



The first time I stood inside St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, its majesty overwhelmed me. The sheer beauty of Michelangelo’s dome seemed to lift my soul right out of my body. Later, I joined the Scavi tour that winds below the basilica, down into the ancient pagan cemetery where Peter was buried. There, in the dim light and narrow passageways, I found myself looking at the bones of a murdered Jewish fisherman, his feet cut off so his crucified body could be taken down more easily. What a paradox. Above me, the most glorious church ever built. Beneath me, the remains of a backwater fisherman. But this man dared to answer Jesus’ question, “Who do you say that I am?”

And crowning that immense dome above his tomb are the words from today’s Gospel,

“You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.”

Within you and me is the drama of the lowest and the highest. Every time we confess Christ, humbly, imperfectly, maybe even trembling, we enter that same mystery. The dust of our humanity, touched by the splendor of heaven. God’s presence and our dry bones together. Humility and glory. May our lives embrace both the lowest and the highest, like that great basilica, as we profess Jesus. — Fr. John Muir

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR AUG. 29 & 30 2026
Sat. Aug. 29 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas
Reader: Don Cureton
Music: Sally Rehberger, Barb Zaloga, & Colleen Lozier
Euch. Min.: Karen Kalous & Joyce Schlemper
Server: Pat Kalous

Sun. Aug. 30 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude
Reader: Debby Schwarz
Music: Nick Worman & Randy Eckstein
Sacristan: Sue Dickman
Euch.Min.: Zach Lewis, Amber Kapp & Karen Knackstedt
Ushers: Randy & Dianne Leitschuh
Servers: Oliver Lewis & Kinslei Kapp

Sun. Aug. 30 @10:00AM @ IC
Reader: Tim Schuette
Music: Nick Worman & Madi Crawford
Servers: Emma Winte & Jack Williamson
Euch. Min.: Barry Otto, John Dea & Amy Gilomen



Reverand Mike Sinkler is a priest of the Diocese of Little Rock, Arkansas. Father Sinkler has also served as a vocation director and foreign missions coordinator for the LaSalette Missionaries. He served as pastor and chaplain in Arkansas. He considers the experience of working with Paulie Girl, his trained therapy dog, to help bring joy and compassion to people both in parish ministry and hospital ministry as a teaching tool of trust, prayer, and love. He enjoys reading, cooking and traveling.

“Unbound invites a relationship first. I am excited about being an enabler and connector to make such relationships happen.”

Mon.	(Aug.24)	8:00am
Tues.	(Aug.25)	8:00am (St.G)
Wed.	(Aug.26)	8:00am (IC)
Thur.	(Aug.27)	8:00am (St.N)
Fri.	(Aug.28)	8:00am (IC)
Sat.	(Aug.29)	4:30pm (St.N)
Sun.	(Aug.30)	8:00am (St.G)
Sun.	(Aug.30)	10:00am (IC)

† **Mass Intentions** †

No Mass

† **All Souls**

† **Paul Talleur** —Int. of Kevin & Jackie Goring Family

† **Evelyn Henke** —Int. of Mark Williams

† **Kade Nicholas Henschen** —Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey

† **Ken Weis** —Int. of Lynn Weis & Family

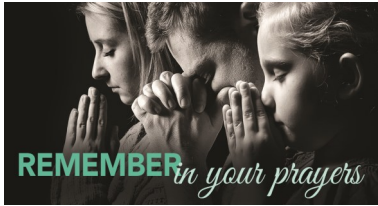
For the People of St. Nicholas, St. Gertrude & Immaculate Conception

† **Agnes & Roland Keller** — Int. of Doris Frank & Al Hartlage

† **Patricia Sullivan** — Int. of Mary Sullivan

† **Stephen Moran** —Int. of the Wirz Family

† **George & Margaret Daiber** —Int. of Larry & Connie Knebel



Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day, and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues. John Alberternst, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Teresa Dickman, Garland Edwards, Jean Fields,

Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Ed Gagen, Karen Grabowski, John Grubb, Eugene Henson, P.J. Hereford, James Hodge, Gene Joliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Barrett Korte, Denny Korte, Gerry Korte, Randy Korte, Steve Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Lubber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill Schroeder, Suzanne Steinbring, Brenda Usher, Marie Weis, Rich Weis, Ginny Werner, Dean Wernle, Melanie Wernle, Paige Wernle.

FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES:
Delmar Knebel, Harold Schwarz, Barbara Weiss, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:
Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Ensign Eli Jones, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerritt Mettler, Jimmy O’Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Schutte, Joseph Schatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.

If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.



UNBOUND

Please welcome Rev. Mike Sinkler who will be with us to celebrate Masses and tell us about the work of Unbound, a lay Catholic sponsorship ministry that helps children and elderly in 16 developing countries. To learn more, call (800) 875-6564 or visit Unbound online at www.unbound.org.

★ GET YOUR TEAM TOGETHER & JOIN THE FUN! ★

YOUTH KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

GOOD FRIENDS GREAT FUN STRONGER COMMUNITY

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH

PIC PARK 208 Edward's St Pierron, IL

★ AGES 12-17 • FOOD • FELLOWSHIP • FUN ★



TEAM INFO
COED – EVEN BOY & GIRLS
8 PLAYERS PER TEAM
ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!



FUN CASH PRIZE
FOR 1ST PLACE TEAM
—AND—
BRAGGING RIGHTS!



GAME INFO
DOUBLE ELIMINATION
STARTS AT NOON



SIGN UP TODAY!
CONTACT KAY WILLIAMSON
618-225-9298
TO REGISTER

\$50 NON-REFUNDABLE ENTRY FEE

★ PLAY HARD. HAVE FUN. MAKE MEMORIES. ★

Readings for the week of August 23, 2026

Sunday:
Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/
Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

Monday:
Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/
Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday:
2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/
Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday:
2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/
Mt 23:27-32

Thursday:
1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mt 24:42-51

Friday:
1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday:
1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/
Mk 6:17-29

Next Sunday:
Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/
Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27



FAITH. FRIENDS. FUN. THAT'S PAPAYA!

PAPAYA YOUTH GROUP

2026/2027 REGISTRATION!



BUILD FRIENDSHIPS.
GROW IN FAITH & MAKE AN IMPACT!



COMMUNITY SERVICE.
SERVE OTHERS & MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



MISSION TRIPS.
GO. SERVE. CHANGE LIVES.



FUN OUTINGS.
MAKE MEMORIES LAST A LIFETIME!



DON'T MISS OUT!
BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER!

COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM

QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO: KAY WILLIAMSON 618-225-9298



STN Collection	8/15/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$550.00
Assumption of Mary	\$105.00
Capital Improvement	\$150.00
Missionary Coop	\$1,149.00
Budget Goal	\$1,276.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$621.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$8,932.00
Support Actual	\$9,150.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$218.00

“Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?” – Romans 11:35

St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot give God anything – He already owns it all. God made everything, including us. Since we are made in His image, we too, are called to be generous. How we use our God-given gifts becomes our gift back to Him. Gratitude for all we have been given opens our hearts to joyful generosity! And, through our generosity, we just may be the answer to someone else’s prayer.

“Who do you say that I am?” Jesus asks His apostles. Peter is the first to answer. He knows who Jesus is. Do we? In everything we do and everything we are, let us say together with Peter “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.”



O.C.I.A.
(Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Who comes to O.C.I.A.? Anybody and everybody! Some of the most common reasons people attend O.C.I.A. are:

A personal call to join the Catholic Church, whether baptized in the Catholic Church, in another church, or never baptized.

A spouse of a member of the Catholic Church who desires to create harmony in the family by becoming a Catholic.

Someone who is planning marriage to a Catholic, and is considering joining the Catholic Church to bring unity to the marriage.

An individual who is baptized a Catholic, but has not received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist or Confirmation; or who has stopped practicing the Catholic Faith and wishes to begin again.

If you know of someone who falls into any of these categories, please let them know about the inquiry session to be held on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd 6:30PM at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall.

If that person wants to attend inquiry sessions, has any questions or would like to know more about what the Catholic Church teaches please have them call Mark Williams at 618-960-3319.



STG Collection	8/16/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$620.00
Assumption of Mary	\$105.00
Maintenance Fund	\$120.00
Missionary Coop	\$569.00
Budget Goal	\$1,524.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$799.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$10,668.00
Support Actual	\$7,509.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$3,159.00

Observances for the week of August 23, 2026	
Sunday:	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Tuesday:	St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
Thursday:	St. Monica
Friday:	St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday:	The Passion of St. John the Baptist
Next Sunday:	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

STN Parishioners: Please note in the August envelope mailing you should receive an envelope marked “Capital Improvement” which will take the place of the annual “Picnic Letter” that was sent out in previous years to defray the cost of the property/building insurance.



For the Church, that priests may build Christ's Church with zeal and fidelity.

For those discerning their vocation, that they may hear the Lord's voice and walk in faith along the path He has prepared.

For our parish, that that our gratitude for the gift of the priesthood may inspire more men to hear and respond to God's call.

Be Part of History

Volunteer for the Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Beatification Mass & Expo
Thursday Sept. 24
The Dome at America's Center, St. Louis, MO

Sheen Awards Gala
Friday Sept. 25
Peoria Civic Center, Peoria, IL

Whether you can serve for a few hours or several days, your generosity will help make this historic celebration a joyful and prayerful experience.

Interested in learning more?
Scan the QR Code



celebratesheen.com/volunteer

Jeff

IC Collection	8/16/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,424.00
Assumption of Mary	\$160.00
Building Fund	\$200.00
Candles	\$100.00
Missionary Coop	\$1,124.00
Budget Goal	\$2,920.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$1,336.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$20,440.00
Support Actual	\$17,867.57
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$2,572.43

KIRCHENFEST

Join St. Paul Parish in Highland, IL in celebrating the 54th Kirchenfest August 21st – August 23rd!



Highlights include:

- Great Live Music
- Games
- MEGA Flea Market
- Live Auction, Saturday - 11 am
- Polka Mass, Sunday – 10 am
- Chicken Dinner, Sunday, (carry-out & drive-thru) 11 am
- Bingo, Saturday 6:30 pm - 9 pm & Sunday 1 pm - 7 pm
- Strassenlauf Run, Saturday morning
- Tour Von Brats Bike Ride, Sunday Morning

Scan the QR Code to purchase Kirchenfest Mega Raffle Tickets with \$40,000 of Cash Prizes. Winner need not be present to win.



See www.Kirchenfest.com for full details.



From September 23 to November 1, we are uniting with many others for another major simultaneous pro-life mobilization – the 40 Days for Life campaign. The mission of 40 Days for Life is to bring together the Body of Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40 day campaign of prayer, fasting and peaceful activism, with the purpose of repentance, to seek God’s favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life, thus bringing an end to abortion. We (Immaculate Conception, St. Gertrude & St. Nicholas parishes) chose to Adopt a Day in the 40 Days for Life Granite City campaign to end the demand for abortion. We were assigned Sunday, **September 27th** as our adopted day, and we need many prayer warriors to join us in this important mission. We will need prayer warriors to pray with us at the facility in Granite City, and we need some praying from work, home, etc. too. In order to sign up for an hour or two of prayer on Sept. 27, 2026, please call or text Denise Trickey at 618-358-3954. 40 Days for Life works because prayer works! Thank you for standing up for life!

“Silence, for our spiritual life, is like the space inside the body of a violin: It is what allows the music to resonate.”

John Bartunek
A Quiet Place



DynamicCatholic.com

August HACSM
Pantry Needs:
Toilet Paper &
Brownie Mix

Pocahontas Food
Pantry Needs:
Canned veggies,
spaghetti & sauce,
canned meat, ravioli,
cake mix & icing,
cereal. All donations
are appreciated!

You are special to God

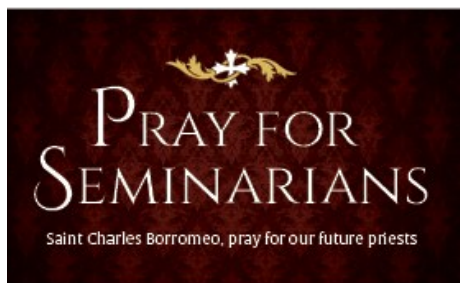


YES YOU
the one reading this

Dive Deep Podcast: The End Times:
Rapture vs. Catholic Truth – The rapture. The Antichrist. The end of the world. Are we living in the end times right now? In this fascinating episode of *Dive Deep*, Father Christopher Trummer breaks down what the Catholic Church actually teaches about the end times — and why popular ideas about a secret “rapture” are not Catholic teaching. From the Book of Revelation to the Antichrist, private prophecies, the Final Judgment, and how Catholics should prepare for Christ’s return, this episode separates fear, fiction, and social media hysteria from authentic Catholic theology. Go to youtube.com/diospringfield or search “Dive Deep” on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe. *Dive Deep* is the podcast of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.



Pray For Our Seminarians
Dennis Trickey
Pastoral Internship
Kenrick-Glennon Seminary



Springfield in IL Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

97th Annual Convention

Thursday, September 3, 2026

Theme: *Handmaids of the Lord: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

Featuring Teresa Tomeo



Teresa Tomeo is a nationally known Catholic author, EWTN media personality and speaker

Day's Events

Hosted by the Quincy Deanery Council of Catholic Women

8:00 AM: Rosary, followed by Mass at 8:30 AM at St. Anthony of Padua Church.

2223 St. Anthony Rd., Quincy, IL 62305

Main Celebrant: Reverend Monsignor David J. Hoefler

After Mass, travel to The Ambiance Banquet Hall, 5225 Kochs Lane, Quincy, IL 62305. Doors will open at 9:30 AM: Registration and Program, including Morning Snack and Lunch. (Gluten-Free lunch and morning snack items will be available)

Program includes two Teresa Tomeo Presentations:

Morning Talk (11:00 AM): *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace: Discovering Your True Dignity by Following in the Footsteps of Saint Francis and Saint Clare*

Afternoon Talk (1:30 PM): *Beyond Sunday: Becoming a 24/7 Catholic as a Handmaid of the Lord* She will also be available for “Meet and Greets,” Q&A Time, and Book Signing.

Time is allowed to visit Silent Auction tables and shopping at vendors in the morning and after lunch. Dismissal around 3:30pm.

Use the Registration Form with this email or pick one up at your parish.

Questions? Contact Susan Asher, QDCCW President at 217-653-5074 or email asherter@yahoo.com or Gina Wolf, QDCCW Treasurer at 217-257-9966 or email g.wolf@cospq.org, or, Kristi in Holy Family Parish Office.

Join us for a backyard

BBQ!

ST MARY AND ST MARK PARISH INVITES YOU TO THEIR PULLED PORK DINNER

Sunday, August 23rd, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
Engelbert Hall, 1613 Tenth Street, Madison IL

Pulled-Pork Dinner, Homemade Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Coffee, Tea, Water

\$15.00

JOIN US FOR 10:00AM MASS!

Troop 103 Basket raffle and 50/50 available	BEER ON HAND \$2 a cup \$5 for pitcher	QUILT RAFFLE St Anne's Altar Society will draw for their annual Quilt Tickets \$3 each
---	---	---

DESSERTS \$1.00 EACH
Soda Available
\$1 a can

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 22 & 23, 2026



Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” - Mt 16:19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS



REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
PASTOR

SONYA CURRY
SECRETARY

Mailing Address:
PO Box 410
Pierron, IL 62273

E-mail Address:
icpierron@parish.dio.org
Website:
www.icstnsta.org
Office: 618-669-2391
Rectory: 618-654-2789

Office Address:
401 E State Street,
Pocahontas
Office Hours:
Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm
Fridays 9am to 1pm

Mass Times
Immaculate Conception
Wed. & Fri. —8:00am
Sunday —10:00am

Saint Nicholas
Thursday — 8:00am
Saturday — 4:30pm

Saint Gertrude
Tuesday — 8:00am
Sunday — 8:00am