



# SAINT MARY

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

APRIL 5, 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

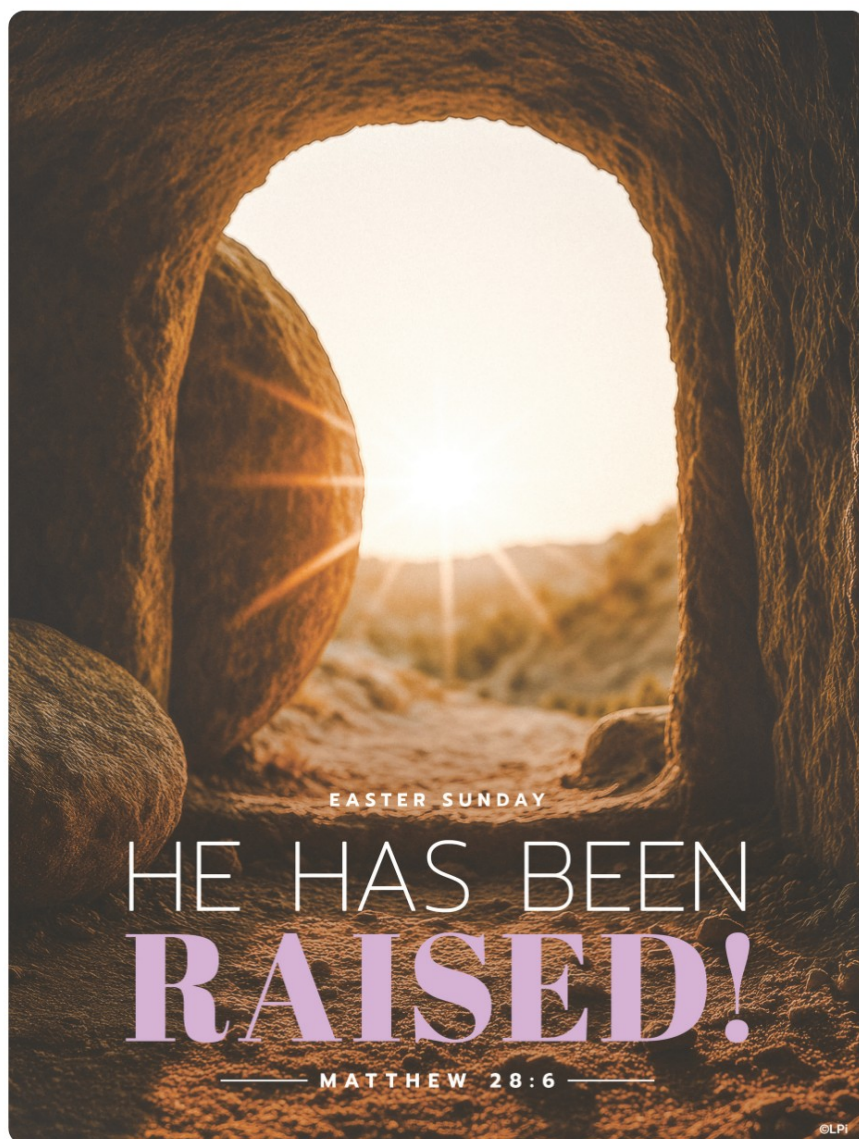
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
 8:00am  
 Wednesday | 8:00am

##### Lauds

Sunday mornings | 7:15am

### GET IN TOUCH

19515 S. 115<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 Mokena, IL 60448  
 708-326-9300  
[www.stmarymokena.org](http://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:**

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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

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708-326-9352 kbrez@stmarymokena.org

Director of Christian Service, Donna Hungerford

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

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708-326-9312 dhungerford@stmarymokena.org

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708-326-9310 pperry@stmarymokena.org

zhabib@stmarymokena.org

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**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](http://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!

It is good to sing Alleluia once again. After days of silence, prayer, and reflection, our hearts are filled with joy as we celebrate Easter Sunday. The word Alleluia returns to our lips, not just as a song but as a proclamation: *Christ is risen; He is truly risen*. Easter Sunday is the heart of our faith. It reminds us that death does not have the final word, and darkness does not last forever. In Jesus, life triumphs over death, hope over despair, and love over sin. This is why Easter is so important to us. It is not just a memory of something that happened long ago, but a living promise that God is always at work, bringing new life even in the most difficult moments.

But we must remember this truth: *there is no Easter Sunday without Good Friday; there is no glory without suffering*. Before the empty tomb, there was the cross. Before the joy of the Resurrection, there was pain, betrayal, and sacrifice. Jesus walked the path of suffering with courage and trust in the Father. And because He did, we now share in His victory.

In our own lives, we also experience Good Fridays: *times of struggle, loss, confusion, and pain*. These moments can feel heavy and endless. But Easter teaches us that these are not the end of our story. God can bring light out of darkness and life out of death. If we remain faithful, if we continue to hope, we will see the dawn of the Resurrection.

As your pastor, I invite you to carry this Easter joy into your daily life. Let your faith be alive. Let your words bring hope. Let your actions reflect the love of the Risen Christ. Do not be afraid to begin again, to forgive, to trust, and to believe. *It is good to sing Alleluia once again, not only with our voices but with our lives*. Happy Easter to you and your families.

Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

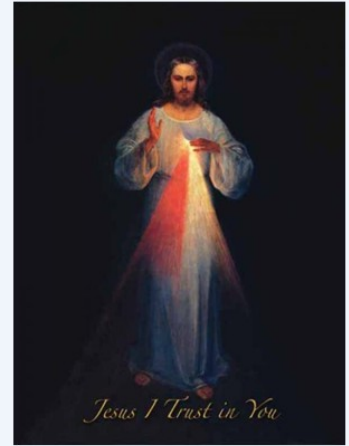
With love in Christ,

Fr. Joe Gasta, RCJ  
Pastor

# Sunday, April 12

## Divine Mercy Sunday

**1:45 p.m. - Explanation of Divine Mercy – Deacon John Rex**  
**2:00 p.m. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**3:00 p.m. - Divine Mercy Chaplet**



### ***A Special Promise of Mercy***

Our Lord's promise to grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishment on the Feast of Mercy is recorded three times in the Diary of Saint Faustina, each time in a slightly different way:

**"I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy" (1109).**

**"Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (300).**

**"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (699). (*Pardon is available a week before and after the Feast.*)**

### ***Extraordinary Graces***

Our Lord is emphasizing, through this promise, the infinite value of Confession and Communion as miracles of mercy. He wants us to realize that since the Eucharist is His own Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, it is the "Fountain of Life" (300). The Eucharist is Jesus, Himself, the Living God, longing to pour Himself as Mercy into our hearts. Why would Our Lord feel the need to emphasize this? Because so many people do not really understand it. They either see no need to receive Holy Communion, or they receive it simply out of habit. As St. Paul explains in his letter to the Corinthians, they eat the bread or drink the cup of the Lord unworthily, "without recognizing the body of the Lord" (1 Cor 11:27-29).

In His revelations to Saint Faustina, Our Lord makes it very clear what He is offering us in Holy Communion and how much it hurts Him when we treat His presence with indifference:

"My great delight is to unite Myself with souls ... When I come to a human heart in Holy Communion, My hands are full of all kinds of graces which I want to give to the soul. But souls do not even pay any attention to Me; they leave Me to Myself and busy themselves with other things. Oh, how sad I am that souls do not recognize Love! They treat Me as a dead object" (1385) ...

"It pains Me very much when religious souls receive the Sacrament of Love merely out of habit, as if they did not distinguish this food. I find neither faith nor love in their hearts. I go to such souls with great reluctance. It would be better if they did not receive Me" (1288) ...

"How painful it is to Me that souls so seldom unite themselves to Me in Holy Communion. I wait for souls, and they are indifferent toward Me. I want to lavish My graces on them, and they do not want to accept them. They treat me as a dead object, whereas My Heart is full of love and mercy. In order that you may know at least some of My pain imagine the most tender of mothers who has great love for her children, while those children spurn her love. Consider her pain. No one is in a position to console her. This is but a feeble image and likeness of My love" (1447).

So, Our Lord's promise of complete forgiveness is both a reminder and a call. It is a reminder that He is truly present and truly alive in the Eucharist, filled with love for us and waiting for us to turn to Him with trust. And it is a call for us all to be washed clean in His Love through Confession and Holy Communion no matter how terrible our sins and begin our lives again. He is offering us a new start.

**OUR LORD'S PROMISES ATTACHED TO THE PRAYING OF  
THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY  
AS REVEALED TO ST. FAUSTINA KOWALSKA**



1. "The souls that say this chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death." (Diary, 754)
2. "When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one." (Diary, 1541)
3. "When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as a just Judge but as a merciful Savior." (Diary, 1541)
4. "Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death." (Diary, 687)
5. "Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy....I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy." (Diary, 687)
6. "To priests who proclaim and extol My mercy, I will give wondrous power; I will anoint their words and touch the hearts of those to whom they will speak." (Diary, 1521)
7. "The prayer most pleasing to Me is prayer for the conversion for sinners. Know, my daughter, that this prayer is always heard and answered." (Diary, 1397)
8. "At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony....I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion." (Diary, 1320; also, cf. Diary, 1572)
9. "Souls who spread the honor of My mercy...at the hour of death I will not be a Judge for them, but the Merciful Savior." (Diary, 1075)
10. "I promise that the soul that will venerate this image (of the Divine Mercy) will not perish." (Diary, 48)...."The two rays denote Blood and Water....These two rays issued from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father." (Diary, 299)
11. "I desire that the Feast of Mercy...be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion (in a state of grace on this day) shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary, 699)
12. "Through this chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will." (Diary, 1731)

*Excerpts taken from the Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska, titled Divine Mercy in My Soul, ©1987, Congregation of Mari-ans of the Immaculate Conception, Stockbridge, MMA 01263.*



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**



**Online Giving**

Rooted in *Gratitude*  
Giving with *Grace.*

Visit our church website and click on **GIVING** to sign up and get started.

**Support our ministries this Spring through faithful generosity.**

Online Giving offers convenience and a simple, secure way to contribute from your phone, tablet, or computer on a recurring basis. Your generosity plays a meaningful role in sustaining the daily operations and ministries of our community. Any gift, offered freely and from the heart, helps us to continue the good work we share here at St. Mary Parish.

**Giving**

**GENEROSITY**  
Love, serve and give generously.

**The Offertory for March 22nd**

Online Giving	\$13,631.90
Envelopes	\$25,511.97
	<hr/>
	\$39,143.87

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

**Online Giving**  
Give your gift today.  
Scan the QR Code



## Mass Intentions

**Monday, April 6**

8:00am: Peter Pranckus

**Tuesday, April 7**

8:00am: Dennis Panozzo, Salvatore and Rosaria Sturino, Ercole and Innocenza Sturino, Frances "Bud" McGuinnis, Nicholas Pagoria, Joyce Cosenza, Guy Cesario III

**Wednesday, April 8**

8:00am: Mike and Karen Dilger

**Thursday, April 9**

8:00am: Diana Nash

**Friday, April 10**

8:00am: Ercole and Innocenza Sturino

**Saturday, April 11**

8:00am: Marietta and Carmine Cesario

### **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 Capor, James Capor, 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, Catherine Hansen, Natalie Haran, Emma Harrison, Jeremiah Hartmann, Bobbie, Howie, Mary Ingala, Daniel Izzo, Richard Junge, Les Kazmierczak, Sherley Keene, Joseph Kerke, Hattie Kerke, Claude Klimas, Diane Klootwyk, Beverly Klosowski, Richard Kolovitz, Jan Kosmatine, Betty Krizewicz, John Kurator, Joseph Kurczewski, Fr. Roger Kutzner, Jennifer Narel, Dan Lahy, Andy Lihosit, Chet Lockwood, Vernadine Lumpkin, Jay Lutsy, 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, Richard Reyling, Sean Rio, George Rohrer, Judy Roque, Barbara 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 Waller, Kathy Wereldsma Leo Wilczek, Tim Weber, Jodie Weber, Jonathan Weber, Yvonne White, Dan Wolf,

Please Pray for our Faithfully  
Departed Brothers and Sisters



Catherine Hansen,  
Richard Reyling



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

**God Bless Our  
New Parishioners**

The Doherty family,  
The Gonzalez family,  
The Paras family



**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

PFC Jenson Andras, USMC

SP4 Arhan Atreya, USA

Capt Lukasz Bokun, ANG

Lt Col Joseph A. Budzyn, USAF

AET2 Lauren Bulow, USCG

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

PFC Matthew Pakosz, USMC

MAJ 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

ME2 Gage Stearns, USCG

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.

## Easter Sunday

### Monday, April 6

7:00 a.m. Confessions  
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 9:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl (Fatima)  
 6:30 p.m. Rosary (Church)

### Tuesday, April 7

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 Class Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)  
 6:30 p.m. Bereavement Support (Chapel)  
 7:00 p.m. Scripture Study (Guadalupe)  
 7:30 p.m. Youth Ministry Bible Study (JP II Room)

### Wednesday, April 8

5:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)  
 7:00 a.m. Confessions  
 7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 9:00 a.m. CCW Board Meeting (Fatima)  
 4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-8 (Classrooms)  
 5:30 p.m. FHC Rehearsal (Church and Hall)  
 6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)  
 6:30 p.m. The Rosary Men

### Thursday, April 9

7:00 a.m. Confessions  
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-8 (Classrooms)  
 6:00 p.m. Monica's Mission (Guadalupe)

### Friday, April 10

7:00 a.m. Confessions  
 8:00 a.m. Mass  
 8:30 a.m. Adoration

### Saturday, April 11

7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)  
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 9:00 a.m. Militia Immaculata Meeting (Fatima)  
 11:30 a.m. Hall Reserved  
 1:00 p.m. RE FHC Mass (Church)  
 2:30 p.m. First Communion Reception (Guadalupe)  
 3:30 p.m. Confessions  
 5:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

### Sunday, April 12

#### Divine Mercy Sunday

7:15 a.m. Lauds (Church)  
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 9:30 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 9:30 a.m. RE Gr K-6 (Classrooms)  
 11:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 12:00 p.m. OCIA Meeting (Lourdes)  
 12:15 p.m. Baptisms  
 1:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Prayer Service (Church)  
 6:00 p.m. Mass (Church)  
 7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry (Guadalupe)

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

**1) THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, APRIL 6TH FOR EASTER MONDAY.**

**2) MORNING MASS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8TH WILL BE SAID AT 8:00 A.M.**



# Join **the Rosary Men**



**Wednesday, April 8th, 6:30pm Church Hall**

**No Mens' Rosary during Holy Week**

Now is the time to answer Our Lady's call to action as a man, husband, father, mentor or young man. Become the spiritual leader you are called to be at home and in the community.

Join other faith filled men for an hour of fellowship, formation, and of course, the Rosary!

**Fathers  
Husbands  
Grandfathers  
Godfathers  
Mentors  
All Men**

**Dads, bring your sons!  
Food & Refreshments**

## April 11 - April 12: Second Sunday of Easter - Sunday of Divine Mercy

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 9:30 AM	Sunday, 11:00 AM	Sunday, 6:00 PM
Lector	Andy Lihosit Sue Mahns	Antoinette Bria Susan Rizzo	Karen Dilger Stan Nowak	John Brett Robert Dreifke	Andy Habib
Eucharistic Minister	Bob Gombas Karen Gordon Sue Murphy Karen Sayon	Joseph Budzyn Cris Pirelli Susan Rizzo Nancy Santry	Frank Dundek Frank Grobmeier Gretchen Nenn Pam Sanders	Michael Crowley Remo Lucci Bob Meyers NOT FILLED	Karen Haugh Robert Koch Judy Siegmund NOT FILLED
Altar Server	Elin Rose Coyle Kate Coyle Harrison Guldán NOT FILLED	Jillian Ferin Charlotte Johnston Hannah Johnston NOT FILLED	Felicity Kuboushek Silas Kuboushek Theo Kuboushek Logan Raimondi	Natalie Galka Christian Taylor NOT FILLED 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	Ed Dorey	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.*

# St Mary Youth Ministry Mother's Day

## T-Shirt Fundraiser Pre-Order

All proceeds go back to lowering the cost for the Steubenville Conference.

**Front**



**Back**



Adult and Youth Sizes  
Approved SMS Spirit Wear

This is a pre-order only. Final Orders are due by April 26th. Questions? Contact [mjung@stmarymokena.org](mailto:mjung@stmarymokena.org)

Youth		Adult	
Small		Small	
Medium		Medium	
Large		Large	
XL		XL	
		XXL	

**\$18 Each**

**Family Pack: 4 or more \$15 Each**

Name

Email

**Payment Options (circle one):**

Cash

Check made out to St Mary Parish, Memo Youth Ministry

Venmo: stmarymokena (mention fundraiser as label)

# EVANGELIZATION

## 1:1 Series

### Session 6

The Home as a Missionary Outpost



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

**Justin Reyes**

Director  
Department of Catechesis & Evangelization



Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> 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



### MONICA'S MISSION

#### ST. MARY PARISH MOKENA

BRINGING LOVED ONES BACK TO THE CHURCH



### ALL ARE INVITED TO:

- PRAYER FOR OUR LOVED ONES AWAY FROM THE FAITH
- COMMUNITY AND FAITH SHARING

**THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Church Hall**

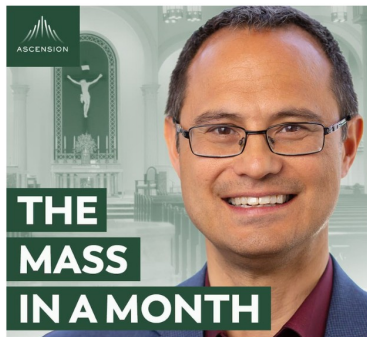
*\*We get together once a month to pray and support one another in our efforts to bring our loved ones back home to the Catholic Church.\**

#### Would you like to help?

We are looking for reverts to the faith, willing to share their faith journey back to the Church.

Contact Deacon Pete Manning: [deaconpete@aol.com](mailto:deaconpete@aol.com) SUBJECT: "Revert"

## WE INVITE YOU TO CONSIDER LISTENING TO THIS BRAND NEW PODCAST WITH DR. SRI!



WITH DR. EDWARD SRI

Free in the Ascension App beginning on May 1!  
Get the official prayer guide and find out more at [ascensionpress.com/mass](http://ascensionpress.com/mass)

Join other parishioners to discuss and reflect on what you learn:  
**Wednesdays at 9:00 AM in the Church Hall beginning May 6.**

*"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." -Jesus*

#### To St. Mary Parishioners:

We are so grateful for how welcoming you are to our families with young children. Please don't underestimate the power of a simple affirmation, smile, or word of encouragement to those around you after mass.

#### To the Parents of our Young Parishioners:

Thank you for bringing your growing family to celebrate with us! Know that you are welcome to sit toward the front where it's easier to see and hear and we encourage you to quietly explain the parts of the Holy Mass to your child. If you feel you must go to the narthex with your child, *please come back!*





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FOR  
GRADES  
1-6**



**JULY 27 - JULY 30**

**9:00AM-12:00 PM**

**Registration**



**SIGN UP  
TODAY!  
SPOTS ARE  
LIMITED!**



*Volunteers needed*



**ST. MARY'S PARISH SUMMER CAMP  
REGISTRATION IS OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

# Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 19  
after all morning Masses  
in the Church Hall.

**COST:**

Free will offering  
All donations will benefit the  
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it supports.



Join the St. Mary Knights of  
Columbus for all you can eat  
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Start your day with a great  
breakfast and the great company of  
your fellow parishioners.

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Thank you St. Mary Parish!  
During our February Blood Drive, 41 units were  
collected helping to save 123 lives!

## Hope is in Bloom

### Donate Blood

**Tuesday  
April  
28**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM



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# HAPPY EASTER!



## The Resurrection of the Lord

**The great feast of Easter has begun, Christian stewards. Let us rejoice and be glad!**

Just as we embraced the discipline and fasting of Lent, let us fully embrace the joy and feasting that the next 50 days offer. We are called to be good stewards of the Easter season.

Our first reading, from Acts, gives instruction on how to do this. Here, St. Peter says that our Lord, “commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead... that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

How do we ordinary people preach and testify to all God has done? We do so through how we live our ordinary lives — through the intentional use of our time, talent, and treasure for the kingdom of God. Putting God and others ahead of ourselves in every aspect of our lives is the most eloquent preaching we can do. Boldly and joyfully embracing a stewardship way of life is our most powerful testimony.

As Christian stewards, we are the modern-day witnesses of an incredible miracle prompted by unfathomable love — the death and Resurrection of our Savior for us. Let us rejoice and be glad and let’s make sure our lives are a testimony to this amazing grace!

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### 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](mailto:dungeford@stmarymokena.org)



## Illinois March for Life 2026 Springfield, IL





**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



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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

The next **Officer Meeting** will be **Tuesday, April 28** at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall, Lourdes 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](mailto:janhomolka@yahoo.com)



**The Young at Heart Club**



Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, April 15** 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](mailto:trampool@aol.com)

*Happy Easter!*



*Our families need our prayers!*

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# ADOPT A CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE

*Pray for them as they prepare to become fully initiated into the Catholic Church*

## HERE'S HOW:

- 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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