASINO NIGHT



★ WELCOME TO THE WILD WEST ★

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24



6:30 PM,

CHURCH HALL

\$100/person or \$350/4 people
includes heavy appetizers,
open bar, and \$100 in chips

All are welcome:

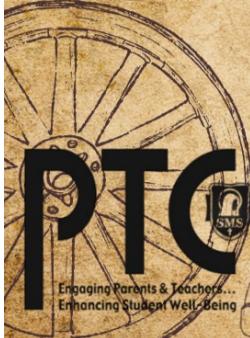
parents, parishioners and friends!

Don't mosey around: price increases to

\$125/person after January 16

Buy your tickets today at

www.stmarymokena.org/casino



Engaging Parents & Teachers...
Enhancing Student Well-Being

Email questions to Erica at
aemiklaszewski@gmail.com



Religious Education

SOLD AFTER ALL MASSES JAN. 17-18

St. Mary's R.E. Mission

2025 RAFFLE FUNDRAISER!

RAFFLE PRIZES INCLUDED:

- ① FIRST PRIZE – \$1,000
- ② SECOND PRIZE – \$500
- ③ THIRD PRIZE – \$250

**Tickets
available in the
R.E. Office**

Raffle will run from:

Nov 10- Feb 15, 2026

**Help us continue
to build our
mission!**



Stewardship Reflection - January 18, 2026
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings provide clear and inspiring reminders of the most fundamental aspect of our identity — that of servants of our most high and holy God, His modern-day disciples, and stewards.

John the Baptist recognized the holiness of Jesus and the response due to Him when he encountered Christ in person on the day they met at the Jordan River. His response, which we read in our Gospel passage from St. John was, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world... He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'"

What a powerful description of our Lord and the place He should rightfully have in each of our lives. He is truly our Savior, the only one who can free us from our sinfulness. We are utterly and completely dependent on His power, love, and mercy. Therefore, He truly does "rank ahead" of us; he deserves to be first, above all other priorities and plans in our lives. Let us examine our daily lives and encourage our children to do the same.

Does the way I spend my time reflect that God comes first? Do prayer and weekly Mass, regular confession, and time with my family "rank ahead" of everything else on my calendar? Do I use my talents, skills, and energy to serve my family, parish and community in thanksgiving and recognition that God's kingdom ranks ahead of any other goals or ambitions? Do I spend my money and use my material possessions to glorify God? Challenging questions, to be sure but questions worthy of our high calling as Christian stewards offered a glorious mission in service of our Lord and His kingdom. What will our response be?

Catholic Stewardship Consultants



Seasons of Hope Bereavement Support

**Beginning March 10th
 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Sessions are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month
 for six weeks in the Church Chapel.

This Christ centered support group offers comfort, support and understanding based on scripture, prayer, reflection activities and faith sharing.

Contact Donna Hungerford (708) 326-9312 or
dhungerford@stmarymokena.org

Sign up is required and space is limited.



JOIN THE PRO LIFE COMMITTEE
HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE
IN CHURCH ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 26
6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.



EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE READING &
REFLECTION by
Deacon John Rex

PRO LIFE ROSARY

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

BENEDICTION

COMMUNITY LIFE



The Council of Catholic Women

The next **Board Meeting** will be **Wednesday, February 11** at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Hall, Fatima Room

The next **General Meeting** will be **Thursday, February 19** at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall, Guadalupe Room



Save the Date!

St. Patrick / St. Joseph Family Celebration

Sunday, March 8 in the Church Hall at 12:00 p.m.
after the 11:00 a.m. Mass

St. Mary's Young at Heart Club

**All are welcome to join
no matter your age!**

Join us on **Wednesday, January 21** for a

Paint Party!

(Bingo and Poker too)

Our meeting is in the Church Hall
1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.



Contact **Marla Garbarczyk**
for information or if you need a
ride 708-308-2505 or
trampool@aol.com



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The next **Officer Meeting** will be **Tuesday, January 27** at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall, Lourdes Room

The next **Council Meeting** will be **Tuesday, February 10** at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall, Guadalupe Room



Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Championship

Saturday, February 7, 2026

St. Mary School Gym

Doors Open at 8:15 a.m.

Start 8:45 a.m.



Open to all Boys and Girls
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Students that attend St. Mary, Mokena
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their school gym classes during the month of
January.

Students that do not attend these schools or miss
the opportunity in school are invited to join these
school champions to crown the local champion.



**ST. MARY'S
COUNCIL 6993**

BOWLING NIGHT

Get ready for a night of strikes and spares
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WED. JANUARY 21ST

7PM - 9PM

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Tom McDermott
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Please include the number of bowlers





The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun!

The Diocese of Joliet invites all parishioners to support the 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Together, we can make a profound difference.

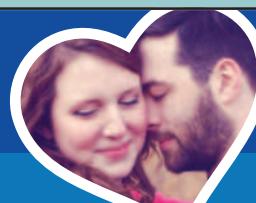
This year's theme is Beyond all Expectations: Faith that Elevates! Through the CMAA, we ensure Christ's mission and ministries reach everyone. We provide shelter for the homeless, feed the hungry, support vocations, and educate the next generation of Catholics. Our parish cannot accomplish this alone. As a diocese, we can do so much more.

Our parish goal is \$167,400.00. We receive 70% of any amount raised over goal to use within our parish. Please review the mailing you'll be receiving from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully consider your gift.

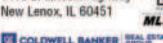
If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you!

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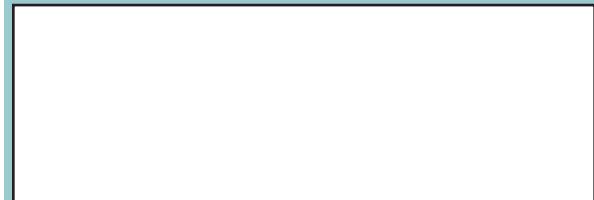
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