FIRST SUNDAY
OF Advent

Watch therefore: you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

Mark 13:35
This fall we have been focusing on stewardship and examining our lives to make sure we are wisely using the gifts, talents, and abilities which our Creator has blessed us with. Matthew’s recent Gospel of the Parable of the Talents clearly highlighted that our Lord wants us to use our blessings to benefit the Church and its members if we someday want to hear him greet us by saying “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Beginning with Thanksgiving and running through Christmas, we are in a wonderful time of year when our focus is on family, our blessings, and a desire to make those we love happy. However, before we even take our tree and outdoor lights down, our mailbox soon provides us with clear reminders that tax season is upon us and Uncle Sam is beckoning. So much for warm fuzzy feelings.

What if you could have the best of both worlds? Share your gifts with those institutions and ministries which are important to you and also save on taxes.

Now you can and here are two ways to do so.

**IRA Charitable Rollover**

First, you can take advantage of the opportunity to make a difference with a tax-free gift from your IRA to St. Mary’s by December 31. If you’re 70 ½ years or older, you can contribute up to $100,000 directly from your IRA to St. Mary of Gostyn without including the amount in gross income.

**Appreciated Stocks**

A second option for making a big impact is by donating appreciated stocks. If you have held stocks for more than one year that have increased in value, you’ll avoid capital gains taxes by gifting all, or a portion, of the stock to St. Mary of Gostyn.

Should you be seriously considering a gift of stock, please contact your tax professional regarding the tax savings prior to contacting St. Mary’s for transfer instructions.
First Sunday of Advent

During the season of Advent the scripture readings focus on the coming of Jesus Christ in two ways: first, by anticipating the final coming of the Lord at the end of time. Then, as we get closer to Christmas the scripture readings center on Christ’s coming in human history. The gospel for this First Sunday of Advent is clearly focused on being alert and ready for the Second Coming.

In the first reading from the Old Testament, the prophet Isaiah calls out to God on behalf of God’s people. The people have become unfaithful and are filled with guilt for their sins. Isaiah calls on God who has saved the Jewish people in the past. He asks God to come and save the people of Israel. Isaiah calls God “our redeemer” which shows the special relationship that Israel shared with Yahweh. Today’s passage acknowledges the guilt and brokenness of the people of Israel and it shows their dependence on a merciful God who will save them.

Today’s gospel presents the theme of watchful waiting. Jesus tells the parable of a man who leaves his servants in charge while he goes on a journey, and then he returns unexpectedly. Jesus uses this story to teach about the importance of an attitude of watchfulness and being ready when the Lord comes.

The Second Coming: Advent is the season that leads up to and prepares us for Christmas. We anticipate the birth of the Lord, the presence of God among us. During Advent we also look forward to the Second Coming of Jesus at the end of time. As believers we look forward to the Second Coming of Christ with hope. We live with the joyful expectation of living with Jesus forever in glory. The season of Advent reminds us to be ready because we do not know the hour or the day. The end time may be upon us at any moment. We anticipate the Second Coming of Christ with hope and joy because we believe that Jesus will come to bring an end to suffering and death, he will bring the fullness of God’s kingdom. As we wait in joyful anticipation we pray with the early Christians, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

* What do we prepare for during the season of Advent?
* Why do believers look forward to the Second Coming of Christ with hope?
* What will Jesus bring when he comes again in glory?

Blessed Are You Among Women
The Immaculate Conception of Mary

An essential part of God’s plan for the mother of his Son was that she be conceived free from Original Sin. “Through the centuries the Church became ever more aware that Mary, ‘full of grace’ through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception” (CCC, no. 491). In anticipation that she was to bear the Son of God, Mary was preserved from the time of her conception from Original Sin. We call this the Immaculate Conception. No sin would touch her, so that she would be a fitting and worthy vessel of the Son of God. The Immaculate Conception does not refer to the virginal conception and birth of Christ but rather to Mary’s being conceived without inheriting Original Sin.

In the course of time, the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception became more precisely enunciated, as its truth—long supported by the universal popular devotion of the faithful—was better understood by deepening theological inquiry. In 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed this dogma infallibly: that is, in his rote as supreme teacher of the Church, he declared that this doctrine is divinely revealed and must be accepted with faith by the entire Church.

We celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary, patronal feast day of the United States of America, this Friday, December 8. It is a Holy Day of Obligation, so faithful are bound to participate in the Mass on that day.
The season of Advent is upon us, and in today’s Gospel Jesus delivers a simple message through the pen of Saint Mark: “Be watchful! Be alert!” Christian stewards understand what Jesus meant when he said, “It’s like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task.” Good stewards realize that to each one a task is assigned by God. They have been set in a particular place and station in life, and have been gifted with unique relationships. How do we respond to the tasks or cultivate our relationships in a way that keeps us alert for the return of Christ?

Stewardship

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Collection 11/19/2017 $32,098.53
Weekly Collection 11/26/2017 $29,269.45
Weekly Goal (Fiscal Year 17-18) $29,000.00
Sunday Goal to Date $638,000.00
Sunday Collections to Date $608,004.61
Total (Short of) Goals to Date ($29,995.39)

Thank you for your continuing support and generosity.

Vocation Awareness Prayer

LIGHT

Each of us is called to be a light for others.

O Lord, help me know your will for me
Let your light shine in the depths of my heart
that I may know what you want me to do with my life.
Help me believe that you have a special plan for me.

Lord, I know I pass through this life only once;
help me decide how you want me to make a difference.

Like our Blessed Mother, give me
the wisdom to hear your voice and the courage to answer your call.

Above all give me peace of mind and heart.
I offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If you are feeling a call to a specific vocation, pray about it daily, and contact Fr. Shaun.

Do you want to build a culture of vocations at SMG? Contact Fr. Shaun to join our vocation team.
**Advent Prayer before Meals**

Almighty God,

Gracious provider and giver of life,
We anxiously await the celebration of your birth.

Like the people of long ago,
our ancestors in faith,
we too are in need of light,
in need of direction,
in need of your Word to show us the Way.

Our busy lives and the consumerism
that surrounds us make it difficult
to recognize your kingdom and to hear your voice.

There are so many other ways
and voices that compete for our attention.
Help us, Lord, to focus on you.

Bless our family, the food we share,
and the thoughts, concerns, hopes, and dreams
of everyone gathered here.

We pray that you hear our prayer
In the name of Jesus. Amen.

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**Why Advent?**

*Can you give me more information about the Advent season? Why do we have Advent?*

Advent as we know it today developed many centuries after Jesus’ life on earth. Because of the number of persons being baptized in the early church, a practice developed of having another time for baptism besides only at Easter Vigil. Christmas was chosen as another baptismal season. Since Lent served as a time of preparation for the baptisms at the Easter Vigil, the month before Christmas was set aside as a time for that same kind of preparation. Thus the weeks leading up to Christmas became a time of penance and preparation. This is the source of the penitential aspect of Advent.

Combined with this penitential practice, of course, was the preparation for Christmas. The Sunday and weekday Scriptures during Advent recall the centuries of longing for the coming of the Messiah, the conception of John the Baptist, and the family history of Mary and Joseph. Today, the writings of the prophet Isaiah are featured during Advent because they so eloquently speak of Israel’s longing for salvation.

Among the special signs and symbols that the Church uses to recall and enter into these central parts of our Christian heritage are the Advent wreath, vespers, reconciliation services, the O antiphons, Scripture readings, the Jesse tree, the giving tree, the Christmas tree, the creche, gift-giving, and, of course, Midnight Mass. Hopefully these symbols of the season will remind you of your own birth in baptism and your own commitment to living a life filled with peace and love.

— Rev. Paul J. Coury, C.Ss.R.

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**O Come—EMMANUEL!**

December 3, 2017      Page 5
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017
6:15 AM - Donald Jilek
8:00 AM - Our Blessed Mother Mary req. Harrington Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017
6:15 AM - Maria Gargol
8:00 AM - Shelly Amorella req. Mike & Mary Signer

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017
6:15 AM - Joseph Massura req. Family
8:00 AM - Robert Noonan req. Mike & Val Bava
       Ivan Buh

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017
6:15 AM - Vincent Modaff req. Mr. & Mrs. John Sommer
8:00 AM - David Craven req. Family
       Mary Claire Quinn-Olsson req. Gerry & Carolyn Mueller
6:00 PM - Dave Sabo req Rose Vilutis

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017 - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, HOLY DAY
6:15 AM - David Olp req. Family
8:00 AM - Krystyna Bednarz req. Madonia & Toth Families
7:00 PM - John & Eileen Fitzgerald req. Noreen Fitzgerald &
           Joanie Kilbride

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017
8:00 AM - Bernard Chudzik req. Mike & Mary Signer
4:30 PM - Barbara Heye req. Family
       Dorothy Miriani req. Jan Miriani

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017
8:00 AM - Robert Noonan req. Ron & Mary Buchler
       Ronald Rodi Sr. req. Deacon Bob & Donna Miciunas
10:00 AM - People of the Parish
12:00 PM - John Lowry req. Enochs Family
6:00 PM - Peter Cakuls req. Thomas & Evelyn Gianos

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading - We are the clay and you, O Lord, are the potter: we are the work of your hands
       (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).
Psalm - Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).
Second Reading - God is faithful; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son (1 Corinthians 1:3-9).
Gospel - Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. (Mark 13:33-37).

READEINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8
A Warm Welcome

We welcome:
Stephen & Elizabeth Gutekanst
who registered at St. Mary of Gostyn Parish recently.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Envelopes will be available at the entrances to church for those who would like to remember their deceased loves ones during the Christmas season. You may also use a plain envelope, and write your name on the envelope and the name of the person you wish remembered. We will publish the list of memorials in the parish bulletin.

Baptism

St. Mary of Gostyn Parish Family welcomed the following children to the Catholic Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism recently:
Benjamin Thomas Nienburg, son of William & Amy Nienburg
Andrew Paul Gilbert, son of Max & Megan Gilbert

Medical Missions

On Monday, December 4, 2017 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Gathering Place, we will be wrapping all the lap throws that we have made for the Homebound Ministers to take to our parishioners that are unable to attend the church. We need lap throws throughout the year as our deacons will take them to our parishioners.

We could use more lap throws if you can knit or crochet. Please consider making a lap throw for us. This is a great way to use up all the all your extra yarn. It needs to be approximately 36” by 48”. It can be any pattern. Any questions please call Clara Christiaens at 630-971-1702. If you can’t help this month, our next meeting will be Monday, February 5, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Gathering Place.

MAKE ST. MARY OF GOSTYN YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME!

If you are new to St. Mary of Gostyn or have been attending and do not have a church home, you are most welcome to become part of our Parish Family. Please fill out the information form below, and we will mail you a registration form to become a member of the Family of St. Mary of Gostyn! Welcome to St. Mary of Gostyn Parish!

Name_________________________________________________________
Address________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip__________________________________________________
Email address___________________________________________________
Phone Number: __________________________________ (circle one: cell   Home)

Please drop off in collection basket or mail to:
St. Mary of Gostyn Parish, 444 Wilson Street, Downers Grove, IL 60515
For your convenience, you can also register to become a St. Mary of Gostyn parishioner on our website: http://www.stmarygostyn.org/?page=ParishRegistration
Congratulations to the 8th Grade Boy’s Basketball Team!

The St. Mary’s 8th grade Boy’s Basketball team recently participated in the Tom Burns St. Pius X Pre-Season Shoot Out and won first place.

The teams in the tournament included:
- St Pius X,
- Sacred Heart
- St. Luke
- St. Cletus
- Our Lady of Peace
- St. Mary of Gostyn.

Team Members are:
- Ned Kalata
- Kaden Kumzi
- Ben Romenesko
- Luke Tarnow
- Dominic Ullmer
- John Yahiro
- Pierce Walsh (7th grade sub)

Team coaches are: Mark Buh, Dave Drabik, and Skip Paulsen.

Your Holiday Shopping Made Easy with Manna!

We have three sales before Christmas to order gift cards for holiday shopping or to give as gifts to those loved ones in your life.

Order dates will be Monday, December 4th and the 11th. Orders received by 10 a.m. the day of the sale will be available for pick on Thursday by 2 p.m.

Order forms are available for pick-up at the Parish Center, Rectory or School Office. Proceeds from the sales benefit SMG!

Questions? manna@stmarygostyn.org
The following persons have requested prayers from our parish community:

Judith Abella
Abby Beranek
Felicia Bubula
Frank Davis
Mark Gowgiel
Robert Hayes
Kenny Kern
Eddie Mayerik
Andrea Mutton
Mary Ann Papievis
Eliza Skipworth
Hugh Toner
Ashley Wolfman
Silas Bronk
Kathleen Stress
Malek Family

Prayer Requests

Nicholas T. Almeida
Kathy Berg
Ann Clark
Jessica Davy
Diane Goyette
Erinn Henes
Doreen Lehner
Spencer Mehr
Rob Noonan
Eleanor Pecka
Yoshie Snider
Mark Trout
Joyce Truby
Thomas Mendoza
Candy Kornack
Katie Main Hwan
Lois Bach
Sharon Binter
Margaret Corbett
Jim Donovan
Rion Goyette
Bobby Johnson
Robert Lehner
Dolores Mendoza
Fr. Ernie Norbeck
Cynthia Petro
Joey Stefka
Laine Van Houton
Vinny Miroglia
Eloise Schleck
Joan Temborius
Anna Bandur
Bill Brown
Helen Czulak
Dennis Finn
Gen Hadamik
Donna Karlinski
Diane Main
Kate Moss
Ken Norman
Char Ryan
Joan Taggliona
Audrey Waechtler
Kenneth Twardzik
Isabella Tolsma
Bobbie Olp

Gabriella Beirne
Tom Brown
Jean Dahm
Becca Gorman
Hope Hathaway
Joseph Karlinski
Virginia Mates
James Murawski
Daniel Oliver
Tom Salansky
Sharon Tallerico
Loretta Wies
Frank Colonna
Don Nietzel
Teresa Druzgala-Heaver

In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the families of
Kathleen Bugner
Phyllis Eichhorn
John Flannery, father of Mike Flannery
Walter F. Kempa
Anna Medek
Tina Pua, wife of Gregory Pua
Mary Regan, sister of Fr. John Regan
Edward Resh, brother of Dick Resh

Pray for our Military

Let us pray for all of our military personnel, especially the men and women of our parish who are serving in harm’s way:

Jason Weeks
Kevin Braasch
Michael Martel
Natalya Brechlin
John Svoboda
Christopher Fountain
Nathan Kijowski
Bob Lang
Zachary Frana
Timothy Randazzo
Christopher Randazzo
Kyle Ng

St. Mary of Gostyn Ministry to the Homebound

Do you have a homebound family member, friend, or neighbor who would like to receive the Eucharist on Sunday mornings?
If so, please have them contact Deacon Bob at the Parish Center at 630/960-1063, ext 244.
A Minister to the Homebound will be happy to visit them.
First Friday visits are also offered.

Nursing Home/Hospital Visitation

Notify the Rectory, (630) 969-1063, if you or a family member want a pastoral visit while in a healthcare facility. Without such notification, the rectory has no method of knowing who wants visitation.
(please also see the tables at every church entrance for consent forms for healthcare facilities to notify the rectory of request for visitation).
During Advent in Religious Education all of Grades 3-8 will have an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession. We ask parents to talk with their children before hand and answer any questions or concerns they might have. If they forget anything, the priests are so good at helping them with anything. Parents are open to join us.

- December 6 & 7 will be for Grades 3-5
- December 13 & 14 will be for Grades 6-8

After Advent, Reconciliation will be offered for the first time on
- January 8 & 9 is First Reconciliation

Religious Education Dates
Please pay attention to the following dates on your calendar.
- December 3 First Sunday of Advent.
- December 6 & 7 RE and Confirmation Sessions. Advent Reconciliation for Grades 3-5. Parents/Adults welcome to join us.
- December 6 & 7 Don’t forget to bring toys for the Sharing Connections Toy Drive. Bring new toys for children age 7 & up. Winter apparel is welcome as well.
- December 13 & 14 Advent Reconciliation for Grades 3-5. Parents/Adults welcome to join us.

RE Giving Opportunities
We are asking our RE Families and anyone interested to join in some opportunities to give,
- We are joining in the annual Toy Drive with the school families. The drive will take place on December 6 & 7. Please bring toys to RE. There is no need for infant and toddler toys but a real need for toys for children age 7 and over, as well as winter apparel. All the toys will be distributed to Sharing Connections.
- We will be doing a non-perishable food drive in January or February.
Gather, grow and gain wisdom with a vision towards happiness and well-being.
All Women welcome!
Thursday Mornings 9:00
Beginning January 11
In the Gathering Place

Questions or to pre-register:
Kelly at kjohnson@stmarygostyn.org or www.stmarygostyn.org
Faith Formation - Café Women Study tab

Wisdom

There’s certainly a lot to prepare for during Advent. Time will go by quickly and it could easily pass without an encounter with, or preparation for the arrival of Jesus. Do more than just shop, wrap and repeat!
Experience the Lord in a meaningful way by participating in our all-parish Advent study. Simply login to FORMED.org (code 8PQ4J3) to view Anima, a weekly video study on the Gospel message and what it means for us as we prepare to celebrate Christmas.

Dec. 20th
7:00 pm
Parish Center
Living Room

Topic: The Gift of Caregiving

Nourish is for anyone juggling the challenges of life, health, career and caring for an aging parent or spouse, either in town or from afar. Find support in the caregiver journey. All Are Welcome!

www.stmarygostn.org Faith Formation-Nourish tab
Presider Schedule for Saturday, December 9th and Sunday, December 10th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Times</th>
<th>Presider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 4:30 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and Altar Servers, please consult your online personal schedule and email reminders for assignments.

MEMORIAL GIVING CARDS

Attending wake services can be a very stressful time for all parties concerned. As visitors, we generally try and buoy the emotions of the family that lost a loved one by sharing stories, experiences, and anecdotes about how much the deceased had touched our life. We genuinely celebrate the impact the departed made in the success of the organizations they worked at or participated in. You want to be comforting, but words fail. You want a remembrance that is lasting, but flowers wilt.

Often times, funeral announcements will convey family wishes that, in lieu of sending flowers, those inclined to such a gesture be given the opportunity to support a cause near and dear to the heart of the person who has gone on to his/her eternal reward. Examples include the American Cancer Society, St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, or a local Hospice organization. In addition, families often designate a school or parish to receive such funds.

We are pleased to announce that if you choose to honor a loved one to whom St. Mary of Gostyn Parish or School has been major influences in their life, our local funeral homes now have cards available to carry out those wishes. We have met with officials from Adams, Winterfield, & Sullivan, Toon, Hallowell & James, Modell, and Knollcrest Funeral Homes. All you need to do when making arrangements for a loved one is tell them you prefer St. Mary’s Parish or School be the recipient of monetary expressions of grief.

SAVE THE DATE

Women’s

The women of CRHP #33 hope that you will prayerfully consider joining them for CRHP #34 on the weekend of February 24th to 25th.

For information or to register, please contact Carolina Menapace at cmenapace@gmail.com.
Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital
Volunteers Needed
Catholic Communion Ministry
Good Samaritan Hospital – Downers Grove
Contact: Gail Miskowicz-Retz
Gail.Miskowicz-Retz@advocatehealth.com
or
630-852-5347

ADVENT TEA
WALKING WITH MARY
DECEMBER 7, 2017
Time: 7:00-8:30 pm
Location: Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Lombard
Presenter: Gina Sannasardo
Cost: $20

Join us for tea, cookies and conversation as we explore the life of Mary as our model for spiritual growth in this holy season of Advent. Mary’s life challenges us to trust in God, to offer our fiat, our resounding yes to God, even when we can’t see the road ahead. As our spiritual mother, Mary invites us to gently rest in Her love and in the love of Her Son Jesus as we prepare for the great feast of Christmas.

Please register by calling our offices at 630-852-9000.

FRIENDS OF HARMONY CHORUS
Friday, December 15th at 2:00 PM

Enjoy the beautiful blended voices of this female chorus. Performing all holiday music, we are happy to have this wonderful group back to our campus.

Call 630-852-0345 to RSVP
Villa St. Benedict, 5450 Subiaco Drive, Lisle

NOW HIRING

We are currently in the process of hiring a Parish Youth Minister (Part-time)
For a complete job description visit our homepage at www.stmarygostyn.org/About Us/

St. Mary of Gostyn
Knights of Columbus Council 16062
Presents
Pizza with Santa
Saturday, December 9th
5:30 - 7:30 PM in the Gathering Place
Bring a new unwrapped toy for Santa to take to Sharing Connections for their Toy Program.

BOY SCOUT CHRISTMAS TREE & WREATH SALE
What better way to decorate your home for the holidays while supporting St. Mary of Gostyn’s Boy Scouts. A wide variety of trees and wreaths will be available to purchase from the scouts in the East Parking Lot. All proceeds & donations help support Troop 89. The lot is open from November 24th thru December 17th. Hours are: Sat. & Sun. - 8:30 am - 8:30 pm, Weekdays: 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm.

“SINGLE THROUGH LOSS” GATHERING
FOR MEN AND WOMEN ON DECEMBER 9, 2017
After the loss of a spouse through death or divorce, even those well on their way to an adjusted lifestyle can find the holiday season challenging. Please join us on Saturday, December 9 for a festive Christmas tea and a presentation by Sr. Joanne Vallero, CSJ, pastoral associate at St. Dennis Parish in Lockport, entitled “Holy Season, Sacred Journey”. The program begins 1 pm (check-in starts at 12:30 pm) and concludes with a Vigil Mass at 4 pm.

This event will take place at the Blanchette Catholic Center in Crest Hill. The $15 fee can be paid at the door with cash or a check payable to Diocese of Joliet. To register, call 815-838-5334, email familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org or register online at http://conta.cc/2hkJLiU. Reservations are required by December 1.

ADVENT REFLECTION WITH SISTER MARY BRATROVSKY
THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LINEAGE OF JESUS
Saturday, December 9 (9 - 11 a.m.) or
Tuesday, December 12 (7 - 9 p.m.)

What role do the ancestors of Jesus play in the unfolding of the mystery of Jesus and His teaching?
Sacred Heart Monastery, 1910 Maple, Lisle
This Week

Monday / 4
9:00 AM Medical Missions Gathering Place
2:30 PM Daisy Troop #55326 Gath. Pl. A
3:00 PM Basketball Gym
6:30 PM Rosary Church
7:00 PM Band Concert Gym
7:00 PM Boy Scouts Gathering Place
7:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal Church

Tuesday / 5
9:30 AM Tiny Toes Music Underground
3:00 PM Basketball Gym
6:30 PM Legion of Mary Small Conf. Rm.
6:30 PM Prayer Group Chapel
7:00 PM HSA - New Family Night Gathering Place

Wednesday / 6
11:30 AM Golden Agers Gathering Place
3:00 PM Basketball Gym
4:30 PM Religious Education School/Ch/CH
6:30 PM 6PM Choir Rehearsal Gath. Pl. C
6:30 PM Religious Education Sch/Ch/GP/CH
7:00 PM Evangelization Committee Large Conf. Rm.

Thursday / 7
1:15 PM Small Christian Communities Living Room
3:00 PM Basketball Gym
4:30 PM Religious Education Sch/Ch/GP/CH
5:45 PM Children’s Choir Rehearsal Gath. Pl. C
7:00 PM 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal Church
7:00 PM Baptism Prep. Large Conf. Rm.
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Gath. Pl. A

Friday / 8
3:00 PM Basketball Gym
5:00 PM PADS Gathering Place

Saturday / 9
12:00 AM PADS Gathering Place
8:00 AM Basketball Gym
8:30 AM CRHP #17 - Women Chapel
5:30 PM Pizza with Santa Gathering Place

Sunday / 10
8:00 AM Liturgy of the Word Gath. Pl. B & C
8:00 AM RCIA Underground
1:00 PM Basketball Gym
1:30 PM Baptism Church
4:30 PM 6:00 Choir Rehearsal Church
8:00 PM Men’s Basketball Gym

Oplatki is now available at the Rectory and Parish Center offices.
NEW PARISHIONERS: We are happy to welcome new members to our community, and encourage you to register either in person at the Rectory, or register online through our website, www.stmarygostyn.org.

BAPTISMS: St. Mary of Gostyn offers baptismal preparation sessions on a monthly basis. If this is your first child or it has been more than five years since you attended a baptismal preparation session at St. Mary’s or another parish, you will need to participate in a session before you can receive a date for your baby’s baptism.

Parents are the first and primary educators in the practice of the Faith. Godparents play an important role in the faith life of your child. While considering godparents for your child, be aware that at least one must be a baptized and confirmed Catholic who is active in his/her faith. Please call the parish office at 630-969-1063 to register for a preparation class and to schedule a baptismal date.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of welcoming and preparing adults for the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation - for full membership in the Catholic Church. Unbaptized adults, adults baptized in another Christian faith, and baptized Catholics with little or no formal religious education are invited to participate. Please call the rectory for further information.

ANNULMENTS: We are available to help anyone who is in need of information about how to apply for an annulment. Please contact the rectory at (630)969-1063.

LITURGY of HOURS: Morning Prayer (Lauds) is prayed Monday through Saturday following the morning liturgies.

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING: The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is available at regularly scheduled liturgies throughout the year, or by appointment. You may ask the presiding priest before any Mass for an anointing. Communal Anointing Masses are held on the 1st Saturday of the month in August, December and April at the 8:00 AM Mass.

The Eucharist will also be brought to those who are ill, upon request. Please notify the Rectory if members of your family are in the hospital or homebound.

FUNERALS: Arrangements are usually made by the Funeral Home or by a family member. A member of our Bereavement team will meet with you to plan the Funeral Liturgy. Eulogies can be given at the Wake Service, Interment at the Cemetery or at the Funeral Luncheon, but not at the Mass of Christian Burial.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance to provide ample time for preparation of this sacrament.

PRAYER GROUPS: Monday evenings at 7:15 PM in the Parish Center; Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center chapel.

ROSARY DEVOTION: Monday through Saturday, 7:30 AM in the church; Rosary will begin at 6:30 PM on Monday evenings in the church.

RECONCILIATION: Confessions are heard Saturday, 3:30 to 4:30 PM in church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available by appointment. Please call the Rectory (630-969-1063) to arrange to have your confession heard by a priest.