



SAINT MARY

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

MARCH 22, 2026

Welcome!

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday | 5:00pm Vigil Mass
 Sunday | 8:00am, 9:30am,
 11:00am, 6:00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday | 8:00am
 Tuesday | 8:00am
 Wednesday | 7:30am
 Thursday | 8:00am
 Friday | 8:00am
 Saturday | 8:00am

Confession

Monday through Friday
 7:00am-7:45am
 Saturday | 3:30pm-4:30pm
 First Saturdays | 8:30am-9:30am

Devotions

Daily Rosary

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
 7:30am

Wednesday | 8:00am

Monday evenings | 6:30pm

Daily Divine Mercy Chaplet

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
 8:00am

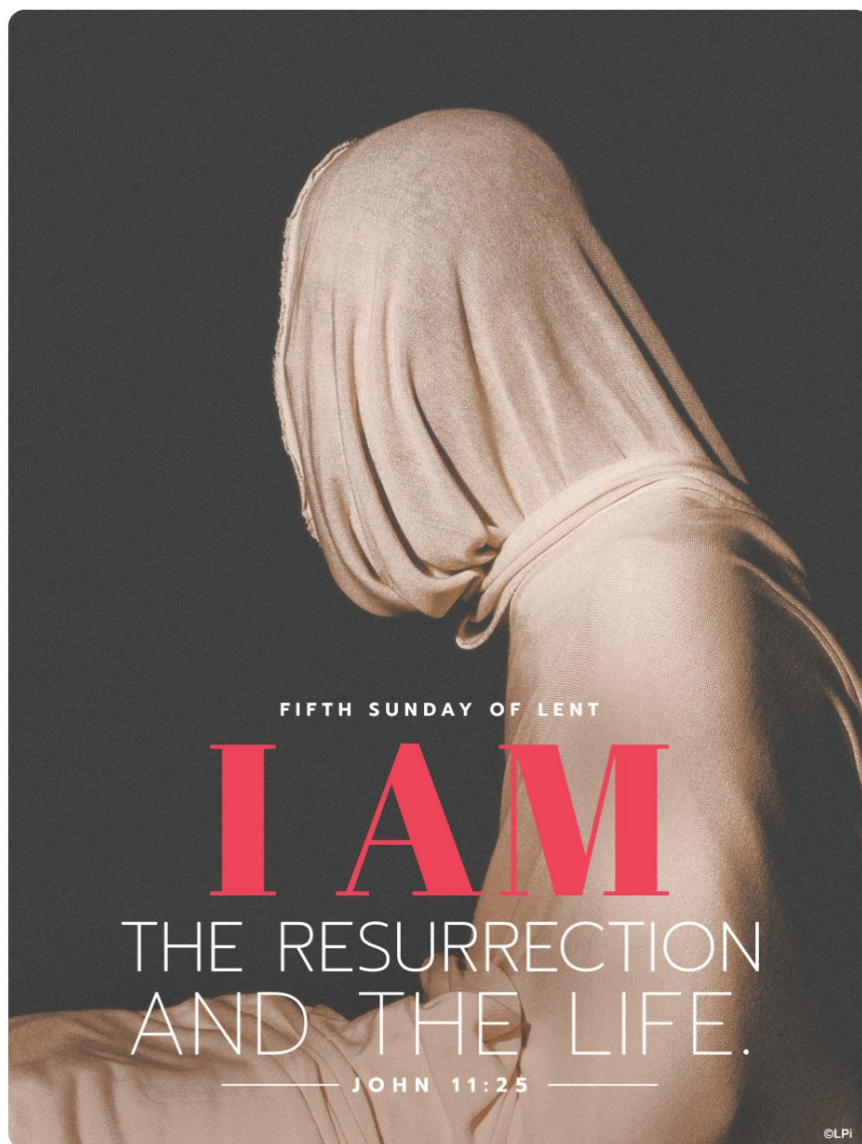
Wednesday | 8:00am

Lauds

Sunday mornings | 7:15am

GET IN TOUCH

19515 S. 115th Avenue
 Mokena, IL 60448
 708-326-9300
www.stmarymokena.org



OUR VISION

The beauty and sacredness of the liturgy, sacramental life and parish experience at St. Mary Parish leads our parishioners and community to a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ.

THE PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office Hours
Monday through Friday
8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
–Door # 3–

Pastor: Fr. Joe Gasta

708-326-9307 pastor@stmarymokena.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Welbert Suarez

708-326-9304 frwelbert@stmarymokena.org

Deacons:

Deacon Peter Manning

708-326-9300 deaconpete@aol.com

Deacon John Rex

708-326-9300 deaconjohn@stmarymokena.org

Deacon Kevin Plankinton

708-326-9300 deaconkevin@stmarymokena.org

Deacon Dave Stanton

708-326-9300 deacondave@stmarymokena.org

Parish Office:

Parish Secretary, Karen Dilger

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

Business Manager, Stephen J. Warunek

708-326-9305 secretary@stmarymokena.org

Maintenance Supervisor, Gerardo "Gerry" Iniguez

708-326-9309 swarunek@stmarymokena.org

Morning Maintenance, Thomas Pritchard

708-326-9314 giniguez@stmarymokena.org

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708-326-9314 tpritchard@stmarymokena.org

Asst Director of Adult Faith Formation, Danielle Kuboushek

708-326-9313 mmurray@stmarymokena.org

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

708-326-9353 dkuboushek@stmarymokena.org

Director of Religious Education, Tami Brongiel

708-326-9355 esestak@stmarymokena.org

Asst Director of Religious Education, Selena Roberts

708-326-9356 tbrongiel@stmarymokena.org

RE Office Assistant, Kathy Brzeszkiewicz

708-326-9357 sroberts@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9352 re@stmarymokena.org

Directors of Liturgy, Deacon Pete Manning and John Brett

708-326-9352 kbrez@stmarymokena.org

Director of Christian Service, Donna Hungerford

708-326-9312 deaconpete@aol.com, jbrett@stmarymokena.org

Director of Sacred Music, Joseph Berardi

708-326-9312 dhungerford@stmarymokena.org

Youth Minister, Matt Jung

708-326-9302 jberardi@stmarymokena.org

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708-326-9354 mjung@stmarymokena.org

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815-953-7228

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708-326-9311 lclark@stmarymokena.org

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708-326-9310 pperry@stmarymokena.org

zhabib@stmarymokena.org

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School Secretary, Charlotte Catchings

708-326-9330

School Principal, Michele Alday-Engelman

708-326-9332 office@stmarymokena.org

School Assistant Principal, Michelle Huizinga

708-326-9348 mengelman@stmarymokena.org

Marketing & Enrollment, Danelle Bernas

708-326-9347 mhuizinga@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9349 dbernas@stmarymokena.org



OCIA - 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 contact the parish office.

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.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



MY DEAREST PARISHIONERS,

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

Last week, I talked about how important prayer is and how we must trust in God. Prayer helps us stay close to the Lord. It is where we bring our worries, our hopes, and our gratitude. During this holy season of Lent, the Church invites us to grow closer to God through prayer, fasting, and helping others.

As I write this message, I am still spending some time with my family during a short vacation. We are enjoying simple moments together: *sharing meals, talking, laughing, and being thankful for the time we have with one another*. But the most meaningful moment for me each day is when we pray together as a family. Every night, we gather to pray the Rosary. After the Rosary, we spend a quiet moment reflecting on our day before God. We ask forgiveness for the times we did not love others well, and we thank the Lord for the many blessings we received. Then we end by thanking God for the beautiful day He has given us.

This experience has reminded me how important it is for families to grow in faith together. Our homes can become places where faith is lived every day. That is why I encourage all families in our parish to practice simple spiritual habits at home. Try to have a regular time for family prayer. It can be before dinner or before going to bed. Even five or ten minutes of prayer together is a beautiful gift to God. Children learn how important prayer is when they see their parents praying with them. You can also read the Gospel of the day together. The Gospel is short but full of meaning. After reading it, you may ask a simple question: *What message from Jesus touched your heart today?* In this way, God's Word becomes part of family life.

My dearest parishioners, during this Lenten season, the Lord invites us to renew our hearts. One beautiful way to do this is by growing in faith as families. Even small steps such as praying together, listening to the Gospel, and showing kindness can make our homes places where God truly lives. Please continue to pray for me while I am away, as I also keep all of you and your families in my prayers each day. May the Lord bless our parish, and may our families continue to grow in faith, hope, and love.

Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

With love in Christ,

Fr. Joe Gasta, RCJ
Pastor

Please join us for our Lenten Parish Mission

ENCOUNTERING THE MYSTERY:

A Reflection on the Scrutinies

with Fr. Steven Borello,
Diocese of Joliet Vocations Director

Sunday, March 22 - Tuesday, March 24

7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

St. Mary, Mokena

Sunday, March 22:
“For What Do We Thirst?”

Monday, March 23:
“And Now I See.”

Tuesday, March 24:
“Come Out.”

Each evening
will include Adoration.



Lent is the perfect time to act on the Works of Mercy!

The Works of mercy are **ways for us to live out our faith**. There are two types of Works of Mercy: **Corporal** and **Spiritual**. The Spiritual Works of Mercy are ways to help with **matters of the soul**.

THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

- 1) COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL.
- 2) INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT.
- 3) ADMONISH SINNERS.

- 4) COMFORT THE SORROWFUL.
- 5) FORGIVE OFFENSES.
- 6) BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY.
- 7) PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND DEAD.



We are meant to **counsel** and **instruct** those who do not know the faith, or who doubt its truth.

We are meant to **admonish** sinners if the sin is mortal, if we have authority or influence over them, and if we believe that we won't make the situation worse by doing so.

We are meant to **forgive** and **bear wrongs**, just as Christ did on the Cross.

We are meant to **pray** because the **living** can always fall into sin, and the **dead** cannot help themselves.

We are meant to **comfort** people in times of sorrow.

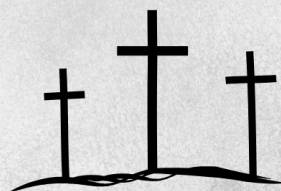
Prayerfully consider ways in which you can live out the Spiritual Works of Mercy this Lent!

LENTEN CONFESSIONS

Wednesday, March 25th | 6:00 - 7:00 PM

**PREPARE YOUR HEARTS FOR CHRIST THIS EASTER
BY RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION.**

Confessions will be heard by both St. Mary's and visiting priests.



Easter is Sunday, April 5th.



All men are invited to join us for our next meeting
SATURDAY, APRIL 18
A MAN AND HIS MISSION:
Essentials for the Catholic Man

David Conover is a husband, father of eight, grandfather, and trial attorney for more than 30 years. Public speaking is part of his profession, but since his conversion to Catholicism in 2000, faith and formation are his passions to share.

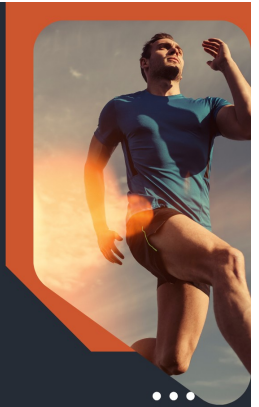


8am Mass - 10:30am
St. Mary, Mokena
Church Hall

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



Congratulations to the Cascone family on the baptism of their daughter Reagan Ashley

Giving

**Rooted in Gratitude
Giving with Grace**

Support our ministries this fall through faithful generosity.

**The Offertory for
March 15th**

Online Giving	\$14,240.65
Envelopes	\$20,558.91
	<hr/>
	\$34,799.56

Budget \$34,000

Thank you so much for your generosity!

Online Giving

Give your gift today.
Scan the QR Code



Mass Intentions

Monday, March 23

8:00am: Barbara Sansone, Jerry Broadhurst, Vincent and Luzviminda Gasta

Tuesday, March 24

8:00am: Peter Pranckus, Marian Radek, Jennie Russo, James Barr, Guy Cesario III, Dennis Rusin

Wednesday, March 25

7:30am: Bob Cook

8:30am: Paul Wolf

Thursday, March 26

8:00am: Kris Ragusa

Friday, March 27

8:00am: Francis Maria Kay, David Rogers

Saturday, March 28

8:00am: Marilyn Sparacino

5:00pm: Larry Bahnaman, Mafalda Ferraro, Denise Briscoe, Paul Wolf

Sunday, March 29

8:00am: Mary Lou Kavanaugh

9:30am: Stan and Ken Ruminski, Julia Jones

11:00am: Bill Phelan

6:00pm: Dominick Canino



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE NEWLY BAPTIZED
BLAKELY JO WROBEL,
HATTIE EVE ROBERTSON,
ELIZABETH CATHERINE MORRISSETTE,
ISLA KATHRYN DAVIS
BRIAR MAE PINTO
MAY GOD BLESS THE LITTLE ONES

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, Sherley Keene, Joseph Kerke, Hattie Kerke, Diane Klootwyk, Beverly Klosowski, Richard Kolovitz, Jan Kosmatine, Betty Krzewicz, 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, Joelee 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 Wallis, Kathy Wereldsma Leo Wilczek, Tim Weber, Jodie Weber, Jonathan Weber, Dan Wolf, Jerry Wolff, Diana Woods, Karen Yaeger,

God Bless Our New Parishioners

The Salkeld family,
The O'Connor family



Please Pray for our Faithfully
Departed Brothers and Sisters

Raymond McClory,
Jerome Lapinskas



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



LET US PRAY FOR
THOSE WHO SERVE

**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	MAJ Steven Pieczynski, USAF
PFC Jenson Andras, USMC	SSG August Pintarro, USA
SP4 Arhan Atreya, USA	PFC Joshua Poplin, USA
Capt Lukasz Bokun, ANG	E-3 Sydney Quatrochi, USAF
Lt Col Joseph A. Budzyn, USAF	Cpl Ryan J. Schwartz, USMC
AET2 Lauren Bulow, USCG	MA3 Greg Siegmund, USN
TSgt Loretta Caplinger, USAF	CPT David Skrzypiec, USAR
E3 Colette Gagen, USN	LT Kevin Skrzypiec, USN
ET2 Nicholas Gambino, USCG	ME2 Gage Stearns, USCG
PFC Noah Genz, USA	Sgt Luke Swiatek, USMC
CPT Andrew Jacobs, USA	LCDR Nicholas Swiatkowski, USNR
MIDN Isabella Judeh, USMMA	Maj Jennifer Tenumah, USAF
CPT Kevin Kelly, USA	CPT Vincent R. Teodoro, USA
PV3 Devin Klinger, USA	Cpl Blanton Vego, USMC
Cpl John P. Morrison, USMC	PO3 John David Villaseñor, USN
Sgt Cody Nicks, USAF	MAJ Bryan Welch, USA
PO3 John O'Brien Nolan, USN	MMN3 Peter Weygandt, USN
PFC Matthew Pakosz, USMC	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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Monday, March 23

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:00 a.m. Food Drive Pick Up (Guadalupe)
 6:30 p.m. Rosary (Church)
 6:30 p.m. Adult Confirmation Class (Lourdes)
 7:00 p.m. Parish Mission (Church)

Tuesday, March 24

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 4:30 p.m. RE Gr. K-6 (Classrooms)
 6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)
 7:00 p.m. Scripture Study (Guadalupe)
 7:00 p.m. Parish Mission (Church)

Wednesday, March 25

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)
 2:00 p.m. Daybreak Cooking (Kitchen)
 4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-8 (Classrooms)
 6:00 p.m. Lenten Confessions (Church)
 6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)
 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal (Guadalupe)
 7:00 p.m. K of C Officer Meeting (Lourdes)

Thursday, March 26

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-8 (Classrooms)
 6:30 p.m. Peregrine Devotion (Chapel)
 7:00 p.m. Behold (Church)

Friday, March 27

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 8:30 a.m. Adoration (Church)
 9:30 a.m. Walking with Purpose (Guadalupe, Lourdes)
 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Church)

Saturday, March 28

7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 8:00 a.m. Sister's in Christ (Guadalupe)
 8:00 a.m. OCIA Retreat (Offsite)
 3:30 p.m. Confessions (Church)
 5:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

Sunday, March 29

7:15 a.m. Lauds (Church)
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:30 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:30 a.m. RE Class Gr. K-6 (Classrooms)
 11:00a.m. Mass (Church)
 12:00p.m. OCIA Meeting (Lourdes)
 12:00p.m. OCIA Rehearsal (Church)
 6:00 p.m. Mass (Church)
 7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry (Guadalupe)

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1) MORNING CONFESSIONS WILL BE CANCELLED DURING HOLY WEEK (MONDAY, MARCH 30TH - FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD).

2) WE WILL NOT HAVE CONFESSIONS ON HOLY SATURDAY (APRIL 4TH).

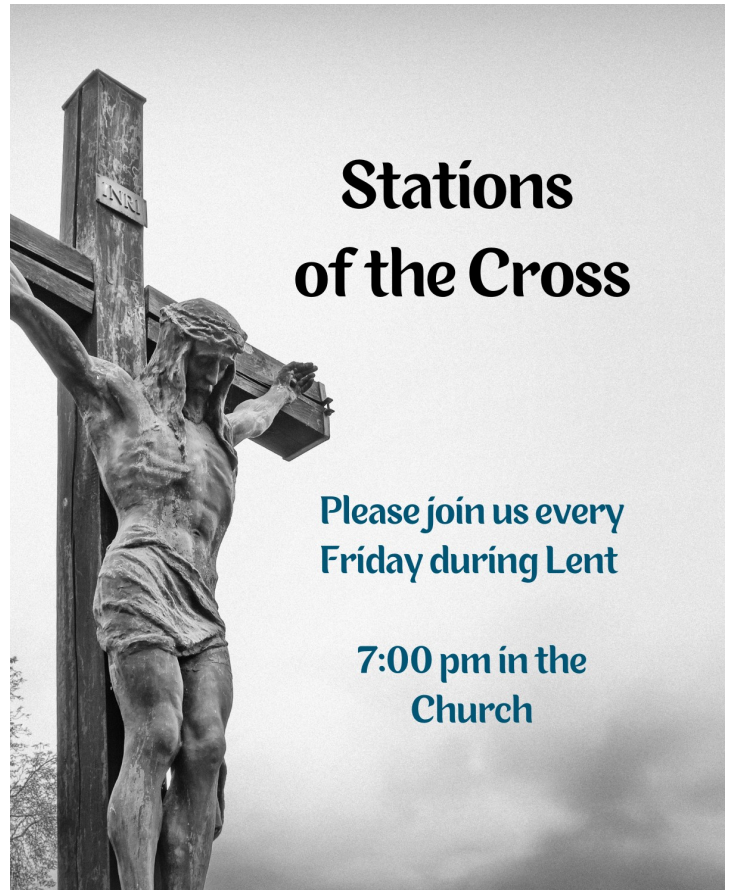
3) THE LAST TIMES FOR CONFESSION BEFORE EASTER WILL BE THIS WEEK:

- i) Morning Confessions this week: 3/23-3/27.
- ii) Lenten Confessions: 3/25 (6 - 7 PM).
- iii) Confessions during Behold: 3/26 (7 - 8 PM).
- iv) Saturday afternoon Confessions: 3/28 (3:30 - 4:30 p.m.).

Stations of the Cross

Please join us every
Friday during Lent

7:00 pm in the
Church



Triduum and Easter Mass Schedule

Holy Thursday

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

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil 8:00 pm

Good Friday

-Veneration of the Cross 3:00 pm

-Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Masses

8:00 am Church

9:30 am Church

11:00 am Church

12:30 pm Church

Holy Saturday

-Easter Basket Blessing 12:00 pm

March 28 - March 29: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 9:30 AM	Sunday, 11:00 AM	Sunday, 6:00 PM
Lector	Ted Kopczyński Anne Trovato	Denise L Bartolotta Kathy Mihalek	Greg Harper Kathy Harper	Sean Gleason Art Wilson	James Nowak
Eucharistic Minister	Peter Baker Andy Lihosit Lora Oldham Andrea Taylor	Bob Cornejo Kathleen Orr Marvin Orr Christine Weeks	Roger Brown Michael Dilger Kathy Judge Joanette Kulesa	Joanne Eckel Sally Harper Patti Pertchi NOT FILLED	Karen Haugh Robert Koch James Nowak
Altar Server	Johnny Cotton Rosamund Cotton Molly Cotton Avery McNamara	David Heitman Hannah Johnston NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Frankie Fulton Grace Fulton June Fulton NOT FILLED	Natalie Galka Christopher Pienkos Cody Pienkos 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	NOT FILLED	Ed Dorey
Live Stream			Cyndi Grobmeier		

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.

Youth Ministry Upcoming Events



**For the battle
belongs to the Lord.**

1 SAMUEL 17:47

Steubenville Sign Up

**Graduating 8th Graders through
Graduating High School Seniors are
able to sign up and join us for an
incredible weekend of faith,
adoration, and community with
thousands of teens from across the
midwest.**

**June 26th -28th
Benedictine University
Lisle, IL**



**No High School Youth
Ministry March 22nd due
to Parish Mission**

**DONUT SUNDAY THIS SUNDAY
FOLLOWING ALL MORNING
MASSES**



Contact Youth Minister, Matt Jung, with any questions.

mjung@stmarymokena.org



Youth Ministry

EVANGELIZATION

1:1 Series

Learn how to share your faith with confidence!
Practice in a community of disciples committed to living on mission!



1st Tuesday of every month [Register Here](#)

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Blanchette Catholic Center

Questions? Contact Alex Buldak
abuldak@dioceseofjoliet.org / 815-221-6256
Begins October 7, 2025




Taking God With You In The Chaos

How to keep faithful in stormy seasons of life

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026



At our March meeting we are blessed to have a guest speaker who will share with us her personal story exemplifying virtue amidst difficult times.


Women's Ministry meets following the 8am Mass in the Church Hall. A full breakfast will be served.
To RSVP email: SistersInChrist@stmarymokena.org or call: 708-326-9313.

James 1:3 ~ Because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Spend time in Jesus' presence at

Behold

Thursday, March 26th
7:00 pm in the Church
A Night of Prayer, Music,
Confession and Adoration



USQUE AD MORTEM OBEDIENS FACTUS

"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

26 MARCH
6:30PM
ST. MARY'S CHURCH SIDE CHAPEL

EVERY LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH!

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





STUDENT COUNCIL CLOTHING DRIVE

Donate gently used clothing to help All God's People! As you're cleaning your closets this spring, donate gently used shoes and clothing to help the homeless. They need mens, women's, and children's shoes and clothing. There is also always a great need for jeans in all sizes.

All God's People is a local charity that is a beacon of hope for the Chicago community. They're dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of the homeless. Their mission is not just to offer essentials like food, clothing, and shelter, but to also uplift spirits and inspire change.

Additional questions, contact Danelle Bernas
(dbernas@stmarymokena.org)

When: Monday, March 30– Wednesday, April 1st



**Drop off your donations at the main entrance of the school.
Let's help those in need during Holy Week!**



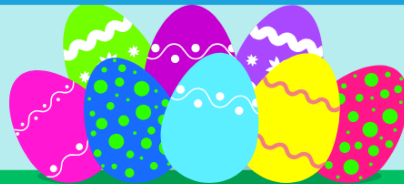
St. Mary Parish Easter Egg Hunt!

Hosted by the RE Board

**EASTER CANDY AND
PLASTIC EGGS
NEEDED**

**TO MAKE OUR EGG HUNT PERFECT,
WE COULD USE YOUR HELP!**

**PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO THE
ST. MARY RE OFFICE BY MARCH 15**



Saturday, April 4

11:00 a.m.

Willowview Park Pavillion

**(next to St. Mary, Mokena
Church)**



St. Mary Cemetery is fundraising!

What started out as a small fundraiser for a headstone for unmarked graves from 1918 has now blossomed, thanks to your support.

St. Mary Cemetery is extending the headstone fundraiser to continue this mission to mark the final resting place of those without stones, and to replace or preserve historical stones which need repair.



Help us to fulfill the corporal work of mercy of Burying the Dead by donating to this fundraiser.

Donations can be made online:

**[https://osvhub.com/stmarymokena/giving/funds/
headstone-fundraiser](https://osvhub.com/stmarymokena/giving/funds/headstone-fundraiser)**

Thank you to everyone who has already donated to this cause.
We would not be able to extend this fundraiser without you!

*Ministers of Care &
Homebound Helpers*

Please stop by the Parish Office and pick up an Easter Lily for the Parishioner you visit (one per household) beginning Monday, March 23.

If you are unable to deliver, please contact Donna Hungerford (708)326-9312 or dhungerfordestmarymokena.org



SPRING FOOD DRIVE

benefiting:

The Frankfort Food Pantry

Please bring non-perishable food donations to the Church Hall on March 21 & 22

Help our neighbors in need.





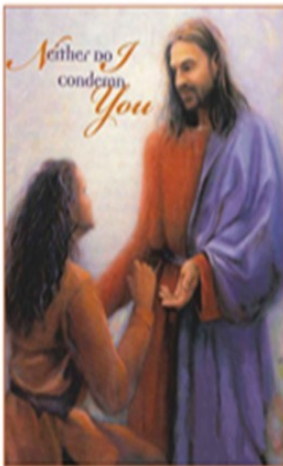
Consider joining the St. Mary Pro-Life Committee

Help us raise awareness about the sanctity of life from the moment of conception until natural death through prayer, education, fundraisers and events.



Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 14 in the Church Hall, Fatima Room at 9:00 a. m. We meet the second Tuesday of the month.

Questions? Contact Donna Hungerford 708-326-9312 or dungeford@stmarymokena.org



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!

2026 Retreat Dates

May 1 - 3

Oct. 2 - 4

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 contact:

815-370-8118 or 815-634-3796

www.diojoliet.org or

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)



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The Council of Catholic Women

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

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

The St. Mary Prayer Shawl Ministry



Do you like to knit or crochet?

We meet the first Monday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Hall, Fatima Room (unless it is a holiday). Prayer Shawls for the ill, homebound and grieving are like receiving a "Hug from God". If you would like to give you are welcome to choose from a wide variety of colors and styles at the Parish Office front desk.

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 13th

Contact Jan Homolka if you are interested in joining this group janhomolka@yahoo.com

The Young at Heart Club



Join us on **Wednesday, April 1st** for **Easter Dinner!**

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

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



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Due to the Parish Mission, the next **Officer Meeting** will be **Wednesday, March 25** at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall, Lourdes Room

Save the Date!

K of C Spaghetti Dinner
Saturday, March 21 after the 5:00 p.m. Mass

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

HELPING HANDS



The Knights of Columbus have formed a sub-committee called Helping Hands which is offering our services to any parishioner who is in need of repairs around their home and is unable to perform these tasks due to financial hardships or not having able bodied family members available. The resident may be responsible for any material costs, but the Knights would provide the labor. There is a screening process to make sure it is something our members can handle and the work qualifies.

Anyone wishing to apply should contact Donna Hungerford, Christian Service Director (708) 326-9312 to schedule a visit from one of our members. If you are interested in joining this committee, email Rich Neubauer rich.neubauer3@gmail.com

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- Pull a name from the jar in the narthex
- Pray with their name as often as possible with any prayer you prefer (rosary, novena, etc)
- Write them a personal note to be given to them on the day of their Confirmation

CARDS DUE BY APRIL 10, 2026 to the Religious Ed Office

(Note cards are available in the R.E. office if you'd prefer.)



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Congratulations to the Malfeo family on the baptism of their daughter Brielle Therese

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