



# SAINT MARY

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

SEPTEMBER 13, 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 through Friday  
7:30am  
Monday evenings | 6:30pm

##### Daily Divine Mercy Chaplet

Monday through Friday  
8:30am

##### 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.

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

**Pastor:** Fr. Joe Gasta  
**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. Welbert Suarez

708-326-9307 pastor@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9304 frwelbert@stmarymokena.org

## Deacons:

Deacon Peter Manning  
 Deacon John Rex  
 Deacon Kevin Plankinton  
 Deacon Dave Stanton

708-326-9300 deaconpete@aol.com  
 708-326-9300 deaconjohn@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9300 deaconkevin@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9300 deacondave@stmarymokena.org

## Parish Office:

Parish Secretary, Karen Dilger  
 Business Manager, Stephen J. Warunek  
 Maintenance Supervisor, Gerardo "Gerry" Iniguez  
 Morning Maintenance, Thomas Pritchard  
 Director of Adult Faith Formation, Megan Murray  
 Asst Director of Adult Faith Formation, Danielle Kuboushek  
 Asst Director to the Clergy/Program Coord., Erica Sestak  
 Director of Religious Education, Tami Brongiel  
 Asst Director of Religious Education, Selena Roberts  
 RE Office Assistant, Kathy Brzeszkiewicz

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

708-326-9305 secretary@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9309 swarunek@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9314 giniguez@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9314 tpritchard@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9313 mmurray@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9353 dkuboushek@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9355 esestak@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9356 tbrongiel@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9357 sroberts@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9352 re@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9352 kbrez@stmarymokena.org  
 deaconpete@aol.com, jbrett@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9312 dhungerford@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9302 jberardi@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9354 mjung@stmarymokena.org  
 bulletin@stmarymokena.org  
 815-953-7228  
 708-326-9311 lclark@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9310 pperry@stmarymokena.org  
 zhabib@stmarymokena.org

Directors of Liturgy, Deacon Pete Manning and John Brett  
 Director of Christian Service, Donna Hungerford  
 Director of Sacred Music, Joseph Berardi  
 Youth Minister, Matt Jung  
 Bulletin Editor, Cailin Valente  
 Funeral Coordinator, Susan Rizzo  
 Offertory and Database Administrator, Leticia Clark  
 Financial Secretary, Paula Perry  
 Sacristan, Zina Habib

## School Office:

School Secretary, Charlotte Catchings  
 School Principal, Michelle Huizinga  
 School Assistant to the Principal, Jamie Kucala  
 Marketing & Enrollment, Danelle Bernas

## 708-326-9330

708-326-9332 office@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9348 mhuizinga@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9347 jkucala@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.



#### MY DEAREST PARISHIONERS,

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

Months ago, I wrote about the importance of silence in our church before Mass. I feel the need to write about it again because I still see the need for us to be reminded of this simple but important practice. When we enter the church, we enter into the holy presence of God. Our church is not simply a gathering place. It is a sacred space where we come to pray, encounter the Lord, and prepare our hearts for the celebration of the Eucharist. Because of this, **I kindly ask everyone to observe silence as soon as you enter the church.** Greeting one another, catching up with friends, and sharing stories are good things, and there is nothing wrong with them, but they should be done outside the church so that those who are praying inside may have the quiet they need.

Silence helps us prepare. When we come to Mass, we are not simply attending another activity or fulfilling an obligation. We are coming to celebrate the great mystery of our faith: *the Eucharist*. We gather around the altar to remember and celebrate the saving love of Jesus Christ, who gives Himself to us and feeds us with His Body and Blood. This is something truly sacred. Many of our brothers and sisters come early because they need quiet time. Some are praying. *Some are carrying heavy burdens and are placing them before the Lord. Some are preparing themselves spiritually to receive Holy Communion. Some may simply need a few peaceful moments with God before Mass begins.* When we speak loudly, carry on conversations, or create unnecessary noise, **we can unintentionally disturb someone who is praying and preparing for the Eucharist.**

Observing silence is therefore not only about being quiet. It is an act of love and respect. It is a way of saying to God: *Lord, I am here.* And it is also a way of saying to our brothers and sisters: *I respect your prayer. I respect your time with God.* So, when we enter the church, let us pause. Let us lower our voices. Let us spend a few moments in prayer and silence. Remember, we are in the house of God. We are in His holy presence. Let us therefore give Him the gift of our silence, our attention and our hearts.

Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

With love in Christ,

Fr. Joe Gasta, RCJ  
Pastor

## Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Monday, September 14

7:00 a.m. Confessions  
 8:00 a.m. Mass  
 9:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl (Fatima)  
 4:30 p.m. Little Flowers (Guadalupe & Lourdes)  
 6:00 p.m. SPRED (Fatima)  
 6:30 p.m. Rosary (Church)  
 7:00 p.m. Women's Welcome (JP II Room)

### Tuesday, September 15

7:00 a.m. Confessions  
 8:00 a.m. Mass  
 4:30 p.m. RE Gr. K-6 (Classrooms)  
 4:30 p.m. RE Parent Orientation (Guadalupe)  
 6:00 p.m. Festa Italiana Board Meeting (Fatima)  
 6:30 p.m. Men's Retreat Meeting (Lourdes)  
 6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)

### Wednesday, September 16

5:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)  
 7:00 a.m. Confessions  
 7:30 a.m. Mass  
 11:00a.m. Young at Heart Set Up (Guadalupe)  
 1:00 p.m. Young at Heart (Guadalupe)  
 4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-7 (Classrooms)  
 4:30 p.m. RE Parent Orientation (Guadalupe)  
 6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)  
 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Side Chapel)

### Thursday, September 17

7:00 a.m. Confessions  
 8:00 a.m. Mass  
 9:30 a.m. CCW General Meeting Set Up (Guadalupe)  
 4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-8 (Classrooms)  
 4:30 p.m. RE Parent Orientation (Guadalupe)  
 6:00 p.m. CCW General Meeting (Guadalupe)  
 6:30 p.m. Cursillo Prayer Service (Church)  
 7:00 p.m. Ultreya Meeting (Lourdes)

### Friday, September 18

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

### Saturday, September 19

7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)  
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 8:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ (Guadalupe)  
 8:30 a.m. Missionaries of Apostolic Grace (Fatima)  
 1:30 p.m. Wedding Mass (Church)  
 3:30 p.m. Confessions

### Sunday, September 20

7:15 a.m. Lauds (Church)  
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 9:00 a.m. OCIA (Fatima)  
 9:30 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 9:30 a.m. RE First Sunday Class REACH (Classrooms)  
 9:30 a.m. RE Gr. K-6 (Classrooms)  
 11:00a.m. Mass (Church)  
 12:30p.m. Baptisms (Church)  
 6:00 p.m. Mass (Church)  
 7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry (Guadalupe)

## SPRED 2026 FAITH FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES



### What is SPRED?



- Lifelong Faith Community rooted in work, prayer, and a sense of the sacred

- Intended for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities ages 17-21+



- Every other Monday evening September through April

- Groups across Chicago Diocese available for various age groups

### SPRED FALL EVENTS

SPRED Mass September 26th  
 5:00 pm  
 Special Blessing for those with Disabilities and Fellowship/Food to follow



### Want to Join?

Megan Murray  
 mmurray@stmarymokena.org  
 708-326-9313



# Giving

## GENEROSITY

Love, serve and give generously.

### Online Giving

Give your gift today.  
 Scan the QR Code

The Offertory for September 6th will be shared in the next bulletin.

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



## Mass Intentions

### **Monday, September 14**

8:00am: Dina Maestro, Jeff Capistrano

### **Tuesday, September 15**

8:00am: Dolores Castro, Rosemary O'Reilly, Dolores Schury, Edward "Sandy" Travis, Sandy Halper

### **Wednesday, September 16**

7:30am: Helen Perry, Eden Dela Cruz

8:30am: Annette Morrison

### **Thursday, September 17**

8:00am: Dora Aburto, Leah Capistrano

### **Friday, September 18**

8:00am: William McCaw

### **Saturday, September 19**

8:00am: Bill Delladio

5:00pm: Ercole and Innocenza Sturino, Joseph Rubino, Peter Prancus, John, Harriet, Ted and Jennifer Narel, Lauren DeRose, Flora Bondi, Lavila Chapski

### **Sunday, September 20**

8:00 am: Dorothy and Eugene Hart, Dolores Schury

9:30 am: Deceased Members of Dudek Family

11:00 am: Agnes Milner

6:00 p.m. Mildred Cerny

### **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 Drobbick, Vincent Felice, Barb Finn-Figliulo, John Finili, Bradley Frank, Marcia Frank, Mary Ann Franson, Debbie Geren, Bonnie Gondek, Jerry Grabowski, Sandy Halper, Kelly Hampton, Catherine Hansen, Natalie Haran, Jeremiah Hartmann, 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 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, Catherine O'Donnell, Kenneth O'Gradney, Irene Okoniewski, Callie Olson, Bruce Omastak, Matthew Orr, James Palermo, 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, 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, Marion Wallis, Kathy Wereldsma, Leo Wilczek, Gladys Weber Tim Weber, Jodie Weber, Jonathan Weber, Yvonne White, Dan Wolf, Jerry Wolff, Diana Woods, Karen Yaeger, Daniel Zich



**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, ARNG         | 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      | MAJ Vincent R. Teodoro, USA     |
| CPT Kevin Kelly, USA            | A1C Benjamin Underwood, USAF    |
| PFC Tyler Kilmartin-Radtke, USA | PE2 Joshua James Underwood, USA |
| SP4 Devin Klinger, USA          | Cpl Blanton Vego, USMC          |
| PFC Mary Rose Krizewicz, 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](mailto:BCORNEJO@STMARYMOKENA.ORG).

## God Bless Our New Parishioners

The Bender family,  
Ms. Rachel Fuentes,  
Ms. Theresa Vagena



## Please Pray for our Faithfully Departed Brothers and Sisters

Sandy Halper



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



Saint Mary Parish  
**MEN'S MINISTRY**

All men are invited to join us for our next meeting

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 26  
OUR PARISH  
VISION + VALUES:**

*What are they and how do they  
apply to each parishioner?*

Join us for an interactive  
morning doing a deep dive on  
St. Mary's Vision and Values.



**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**

*Sisters In Christ Breakfast*  
**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19  
8:30AM - Church Hall**



WOMEN'S MINISTRY  
FAITH • FELLOWSHIP • FAMILY

**DWELL IN THE PRESENCE  
OF GOD**

*Finding deep spiritual connection in ordinary  
moments of your everyday life*



St. Mary Sisters In Christ invite all women to  
join us for bimonthly Saturday breakfast  
meetings throughout the school year. We will  
start by discussing the book, *The Practice of  
the Presence of God* by Brother Lawrence. It  
is a book that Pope Leo says significantly  
shaped his spiritual life. No need to read the  
book ahead - we will highlight passages  
together and learn to converse with God  
during everyday tasks. There is no cost; free  
will donations accepted.

The mission of Sisters In Christ Women's Ministry is to nurture women in the Catholic faith,  
deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, and build lasting relationships rooted in Him.

RSVP:  [SistersInChrist@stmarymokena.org](mailto:SistersInChrist@stmarymokena.org)

 708-326-9313



# JOIN THE ADULT CHOIR!

We are looking for new members to join our Adult Choir!

Being part of our Music Ministry is a wonderful way to serve our parish while sharing in fellowship, community, and spiritual growth. Whether you have sung in a choir for years or simply enjoy singing, all are welcome!

Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 16th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Side Chapel.



For more information, please contact Joseph Berardi, Director of Sacred Music, at [jberardi@stmarymokena.org](mailto:jberardi@stmarymokena.org).



|                      | Sat., 5:00 PM | Sun., 8:00 AM | Sun., 9:30 AM | Sun., 11:00 AM | Sun., 6:00 PM |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Lector               |               |               |               |                |               |
| Eucharistic Minister |               |               |               |                |               |
| Altar Server         |               |               |               |                |               |
| Usher                |               |               |               |                |               |
| Greeter              |               |               |               |                |               |
| Live Stream          |               |               |               |                |               |

## **NOTICE SOMETHING MISSING? THE ANSWER IS YOU!**

Imagine walking into a church early on a Sunday morning. The pews are still empty, the candles are unlit, and the altar is bare. Slowly, familiar faces begin to arrive — and nothing is prepared.

Are you being called to proclaim the Word, distribute the Eucharist, guide the faithful to their seats?

- **You can be hands of welcome** for the weary soul who steps into church seeking peace.
- **You can be the voice of Scripture** that may speak directly to someone's heart.
- **You can be the reverent presence** that helps others see the holiness of the Mass.

Every gesture, every smile, every moment of preparation is a quiet act of evangelization.

**The Eternal Impact of Your Service:** You may never know the full impact of your ministry. The person you greet may be returning to church after years away. The reading you proclaim may be the exact word someone needed to hear. The Eucharist you offer may be the strength that carries someone through a difficult week.

**Call to Continue with Joy:** We encourage you to Step up and join one of more of these ministries. Please pray about it — you will be fully trained for the ministries you choose. If you feel unsure of your worthiness, remember that Christ Himself is your strength.

If interested in any of these ministries, please email Deacon Pete Manning at [deaconpete@aol.com](mailto:deaconpete@aol.com) & John Brett at [jbrett@stmarymokena.org](mailto:jbrett@stmarymokena.org), our Directors of Liturgy. Call us, because God is calling you. Will you answer His call?



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE  
NEWLY BAPTIZED

FINLEY PATRICK SHEA,  
NOAH LYNN GREEN,  
KINSLEY MARIE GRAB,  
MARK JOHN GALLO,  
LUKE DANIEL JOHNSON

**MAY GOD BLESS THE LITTLE ONES**

## Wedding Banns



**September 19th**

Austin Haslinger  
and  
Alexis Connor

**Calling all  
homeschooling  
families!**

Join us for monthly  
**Homeschool Meetups**

Homeschooling families are invited the first Friday of each month for Mass at 12:00pm followed by a casual meetup in the Church Hall.

Snacks and coloring pages provided, feel free to bring lunch for your family.

Our next meeting is  
**October 2, 2026**

Contact Danielle with questions:  
[dkuboushek@stmarymokena.org](mailto:dkuboushek@stmarymokena.org)

## Children's Liturgy

**Begins September 13**

All children from Kindergarten through grade 3 are invited to attend during the 9:30 am Mass



## WHO IS THAT YOUNG MAN IN THE RED CASSOCK?



I would like to introduce to you David Heitman, who is making St. Mary Parish history. He is the first Knight of the Holy Temple here at St. Mary parish. Knights of the Holy Temple (8th-12th Grade, ages 13 to 17) SMP is excited about beginning a new ministry for young men. The new ministry is called the Knights of the Holy Temple. The Knights are a fraternity of young men who will receive training as altar servers at Mass and Sacred Liturgies at St. Mary Mokena. The Knights strongly encourage its members to nurture reverence and devotion to Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

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

- Establishing a deep reverence and devotion to Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament especially within the Holy Mass
- Encouraging the Knights to properly live the faith both privately and publicly.
- Fostering an environment for leadership development, Christian fellowship, and growth in relationship with God by prayer
- Committing to foster and protect a Culture of Life in society
- Assisting in vocational discernment for priesthood, consecrated life, or married life.

Would you like to become a Knight of the Holy Temple? If interested and willing to make a commitment to Jesus please contact Deacon Pete at [deaconpete@aol.com](mailto:deaconpete@aol.com) or John Brett at [jbrett@stmarymokena.org](mailto:jbrett@stmarymokena.org)



Youth Ministry

# Youth Ministry is looking for Volunteers

**As a program that has grown to over 200 students in one year, we're looking to get more volunteers passionate about the faith to walk with our students on their journey. We're looking for people to commit to come weekly, biweekly, and monthly!**

**If you are interested in helping, or know someone that would be, please reach out to Matt, [mjung@stmarymokena.org](mailto:mjung@stmarymokena.org)**

**All volunteers are required to complete VIRTUS Training and a background check.**



## Upcoming YM Events

### High School

**September 13th**

**September 20th**

**September 27th**

**All 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to our high school events regardless of parish or high school!**

**Last Chance  
to Register!**

# THE SEARCH

FINDING THE MEANING OF LIFE

**JOIN US TO WATCH THE SERIES TOGETHER!**

***Sundays 9:00 - 11:00 AM***

***Starting September 20***

***Church Hall***

**This highly acclaimed 8-session series tackles the key questions of every human heart.**

**In the beautifully filmed episodes, Chris Stefanick and experts from multiple fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence.**

*Join us for a delicious meal  
and conversation about this series!*

**Register today at  
[www.stmarymokena.org/search](http://www.stmarymokena.org/search)  
or using the QR code.**



## MOMS Podcast Club

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

Thursday, September 24

9:30 am

in the Church Hall

"Transitioning from  
Summer to Fall"

Listen to podcast prior to gathering (search "Catholic Mom Calm" 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)

## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP COOK OR ORDER FOOD FOR THE SEARCH

*The meal only needs to feed  
about 20 people. One person or  
family is needed per week to  
contribute to this great event!*

Register by  
calling the Parish  
Office or using  
the QR Code.



## WOMEN'S *Welcome* WEEKEND



"Come to me, all you who are weary and  
burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

**PAUSE** *take time for yourself*

**CONNECT** *with other women*

**REFRESH** *your soul*

**REFLECT** *on God's deep love for you*

**REDISCOVER** *joy, peace, and Jesus!*

This weekend is for women of all ages!

Get ready for a weekend of good food: we provide Saturday  
breakfast, lunch, and dinner and Sunday breakfast and lunch.

Sleep at your own house!

Free registration at [www.stmarymokena.org/welcome](http://www.stmarymokena.org/welcome)

36 spots available, early registration recommended.



*Join us!*

Saturday and Sunday,

**November 7-8**

at St. Mary, Mokena

## AN EVENING OF PRAYER: SEPTEMBER 24TH

**6:30PM | ST. PEREGRINE  
DEVOTION & HEALING  
SERVICE**

**7:00PM  
HOLY HOUR**

**JOIN US FOR:**  
ADORATION  
CONFESSION  
SACRED MUSIC  
SILENCE



**THIS EVENT WILL BE REPLACING BEHOLD.**



## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BEGIN THIS WEEK!**

Lord our God, in your wisdom and love  
you surround us with the mysteries of  
the universe.

Send your Spirit upon these students  
and fill them with your wisdom and  
blessings.

Grant that they may devote themselves  
to their studies  
and draw ever closer to you, the source  
of all knowledge.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**WED. SEPT. 15**  
**TUES. SEPT. 16**  
**THURS. SEPT. 17**  
**SUN. SEPT. 20**

classes start for all students registered before Aug. 30



**R.E.A.C.H**  
**SUN. SEPT. 20**  
**WED. SEPT. 23**

**SEE EVERYONE SOON!**





Visit our website  
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 Questions?  
 Contact Sue Rizzo  
 815-953-7228

**Additional boxes  
 have been ordered  
 and will be in the  
 narthex soon!**

Sponsored by St. Mary Counsel of  
 Catholic Women (CCW)



**Cross Catholic  
 OUTREACH**

Box of Joy provides schools, parishes, organizations and families with an inspiring opportunity to send gifts to poor and underprivileged children living in the hot climate of South American countries.

#### How to participate:

- Fill a box for a boy or a girl and indicate age
- Bring your filled box back with shipping donation (instruction and gift ideas inside box) to the CCW General Meeting, Thursday, October 15th OR bring to Parish Office OR Church Narthex by November 1st.
- A child opens a Box of Joy and is filled with joy, love and hope!



**Every marriage deserves  
 a fresh start**

Find HOPE.  
 Find HEALING.

[HelpOurMarriage.org](http://HelpOurMarriage.org)



The St. Patrick Respect Life Ministry and  
 St. Gianna Shrine Committee invite you to the

*Memorial Hope and Healing Mass  
 for the Loss of a Child*

**Saturday, October 3, 2026 | 6:00 PM**  
**St. Patrick Church | 406 Walnut St. Yorkville, IL**

 View Live Stream at [stpatrickyorkville.org/livestream](http://stpatrickyorkville.org/livestream)

Mothers, fathers, family members, and all who grieve the loss of a child, recent or long ago, due to miscarriage, early birth, stillbirth, abortion, illness, or accident are welcome.

**A candlelight procession to the St. Gianna Molla Shrine will follow after Mass**



For more information about the St. Gianna Shrine, please go to [StGiannaShrine.org](http://StGiannaShrine.org).



## 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.



# St. Mary Campaign

# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

## 24 Hour Adoration 4Life



## Kick-Off Wednesday Sept 23/24 6am - 6am

Sign up here:



Join your fellow parishioners in prayer as we celebrate the beauty & sanctity of life in the womb.

**Next Event: Rosary by the Fire 4Life**  
Sunday, Sept 27 - 7pm @ Marian Garden  
Followed by Chili Dogs & Fellowship  
All parishioners are invited!

### Future Campaign Events

Thursday, 10/8 Morning of Prayer @Access Clinic 8am-Noon  
Tuesday, 10/13 Morning of Prayer @Planned Parenthood 8am-Noon  
Tuesday, 10/20 Men 4Life Rosary @Planned Parenthood 6pm  
Monday, 10/26 Speaker Event - Thomas More Society 7pm  
Wednesday, 10/28 - 24 Hour Adoration 4Life 6am - 6am

*Thank you to everyone who  
attended the  
CCW Wine and Song Event!*  
*A great time was had by all!*





The Council of Catholic Women  
The next General Meeting will  
be Thursday, September 17 in  
the Church Hall, Guadalupe  
Room at 6:30 p.m.



The Knights of Columbus  
The next Officer Meeting will be  
Tuesday, September 22 at  
7:00 pm. in the Church Hall,  
Lourdes Room.

## CCW Welcome Back Mass and Tea All ladies welcome!

Sunday, September 13th in the Church Hall  
after 11:00 a.m. Mass

- Enjoy live music
- Assorted teas
- Finger sandwiches & dessert

*Don't forget to wear  
your hat to the tea party!*

RSVP to Charmaine Willand  
708-307-3196

Table reservations accepted  
\$10.00 fee accepted at the door.

*A beautiful new tea set  
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# HOPE IT'S IN OUR BLOOD

**St Mary-Mokena #6993  
Knights of Columbus  
Blood Drive**

Monday,  
September 21  
2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

### WHEN & WHERE

St. Mary Church Hall  
19515 115th Ave  
Mokena, IL 60448

*Blood  
donation tips*



Eat a healthy meal &  
drink plenty of water  
before donating.



Wear a shirt with  
short or easy-to-  
roll sleeves.



Bring something to  
pass the time (e.g.  
headphones or a book.)



Schedule your appointment  
Appointments preferred.  
Walk-ins welcome!



versiti  
Blood Center of Illinois

## THE YOUNG AT HEART CLUB



Our next meeting will be in the  
Church Hall on Wednesday,  
September 16th  
1:00p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Annual dues are only \$25

Contact Marla Garbarczyk  
for membership  
information or if you need a  
ride 708-308-2505 or  
[trampool@aol.com](mailto:trampool@aol.com)

The devotion to our Blessed Mother as “**Our Lady of Sorrows**” dates back centuries, but it first became an official memorial in the early 1800s. This memorial is a day on which we remember the **Seven Sorrows of Mary**.

#### THE SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY

- 1) THE PROPHECY OF SIMEON
- 2) THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT
- 3) THE SEARCH FOR THE CHILD JESUS
- 4) MEETING CHRIST WHILE HE CARRIED HIS CROSS
- 5) THE CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST
- 6) CHRIST IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS
- 7) THE BURIAL OF CHRIST



The Sorrows of Mary are depicted as **a sword (or seven swords) piercing her heart**. This is why the image of the **Immaculate Heart of Mary** usually has a sword through it.

This imagery is even included in the Gospel of Luke at the first Sorrow of Mary: “**And your own soul a sword shall pierce...**” (Luke 2:34).

This devotion is so powerful that **we not only dedicate September 15th, but the entire month of September**. By this, we are able to remember that **our Blessed Mother also suffered for our sake**.

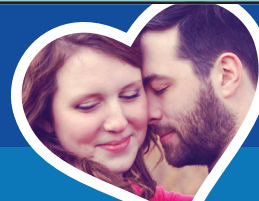
**Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us!**

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