



SAINT MARY

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

SEPTEMBER 27, 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

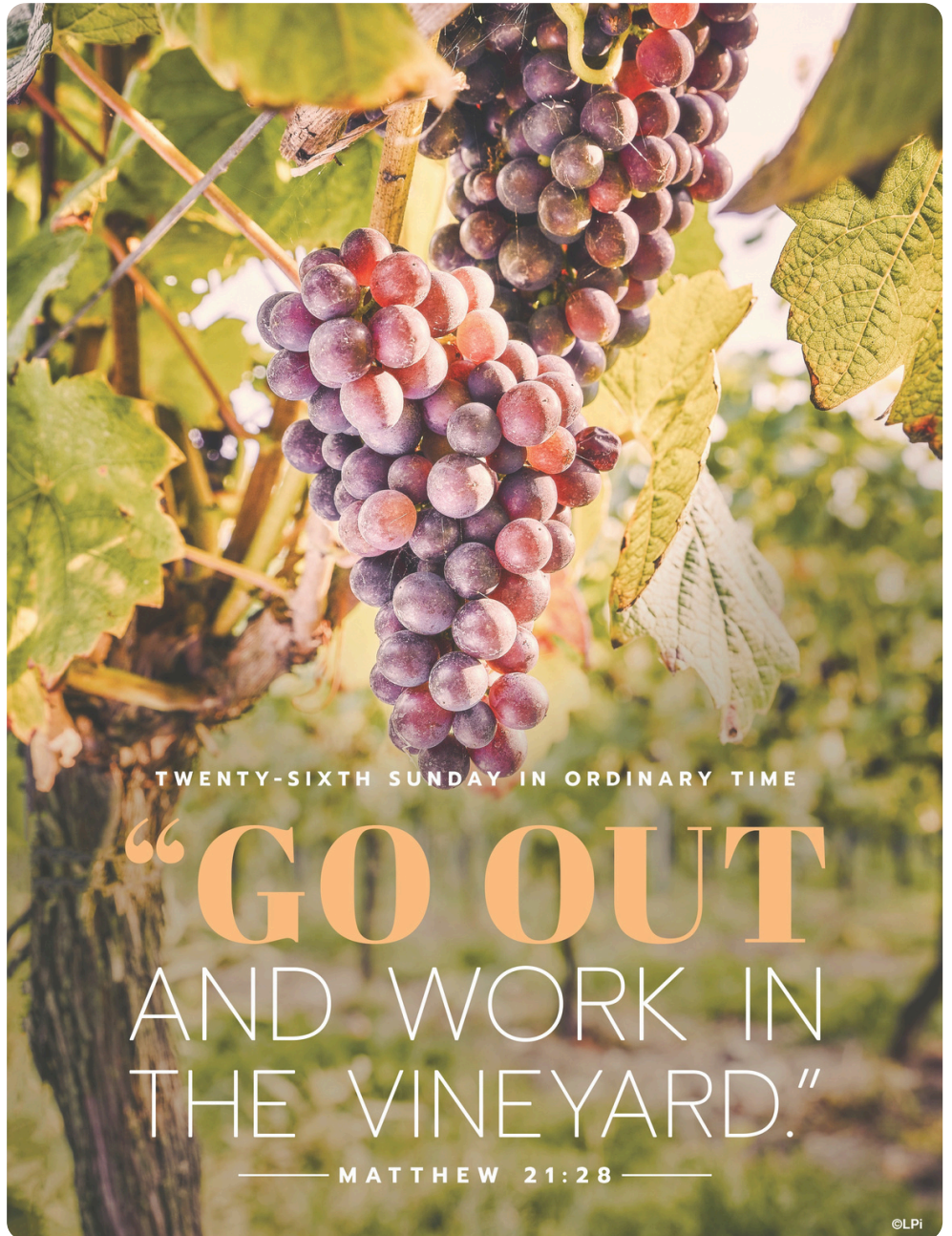
Monday through Friday
8:30am

Lauds

Sunday mornings | 7:15am

GET IN TOUCH

19515 S. 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.

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



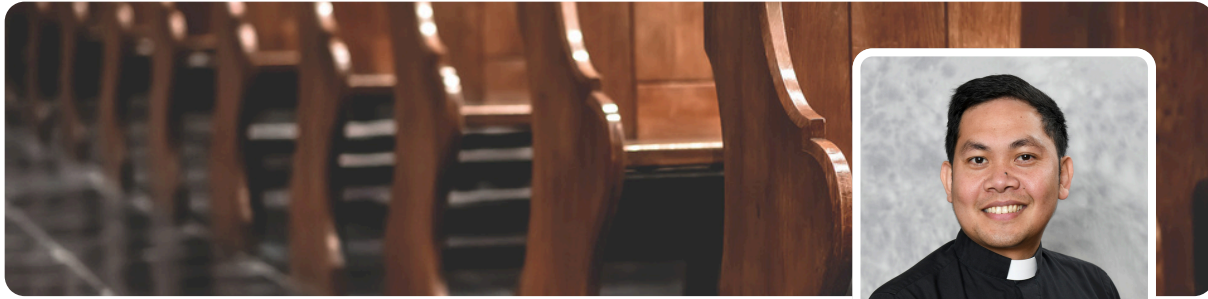
OCIA - Interested in becoming Catholic? Please contact the Director of Faith Formation at 708-326-9313.

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.

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!

Last week, I shared that we would begin a short series looking at the different parts of the Mass and the meaning behind what we do. This week, we begin with the Introductory Rites. The Mass begins as we come together. We come from different homes, families, and experiences during the week: *carrying with us our joys, struggles, worries, and hopes.* Yet on Sunday, we come together as a community of faith. We are not simply a group of people who happen to be in the same church. We gather as the Body of Christ to worship God together. The Introductory Rites help us come together as a worshipping community and prepare our hearts for what we are about to celebrate. *They include the Entrance, the Sign of the Cross, the Greeting, the Penitential Act, the Gloria when it is prescribed, and the Collect.* These moments may be familiar to us, but their familiarity should not cause us to overlook their importance. Each action and prayer helps us turn our hearts from the concerns of everyday life toward the sacred celebration of the Mass.

One of the first things we do is make the Sign of the Cross. This simple gesture reminds us that we gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. We have made this sign so many times that we can sometimes do it without thinking. But it is good to stop and remember what we are saying and doing. With this gesture, we place ourselves in the presence of the Triune God and remember that our faith is centered on the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then the priest greets the people, and we respond. This exchange is more than a simple greeting. It reminds us that we have gathered as a community to celebrate the Mass. We are participating together, praying together, and preparing to encounter the Lord together.

During the Penitential Act, we acknowledge that we need God's mercy. We recognize that we are sinners and that we need the Lord. This is not meant to discourage us or make us dwell on our failures. Rather, it helps us come before God with humble and open hearts. We are reminded of our need for His grace and mercy as we prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries. On Sundays outside Advent and Lent, and on Solemnities and Feasts, we also sing or say the Gloria, giving praise and glory to God. Then the priest prays the Collect, also known as the Opening Prayer, gathering together the prayers and intentions of the community. Through this prayer, our individual hopes and needs become part of the prayer of the whole Church as we prepare to hear God's Word.

All of these opening prayers and actions have a purpose. They help us become aware that we have gathered in the presence of God and prepare us to listen to His Word and celebrate Christ's sacrifice in the Eucharist. The Introductory Rites remind us that Mass is not simply something we attend; it is something in which we participate with our whole hearts. **The next time you come to Mass,** try to slow down during these first moments. *As we make the Sign of the Cross, listen to the prayers, and respond together,* remember that God has called us here to worship Him, to hear His Word, to participate in the Eucharistic celebration of Christ's sacrifice, and to encounter Christ. The Mass has begun. Let us open our hearts and truly enter into it.

Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

With love in Christ,

Fr. Joe Gasta, RCJ
Pastor

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, September 28

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

Tuesday, September 29

7:00 a.m. Confessions (Cancelled)
8:00 a.m. Mass
4:30 p.m. RE Gr. K-6 (Classrooms)
6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)
7:00 p.m. Scripture Study (Guadalupe)
7:30 p.m. High School Bible Study (Classroom B-205)

Wednesday, September 30

5:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
7:00 a.m. Confessions
7:30 a.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. Scripture Study (Church Hall All)
4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-7 (Classrooms)
6:30 p.m. RE Gr. 7-8 (Classrooms)
6:30 p.m. Healing of the Whole Person (Guadalupe)
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Side Chapel)

Thursday, October 1

7:00 a.m. Confessions
8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
9:30 a.m. Deanery Meeting (Fatima)
4:30 p.m. RE Gr. 1-8 (Classrooms)

Friday, October 2

7:00 a.m. Confessions
8:00 a.m. Mass
8:30 a.m. Adoration (Church)
8:45 a.m. First Friday Devotion (Chapel)
12:00p.m. First Friday Mass (Church)
1:00 p.m. Homeschool Meetup (Guadalupe)
6:00 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal (Church)

Saturday, October 3

Coats for Kids Drive (Church Hall)

Respect Life Lapel Roses (Narthex)

7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)
8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
8:30 a.m. Missionaries of Apostolic Grace (Fatima)
8:30 a.m. First Saturday Confessions
9:15 a.m. Militia Immaculata (Fatima)
12:00 p.m. Wedding Anniversary Blessing
2:00 p.m. Wedding (Church)
3:30 p.m. Confessions
4:00 p.m. SMS Trivia Night (Church Hall All)
5:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

Sunday, October 4

Coats for Kids Drive (Church Hall)

Respect Life Lapel Roses (Narthex)

7:15 a.m. Lauds (Church)
8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)
9:00 a.m. The Search (Guadalupe)
9:30 a.m. RE Gr. K-6 (Classrooms)
9:30 a.m. Mass (Church)
11:00a.m. Mass (Church)
12:00p.m. Pet Blessing (Church Grounds)
12:30p.m. Baptisms (Church)
6:00 p.m. Mass (Church)
7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry (Guadalupe)

St. Mary Parish is celebrating

First Friday Masses

as part of the First Friday Devotion
to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

— • • • —

Next Mass: Friday, October 2nd
12:00 PM

The First Friday Devotion consists of:

- Receiving Communion on the First Friday of each month for nine Fridays in a row (*You must be in a state of grace to receive.*)
- Offering Communion in honor of Christ's Sacred Heart and in reparation for the sins committed against His Sacred Heart

JOIN OUR
PARISH
Looking for a church
to call home?

Whether you're new to the Catholic faith, returning after time away, or looking for a parish to call home, we would love to welcome you.

**ST. MARY
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Scan the QR code to get started.

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 28

8:00am: Lisa Gray, Mary Jane Capistrano

Tuesday, September 29

8:00am: Paul and Sarah Wolf, Al and Jackie Becker, Sandy Halper, Bill (Anonymous)

Wednesday, September 30

7:30am: Enrico Russo, Sandy Halper

8:30am: Wayne Sobota, Orazio Castelli

Thursday, October 1

8:00am: Sharon Bullion

Friday, October 2

8:00am: Ted Golebiowski, Dolores Schury

12:00pm: Jose Alvarez

Saturday, October 3

8:00am: Maria Luisa Aburto

5:00pm: Gerald Ihrig, Dolores Schury, Sandy Halper, Dario Petrassi, Annette Morrison, Barbara Sutcliffe

Sunday, October 4

8:00 am: Jennie Buhs

9:30 am: Deceased members of the Spiracino family

11:00 am: Francesca Borrelli, Kathleen Vrablic

6:00 p.m. Matthew August

Pray for the Sick

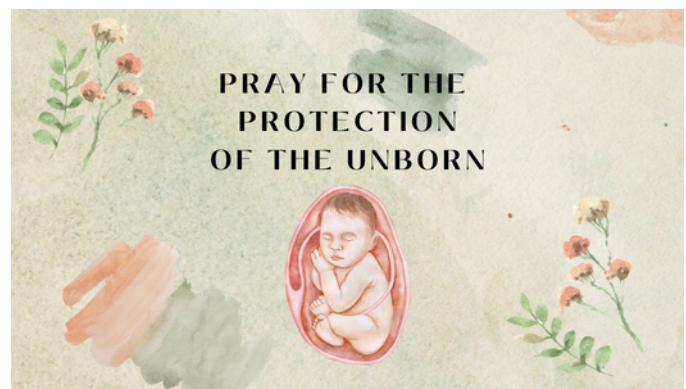
Dan Albrecht, Brett Anderson, Joe, Austin, Tammy Balamut, Lisa Barber, Lisa Bernhard, Bonny Bond, Florence and Gino Bondi, Greg Brazinsky, Agnes Breslin, Alan Brown, Darlene Broadhurst, Rachel Butler, Brian Butler, Francis Bulow, Brenda Castile, Dolores Castro, Bonnie Caper, James Caper, Michael Carey, Monica DiGiovanni, Janet Drobnick, Vincent Felice, Barb Finn-Figliulo, John Finili, Bradley Frank, Marcia Frank, Mary Ann Franson, Debbie Geren, Bonnie Gondek, Jerry Grabowski, 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, Ellie Mae Mueller, Angel Munoz, Pat Murphy, Sue Murphy, Lisa Hunt Nichols, Jim Narel, Celine Narel, Geraldine Nykaza, Catherine O'Donnell, Kenneth O'Gradney, Callie Olson, Bruce Omastiak, 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, 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, Marion Walles, Kathy Wereldsma, Leo Wilczek, Gladys Weber Tim Weber, Jodie Weber, Jonathan Weber, Yvonne White, Dan Wolf, Jerry Wolff, Karen Yaeger, Donald 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
PV1 Logan Grant, USA	MAJ Jennifer Tenumah, USAF
CPT Andrew Jacobs, USA	MAJ Vincent R. Teodoro, USA
MIDN Isabella Judeh, USMMA	A1C Benjamin Underwood, USAF
CPT Kevin Kelly, USA	PV2 Joshua James Underwood, USA
PFC Tyler Kilmartin-Radtke, USA	2ndLt Blanton Vego, USMC
SP4 Devin Klinger, USA	PO3 John David Villaseñor, USN
PFC Mary Rose Krizewicz, ARNG	MAJ Bryan Welch, USA
Sgt Cody Nicks, USAF	MMN3 Peter Weygandt, USN
PO3 John O'Brien Nolan, USN	CPT Christopher Zolner, USA
PFC Matthew Pakosz, USMC	

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.





Saint Mary Parish
MEN'S MINISTRY

All men are invited to join us for our next meeting
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24
CELEBRATING 9 YEARS AS A MINISTRY



October 28, 2017

**Looking Deep into the Relationship
between St. Peter and St. Paul**

*As we look back with thanksgiving for our past
and charge ahead together into the future.*

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**

**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR
OUR MEMORIAL MASS IN HONOR OF THE**

25th Anniversary of 9/11

O GOD OF LOVE, COMPASSION, AND HEALING,
LOOK ON US, IN HONOR OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001.

WE ASK YOU TO GRANT ETERNAL REST AND PEACE TO
ALL WHO DIED ON THAT DAY: THE HEROES WHO SERVED
THEIR COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS THE INNOCENT
BYSTANDERS. WE ASK YOU TO BRING HEALING TO
THOSE WHO STILL SUFFER FROM INJURIES AND
ILLNESSES FROM THIS EVENT. HEAL, TOO, THE PAIN OF
ALL WHO LOST LOVED ONES IN THIS TRAGEDY AND THE
WARS THAT FOLLOWED. GIVE THEM STRENGTH TO
CONTINUE THEIR LIVES WITH COURAGE AND HOPE.

GOD OF UNDERSTANDING, WE SEEK YOUR LIGHT AND
GUIDANCE AS WE CONFRONT SUCH TERRIBLE EVENTS.
COMFORT AND CONSOLE US, STRENGTHEN US IN HOPE,
AND GIVE US THE WISDOM AND COURAGE TO WORK
TIRELESSLY FOR A WORLD WHERE TRUE PEACE AND
LOVE REIGN AMONG NATIONS AND IN THE HEARTS OF
ALL. AMEN.



Giving

**Rooted in Gratitude
Giving with Grace**

The Offertory for September 20th

Online Giving	\$14,089.25
Envelopes	\$19,980.99
	\$34,070.24

Budget \$34,000

**Thank you so much for your
generosity!**

Online Giving

Give your
gift today.
Scan the QR
Code



God Bless Our New Parishioners

The Celis-Lopez family,
The Michael Ryan family



Please Pray for our Faithfully Departed Brothers and Sisters

Barbara Fenili
Irene Okoniewski



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

	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 & John Brett at jbrett@stmarymokena.org, our Directors of Liturgy. Call us, because God is calling you. Will you answer His call?

*Congratulations to
Gabriella and Vincent
Myslinski!*



*Congratulations to
Bridgette and Frank
Pconka!*



*Congratulations to the
Grab family
on the baptism of their daughter
Kinsley Marie*



*Many blessings to the
Green family
on the baptism of their
daughter
Noah Lynn*



ON SEPTEMBER 29TH, WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST DAY OF THE ARCHANGELS.

St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel is **the patron saint of soldiers, the police, and anyone facing a spiritual battle.**

He is known as the **Defender of Heaven and Guardian of the Church.** The Book of Revelation states that **he will be the one to fight against Satan in the final battle** between good and evil (Rev 12:7-9).



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, DEFEND US IN BATTLE. BE OUR PROTECTION AGAINST THE WICKEDNESS AND SNARES OF THE DEVIL. MAY GOD REBUKE HIM, WE HUMBLY PRAY; AND DO THOU, O PRINCE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST, BY THE POWER OF GOD, CAST INTO HELL SATAN AND ALL THE EVIL SPIRITS, WHO PROWL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD SEEKING THE RUIN OF SOULS. AMEN.



St. Gabriel the Archangel is **the patron saint of messengers and postal workers.**

St. Gabriel

St. Gabriel is known for **bringing the news of the Annunciation to the Blessed Mother.** It is from his greeting to her in the Gospel of Luke that we obtained the first line of the Hail Mary prayer: **“Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you” (Lk 1:26-28).**

St. Raphael

St. Raphael the Archangel is **the patron saint of travelers, the blind, and illnesses.**

St. Raphael is known for **travelling with Tobias** (in disguise at first) during his travels in the Book of Tobit. During this journey, St. Raphael **rid Tobias’s future wife, Sarah, of a demon.** He also **healed the blindness of Tobias’s father, Tobit.**



Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, pray for us!

Grandparents Day!



We are so grateful to all of our grandparents and families who joined us for Grandparents Day. Thank you for being such an important part of our St. Mary Catholic School Community.

Youth Ministry Presents



Rosary by the Fire



September 27th 7pm in the Marian Garden

**Join us for a night of prayer,
community, and chili dogs.**

All parishioners are welcome!



Contact Youth Minister, Matt Jung, with any questions.

mjung@stmarymokena.org



Youth Ministry

12 • ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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

14 more spots available, register today to join us!



Join us!
Saturday and Sunday,
November 7-8
at St. Mary, Mokena



REBOOT A LIFE-CHANGING EVENT

This high-energy, 2-hour event with internationally acclaimed speaker **Chris Stefanick** will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with tools to live the life God created you for: A life of JOY!

It will help you rediscover the JOY you were created for, and is perfect for everyone... even friends, family, and children (12+) who may not be actively practicing their faith.



SCAN QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR SPOT OR GO TO:
[HTTPS://BUYTICKETS.AT/REALLIFECATHOLIC/2049095](https://buytickets.at/reallifecatholic/2049095)

REGISTER NOW!

Wednesday, November 18, 2026

7:00 - 9:30PM

St. Mary Immaculate Parish
15629 Illinois Rte 59, Plainfield, IL



SPRED at Saint Mary, Mokena

Special Religious Development
Faith Formation and Fellowship for those with Disabilities

Join our group!

We are looking for friends:



ages 17-21 with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) who want to be part of a faith community.

Our Meetings:

We meet every other
Monday!
Fatima Room
6:00 PM

Contact

Jackie Bueschel
cbueschel479@att.net
708-426-4013

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

Catechetical Sunday 2026

Let us take a moment to thank and pray for all the Catechists and Assistants that answered God's call to serve in the classroom passing on our faith.

The Seeds of Faith in Prayer

May the seeds of faith blossom as you nurture God's young disciples, and may our ever-present connection to Christ through prayer be a joyful blessing for you and the children in your care.



Why do we have a special day set aside to commission catechists?

Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, "Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life . . . her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis" (no. 7). This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity, which is why catechists are formally commissioned by the Church. It is only fitting that we set aside a day to highlight this ministry and invite the entire church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others.

It's almost time to start shopping for new
winter coats for the kids!

KIDS WINTER COAT DRIVE

NEW AND CLEAN, GENTLY USED COATS MAY BE
DROPPED OFF IN THE CHURCH HALL AFTER
MASSES

OCTOBER 3 & 4

STARTING AT SIZE 5 - 20(XXL)

PLEASE BE SURE ALL ZIPPERS AND BUTTONS ARE IN ORDER.

COATS WILL BE DELIVERED TO
MY JOYFUL HEART AND DISTRIBUTED TO
THOSE IN NEED.

HELP BRING WARMTH TO CHILDREN
THIS YEAR!



Contact Donna Hungerford
with any questions
(708) 326-9312



Visit our website
crosscatholic.org/box-of-joy/online/
Questions?
Contact Sue Rizzo
815-953-7228

Return your Box of
Joy to the Narthex
or Parish Office
anytime before
October 31st!

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

CELEBRATING



**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!





IN HONOR OF THE FEAST OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ST. MARY ANNUAL PET BLESSING

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 4
12:30 P.M.
CHURCH LAWN



All Pets Welcome!



MINISTERS OF CARE & HOMEBOUND HELPERS ARE INVITED TO A *Thank you Breakfast Meeting*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

8:30 A.M. IN THE CHURCH HALL
FOLLOWING THE 8:00 A.M. MASS

- WE WILL REVIEW PROCEDURES & ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS
- SHARE OUR PERSONAL STORIES ABOUT THIS MINISTRY AND THE PEOPLE WE VISIT.

RSVP DONNA HUNGERFORD 708-326-9312 OR RESPOND TO MY EMAIL
DHUNGERFORD@STMARYMOKENA.ORG
BY OCTOBER 1ST

Thank you

Let us treat
you!





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.

**Join us for the Rosary
by the Fire for Life!**



**St. Mary
Campaign**

**40 DAYS
FOR LIFE**

*All Parishioners are invited to join St. Mary
Youth Ministry & the Pro-Life Committee*

**Rosary by
the Fire
4Life**



**Sunday
Sept 27
7pm @ the
Marian
Garden**

Stay for chili dogs & fellowship
Bring your lawn or camp chair.



**Next Event: Thursday, 10/8 Morning of
Prayer @Access Clinic in Downers
Grove - 8am-Noon**

Future Campaign Events

Tuesday, 10/13 Morning of Prayer @Planned Parenthood 8am-Noon
New Date: Thursday, 10/22 Men 4Life Rosary @PP Flossmoor 6pm
Monday, 10/26 Speaker Event - Thomas More Society 7pm
Wednesday, 10/28 - 24 Hour Adoration 4Life 6am - 6am

For more information on how you might participate
in the campaign contact Donna Hungerford at dhungerford@stmarymokena.org



LIFE CHAIN

EACH YEAR, LIFE CHAINS FORM IN CITIES
NATIONWIDE TO MAKE A PUBLIC, PRAYERFUL
PEACEFUL STAND FOR LIFE!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL LIFE CHAIN,
WHICH SUPPORTS THE SANCTITY OF ALL HUMAN LIFE,
FROM NATURAL CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

JOIN US ON THE CORNER OF
CEDAR RD. & RT. 30
NEW LENOX, IL
PARKING IN BMO BANK PARKING LOT
SIGNS WILL BE PROVIDED

CONTACT VERONICA ERXLEBEN
(815) 830-6702 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

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

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.



The Council of Catholic Women
The next Board Meeting will be
Wednesday, October 7 in the
Church Hall, Fatima Room at
9:00 a.m.

Respect Life Weekend
October 3 & 4



Donations will be collected in the
narthex and given to
The Purple Project
This organization provides financial
and emotional support to young,
single Mothers in need.
Thank you for your support!



The Knights of Columbus
The next Council Meeting will be
Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00 pm.
in the Church Hall, Guadalupe
Room.

Saturday, October 24
Bishop Spies Burse Dinner
Church Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 27
Officer Meeting, Church Hall,
Lourdes Room 7:00 p.m.

CCW Welcome Back Mass and Tea 2026

Contact Charmaine Willand for information about joining
charm.willand@gmail.com



THE NIGHT OF Hope
AN EVENING OF
HEALING • HOPE • FORGIVENESS • GRACE

With God All Things Are Possible.
Matthew 19:26

Finding hope and healing through faith.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026
5:00 PM

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1214 S. Hamilton Street • Lockport, Illinois 60441

Sherry Anicich, LCSW
Founder of The Purple Project

After the tragic loss of my daughter Alisha and granddaughter Ana Lucille, I was broken, angry, and searching for answers. In my deepest pain, Jesus led me to the prison doors — a place I never imagined I would go. There, I encountered His mercy in a powerful way. What began as a story of unimaginable loss has become a mission to bring hope, healing, and forgiveness to others — including the imprisoned, those who suffer, and all who grieve. I will share how faith can turn even the darkest places into a path of purpose and how God still writes beauty from our brokenness.

You will leave inspired and rejuvenated.

Father Dennis Paul
Pastor
St. Anthony Padua

Since 1993 Father Dennis has used his gift of healing for the sick and broken-hearted and during this event, he will be offering healings for those in attendance. Father Dennis shares his gift of healing to make a difference and in his humble words he shares, "The Praise is God's Alone."

Father Dennis has been a priest for 31 years and currently serves as a Chaplain to the Shrewood Police Department and to his local Knights of Columbus Council.

HEALING PRAYERS
will be offered

RECONCILIATION
will be available throughout the evening

RELICS OF ST. MARIA GORETTI
will be present for veneration

PRAYER • MUSIC REFLECTION • HOPE
A beautiful evening to renew your heart and encounter God's grace.

All Are Welcome!

Sign up online at
PurpleProject.Org
or visit our website to learn more and to donate.

Confession will be offered

St. Dennis Catholic Church
1214 S. Hamilton Street • Lockport, Illinois 60441
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet Counseling Department
will be available for continued support.

chatholic charities
Diocese of Joliet

Hope Changes Everything

JESUS BRINGS BEAUTY FROM BROKENNESS

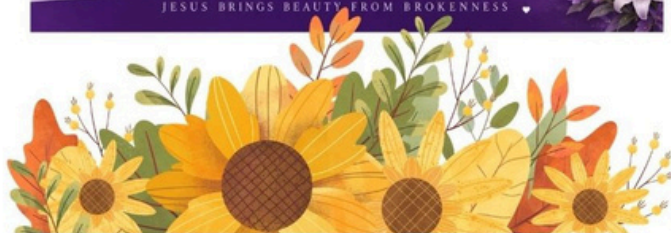
The Young at Heart Club



Our next meeting will be in the
Church Hall on Wednesday,
October 7th
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



THE FEAST DAY OF
St. Thérèse of Lisieux
 IS CELEBRATED ON OCTOBER 1ST.

St. Thérèse grew up in a devout home. (Her parents, Louis and Zélie Martin, are saints!) She desired to enter religious life and became a Carmelite nun at 15.

Her “little way” was to become childlike, trusting in God implicitly. She also chose to fill all of her actions – even the mundane – with love.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux (“Little Flower of Jesus”) is known for her “little way” of loving God.



QUOTES OF ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX

“Jesus points out to me the only way which leads to Love’s furnace – that way is self-surrender – it is the confidence of the little child who sleeps without fear in its father’s arms.”

“Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions ... but at the love with which we do them.”

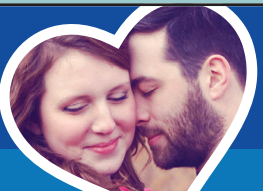
“My strength lies in prayer and sacrifice; they are invincible weapons, and touch hearts more surely than words can do.”

“It is good to serve God in darkness and trial! We have only this life to live by faith.”

She is known for her work “**Story of a Soul**”.
 She died at the age of 24 from tuberculosis.

Because of her “little way”, she was declared a
Doctor of the Church (a great teacher of the faith).

St. Mary Parish has relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Honor her by visiting her relics!
Our relics are found in the northwest corner of the church.

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