



# SAINT MARY

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

MAY 17, 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

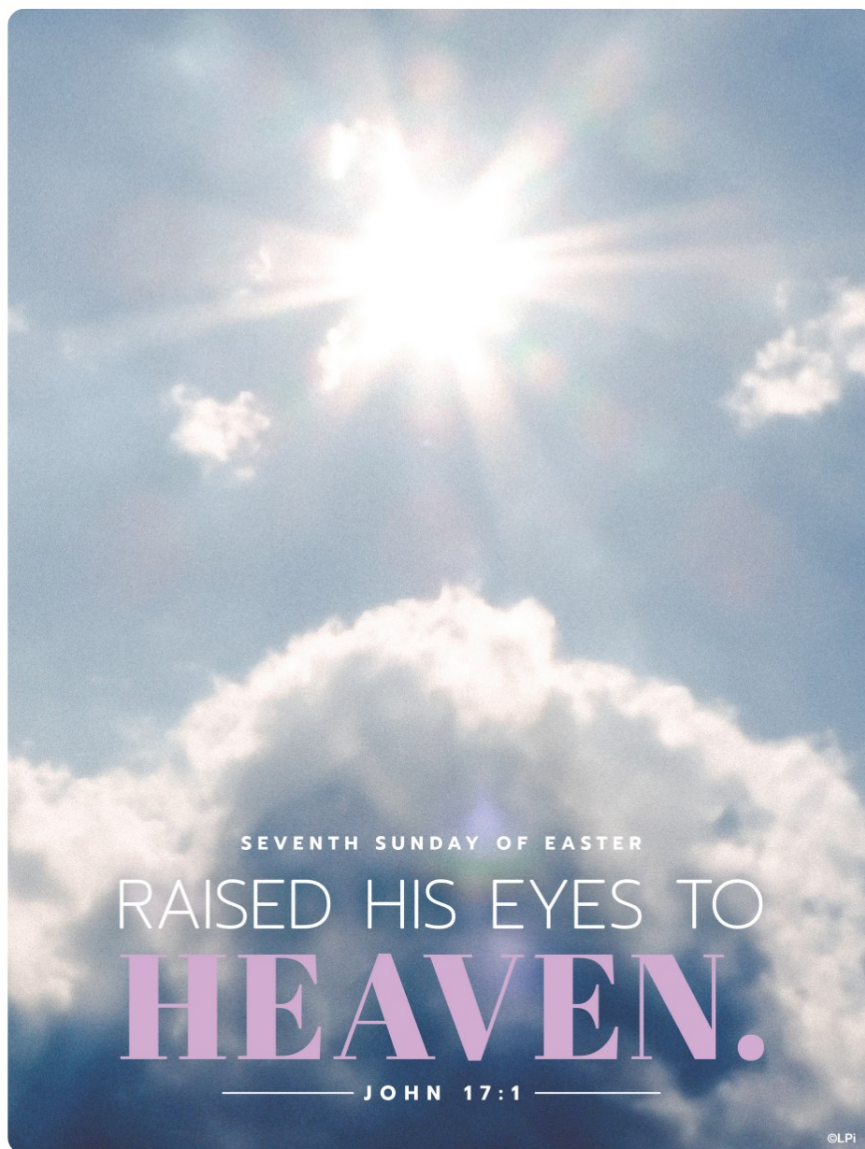
Wednesday | 8:00am

##### 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:**

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

708-326-9354 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](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!

Today we celebrate the solemnity of Jesus' Ascension into heaven. As we reflect on this feast, we may wonder: *Why did Jesus choose to ascend?* After His resurrection, He could have remained with His disciples, continuing to teach and guide them in person. He could have stayed, offering them comfort and guidance in difficult times. But instead, after forty days, He returned to the Father. This tells us that the Ascension is a kind of goodbye, and goodbyes are not easy. We do not like being separated from those we love. Yet even in goodbyes, there is something important to learn, something that helps us grow in faith and trust.

First, the Ascension reminds us that Jesus is truly God. By ascending into heaven, He reveals His divine identity in a powerful way. He is not merely a teacher or prophet, but the Son of God. He came from the Father, and now He returns to the Father in glory. His Ascension assures us that His words are true, His promises are trustworthy, and His presence, though no longer visible, remains real and powerful. He is not absent; He is present in a new way, closer to us than we often realize. Second, the Ascension reminds us that this world is not our true home. We live here for now, but we are made for heaven. Sometimes we focus too much on material things like money, work, and possessions, worrying excessively about them. We exhaust ourselves chasing stability and security, sometimes at the cost of our relationship with God. Without realizing it, we can begin to place these things at the center of our lives. But Jesus' departure redirects our gaze, lifting our eyes beyond the temporary and toward what is eternal. Our possessions, our careers, and even our daily worries will not last forever.

Today we are invited to ask ourselves: *What is most important in my life? Do I spend more time worrying about work and money than speaking with God? Do I make time to pray each day, even in small ways? Do I trust Him with my problems, or do I try to carry everything on my own?* This is not easy; we all struggle with it. But the good news is that we can always turn back to Jesus, regardless of how far we feel we have strayed. Let us try little by little to put Him first in our lives. Let us pray more, trust more, and worry less. Let us remember that Jesus did not leave us to be distant or alone. He simply went ahead to prepare a place for us, reminding us that one day, we are meant to be with Him in heaven.

Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

With love in Christ,

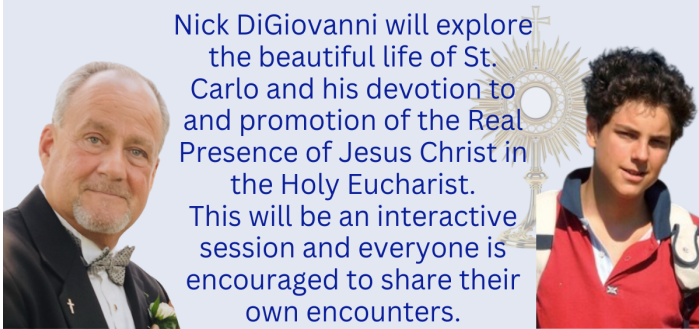
Fr. Joe Gasta, RCJ  
Pastor



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

JOIN ST. MARY PARISH FOR OUR ANNUAL  
**MEMORIAL DAY MASS**  
AT OLD ST. MARY CHURCH.

**MONDAY, MAY 25TH**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
Old St. Mary Church / Adoration Chapel

**~ Singles Late 50s & Above ~**



Looking for a deeper relationship with God and a renewed sense of purpose for your journey through life's transitions?

Connect with others and recharge your spiritual batteries on a RENEW retreat!

The next weekend is on **June 12-14, 2026** at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, IL (southwestern suburb of Chicago).

For more info, scan the QR code below or visit [www.RenewRetreats.org](http://www.RenewRetreats.org), e-mail [renewretreat.chi@gmail.com](mailto:renewretreat.chi@gmail.com), or call **(773) 849-3719**.



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

**The Offertory for May 10th**

Online Giving	\$12,390.50
Envelopes	\$20,591.17
	<hr/>
	\$32,981.67

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

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



ROGATE ERGO DOMINVM MISSIS

**FATHER HANNIBAL  
FORMATION CENTER**  
ROGATIONIST SEMINARY - MANILA

The Rogationist Seminary in the Philippines is committed to praying for vocations, forming future priests, and serving children and the poor. We invite you to walk with us. Your support and prayers can make this mission flourish. Beyond our spiritual mission, we also seek support for the maintenance and upkeep of our building, providing a safe and conducive environment for our seminarians.

Thank you and  
God bless!

**We ask you prayerfully consider supporting the Rogationist Seminary, which formed St. Mary's very own priests!**

***Father Joel Ricafranca, who assisted here last summer, will be at St. Mary Parish the weekend of May 30th and 31st to continue this appeal.***

**We thank you for your support and prayers, so that the Rogationist Seminary might continue its operations, while forming the next generation of priests and helping the community!**



**Register Today**

# Marian Conference

## MARY, REFUGE OF SINNERS

### May 22-23, 2026 Friday † Saturday

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion † **Champion, Wisconsin**

# SPEAKERS



**Bishop David L. Ricken**

The 12th Bishop of Green Bay, he declared the apparitions at Champion, Wisconsin, worthy of belief in 2010.



**Immaculee Ilibagiza**

A New York Times bestseller, inspiring millions with her message of faith, hope, and forgiveness.



**Fr. Chris Alar, MIC**



A priest of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception, known for his Divine Mercy books and video series.



**LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT**  
[WWW.CHAMPIONSHRINE.ORG/MARIAN-CONFERENCE/](http://WWW.CHAMPIONSHRINE.ORG/MARIAN-CONFERENCE/)

## Mass Intentions

### **Monday, May 18**

8:00am: Bill Dorans

### **Tuesday, May 19**

8:00am: Dorothy Micholowski, Guy Cesario III,  
Patricia Jensen, Ray Migler, Barbara Bekker,  
Frances M. Huisman, Mylene Piatt

### **Wednesday, May 20**

7:30am: Dan Steele

8:30am: Jorge Arroyo

### **Thursday, May 21**

8:00am: Bill Delladio

### **Friday, May 22**

8:00am: Diana Nash, Joann Duffy

### **Saturday, May 23**

8:00am: Ma Eugenia Arroyo

5:00pm: Cyndi Stanfield, William and Jacquelya  
Saluski, Lauren DeRose, Jim McGill, Flora Bondi,  
Kathleen Sullivan, poor souls in purgatory

### **Sunday, May 24**

8:00 am: Mary Lou Kavanaugh

9:30:am: Virginia Danley, Richard Urchell

11:00 am: Therese O'Connor

6:00 pm: Silvia Salgado

#### **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-Figliulo, John Finiili, 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 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, 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 Wallis, Kathy Wereldsma Leo Wilczek, Tim Weber, Jodie Weber, Jonathan Weber, Yvonne White, Dan Wolf, Jerry Wolf, Diana Woods, Karen Yaeger

Please Pray for our Faithfully  
Departed Brothers and Sisters



**Fred Targosz**



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

**God Bless Our  
New Parishioners**

**The Malone 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	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.

### Seventh Sunday of Easter

#### Monday, May 18

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

#### Tuesday, May 19

- 7:00 a.m. Confessions
- 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
- 7:30 p.m. Youth Ministry Bible Study (JP II Room)

#### Wednesday, May 20

- 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 (Lourdes)
- 9:30 a.m. Mom's Podcast Club (Guadalupe & Lourdes)
- 11:00a.m. Young at Heart Set Up (Guadalupe)
- 1:00 p.m. Young at Heart Meeting (Guadalupe)
- 7:00 p.m. Marriage Ministry

#### Thursday, May 21

- 7:00 a.m. Confessions
- 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
- 9:00 a.m. CCW Gen Meeting Set Up (Guadalupe)
- 6:00 p.m. CCW Dinner/Reception (Guadalupe)
- 7:00 p.m. Cursillo Meeting (Fatima)

#### Friday, May 22

- 7:00 a.m. Confessions
- 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
- 8:30 a.m. Adoration (Church)
- 6:00 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal (Church)

#### Saturday, May 23

- 7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
- 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
- 8:00 a.m. Men's Ministry (Guadalupe)
- 2:00 p.m. Wedding (Church)
- 3:30 p.m. Confessions (Church)
- 5:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

#### Sunday, May 24

- 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 End of Year Celebration (Guadalupe)

# The Song of Bernadette

The Classic Drama by Jean & Walter Kerr based on the novel by Franz Werfel

**PERFORMANCE DATES:**  
 Friday, May 15 7:30pm  
 Saturday, May 16 7:00pm  
 Sunday, May 17 3:00pm

**TICKETS**  
 Adults \$12  
 Seniors/Students \$10

**Performance Hall**  
**Evergreen Park Senior Center**  
**9547 S. Homan Avenue**

Tickets also available at the Community Center, 3450 W. 97th Street

Please note that this is the 1944 dramatic play version and not the current musical "BERNADETTE" that played in Chicago.



Village of Evergreen Park  
Recreation Department  
3450 W. 97th Street



*Congratulations to  
Colin and Molly  
Mullaney!*

*Wedding  
Banns*

**May 23rd**  
**Zackary Salyer and  
 Katherine Rohrer**

## MAY IS MARY'S MONTH!

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



### *Our Lady of Knock*

“Our Lady of Knock” refers to an apparition which occurred in the village of Knock, Ireland on August 21, 1879. For this reason, the **Feast Day of Our Lady of Knock is August 21st.**

This Marian apparition was unique: **Blessed Mother was joined by St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist** (of the Gospel of John), **and a lamb** standing in front of a cross, on top of an altar.

The apparition occurred during a rainstorm, yet **no rain fell on the heavenly image.** This apparition was also unique in that **no words were spoken to the witnesses.**

It was confirmed to be a true Marian apparition by Vatican investigations, and Pope Francis declared the current shrine at Knock to be an official Marian and Eucharistic Shrine in 2021.

### OUR LADY OF KNOCK, PRAY FOR US!

**Check out St. Mary's YouTube video on Our Lady of Knock, which premiered earlier this month!**

#### May 23 - May 24: Pentecost Sunday

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 9:30 AM	Sunday, 11:00 AM	Sunday, 6:00 PM
Lector	Pamela DeGregorio Andrea Taylor	Bob Jostes Midge Saunders	Denise L Bartolotta Guy Cesario	John Brett Sean Gleason	YOUTH MINISTRY Lector
Eucharistic Minister	Mary Ann Braasch Ted Kopczynski John Mitoraj Sue Murphy	Cris Pirelli Robert Rafferty Nancy Santry Midge Saunders	Joe Austin Frank Grobmeier Joshua Sifuentes Kathleen Sifuentes	Michael Crowley Bob Meyers Patti Pertchi NOT FILLED	Robert Koch James Nowak Judy Siegmund NOT FILLED
Altar Server	Harrison Guldán Seamus McGarry Avery McNamara NOT FILLED	David Heitman Gerard Sima Lorenzo Zambrano NOT FILLED	Felicity Kuboushek Silas Kuboushek Theo Kuboushek Leah Miklaszewski	Caleb Marietta 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 Siemienieć 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	YOUTH MINISTRY Usher 1 YOUTH MINISTRY Usher 2 YOUTH MINISTRY Usher 3 NOT FILLED
Greeter	NOT FILLED	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.*

## Youth Ministry Upcoming Events

### End of Year Celebration

**All youth ministry families are invited to join us for a night of celebration for the end of our year. We will recognize our seniors and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. All junior high families and High School families are invited. RSVP at the QR code.  
May 24<sup>th</sup> 7pm**



## DONUT SUNDAY MAY 17<sup>th</sup>

**Donut Sunday is May 17<sup>th</sup> following all morning masses. We need students volunteers, sign up through the QR code. All proceeds support our Steubenville Trip.**



**Contact Youth Minister, Matt Jung, with any questions.**

**[mjung@stmarymokena.org](mailto:mjung@stmarymokena.org)**



Youth Ministry

# 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](mailto:DKuboushek@StMaryMokena.org)

# St. Peregrine DEVOTION AND HEALING SERVICE

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

**MAY 28**

**6:30PM**

ST. MARY'S MAIN CHURCH



**LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH!**

- ST. PEREGRINE DEVOTIONAL & HEALING PRAYERS
- BLESSING WITH ST. PEREGRINE RELIC
- STAY FOR BEHOLD AT 7:00PM, HOUR OF ADORATION AND RECONCILIATION

## MAKING SUMMER TRAVEL PLANS?

CONSIDER VISITING THESE PILGRIMAGE SITES, TOO!



- Shrine of Therese of Lisieux, Darien, IL
- Shrine of St. Gianna Beretta Molla, Yorkville, IL
- Shrine of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Chicago, IL
- National Shrine of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Libertyville, IL
- Shrine of Mount Carmel, Munster, IN
- Shrine of Christ's Passion, St. John, IN
- Holy Hill, Hubertus, WI
- Shrine of Our Lady of Champion, Champion, WI



*Spend time in Jesus' presence at*

# Behold

Thursday, May 28th  
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."*




**WYD  
SEOUL  
2027**

Logo By Mahartaka - Own work, CC0.  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=164063564>



**JULY 30 - AUGUST 9, 2027**  
**WORLD YOUTH DAY**  
 WITH OPTIONAL SOUTH KOREA PRE-TOUR  
 AND VIETNAM POST-TOUR



**AGE REQUIREMENTS: 18 - 39 (must be 18 by July 1, 2027)**  
 For more information or to be added to the list of future participants, contact:  
 Penny Borello - Inteletravel • 630-309-1851 • pborello@gmail.com



RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION

# CALLING FORTH

All Families and  
Volunteers



**2026-2027  
ONLINE REGISTRATION IS  
OPEN ON THE WEBSITE**

<https://www.stmarymokena.org/>

CLASSES BEGIN: September 15th

## JOIN US

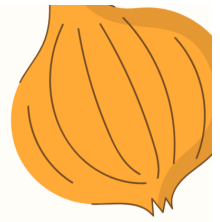
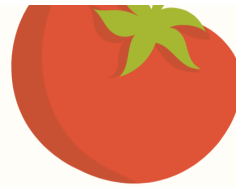
- CALLED TO SERVE?**
- FAITH-FILLED CATECHIST
  - CATECHIST ASSISTANT
  - SUBSTITUTE CATECHIST
  - OFFICE ASSISTANT/ HALL  
MONITOR/TRAFFIC HELPER



708-326-9352

RE@STMARYMOKENA.ORG

WWW.STMARYMOKENA.ORG



# ST. MARY COLLABORATIVE COOKBOOK

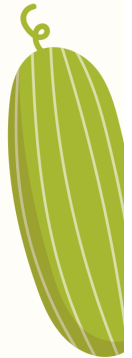
This cookbook is more than recipes—it's a celebration of the St. Mary's community. Created by St. Mary's School families and parish members, its 100+ pages gather beloved homemade dishes passed down and shared at our tables. With a student-designed cover, easy-to-navigate tabs, and durable, kitchen-ready paper, it's made to be both meaningful and practical. A welcoming message from Father Joe sets the tone, reminding us how food brings together faith, family, and community.



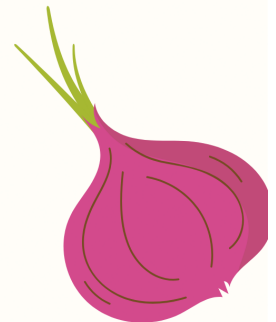
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### Or use the order form below:

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Phone or Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How Many: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Order by May 29th! Make checks payable to St. Mary School. Cookbooks available in the Parish Office or sent home with students on May 29<sup>th</sup> or earlier. They will also be available for pick up on May 30 and May 31 from the Church between 9am - 11am.

**Questions:** TracyLendi@me.com or 630-290-7059



## CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP MAY 17, 2026 THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE GREAT FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD – THAT MOMENT WHEN JESUS, 40 DAYS AFTER HIS RESURRECTION, WAS LIFTED UP INTO HEAVEN AS THE APOSTLES LOOKED ON. IT MUST HAVE BEEN AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT. BUT THE FIRST READING TELLS US THEY WERE NOT MEANT TO STAND THERE FOR LONG. “MEN OF GALILEE, WHY ARE YOU STANDING THERE LOOKING AT THE SKY?”

IN OTHER WORDS – DON’T JUST STAND THERE. DO SOMETHING.

THIS IS A MESSAGE FOR US AS CHRISTIAN STEWARDS. WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN EVERY GRACE AND BLESSING – THROUGH THE MASS AND THE SACRAMENTS, THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD, AND THROUGH THE GIFTS OF OUR TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE. WE ARE NOT MEANT TO SIMPLY RECEIVE THESE GIFTS. WE ARE MEANT TO USE THEM – IN GRATITUDE TO THE ONE WHO GAVE THEM.

LIKE THE APOSTLES, WE ARE CALLED “TO BE [HIS] WITNESSES... TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.” AND WE DO THIS NOT BY OUR OWN STRENGTH, BUT THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK WITHIN US.



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Mobile

**FOOD PANTRY**



The Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet Mobile Food Pantry delivers healthy food to people in need. All Mobile Food Pantries distribute food through a drive-thru. Please clear space in your trunk or backseat so volunteers can load boxes of food directly into your vehicle—rain, snow, or shine!

May 18: St. Lawrence, 165 Rice Rd, South Wilmington, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

June 1: St. Lawrence, 165 Rice Rd, South Wilmington, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

June 5: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 205 E. Jackson St, Joliet, 10:00am – 11:30am

June 12: St. Joseph, 211 N. Center Ave, Bradley, 10:00am – 11:30am

June 22: St. Lawrence, 165 Rice Rd, South Wilmington, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

June 25: Prayer Tower Ministries COGIC, 500 Stryker Ave, Joliet, 10:00am – 11:30am

Questions? Contact Derek Schultz at 815-724-1160 or dschultz@cc-doj.org  
Dates and times are subject to change. Please check our Facebook page for the latest information and schedules.



**Thank you to everyone who came out to the Knights of Columbus Family Prayer Night!**

**This night included prayers for parents focusing on supporting their children’s spiritual lives.**



**Consider joining the St. Mary Pro-Life Committee**

Join us Tuesday, June 9th at 9:00 a.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 708-326-9312 or [dungeford@stmarymokena.org](mailto:dungeford@stmarymokena.org)

**Diaper Bag Drive Donations are due by May 31st!**

**Thank you for your generosity!**



*Join our Youth Ministry and Pro-Life Committee in support of newborns in need!*

**DIAPER BAG DRIVE  
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Your support helped to deliver 50 diaper bags filled with newborn essentials in 2025 to moms via three pregnancy support centers.

Contact Tom Blue @ [tblue@stmarymokena.org](mailto:tblue@stmarymokena.org)

Make checks payable to St. Mary Parish. Mark "Diaper Bag Drive" on envelope & drop off at the parish office.





**The Council of Catholic Women**

Thursday, May 21 there will be a  
**Private Mass at 5:00 p.m.**  
 followed by the  
**Woman of the Year Dinner  
 Reception at 6:00 p.m.**  
 Church Hall , Guadalupe Room

The next **Board Meeting** will be Wednesday,  
 June 10 at 9:00 a.m. in the  
 Church Hall, Fatima Room

**The Young at Heart Club**

Our next meeting will be  
**Wednesday, May 20**  
**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
 in the Church Hall



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

**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



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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

The next **Council Meeting** will be Tuesday, June 9 at 7:00 pm. in the Church Hall, Guadalupe Room

**Our Lady of Fatima Statue**

The St. Mary Knights of Columbus would like to give parishioners an opportunity to have this statue of Our Lady of Fatima in their homes. This is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen your devotion to Mary, whose main goal is to lead us to her Son, Jesus.

The tradition of the traveling statue is to remind us of the 1917 apparition of Mary to three peasant children in the city of Fatima, Portugal. The apparition told them to pray for world peace. While the statue is in your home, you are encouraged to pray the rosary or other Marian prayers for peace.

If you would like to have her in your home for a week or two at a time, please contact, Donna Hungerford (708) 326-9312 [Dhungerford@stmarymokena.org](mailto:Dhungerford@stmarymokena.org) or email Bob Rafferty, [Bob.rafo@yahoo.com](mailto:Bob.rafo@yahoo.com). Delivery and pick up will be arranged and prayers will be provided for you.

(The statue is approximately 19" in height).



**Pray for World  
 Peace.**

**BLOOD DRIVE**

During the K of C  
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**Thank you!!**



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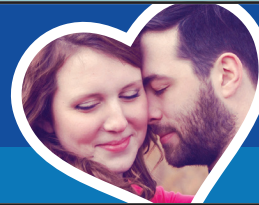
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