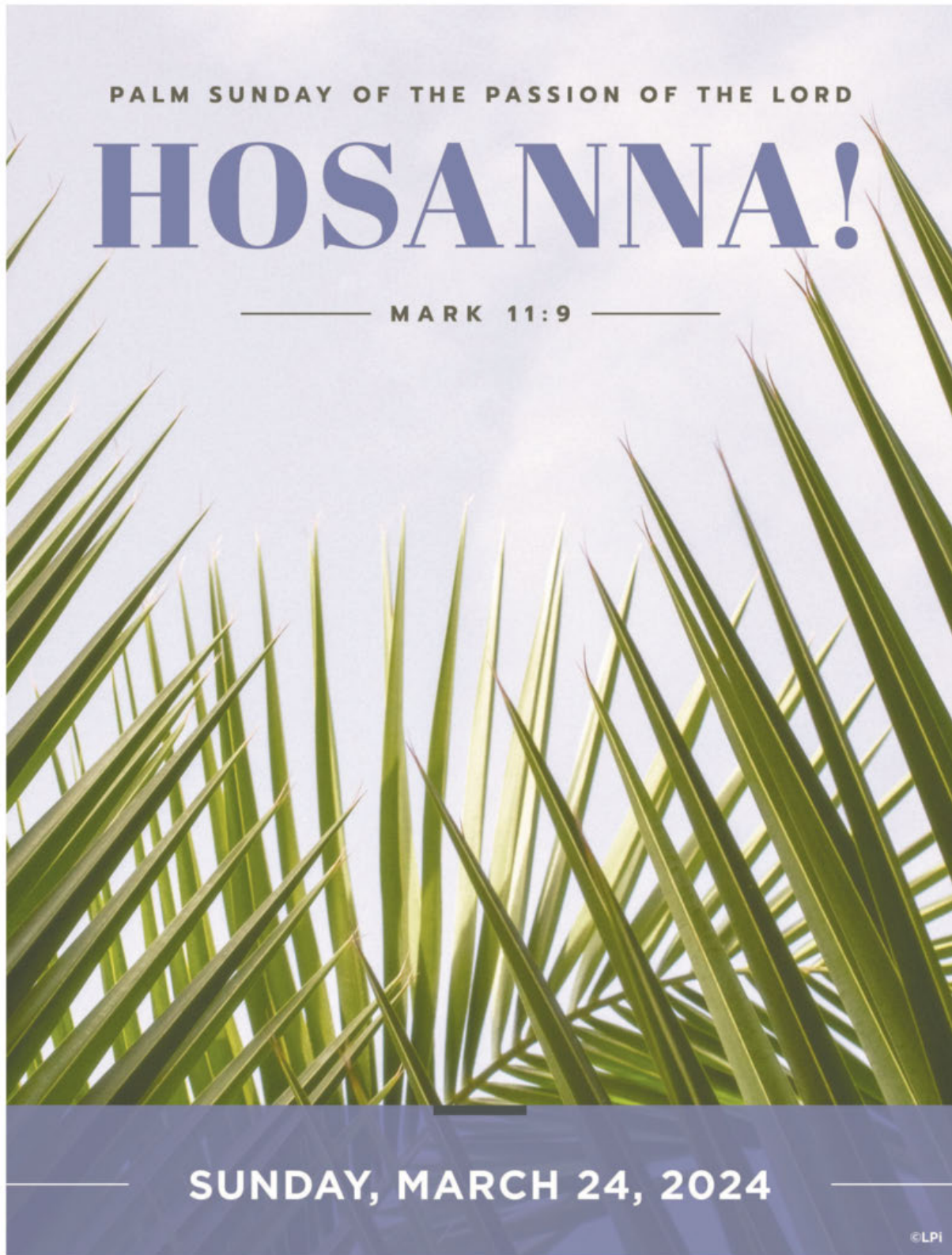


# SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH



**THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS IS OFFERED:****DAILY MASS**

8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, June - August  
7:30 a.m. Wednesday from start of school year until May\*

**SCHOOL MASS**

8:30 a.m. from start of school year until May\*

*\*In the event of our school closing for inclement weather, on a Wednesday, Daily Mass will remain at 7:30 a.m. and the School Mass at 8:30 a.m. will be cancelled.*

**\*SATURDAY VIGIL MASS**

5:00 p.m.

**\*SUNDAY MASSES**

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN - DOOR #3**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

**MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY**

**8:30 A.M.- 4:00 P.M.**

**DEVOTIONS:****DAILY ROSARY**

7:30 a.m.

8:00 a.m. on Wednesdays from the start of the school year until May

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evenings

**DAILY DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET; INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE**

8:30 a.m.

8:00 a.m. on Wednesdays from the start of the school year until May

**ADORATION**

Perpetual Adoration available at Old St. Mary.  
Please contact the Parish Office for the code.

**RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS:**

Saturdays 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the chapel

First Saturdays 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

Pastor: Fr. Dindo Billote

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Sam Conforti

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Juan Jose Hernandez Salas

**Deacons:**

Deacon Gary Bednar

Deacon Peter Manning

Deacon John Rex

Deacon Kevin Plankinton

Deacon Dave Stanton

**Parish Office:**

Parish Secretary, Karen Dilger

Business Manager, Stephen J. Warunek

Evening Maintenance, Dave Bridges

Maintenance Supervisor, Gerardo "Gerry" Iniguez

Morning Maintenance, Thomas Pritchard

Director of Faith Formation, Megan Murray

Assistant Director of Faith Formation, Danielle Kuboushek

Assistant Director to the Clergy/Program Coord., Erica Sestak

Director of Religious Education, Tami Brongiel

Assistant Director of Religious Education, Suzy Olsen

RE Office Administrative Assistant, Therese Gembara

Director of Christian Service, Donna Hungerford

Director of Sacred Music, Joseph Berardi

Director of Liturgy, Bob Cornejo

Youth Minister, Tom Blue

Bulletin Editor, Cailin Valente

Funeral Coordinator, Susan Rizzo

Offertory and Database Administrator, Leticia Clark

Financial Secretary, Paula Perry

Sacristan, Zina Habib

708-326-9307 Pastor@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9304 FrSam@StMaryMokena.org

815-221-6164 FrJuan@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9300 DeaconGary@StMaryMokena.org

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708- 326-9300 DeaconKevin@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9300 Deacondave@StMaryMokena.org

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

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708-326-9314 giniguez@stmarymokena.org

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708-326-9357 Solsen@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9352 RE@stmarymokena.org

708-326-9312 Dhungerford@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9302 JBerardi@StMaryMokena.org

Bcornejo@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9354 TBlue@StMaryMokena.org

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815-953-7228

708-326-9311 Lclark@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9310 Pperry@StMaryMokena.org

Zhabib@StMaryMokena.org

**School Office:**

School Secretary, Charlotte Catchings

School Principal, Michele Alday-Engelman

School Assistant Principal, Michelle Huizinga

708-326-9330

708-326-9332 SchoolSecretary@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9348 Principal@StMaryMokena.org

708-326-9347 MHuizinga@stmarymokena.org

**RCIA** - 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 stop in the parish office to begin this process.

**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 Our Pastor



Question: Do Catholics always need to receive communion in wafer form, or can it be different kinds of bread?



Answer: In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the most common form for the eucharistic bread is the small white communion “wafer” that is a ubiquitous part of the Catholic Mass. The instructions of the Church have been very specific regarding the make-up of the bread used in the Mass: “The bread used in the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice must be unleavened, purely of wheat, and recently made ... it follows therefore that bread made from another substance, even if it is grain, or if it is mixed with another substance different from wheat to such an extent that it would not commonly be considered wheat bread, does not constitute valid matter for confecting the Sacrifice and the Eucharistic Sacrament” (see *Redemptionis Sacramentum* by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, no. 48).

The Church’s tradition of using a wheat-based bread is based on the bread that Jesus would have used at the Last Supper and is considered to be an essential part of the “matter” of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. As we consider the question of whether a “wafer” — which is properly called a “host” — should be used, we also must keep in mind that in the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, leavened (i.e. “raised”) bread is more often used. And so, while the thin, white “wafer” is most commonly used in the Roman Rite of the Church, the full expression of the Catholic tradition does allow for a more substantial form of bread to be used, but the tradition of using a simple wheat bread with no other additions or additives is considered essential. ©LPi

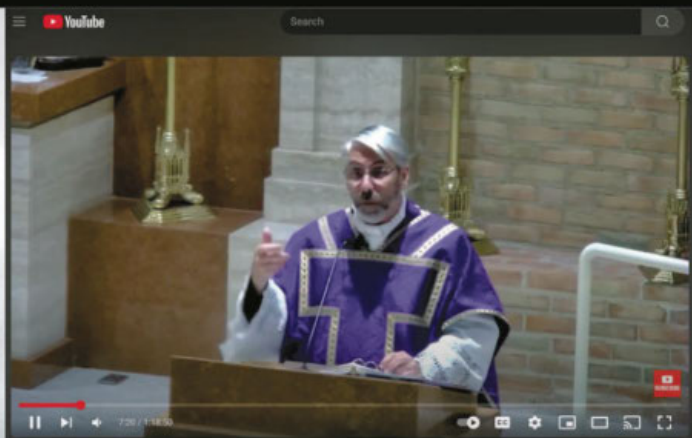
Peace and all good things,

Father Dindo

**Now Available on**  **YouTube**

**Why Be Catholic?**  
with Fr. Ken Geraci, CPM  
**Parish Mission 2024**

[youtube.com/@SaintMaryMokena](https://youtube.com/@SaintMaryMokena)



**We have a special gift for YOU:**

The recordings from each night of the Parish Mission are available to watch for the rest of Lent!

We highly encourage you to take the time to learn from Fr. Ken.

You will begin the Easter season knowing more about the Catholic faith, the Mass, and how to find healing.



## Palm Sunday

### Monday, March 25

7:30 a.m. Rosary (Church)  
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 8:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)  
 12:30p.m. Movie Night The Passion of the Christ (Guadalupe)  
 6:30 p.m. Rosary (Church)  
 6:30p.m. Movie Night The Passion of the Christ (Guadalupe)

### Tuesday, March 26

7:30 a.m. Rosary (Church)  
 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 8:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)  
 5:30 p.m. Adult Choir (Church)  
 6:00 p.m. Finance Council Meeting (Fatima)  
 6:30 p.m. Bereavement Support (Chapel)  
 7:00 p.m. Regina Caeli Choir (Church)  
 7:00 p.m. K of C Officer Meeting (Lourdes)  
 7:00 p.m. Roses of Mary Meeting (Franciscan Room)  
 7:00 p.m. Scripture Study (Guadalupe)  
 7:00p.m. Women's Welcome Meeting (Fatima)

### Wednesday, March 27

5:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)  
 7:00 a.m. Rosary (Church)  
 7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 8:30 a.m. School Mass (Church)  
 9:00 a.m. Scripture Study (Guadalupe)  
 2:00 p.m. Daybreak Cooking (Kitchen)  
 5:30 p.m. RCIA Meeting (Fatima)  
 6:00 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (Fatima)  
 6:30 p.m. RCIA Easter Vigil Rehearsal (Church)

### Thursday, March 28

#### Holy Thursday

7:30 a.m. Rosary (Church)  
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours (Church)  
 8:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)  
 9:00 a.m. School Stations of the Cross (Church)  
 9:30 a.m. Mom's Podcast Club (Fatima)  
 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper (Church)

### Friday, March 29

#### Good Friday

7:00 a.m. Rosary (Church)  
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours (Church)  
 8:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)  
 3:00 p.m. Veneration of the Cross (Church)  
 7:00 p.m. High Stations of the Cross (Church)

### Saturday, March 30

#### Holy Saturday

7:00 a.m. Fit Shepherds (Church Grounds)  
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours (Church)  
 12:00p.m. Easter Basket Blessing (Church)  
 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass (Church)

### Sunday, March 31

#### Easter

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 9:30 a.m. Mass (Church)  
 11:00a.m. Mass (Church)  
 12:30p.m. Mass (Church)

## Divine Mercy In-Home Ministry

This Apostolate is one of compassion, mercy, and prayer. We are available to be with families and their loved ones, who are sick and dying, to pray the Divine Mercy chaplet with them.

For information or if you are interested in joining our ministry, please contact

**Michelle and Paul Sullivan**  
 at 815-995-0480.

"When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as a just Judge but as a merciful Savior."

*(Diary of St. Faustina, 1541)*



Jesus I Trust in You

## March 29th, at 7:00 pm Choral Reflections on the Stations of the Cross

On Good Friday, we will pray the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm as usual. Throughout the stations, the schola will sing a variety of sacred music so that we can better reflect on the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.



## Mass Intentions

### **Monday, March 25**

8:00am: Marian Radek

### **Tuesday, March 26**

8:00am: Ercole and Innocenza Sturino, Baby Judah Winkler, Angeline Bentlejewski, Marge Migler, Betty Purcell

### **Wednesday, March 27**

7:30am: Living Souls in Danger of Suicide

8:30am: Eric, Rowland and Kathy Boucher, Larry Bahnman Jr.


### **Thursday, March 28**

8:00am: Larry Bahnman Jr.

A FAITH-FILLED EVENT FOR WOMEN AND TEENS

## Emotional Virtue

FOR A DRAMA-FREE LIFE



**TUESDAY APRIL 23, 7:00-8:30PM**

Women today are faced with a constant assault on their emotions. Relationships are especially under attack both from the media and the environment around them. Sarah Swafford targets this battle by setting forth a vision for virtue in the 21st century, focusing on beginning with the end in mind, building what will last, and staying off the "Emoticoaster".

Questions? Contact [jdimitriou@notredamparish.org](mailto:jdimitriou@notredamparish.org)

Notre Dame Parish | 64 Norfolk Avenue, Clarendon Hills

RSVP

Please Pray for our Faithfully  
Departed Brothers and Sisters



Marge Migler,  
Joanne Adducci



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

#### PRAY FOR THE SICK

Dan Albrecht, Brett Anderson, Joe, Austin, Lisa Bernhard, Florence and Gino Bondi, Agnes Breslin, Alan Brown, Darlene Broadhurst, Rachel Butler, Brian Butler, Francis Bulow, Bonnie Caper, James Caper, Michael Carey, Monica DiGiovanni, Janice Dobek, Janet Drobnick, Joanne Eaton, Susan Ewert, Vincent Felice, Barb Finn-Figliulo, Bradley Frank, Marcia Frank, Mary Ann Franson, Debbie Geren, Bonnie Gondek, Richard Grabenhofer, Jerry Grabowski, Rose Grunhard, Kelly Hampton, Natalie Haran, Jeremiah Hartmann, Mary Ingala, Daniel Izzo, Richard Junge, Ashley Karr, Les Kazmierczak, Sherley Keene, Bernadine Kelso, Diane Klootwyk, Richard Kolovitz, Fr. Roger Kutzner, Carlotta Lawton, Jennifer Naril, Dan Lahy, Chet Lockwood, Vernadine Lumpkin, Walter Lumpkin Jr., Jay Lutzky, Shirley Lyons, Robert Margalus, Donna Matteson, Jeanne Matug, Bill Maynard, John McGeehan, Joelee McMaster, Heidi Meekma, Janice Melisi, Ginny Meyer, Marge Migler, Rich Milkeris, Angel Munoz, Pat Murphy, Lisa Hunt Nichols, Barb Noone, Geraldine Nykaza, Kenneth O'Gradney, Edward Olenick, Bruce Omastak, Matthew Orr, Babe Podlasek, Ed Polzin, Janelle Portman, Rosemary Purcell, Dave Racine, Eileen Redican, Eduardo Reyes, Sean Rio, George Rohrer, Judy Roque, Barbara Rusin, Midge Saunders, William Schlieman, Dan and Brenda Schmiedel, Diane Schoneich, Karen Singer, Barbara Smith, Brandon Smith, Al Sparks, John Stapinski, Geoffrey Sullivan, Joshua Swarez, Victor Tamosaitis, Tiffany Theresa, John Turas, Judy Turas, Leo Wilczek, Tim Weber, Jodie Weber, Jonathan Weber, Dan Wolf, Jerry Wolff, Karen Yaeger

May God grant them healing!

**Save THE Date**

**DATE NIGHT**  
**AT ST. MARY, MOKENA**

**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL**  
**20**  
**2024**

**MORE INFORMATION**  
**TO FOLLOW**



### **-Parents Rights Matter -**

#### **It is Important to Stay Informed & Take Action**

The family is the central, basic cell of society and our government should be supporting families and assisting parents in the care of their children, not undermining them.

“Following the principle of subsidiarity, larger communities should take care not to usurp the family’s prerogatives or interfere in its life.” (CCC 2209) Here in Illinois, we should be increasingly concerned about parental rights being stripped away by governmental overreach—particularly within the context of major life-altering decisions such as abortion or gender modifying therapies and treatments—through recent proposed bills. To stay informed on these important issues and to take action, please visit this website - <https://www.ilcatholic.org/take-action/join-i-can/>. Have questions? Contact Tom Blue, SMP Youth Minister  
tblue@stmarymokena.org



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Please prayerfully consider financially supporting our parish.

We depend on your support to continue the operations of St. Mary as well as those of its many ministries. We ask that you consider supporting the parish through Online Giving.

For those not currently contributing online and would like to learn how to, please consider signing up at

<https://www.osvhub.com/stmarymokena/funds> .

By doing this, you are saving and supporting the great work we have done and will continue to do in our future.

For those of us that do not want to give online, you can still contribute by mailing your donations to:

19515 S. 115th Avenue  
Mokena, IL 60448

The Offertory for  
Sunday, March 17th  
Will be shared  
In the next bulletin.

Budget \$32,500.00

Thank you so much for your  
generosity!



# Triduum and Easter Mass Schedule



## Holy Thursday

-Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm

## Good Friday

-Veneration of the Cross 3:00 pm

-High Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

## Holy Saturday

-Easter Basket Blessing 12:00 pm

## Holy Saturday 8:00 pm

-Easter Vigil

## Easter Sunday Masses

8:00 am Church

9:30 am Church

11:00 am Church

12:30 pm Church

(The overflow of the 9:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday Masses will be livestreamed in the Church Hall)



## ***Sunday, April 7 is Divine Mercy Sunday***

*Join us in Church*

**1:45 p.m. - Explanation of Divine Mercy – Deacon John Rex**

**2:00 p.m. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Confession and Rosary**

**3:00 p.m. - Divine Mercy Chaplet - Sung by Joseph Berardi,**

**Music Director**

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

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

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

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

"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (699).

### ***Extraordinary Graces***

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

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

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

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

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

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





## SUNDAY, APRIL 7 TH IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY!

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



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

## ADULT FAITH

### MOMS Podcast Club

Join other Catholic moms of school-age children and younger this Lent for conversation on the podcast  
**"Mamas in Spirit"**

**Thursday, March 28:**

9:30am in the Church Hall

*S5 E5: Feeling Disconnected in Your Marriage? with Mike and Alicia Hernon*

Listen to podcast prior to gathering 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



Young women ages 18 to 39 are invited to join the Lenten video series from Paradisus Dei:

*Mysteries of the Rosary:  
 The Sorrowful Mysteries.*

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 26th  
 7:00 PM | Bishop's Room (Door #4)

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/yv6hxxwv> to access the series on FORMED! Watch the episode "The Crucifixion" ahead of 3/26.

Registration is not required. For information on how to create a free FORMED account, or to be added to the email notification list, contact Erica at [esestak@stmarymokena.org](mailto:esestak@stmarymokena.org).

## MOVIE NIGHT

**MARCH  
25TH**

12:30 PM  
&  
6:30 PM



Let us walk with Our Lord during Holy Week!  
 Join us in the Church Hall for a viewing and discussion of Mel Gibson's "The Passion"

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS FILM IS RATED "R" AND REQUIRES ADULT SUPERVISION

FOR REGISTRATION, PLEASE CONTACT MEGAN MURRAY 708-326-9313  
 MMURRAY@STMARYMOKENA.ORG

## THIS LENT BE NOURISHED WITH

*Weekly*

*Lenten Reflections*  
 using the Gospel readings &  
 reflections, sacred art images,  
 and guided meditations

THIS LENT, NOURISH YOUR SOUL  
 WITH WEEKLY VIDEO REFLECTIONS  
 ON THE GOSPEL USING SACRED ART  
 IMAGES, AND GUIDED REFLECTIONS  
 TO HELP YOU GO DEEPER IN THE  
 WORD OF GOD.

*Visit:*

[WWW.STMARYMOKENA.ORG/LENT](http://WWW.STMARYMOKENA.ORG/LENT)  
 FOR THESE BEAUTIFUL SHORT VIDEO REFLECTIONS





St. Mary Youth Ministry

# THE SEARCH BEGINS

## **PALM SUNDAY NIGHT!**

**SESSION 7 - "WHY A CHURCH"**

**6PM MASS FOLLOWED BY THE FINALE IN THE CHURCH HALL**

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR  
TIME WITH OUR LORD.**

**5:15 ADORATION IN THE  
CEMETERY CHAPEL**



**PIZZA NIGHT**



**DIAPER BAG DRIVE  
BE A SPONSOR!**



# 15

**Our goal this year is 50! We  
are at 15 to date. Be a  
diaper bag sponsor for \$50!**

**Contact Tom Blue @  
tblue@stmarymokena.org**

**SUMMER YOUTH CONFERENCES  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS  
FAST APPROACHING!**



Register Here

**Diocese of Joliet Youth Day @**  
Lewis University June 1  
Current school year 7th graders  
through HS Seniors

**Steubenville Conference @**  
Franciscan University June 28-30  
Current school year 8th graders  
through HS Seniors

**Contact Tom Blue @  
tblue@stmarymokena.org**

### From the Sacred Music Office:

I am happy to announce that our long-awaited Rodgers Organ has been installed in the Church. This remarkable instrument will enhance our sacred music at Mass for many years to come! Thank you for your generous contributions and continued support of our sacred music fundraiser. Feel free to stop by the choir area after Mass to take a closer look at the organ.

On behalf of St. Mary Parish, I would like to thank the staff at Triune Music, the organ company that has made our vision a reality. Their expertise, guidance, and unwavering support have been invaluable throughout the entire process. We deeply appreciate their dedication and commitment to ensuring that our new organ was installed to perfection just in time for Easter!

Today, Palm Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy Week. On Monday, March 25th, our St. Mary clergy, along with clergy from other parishes will attend the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus. The Chrism Mass serves as a reminder of our unity in Christ through Baptism and the sacred anointing facilitated by the ministry of our bishop and his priests. At this Mass, priests, deacons, and representatives from the entire diocese gather around the bishop. The bishop will bless the Holy Oils for use in the coming year. The three oils are; Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumens and Sacred Chrism.

The Sacred Triduum begins on the evening of Holy Thursday with the Mass of the Lord's Supper and concludes on Holy Saturday with the Easter Vigil. During these most solemn days of the liturgical year, the Triduum includes numerous rituals. Music plays a significant role in conveying various nuances throughout the entire Triduum. Per the instructions of the Roman Missal, after the Gloria on Holy Thursday, the organ will solely accompany the congregation's singing as well as a few choir pieces. The music will remain somber until we sing the Gloria on Holy Saturday. During the Easter Vigil, there will be a significant change in the music, transitioning to a more jubilant and celebratory tone. We will return to singing Richard Proulx's Mass for the City for the Sanctus, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen. On Easter Sunday we will also use James Chepponis' Festival Alleluia for the Gospel Acclamation at the choir Mass. I hope that everyone who joins us for our Easter celebrations will sing the music with great joy and excitement at the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Sincerely,  
Joseph Berardi  
Director of Sacred Music

## Fundraising Goal - \$150,000







## STUDENT COUNCIL CLOTHING DRIVE

Donate gently used clothing to help All God's People! As you're cleaning your closets this spring, donate gently used shoes and clothing to help the homeless. They need mens, women's, and children's shoes and clothing. There is also always a great need for jeans in all sizes.

All God's People is a local charity that is a beacon of hope for the Chicago community. They're dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of the homeless. Their mission is not just to offer essentials like food, clothing, and shelter, but to also uplift spirits and inspire change.

Additional questions, contact Danelle Bernas  
([dbernas@stmarymokena.org](mailto:dbernas@stmarymokena.org))

## When: Monday, March 25– Wednesday, 27th



**Drop off your donations at the main entrance of the school.  
Let's help those in need during Holy Week!**

# St. Mary Parish Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30

11:00 a.m.

Willowview Park Pavillion

(next to St. Mary, Mokena Church)

## EASTER CANDY AND PLASTIC EGGS NEEDED

TO MAKE OUR EGG HUNT  
PERFECT, WE COULD USE  
YOUR HELP!

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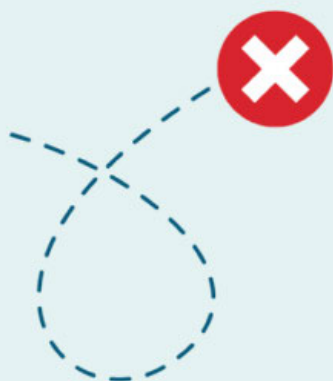
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## March 24—Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday. As we read about the climax of Christ's mission here on earth, we are reminded that He is the Perfect Steward, a model for us all on our stewardship journey.

Our First Reading, from the prophet Isaiah, portrays a suffering servant. The suffering servant, in many ways, foreshadows what Jesus endured during His passion. Even though He didn't deserve such tortures, He humbly submitted to them. His mission as a steward was to fulfill His Father's mission. We, too, play a unique role in our Father's mission by bringing souls to Christ. It simply begins with the witness of our lives.

Today's Gospel shares the account of Jesus' last days on earth, and how He lives them says a great deal about how we should be living ours as faithful stewards. Jesus does many things in these last days, and they all revolve around prayer and service — two trademark actions of a good and faithful Catholic. He hosts a Passover meal in which He gives us His Body and Blood in the Eucharist. He intensely prays to His Father. Lastly, He submits to humiliation, torture and death for our sake, calling out to God the Father in His weakest moments. We might not be called to the same type of prayer and service, but we are all called to commit time in daily prayer with our Lord, and to serve our families, churches and neighbors.

**As we embark on this Holy week, let us take some time to reflect on the life of Christ as He is our model Steward, and may we strive to imitate Him daily.**

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Thank you so much to talented parishioner Carole Rubens for creating and donating these beautiful Easter Baskets for our Homebound Parishioners!

We are so grateful.

Thank  
You!



# ILLINOIS MARCH FOR LIFE

SPRINGFIELD, IL | APRIL 17, 2024



**Save the Date and join us!**

**Wednesday, April 17**

**7:45 a.m. Bus Departs St. Mary Parking Lot**

**Noon Rally at the Capitol**

**1:00 p.m. March Begins**

**6:00 p.m. Approximate Return**

**Bus Fee - \$30 per person**

**Payment accepted in the parish office to reserve your seat.**

**(After March 24th other parishes will be invited.)**

**For more information: Donna Hungerford 708-326-9312 or  
dhungerford@stmarymokena.org**





### The Council of Catholic Women

There will be a Board Meeting  
Wednesday, April 10 at 9:00 a.m. in the  
Fatima Room, Church Hall.

There will be a General Meeting  
Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Guadalupe  
Room, Church Hall.



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

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

### The Widow & Widowers Club

Join us for **GENTLE CHAIR FIT EXERCISE** and  
fellowship the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month  
in the Church Hall, Fatima Room at 10:30 a.m.

Contact  
Marcia Frank for  
information about  
joining this group  
(708) 227-8290.



### 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 minor re-  
pairs 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 respon-  
sible for any material costs, but the Knights would pro-  
vide 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 [neuric01@hotmail.com](mailto:neuric01@hotmail.com)

### The Young at Heart Senior Club



Our next meeting will be Wednesday,  
April 3rd in the Church Hall.

Contact:  
Chris Sabatino for information  
815-954-2278

### St. Mary Blessing Pantry

Our Blessing Pantry will help people keep  
food on their table. We leave what we can  
and they can take what they need, whenever  
they wish.

If you would like to contribute non perishable  
food to the pantry, please be sure all food has  
not expired. God bless you!



# HOLY WEEK

When everything feels confusing, overwhelming, exhausting...

**Jesus is here for you.**



## *Eucharistic Adoration* at Old St. Mary Church

All parishioners are invited to spend time in adoration, any hour of the day!

**Regular adorers who have the same holy hour each week are still needed:**

**Visit [www.stmaryokena.org/adore](http://www.stmaryokena.org/adore) to sign up!**

To receive the code to enter the Church,  
please visit or call the parish office: (708) 326-9300

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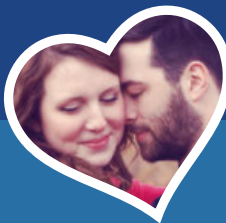
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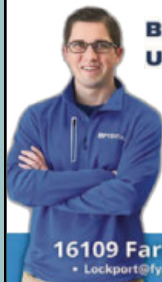
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