St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic Church
September 16, 2018

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” - Mk 8:34b
EXPLORE
LIFE . FAITH . MEANING .

WHAT: ALPHA STARTS WITH A MEAL - A FREE DINNER - THEN A PRESENTATION, FOLLOWED BY GREAT DISCUSSION.

WHO: ALPHA IS FOR ANYONE WHO’S CURIOUS.
OVER THE COURSE OF THE TEN-WEEKS, THE TALKS ARE DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE CONVERSATION AND EXPLORE THE BASIC QUESTIONS OF LIFE AND OUR FAITH IN A FRIENDLY, OPEN AND INFORMAL ENVIRONMENT. NO QUESTION IS OUT OF BOUNDS AND YOU ARE FREE TO DISCUSS AS MUCH OR AS LITTLE AS YOU WISH.

WHEN: BEGINNING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH AT 6:00 PM
WHERE: IN THE GATHERING PLACE
HOW: RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY WWW.STMARYGOSTYN.ORG/ALPHA/

Questions? Claire at csimeo@stmarygostyn.org or Kelly at kjohnson@stmarygostyn.org
For some Christian people faith is a given. Faith came in a sudden instant, and since then everything has been clear as a bell! What is more, they speak and treat it as if it were a magic charm protecting them from all the evils in the world while readily awaiting the Rapture!

I must admit to having difficulties conceiving faith as a “thing” we either possess or lack. A living faith is dynamic, moving, growing or waning. Faith is alive in me and tunes my senses—my hunger, thirst, my desire—to behold reality ever more clearly. This is why I like the way Saint Augustine describes the mysterious tension faith is to us as humans: To Augustine faith is not vision; it is the desire for vision. There is within us a thirst which opens an “inner eye” in us to see: “Desire that light which your eyes know not! Your inward eye is preparing to see the light.” In other words, we’re not “there” yet. Like a pregnant woman, we’re expecting: we don’t see the child—we long to see the child.

Augustine perceived this notion of faith through the Scriptures, perhaps even the readings chosen for this Sunday. In the Letter of James, we hear that faith which doesn’t move—and move us!—is dead! In the gospel, we see that faith is no sure thing: Whoever thinks faith is easy once you have grabbed hold of it, should ask Peter! He, whom we have come to see as the very foundation of the Church’s faith, had trouble seeing far enough: “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind [your ‘inner eye’] not on divine things but on human things.”

I am quite sure that this “indictment” directly from the lips of Jesus would have crushed me completely and made me run away “with my tail between my legs,” right then and there! But we do see Peter as the very foundation of the Church’s faith, because he grasped, in faith, the love with which it was spoken. It was a love that helped him see enough to want to follow Jesus up to Jerusalem and the suffering awaiting them there. The road seemed rough and uncertain, but Peter decided to follow Jesus just the same. He would fail miserably again, but he got back up and moved on in the desire, the vision—the faith—Jesus had given him.

This desire is our faith as well. Madeleine L’Engle has said it so well: “My faith is not a magic charm, like garlic to chase away vampires. It is, instead, what sustains me in the midst of all the normal joys and tragedies of the ordinary human life...It is faith that kept me going through the pain at the very portals of death and pulled me, whether I would or not, back into life and whatever work still lies ahead” (The Rock That Is Higher: Story as Truth, Harold Shaw, Wheaton, IL 1993, 176).

— Hans Christoffersen

**SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**

*We* might compare the celebration of the Eucharist to the eye of a hurricane. As we gather each Sunday, storms rage outside around us. Inside this church, however, there is a different atmosphere. We look up and see a shining sun. We see the world as God made it to be. We are inside the eye of the hurricane. But Jesus never intended for us to remain inside the eye of the hurricane. He intended for us to go out into the storm again. He intended for us to share what we experience now with our brothers and sisters. He intends for us to be instruments of peace.
**BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

In 1973, country singer Charlie Rich had a smash hit song called *Behind Closed Doors*. His implied message was that great things go on *behind closed doors*. It’s actually a variation of the familiar aphorism that the grass is always greener on the other side.

Human nature often finds us comparing our lot in life to others. Generally we may feel that our neighbors, friends, or associates were more blessed by God as evidenced by their beautiful home, successful careers, high achieving children, and lavish life style.

But all we see are the material manifestations of how society defines success.

For example, we don’t know whether they are mortgaged to the hilt; if their kids have health or social issues; and if demands of work place a strain on the marriage and family dynamics.

What we lack in possessions often pales in comparison to the blessings God has bestowed upon us with a loving spouse, general good health, contentment with our lot in life, and a rich, deep faith that sustains us during the inevitable challenges life throws at us.

Our parish church is where we go to be nourished by the only truth that will truly make us happy and prepare us for an eternity with our creator in heaven.

Do you have much to be thankful for? Has God truly blessed you with unique gifts, talents, and abilities? Are you aware of just how he has showered you with his love?

If you agree, please consider including St. Mary of Gostyn Parish in your will so that our priests and all the heads of ministry can continue doing God’s work here on earth.

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**Stewardship**

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<th>A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP</th>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Collection 9/9/2018</td>
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<td>Weekly Goal (Fiscal Year 18/19)</td>
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<td><strong>Goals to Date</strong></td>
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<td>Sunday Goal to Date</td>
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<td><strong>Total (Under) Goals to Date</strong></td>
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Thank you for your continuing support and generosity.

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*St. James asks what our love for Jesus Christ can possibly mean if it does not result in action on behalf of, and to benefit, our neighbor. He suggests that faith in Jesus Christ is demonstrated most profoundly in our care for the needy, the suffering, and the underprivileged. Stewardship includes proclaiming the Good News by putting our faith into action on behalf of others. In what ways have we been willing to make sacrifices and renunciations for the sake of Jesus Christ and our neighbor?*
Any Sense in Suffering?

Can anyone make any sense out of suffering? A friend of mine is in great pain, and I find myself thinking that she should not have to suffer so. No one should!

The most popular book of devotion in the history of the Catholic Church is The Imitation of Christ written by Thomas a’ Kempis. It was first published in 1471, and has gone through six thousand separate editions in dozens of languages. Thomas wrote this book as he watched his best friends and fellow members of his religious community suffer and die from the plague. Much of the book revolves around the issue of suffering. Thomas wrote that it was not deep words that made a person holy and upright, but a good life, lived in God’s presence.

Thomas believed that God walked with the simple and revealed God’s very self to the humble. For Thomas a’ Kempis, there is no solution to suffering except to put your faith in the person of Jesus Christ. The Book of Job, in the Bible, explores the mystery of innocent people experiencing misery and evil. In this book, Job suffers great pains and hardships, but comes to the conclusion that faith in God must transcend personal pain and suffering.

Jesus advises his followers to take up their cross and follow him (Mt 10:38;16:24; Mk 8:34; Lk 9:23; 14:27). Saint Paul reminds us that we suffer with Christ so that we may also be glorified with him (Rom 8:17). The Letter of James even goes so far as to challenge Christians to consider trials of any kind as a nothing but a great joy (Jas 1:2). There is no doubt that we will all suffer. It is part of being alive. Our faith in Jesus is the bridge that can lead us over the chasm of suffering to the place of peace that so many of the early martyrs and great saints found.

Rev. Paul J. Coury, C.Ss.R.

Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018
6:15 AM - Tracey Quinn req. Sanderson Family
8:00 AM - Anna & Louis DazPonte req. JoAnn Rodi & Family
Kaneidra Everson req. Margie Kersten

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2018
6:15 AM - Michael Fred Smitz req. Rudy & Grace Alfano
8:00 AM - Kay Selfridge req. Family

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018
8:00 AM - Rosemary Hanson req. Family

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018
6:15 AM - Joyce Mary Hannon req. Szydlowski Family
8:00 AM - Rosemary Hanson req. Family
Charles Barowski req. Bob & Pam Cebrzynski

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018
8:00 AM - Nicholas Janicki Bagley
4:30 PM - Ed & Helen Chodorowski req. Jerry Kolpa

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018
8:00 AM - Charles Belano req. Pat & Ray Mehler
Kevin Bahr
10:00 AM - Ann Rose Burdi req. Bob & Aleena Truby
Gertrude Arndt req. Lawrence & Maureen Vaughan
12:00 PM - Hermina Lopez req. Jerry Kolpa
6:00 PM - People of the Parish

TODAY'S READINGS
First Reading - The Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong? (Isaiah 50:5-9a).
Psalm - I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).
Second Reading - Faith, if it does not have works, is dead (James 2:14-18).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:
Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Ps 100:1-5; Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31 — 13:13; Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22; Lk 7:31-35
Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28; Lk 7:36-50
Friday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13
Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Ps 56:10c-14; Lk 8:4-15
Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-8; Jas 3:16 — 4:3; Mk 9:30-37

Prayer for the Sick
through the Intercession of St. Peregrine
Graciously hear the prayers which we offer to you O God.
We present our petitions through St. Peregrine, your beloved servant and patron of those suffering from cancer, AIDS, and other life-threatening diseases. Grant that the sick may receive help in all their needs through the intercession of St. Peregrine, whose life was so pleasing to you.
Hear us in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

St. Peregrine, Pray for us!
O Mary, health of the sick, Pray for us!
Baptism

St. Mary of Gostyn Parish families welcomed the following children to the Catholic Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism recently:

Grace Harper Barrett,
   Daughter of Ryan & Jenna Barrett
Isabella Robert Campbell,
   Daughter of Benjamin & Elizabeth Campbell
Emma Elizabeth Guilfoyle,
   Daughter of Kyle & Monica Guilfoyle
Isabelle Irene Francis,
   Daughter of David & Holly Francis

A Warm Welcome

We welcome:
Tina Barnett
Andy & Carrie Buchen
Peter & Kathryn Drinan
Joe & Erica Giacalone
Kristen Hughes
Elinor Kannon
Gus & Denise Koukoutsakis
Deane & Ariana Pantaleo
Jen Pirog
Steven & Adrianna Zuffa
who registered at St. Mary of Gostyn Parish recently.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Thank you and Congratulations to Deacon Bob & Donna Miciunas who donated the lovely flowers on the altar this weekend in celebration of their 45TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

GRIEF SUPPORT TEAM

....“And Jesus wept” John 11:35

Jesus’ friend Lazarus died, and because of his grief, Jesus wept.

If you have lost a loved one and you are experiencing the pain of loss and grief, please join the Grief Support Team at St. Mary of Gostyn to share with us and others who have experienced the grief and pain you are now feeling.

Grief Support Group starts meeting on Thursday, September 27th, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM in the Parish Center Living Room. We will be meeting every Thursday starting September 27th for six weeks.

Call Moira Barker at the Parish Center (630) 960-3565 to register. If you have questions, you will be referred to the appropriate person to contact for further assistance.

Interested in a Ministry?

Want to become more involved in parish life?

We would love to hear from you!
Contact Deacon Bob Miciunas at 630-969-1063, ext. 244 or e-mail him at deaconbob@stmarygostyn.org to find out more about volunteer and ministry opportunities here at St. Mary of Gostyn!
Our 5th grade class recently paired up with our Kindergarten class for their first all school mass together. This special tradition embarks our young SMG students on a journey of faith together, as our older students teach our younger children about mass etiquette and, will prepare them for the sacraments they’ll receive in the future. Our little people not only have a Faith Buddy throughout their time at SMG, but they have a friend for years to come as well!
The following persons have requested prayers from our parish community:

Judith Abella, Nicholas T. Almeida, Lois Bach, Anna Bandur, Logan Bannon
Gabriella Beirne, Abby Beranek, Kathy Berg, Sharon Binter, Bill Brown
Tom Brown, Felicia Bubula, Ann Clark, Margaret Corbett, Helen Czulak
Jean Dahm, Frank Davis, Jessica Davy, Jim Donovan, George Drobney
John Duffy, Dennis Finn, Becca Gorman, Mark Gowgiel, Diane Goyette
Rion Goyette, Gen Hadamik, Erin Henes, Theresa Herman, Katie Main Hwan
Bobby Johnson, Donna Karlinski, Joseph Karlinski, Peter Kavanagh, Verine Kavanagh
Kenny Kern, Doreen Lehner, Robert Lehner, Michelle Maloney, Eddie Mayerik
Barbara McCammond, Spencer Mehr, Dolores Mendoza, Kate Moss, James Murawski
Andrea Mutton, Ken Norman, Daniel Oliver, Mary Ann Papievis, Jerry Papievis
Eleanor Pecka, Cynthia Petro, Baby Jackson Ruggiero, Char Ryan, Tom Salansky
Eliza Skipworth, Yoshie Snider, Dennis Stefka, Joey Stefka, Joan Tagglonia
Sharon Tallerico, Antoinette Ambrosino, Mark Trout, Audrey Waechtler, Kelly Walters
Marge Knapp, Jeanne Cinkus, John Rossi, Ray Young, Carol McGlinchey
Ashley Woltman, John Rossi, Bob Earley, Shari, Jodi & Alexis Brown, Fr. John Doyle

In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the family of
Oscar Manzano, brother of Lourdes Malicay

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:

Kevin Braasch, Michael Martel, Natalya Brechlin, John Svoboda
Christopher Fountain, Nathan Kijowski, Bob Lang, Zachary Frana
Timothy Randazzo, Christopher Randazzo, Joe McSweeney

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 630/969-1063, 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).
Religious Education Dates to Remember

Please pay attention to the following dates on your calendar.

- **September 19/20**: 6th Grade Bible Blessing
- **October 3/4**: Living Rosary during Sessions
- **October 10/11**: No RE classes
- **October 31**: No RE Classes
- **November 1**: All Saints Day Mass & Fair
- **November 13/14**: First Reconciliation

Volunteer Help Still Needed

Thank you to all who have agreed to serve our parish as Religious Education Catechists again this year. We are still in need of more, and we hope you would consider helping. Here is where we need catechists:

**Wednesday 4:30 -5:35 pm**
- Grade 2

**Wednesday 6:30—7:35 pm**
- Grade 8

**Thursday 4:30—5:35 pm**
- Grade 7
- Grade 8

Other opportunities are available for Aides, Hall Monitors, etc. Please pray about how God wants you to respond.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word

- Children want to hear the Word of God
- Children want to attend Mass
- Children are precious to God
- This living ministry is such an awesome experience for our children. They hear the readings in words they understand. They sing or recite the psalm with their peers. They pray together for the parish, their families, and each other.

Our search for potential volunteers has brought a couple of people forward. We could still use more! Please open up your heart to our little ones so we can offer this marvelous ministry not only to the children but to the parents as well. Contact Jen Liszka at: 630-960-3566 or religiouseducation@stmarygostyn.org.
September 2018

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

@ SMG High School Youth Ministry

Upcoming weekly Sunday Youth Group Nights:
7-9 PM in the Underground

Thank you for coming to our kickoff event!

Capture the flag
9.16.18

Minute to win it games
9.23.18

Bonfire
9.30.18

Introducing SMG High School Youth Ministry!!

Faith - Fun - Service

We are so excited to launch St. Mary of Gostyn High School Ministry for the Fall of 2018. These events are opportunities for your high school teens to have fun, serve others, build relationships, be a part of a community, and most importantly, encounter Christ and dive more deeply into their Catholic faith!

All high school teens are welcome!

Follow us!

@stmarygostynym  @youthministrysmg  @stmarygostynym
Are you interested in inquiring about the Catholic faith? Do you know someone who may be interested in inquiring about the Catholic faith - a relative, a neighbor, a friend? If so, please call Fr. Shaun. We will be forming inquiry classes to answer questions about the Catholic faith. There is no obligation, we are just learning about what the Catholic church teaches, her history, and her traditions. This is a time to discern through inquiry and prayer as to whether or not you are being called to join the Catholic faith. The classes are open for three categories:

1. Those who have never been baptized.
2. Those who have been baptized but never completed their sacraments of initiation, namely Confirmation & Holy Communion.
3. Those who have been baptized in another religious tradition who now feel they are being called to the Catholic faith.

This process is called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. It is a journey that leads to the Easter sacraments of Initiation. There is no obligation. It is a time of learning and discernment. Our first inquiry session begins Sunday, September 23rd at the 8:00 AM Mass.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Shaun  (630) 969-1063, ext. #212

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SMG Evening Book Discussion
Thursday, September 20  Parish Center  7:00 PM

News of the World by Paulette Jiles

A former soldier is approached to take a 10 year old girl, who was held captive by Indians, back to her Aunt and Uncle.

Everyone is welcome. For further information, call Pat Burton (630) 852 - 2168.

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Presider Schedule for Saturday, September 22nd and Sunday, September 23rd

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<tr>
<th>Mass Times</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 4:30 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
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<td>Sunday, 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
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<td>Sunday, 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Larry</td>
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<td>Sunday, 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
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<td>Sunday, 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
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Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and Altar Servers, please consult your online personal schedule and email reminders for assignments.
JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL WHITE MASS
Sunday, September 28, 2018
11:00 AM at the Cathedral of St. Raymond, Joliet

All Health Care Professionals are cordially invited to celebrate the White Mass with Bishop R. Daniel Conlon. Please join us at 10:30 AM, as we pray the Rosary with special intentions for Health Care Professionals. All are welcome to refreshments in the Commons following Mass.

The White Mass celebrates those who serve as guardians and servants of human life: physicians, nurses, health care providers, along with their families and friends.

Refreshments will follow in the Commons. Blessed Medals for Health Care Professionals and Caregivers will be available in the Commons.

UPCOMING EVENT AT VILLA ST. BENEDICT
VSB Cookout - Wednesday, September 19th | 12:30pm
Be our guest for an “End of Summer” cookout here at Villa St. Benedict! Enjoy delicious, chef-prepared, food and take in the beautiful view of our 47-acre campus from the comfort of our Lounge and Patio!

Call 630-852-0345
To RSVP to any event or schedule a personal tour!

JOYFUL AGAIN! PROGRAM
FOR WIDOWED MEN AND WOMEN

If you have been recently widowed and are still struggling with the loss, or if you have been widowed for some time and need something to get you “over the hump” because you seem stuck in one spot, this program is designed to help you move on with your life while still treasuring your past and its precious memories.

All are invited. The Joyful Again! retreat/workshop is for both men and women (all ages) who have been widowed and are still trying to again find hope and new joy in life. This unique program will be held at these dates/locations. For further information, call: 708-354-7211. e-mail us at joyfulagain7211@gmail.com website: www.joyfulagain.org (incl. video)

Register early, space is limited.

PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF THE TAIZÉ COMMUNITY

This ecumenical prayer for peace among all Christians and for reconciliation among all peoples is celebrated at St. Joseph Church 4801 Main Street, Downers Grove, on the third Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

- September 16, October 21, November 18, December 16,
  January 20, February 17, March 17, No April 21 (Easter Sunday), May 19, June 16

September 16, November 18, and March 17 will include Prayer around the Cross

For more information or to be added to an email reminder list, contact: Bob Valle, Director of Music and Liturgy, 630-964-0216, Ext. 1209 or bvalle@sjpdg.org

OBERAMMERSGAU PASSION PLAY 2020
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Luzern ... Munich ... Salzburg ... Prague
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JULY 8 ~ 18, 2020
hosted by:

REV. TOM PAUL
Immaculate Conception Parish
Elmhurst, Illinois

REV. KEITH WOLFE
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Wheatland, Illinois

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE!
Call the IC Parish Center to receive a brochure or to find out more information! (630) 530-8515
St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic Church

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csimeo@stmarygostyn.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF: 445 Prairie Avenue Direct Line 630–960-3566
JENNIFER LISZKA, Religious Ed. Assistant

SCHOOL: 440 Prairie Avenue 630-968-6155
SCHOOL STAFF:
CHRISTOPHER TIRITILLI, Principal
CHRISTINE KALAL, Assistant Principal
LAVONNE CZECH, Director of Marketing and Enrollment, ext. 211, lczech@stmarygostyn.org
DIANNE CZOPEK, Administrative Assistant, ext. 216
MARY TOTH, Administrative Assistant, ext. 215

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: 630-969-1068

This Week

Monday / 17
3:00 PM Volleyball Gym
6:30 PM Boy Scouts Gathering Place
6:30 PM Rosary Church
7:00 PM Catechism Course Fac. Lunch Rm.

Tuesday / 18
3:00 PM Volleyball Gym
6:00 PM ALPHA Gathering Place
6:00 PM Prayer Group Chapel
6:30 PM Legion of Mary Small Conf. Rm.
7:00 PM Buildings & Grounds Large Conf. Rm.

Wednesday / 19
3:00 PM Volleyball Gym
4:30 PM Religious Education School/CH
6:30 PM 6 PM Choir Rehearsal Church
6:30 PM Religious Education School/Ch
7:00 PM Worship & Spiritual Life Large Conf. Rm.

Thursday / 20
8:00 AM School Gathering Place
9:00 AM Women’s Bible Study Narthex
1:15 PM Small Christian Communities Living Room
3:00 PM Volleyball Gym
4:30 PM Religious Education School/Chapel
5:45 PM Children’s Choir Rehearsal Church
6:30 PM Cub Scouts - Den 2 Gathering Pl.
7:00 PM 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal Church
7:00 PM Evening Book Discussion Living Room
7:00 PM RCIA Orientation Night Underground

Friday / 21
3:00 PM Volleyball Gym
5:00 PM PADS Gathering Place

Saturday / 22
12:00 AM PADS Gathering Place
9:00 AM St. Vincent de Paul Society Living Room
9:00 AM Volleyball Gym
6:00 PM Volleyball Gym

Sunday / 23
8:00 AM Children’s Choir Church
8:00 AM Children’s Liturgy of the Word Gath. Pl. A & B
8:00 AM RCIA Large Conf. Rm.
1:00 PM Volleyball Gym
1:30 PM Baptism Church
4:30 PM 6PM Choir Rehearsal Church
6:30 PM Volleyball Gym
7:00 PM Youth Ministry Underground
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, you will need to participate in a baptismal preparation 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 6:00 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.