



SAINT MARY

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

MAY 3, 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

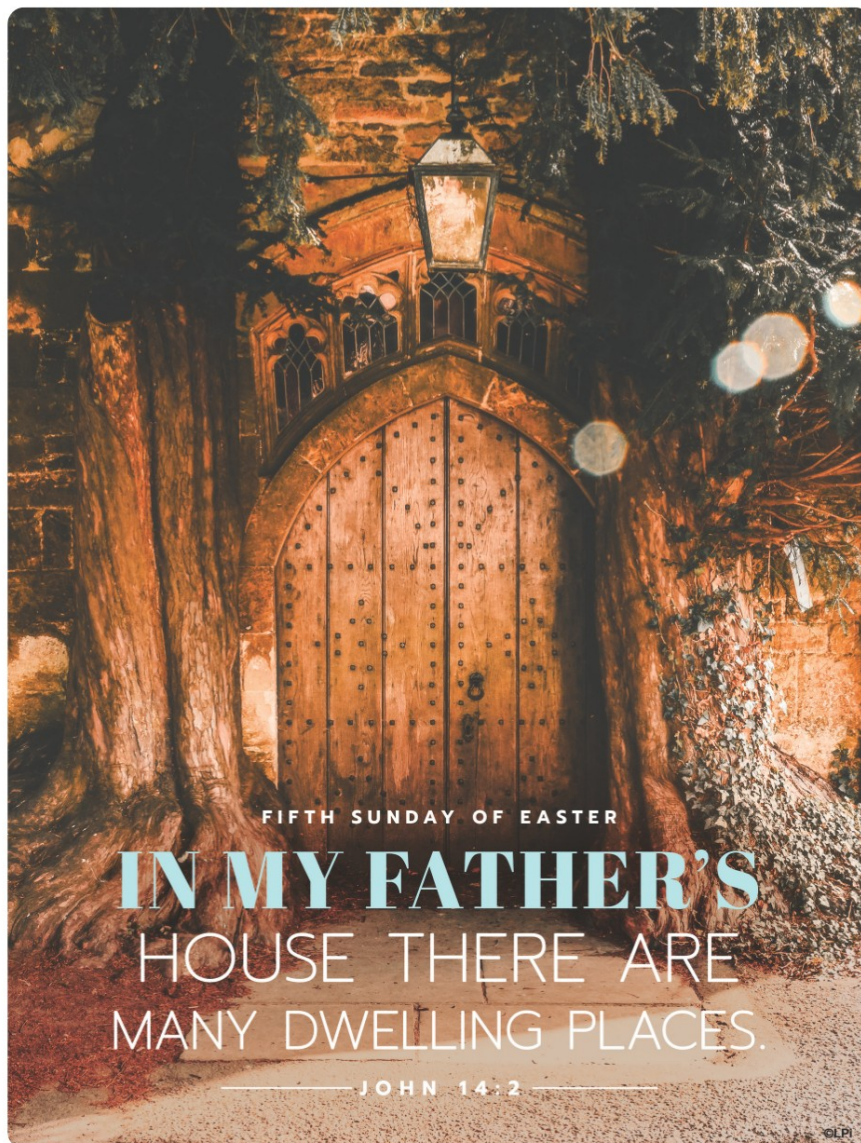
GET IN TOUCH

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

Director of Adult Faith Formation, Megan Murray

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

Directors of Liturgy, Deacon Pete Manning and John Brett

708-326-9352 re@stmarymokena.org

Director of Christian Service, Donna Hungerford

708-326-9352 kbrez@stmarymokena.org

Director of Sacred Music, Joseph Berardi

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

Youth Minister, Matt Jung

708-326-9312 dhungerford@stmarymokena.org

Bulletin Editor, Cailin Valente

708-326-9302 jberardi@stmarymokena.org

Funeral Coordinator, Susan Rizzo

708-326-9354 mjung@stmarymokena.org

Offertory and Database Administrator, Leticia Clark

bulletin@stmarymokena.org

Financial Secretary, Paula Perry

815-953-7228

Sacristan, Zina Habib

708-326-9311 lclark@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9310 pperry@stmarymokena.org

zhabib@stmarymokena.org

School Office:

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!

I read a Facebook post recently that says: *Men praying the rosary can change the world.* At first glance, that might sound like a bold or even exaggerated claim. How can something as simple and quiet as praying the rosary have such a powerful effect? But the more we reflect on it, the more we begin to see the truth behind those words. The rosary is not just a repetition of prayers; it is a meditation on the life of Christ through the eyes of His mother. When men take up the rosary, they step into a deeper spiritual leadership: *leading not by force or authority, but by humility, consistency, and faith.* A man who prays is a man who listens. A man who reflects is a man who grows. And a man who grows in holiness becomes a steady presence in his family, his workplace, and his community.

In a world that often encourages men to rely only on their own strength, the rosary reminds us that true strength comes from God. It forms patience in times of stress, clarity in times of confusion, and courage in times of difficulty. When men pray the rosary, they bring peace into their homes, guidance into their decisions, and hope into the lives of those around them. **Here in our parish,** we have already begun to see the quiet fruits of this devotion. Month after month, a faithful group of men has been gathering to pray the rosary together. Their presence is a powerful witness that faith is not just personal, but communal; not just private, but lived and shared. What may seem like a small act is in reality a strong foundation being laid for our parish and for future generations.

For this reason, I warmly invite all men of the parish, regardless of age, to join this monthly Men's Rosary. Whether you have prayed the rosary for years or are just beginning, your presence matters. So please consider making this a part of your monthly schedule. Come as you are. Come with your intentions, your struggles and your gratitude. Come and stand alongside your brothers in faith. Together, let us take up the rosary not just as a prayer, but as a mission. Because when men pray, *hearts change, families grow stronger, and the world begins to change.*

Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

With love in Christ,

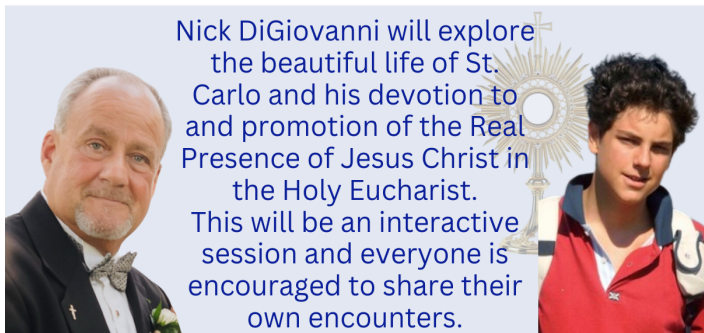
Fr. Joe Gasta, RCJ
Pastor



Saint Mary
MEN'S MINISTRY

All men are invited to join us for our next meeting

SATURDAY, MAY 23
ST. CARLO ACUTIS
& THE EUCHARIST



Nick DiGiovanni will explore the beautiful life of St. Carlo and his devotion to and promotion of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. This will be an interactive session and everyone is encouraged to share their own encounters.

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

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



*Many blessings to the
Baerwolf family
on the baptism of their
daughter
Claire Jean*



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



Giving

GENEROSITY
Love, serve and give generously.

**The Offertory for
April 26th**

Online Giving	\$12,622.50
Envelopes	\$21,800.50
	<hr/>
	\$34,423.00

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

Online Giving

Give your gift today.
Scan the QR Code





**Special Message
from Bishop Dennis E. Spies
April 2026**



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy Easter! As we continue celebrating the joy of the Resurrection, I have a special request for the people of our diocese on behalf of our brothers and sisters in Kankakee County.

On March 10, severe storms and tornadoes caused widespread destruction in the area, damaging homes, vehicles, Bishop McNamara Catholic School, and affecting families throughout our diocese—including those of some of our priests. Many now face a long and challenging recovery. We continue to pray for all who were injured or suffered loss.

A Special Second Collection

To offer concrete support, I am asking every parish in the Diocese of Joliet to take up a special second collection the weekend of May 2–3 or May 9-10, 2026.

How the Funds Will Be Used

Every dollar collected will directly support two urgent needs:

- Families in Need - Catholic Charities of Joliet will administer a grant process to provide financial assistance to families who have suffered significant hardship.
- Bishop McNamara Catholic School - Assistance with repairs to buildings, buses, athletic fields, and other property not covered by insurance.

All funds will be distributed responsibly to those in need. Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and care for one another. May the hope of Easter strengthen us as one Body of Christ.

+ Dennis E. Spies

Sincerely in Christ,
Bishop Dennis E. Spies

Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Joliet

Please make checks payable to St. Mary Parish

MAY IS MARY'S MONTH!

We will be featuring a different title of Our Blessed Mother each week in May to honor her.

THE FEAST DAY OF *Our Lady of Pompeii* IS MAY 8TH.



“Our Lady of Pompeii” is associated with Our Blessed Mother’s title of “**Our Lady of the Rosary.**” After converting to Catholicism, a man named Bartolo Longo brought the Rosary to Pompeii, Italy.

He credited Our Lady with saving his life. To honor her, he received permission to build a church in Pompeii. The church eventually housed an image of Our Lady of the Rosary.

This title is recognized by the Vatican! Pope St. John Paul II himself visited the shrine in Pompeii, and he beatified Bartolo Longo for his devotion to the Rosary and Our Lady of Pompeii.

OUR LADY OF POMPEII, PRAY FOR US!

Check out St. Mary’s YouTube videos on Our Blessed Mother, posting every Friday in May!

ST. MARY PARISH WILL BE HOSTING
OUR FIRST PARISH-WIDE

May Crowning

AT ALL MASSES ON MOTHER’S DAY
WEEKEND (MAY 9TH AND 10TH),
TO HONOR OUR BLESSED MOTHER.

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 4

8:00am: Jennie Buhs

Tuesday, May 5

8:00am: Jennie Buhs, Guy Cesario III, Leon Witkowski, Barbara Bekker, Hanan Hashin

Wednesday, May 6

7:30am: Jim Klutcharch

8:30am: Hermino Salgado

Thursday, May 7

8:00am: Ken Ruminski

Friday, May 8

8:00am: Stan and Ken Ruminski, AnnaMae O'Rourke

Saturday, May 9

8:00am: Barbara Sansone

5:00pm: Ercole and Innocenza Sturino, Peter Prancus, Patricia Gedville, Jennie Buhs, Paul Wolf, Mary Ann Klosak, Leonard Kezis, Kathleen Sullivan, Mary Vincent, Sharon Pavelich

Sunday, May 10

8:00 am: For all Mothers

9:30:am: For all Mothers

11:00 am: For all Mothers

6:00 pm: For all Mothers

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Dan Albrecht, Brett Anderson, Joe, Austin, Tammy Balamut, Lisa Barber, Lisa Bernhard, Florence and Gino Bondi, Greg Brazinsky, 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-Figliuolo, John Finili, Bradley Frank, Marcia Frank, Mary Ann Franson, Debbie Geren, Bonnie Gondek, Richard Grabenhofer, Colleen Grabenhofer, Jerry Grabowski, Sandy Halper, 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 Krzewicz, John Kurator, Joseph Kurczewski, Fr. Roger Kutzner, Jennifer Naril, Dan Lahy, 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 Omastak, Matthew Orr, Bob and Jackie Pasqualoni, Dorothy Peterson, Ed Polzin, Janelle Portman, Rosemary Purcell, Dave Racine, Eileen Redican, Eduardo Reyes, Richard Reyling, 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, Kathy Vrablic, Marion Walles, Kathy Wereldsma Leo Wilczek, Tim Weber, Jodie Weber, Jonathan Weber, Yvonne

God Bless Our New Parishioners

The Sniegowski family,
The Tardy family



Please Pray for our Faithfully
Departed Brothers and Sisters



Martin Fox



*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	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	2LT Brooke Scanlon, USA
TSgt Loretta Caplinger, USAF	MA3 Greg Siegmund, USN
SSgt Colton DeLanoit, USAF	CPT David Skrzypiec, USAR
SrA Joshua Fishel, USAF	LT Kevin Skrzypiec, USN
E3 Colette Gagen, USN	ME2 Gage Stearns, USCG
ET2 Nicholas Gambino, USCG	Sgt Luke Swiatek, USMC
PFC Noah Genz, USA	LCDR Nicholas Swiatkowski, USNR
CPT Andrew Jacobs, USA	Maj Jennifer Tenumah, USAF
MIDN Isabella Judeh, USMMA	CPT Vincent R. Teodoro, USA
CPT Kevin Kelly, USA	A1C Benjamin Underwood, USAF
PFC Tyler Kilmartin-Radtke, USA	PE2 Joshua James Underwood, USA
PV3 Devin Klinger, USA	Cpl Blanton Vego, USMC
PV2 Mary Rose Krzewicz, ARNG	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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 4

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl (Fatima)
 6:30 p.m. Family Prayer Night (Church)
 6:30 p.m. Wild Goose (Lourdes)
 7:30 p.m. Family Prayer Night Reception (Guadalupe)

Tuesday, May 5

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 3:30 p.m. Church Reserved
 6:00 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (Lourdes)
 6:30 p.m. Pro Life Meeting (Fatima)
 7:30 p.m. Youth Ministry Bible Study (JP II Room)

Wednesday, May 6

5:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
 7:00 a.m. Confessions
 7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:00 a.m. Mass in a Month Podcast Meeting (Fatima)
 11:00a.m. Young at Heart Set Up (Guadalupe)
 1:00 p.m. Young at Heart (Guadalupe)
 6:30 p.m. Rosary Men (Guadalupe)

Thursday, May 7

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 6:00 p.m. Adoration Monica's Mission (Church)
 6:00 p.m. Monica's Mission (Lourdes)

Friday, May 8

7:00 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 8:30 a.m. Adoration (Church)
 1:00 p.m. FHC Pew Decorating (Church)
 1:00 p.m. FHC Reception Set Up (Guadalupe)

Saturday, May 9

CCW Mother's Day Carnation Weekend

7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 10:00a.m. School First Holy Communion Mass (Church)
 1:00 p.m. RE First Holy Communion Mass (Church)
 3:30 p.m. Confessions (Church)
 5:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

Sunday, May 10


CCW Mother's Day Carnation Weekend

Happy Mother's Day

7:15 a.m. Lauds (Church)
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
 9:30 a.m. Mass (Church)
 11:00a.m. Mass (Church)
 6:00 p.m. Mass (Church)
 7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry (Guadalupe)

CAMP SANCTA MARIA.ORG

BEST SUMMER EVER



Single Gender Summer Camps for Boys and Girls

ZIP LINE | DAILY MASS
 ARCHERY TAG | SPORTS
 SWIMMING | ARCHERY
 ROPES COURSE | CANOEING | ROCK WALL
 HORSEBACK RIDING | AND SO MUCH MORE

CAMP SANCTA MARIA
 A CATHOLIC CONGREGATION IN A RELIGIOUS PROVINCE
 GAYLORD MICHIGAN
 EST. 1933

ROSARY ACROSS THE DIOCESE

A free Zoom webinar presented by the Catholic Schools Office.

Thursday, May 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Join Associate Superintendent Dr. Nikki Kanzia and Diocesan Principals as we pray for our schools, students, and families.

Register Today!




The Beyond the Books parenting workshop series accompanies parents and students as we navigate the challenging world around us.

Diocese of Joliet Catholic Schools
Beyond the Books PARENTING WORKSHOP
 SUPPORTING THE WHOLE CHILD

Join **the Rosary Men**



Wednesday, May 6th, 6:30pm Church Hall

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**

May 9 - May 10: Sixth Sunday of Easter

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 9:30 AM	Sunday, 11:00 AM	Sunday, 6:00 PM
Lector	Pamela DeGregorio Ted Kopczynski	Denise L Bartolotta Kathy Mihalek	Greg Harper Kathy Harper	Roberta Dreifke Art Wilson	Bob Jostes
Eucharistic Minister	Peter Baker Mary Ann Braasch Ted Kopczynski Andrea Taylor	Joseph Budzyn Marvin Orr Kathleen Orr Robert Rafferty	Roger Brown Frank Dundek Joshua Sifuentes Kathleen Sifuentes	Michael Crowley Bob Meyers Patti Pertchi NOT FILLED	Robert Koch James Nowak Judy Siegmund NOT FILLED
Altar Server	Johnny Cotton Rosamund Cotton Molly Cotton NOT FILLED	Jillian Ferin David Heitman Lorenzo Zambrano NOT FILLED	Dennis Dilger Hazel Dilger Lucas Pilon Noah Pilon	Christopher Pienkos Cody Pienkos Christian Taylor 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	NOT FILLED	Denise Mueller	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.

Save The Date



Youth Ministry

**Senior and 8th Grade Graduate Celebration
Sunday May 24th 7pm in the Church Hall**

Join us for a night celebrating our graduates as they prepare for the next journey of their lives. All members of the High School and Junior High Ministries are invited to attend with their whole family. A home cooked meal will be provided. Allergy friendly options will be available.

Invites and RSVP to Come Soon.

MOMS Podcast Club

Join other Catholic moms of school-age children and younger for conversation on the "Abiding Together" podcast.

Wednesday, May 20

9:30 am

in the Church Hall

"S18 E13 - Marriage and Meaning with Special Guests Arthur and Ester Brooks"

Listen to podcast prior to gathering (search "Abiding Together" 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

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

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

EVANGELIZATION

1:1 Series

Session 7

Know Your Story - Share Your Story



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

Konnor Damery

FOCUS Team Director for the Bosco Project



Tuesday, May 5 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



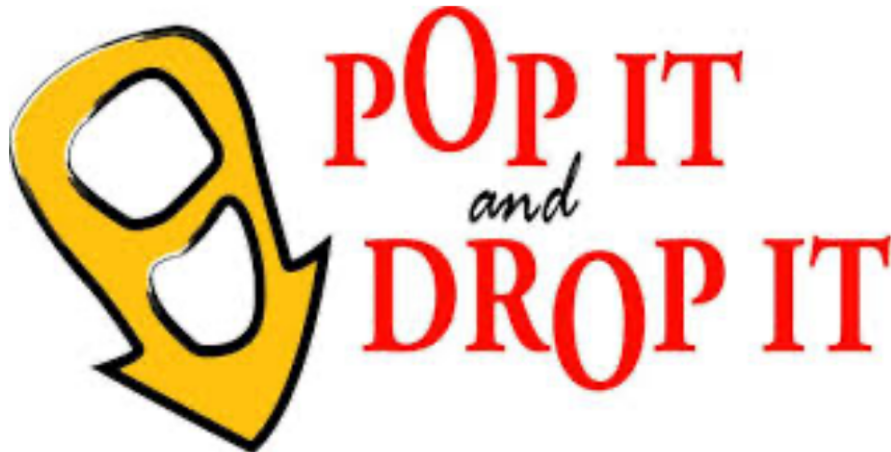
BRINGING LOVED ONES BACK TO THE CHURCH

ALL ARE INVITED TO:

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

THURSDAY, MAY 7TH
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.



WE WANT YOUR POP TOPS!

The St. Mary Student Council is collecting aluminum pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. RMH provides a home away from home for families with critically ill children.

Last year, in our 1st collection we turned in 121 pounds of pop tops! Drop off your pull tabs to the church office or the school office.

Questions, contact Mrs. Bozzi (pbozzi@stmarymokena) or Danelle Bernas (dbernas@stmarymokena)



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana

Please pray for these young people who were sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Mary Parish on April 18 and 23rd, 2026



Sawyer *John* **Aceves**
Caleb *Sebastian* **Adams**
Raelynn *Marie* **Anderson**
Carol Rose *Cecilia* **Banas**
Stefanie Marie *Gianna* **Banner**
Charlotte *Cecilia* **Barron**
Gabriella *Margaret Mary* **Benkowski**
Dominick *Sebastian* **Bennett**
Gianna *Elizabeth* **Betourney**
Bridget *Cecilia* **Biondo**
Chloe *Marie* **Bishop**
Alia *Catherine* **Blum**
Nick *Thomas* **Bowers**
Larkin *Matthew* **Breen**
Logan *Anthony* **Brigando**
Cierra *Cecilia* **Bryles**
Aiden *Andrew* **Burns**
Nora *Julie* **Cann**
Hailey *Therese* **Cerniuk**
Charlotte *Clare* **Ciurej**
Maeve *Cecilia* **Coleman**
Adelynn *Cecilia* **Cook**
Griffin *Sebastian* **Cunningham**
Robert *Michael* **Dauphinais**
Gianna *Maria* **de la Vega**
Zachary *Gregory* **DeRosa**
Jaxon *Michael* **DiFiore**
Dennis *Aloysius* **Dilger**
Hazel *Cecilia* **Dilger**
Amelia *Gianna* **Donnelly**
Ryder *William* **Doty**
Cameron *Christopher* **Drozd**

Alyssa *Catherine* **Duran**
Thomas *John* **Fagan**
Joshua *Sebastian* **Fife**
Mia *Stella* **Fiore**
June *Gemma* **Fulton**
Caden *Christopher* **Gabalewicz**
Lou *Sebastian* **Galle**
Valerie *Mary* **Gleason**
Lucas *Andrew* **Gottardo**
Dominic *Michael* **Grabarek**
Abigail *Gemma* **Graham**
Blake *Michael* **Gresky**
Dennis *John* **Guest**
Skyler *Elizabeth* **Guinea**
Danielle *Marie* **Hartwell McQuillan**
Connor *Philip* **Hickey**
Nolan *Rocco* **Hill**
Eliana *Gemma* **Ikerodah**
Mason *Sebastian* **Jones**
Theodore *Francis* **Jurgens**
Anna *Therese* **Kibbon**
Katrina *Rose* **Klepczarek**
Luke *John Paul* **Koleno**
Joshua *Joseph* **Kroll**
Josephine *Patricia* **Kucharzyk**
Bailey *Rose* **Kudla**
Lily *Cecilia* **Kudla**
Lila *Rose* **Kupchek**
Sophia *Maria* **Kurcab**
Jacob *Thomas* **Labriola**
Andrew *Anthony* **Lacny**

Please pray for these young people who were sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Mary Parish on April 18 and 23rd, 2026

Robert *James* Langton
Aubree *Cecilia* Madden
Patrick *Michael* Malone
Paul *Paul* Manthey
Emma *Monica* Matelski
Charlotte *Theresa* McDonald
Finnigan *Francis* McInerney
Nathan *Michael* Mendez
Matthew *Anthony* Mercer
Ivy *Gemma* Mroz
Scottie *Francis* Munoz Jr.
Gavin *Michael* Murphy
Ryan *Francis* Noonan
Liam *Sebastian* Nowlan
Ashlyn *Veronica* O'Brien
Lukas *Joseph* Oleksy
Jonathan *Ignatius* Olszta
Aubrey *Julia* Ortiz
Kyle *Sebastian* Owens
James *George* Palmer
Vivienne *Catherine* Pascale
Nathan *Sebastian* Peltzer
Samantha *Catherine* Perkins
Christopher *Pio* Pienkos
Noah *Francis* Pilon
Nolan *John* Purtill
Mia *Veronica* Ramirez
Giulianna *Joan* Ramus
Abigail *Teresa* Rea
Lillian *Teresa* Reiter
Samuel *Peter* Rimkus

Finola *Felicity* Royce
Graham *Michael* Salvador
Giuliana *Rose* Sanchez
Paulina *Gemma* Sanchez Buenrostro
Joseph *Francis* Sandor
Ryan *Anthony* Schaibley
Elizabeth *Anne* Schreiber
Olivia *Maria* Serrato
Emily *Therese* Shiple
Avery *Monica* Simone
Emelia *Catherine* Skotnicki
Melanie *Dymphna* Spizzirri
Carrah *Veronica* Spreadbury
Adam *Paul* Stahmann
Aubrey *Teresita* Sudkamp
Allison *Cecilia* Tesar
Julian *Jude* Torres
Claire *Lucy* Tronnes
Luke *Thomas Aquinas* Tyrka
James *Carlo* Upton
Gino *Carlo* Vaccaro
Lucas *Michael* Valente
Ella *Brigid* Varek
Gianna *Therese* Veloz
Erin *Cecilia* Ventura
Andrew *Andrew* Villarreal
Madelyn *Catherine* Wagner
Abigail *Clare* White
Charleigh *Joan* Widelski
Ava *Catherine* Zahara
Ryan *Thomas* Zamora



**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP
MAY 3, 2026
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



THE READINGS ON THIS FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER PRESENT US WITH THEMES OF DWELLING PLACES AND HOME. AS CHRISTIAN STEWARDS, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS WORLD IS NOT OUR PERMANENT HOME. WE ARE PILGRIMS HERE, MAKING OUR WAY THROUGH THE STEWARDSHIP WAY OF LIFE TOWARD OUR TRUE HOME – HEAVEN. YET, AS WE JOURNEY TOWARD HEAVEN, WE ARE CALLED TO MAKE OUR DWELLING HERE – WHETHER IN A HOUSEHOLD OF ONE OR A FULL AND BUSY FAMILY – A TRUE “DOMESTIC CHURCH.” IN OTHER WORDS, THE STEWARDSHIP WAY OF LIFE BEGINS LONG BEFORE WE SET FOOT ON PARISH GROUNDS. STEWARDSHIP STARTS AT HOME. IT BEGINS WITH OUR FAMILIES – OUR DOMESTIC CHURCHES.

THE DOMESTIC CHURCH PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN OUR SANCTIFICATION BECAUSE IT IS THE PRIMARY PLACE WHERE WE LEARN AND PRACTICE SELFLESS LOVE OF OTHERS. IN OUR GOSPEL PASSAGE FROM JOHN, JESUS SPEAKS OF HEAVEN AS A HOME FILLED WITH DWELLING PLACES. “IN MY FATHER’S HOUSE THERE ARE MANY DWELLING PLACES. IF THERE WERE NOT, WOULD I HAVE TOLD YOU THAT I AM GOING TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU?” THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL IMAGE OF THE GLORY THAT AWAITS US AND THE PERSONAL LOVE OUR LORD HAS FOR US – PREPARING A PLACE FOR EACH ONE OF US WHO REMAINS FAITHFUL TO HIM.

LET US RESPOND TO THIS GREAT LOVE BY BECOMING GOOD STEWARDS OF OUR EARTHLY DWELLINGS, MAKING OUR HOMES TRUE “DOMESTIC CHURCHES” WHERE WE HONOR GOD THROUGH PRAYER, CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER, AND GENEROUS HOSPITALITY. LET US NEVER FORGET THAT STEWARDSHIP STARTS AT HOME!

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Do you or someone you know need a visit from one of our trained Ministers of Care?

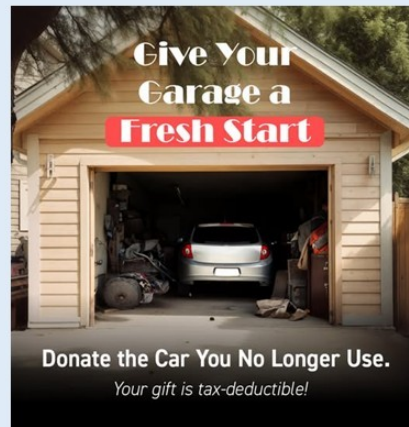
Volunteers bring Holy Communion to our Homebound Parishioners who are elderly, ill, can no longer drive or are recovering from surgery.

Contact Donna Hungerford to schedule
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dhungerford@stmarymokena.org



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**Consider joining the
St. Mary Pro-Life
Committee**
**Our next meeting
will be in the evening!**

Join us Tuesday, May 5th
6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall,
Fatima Room.

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

Questions? Contact Donna Hungerford
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The Council of Catholic Women

**Mother's Day
Carnation Weekend**

May 9 & 10

The ladies of the CCW will be handing out carnations in celebration of Mother's Day, and accepting donations. All contributions are donated to Birthright of Joliet.



Thank you in advance for your generosity!

The next **Board Meeting** will be Wednesday, May 13 at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Hall, Fatima Room

The next **General Meeting** will be Thursday, May 21
Woman of the Year Private Mass at 5:00 p.m.
followed by a catered Dinner Reception at 6:00 p.m.
in the Church Hall



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The next **Council Meeting** will be Tuesday, May 12 at 7:00 pm. in the Church Hall, Guadalupe Room

The next **Officer Meeting** will be Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall, Lourdes Room

The Young at Heart Club

Our next meeting will be

Wednesday, May 6

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

in the Church Hall

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with us!

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



**THE ST. MARY
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



Family Prayer Night

*Monday, May 4
6:30 p.m. in Church*

Join us in the Church Hall immediately following for light refreshments.

THIS NIGHT WILL INCLUDE PRAYERS FOR PARENTS FOCUSING ON SUPPORTING THEIR CHILDREN'S SPIRITUAL LIVES.



YOUNG AT HEART 2026

Tea Party

**TODAY'S PRESENTATION:
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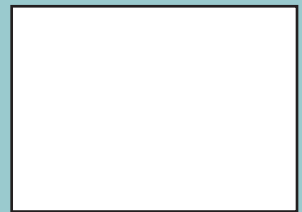
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