33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.” - Mk 13:31
St. Mary of Gostyn School Distinguished Graduate Nomination!

For the past four years, we have been acknowledging the accomplishments of the graduates of St. Mary of Gostyn School. John Tolva ('86), Christine Varga Kalal ('75), RJ Starmann ('85) and Andrew Stapleton ('86) were the past recipients of this honor. The National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) is the governing body of all Catholic schools and encourages schools to acknowledge the success of their graduates.

We are currently looking for candidates for this year’s award. Do you know an SMG school alum who should be considered for the NCEA Distinguished Graduate Award? If so, please complete the short nomination form below and return it to the address on the form. We will honor this individual during a Catholic Schools Week Mass celebration in February 2019. Please submit your nomination by November 30, 2018.

Thank you in advance for helping us find the 2019 NCEA Distinguished Graduate of St. Mary of Gostyn.

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**NCEA Distinguished Graduate Nomination 2019**

St. Mary of Gostyn School

I would like to nominate the following SMG graduate and year: _____________________________________________

High School graduate attended ________________________________________________________________

College graduate attended and major _____________________________________________________________

I believe the aforementioned name is worthy of this honor because of what they have accomplished in their life, what they have given back to their community and/or how they have modeled Jesus in their life. Here are some examples of this:....

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

This information is being submitted by ___________________________________________________________ 

If you need more information, I can be reached at _____________________________________________

Please return this form to:

Terri O’Dekirk, Development Director, todekirk@stmarygostyn.org or

St. Mary of Gostyn Parish

445 Prairie, Downers Grove, IL 60515
We are almost at the end of the church’s liturgical year. The beginning of Advent marks the new year for Christians, but before we get to Advent, we always hear “apocalyptic” readings about the end of the world. The first reading from the book of Daniel and the passage from Mark’s Gospel fit into this category.

Apocalyptic writing is a particular type of literature that was popular in Jewish and Christian circles from about 200 B.C. to 200 A.D. The Book of Revelation is also an example of apocalyptic writing. Such literature originated in times of persecution and crisis when Jews or Christians were severely threatened. It offered readers the assurance that God would ultimately overcome Satan despite the horrors of the present time. (The Left Behind series of books and movies is a modern-day equivalent to such ancient writings.)

Apocalyptic literature is known for its extravagant symbolism (“the stars will be falling from the sky”), supernatural visions (“They will see the ‘Son of Man coming in the clouds’”), natural disasters (earthquakes, famine, fire) and symbolic numbers (seven, 12, 666) none of which are meant to be taken literally. Scholars agree that the point of these types of readings was to encourage followers to stand firm in their faith despite threats to their lives, and to look forward to Christ’s return in glory.

Questions for Discussion

◊ Jesus’ language in the Gospel reading today is very different from most of his other teachings and sayings. What is your main takeaway?

◊ Given the above explanation of apocalyptic writing, do you find it comforting and strengthening or off-putting? Why?

◊ If you knew the world would end in a week, how would you spend your remaining time?

THANKSGIVING MASS
November 22, 2018
9:00 AM MASS

You are invited to join us in giving thanks to God for all the blessings He has shared with us at Mass on Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 22nd, at 9:00 AM.

As part of the Liturgy, loaves of bread will be blessed and distributed at the end of Mass to each family in the congregation to be shared at the family Thanksgiving Meal as a sign of extending our parish celebration into our individual homes. You are invited to bring food baskets to be blessed along with the bread.

Please accept our invitation to begin Thanksgiving Day together as a parish family at the 9:00 AM Mass.

Thanksgiving

Jesus left us with a clear picture that this universe will one day come to an end. We will not know the exact day or hour, but we know it will happen. And just as surely, our lives will end. No matter how many years we have lived, all too soon we find that our life is over. Jesus paints these word pictures and tells us these things so that we can be prepared to meet him when he comes. That is why, after saying the Our Father at each Mass, we pray: “Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.”
Activity Center News

In the past weeks, we have had a meeting with the Diocese Buildings and Properties Commission to share information about our project. The Commission is excited about the progress that we have made with the Village of Downers Grove and the detailing of our plans. We are in the process of working with our Architect to amend some of our plans to ensure that we are bringing this project within the budget that we know we can support. We have invited Diocese approved General Contractors to the bidding process, which we plan to have completed in December.

We also are in the midst of our final Village of Downers Grove approval process for the project. We had our first reading of our petition at the Village Council Meeting on November 13 and we will have our second reading at a meeting on November 20, when, hopefully, we will have the final voting for the project by the Council.

We thank you for your continued support for this project. As of 11/9, we have commitments of $709,000. Please consider a donation to this project as you plan your year end giving.

If you need more information about the Activity Center, check out our information page at: https://stmarygostyn.org/smg-activity-center-renovation/

Blue & Gold Raffle Tickets

Blue and Gold Raffle tickets are on sale after the 4:30, 8:00, 10:00 and noon Masses the weekends of 11/17-18 and 11/24-25 at the Prairie Street entrance and at Fellowship on 11/25. The Grand Prize is $15,000. The cost of the tickets is $50 a piece or 3 for $100. All the proceeds benefit the School Operating budget. Help us reach our goal to sell 1250 tickets this year. Cash or check accepted.
During every season on the calendar, we publish a parish newsletter with the goal of keeping you informed on what is going on at St. Mary of Gostyn Parish. We also want to make you aware, with each issue, of the people in front of, or behind the scenes, that contribute toward making us such a vibrant faith-filled community.

Thus far, each of these quarterly reports has followed a simple formula: a profile of a volunteer (Your Neighbor in the Pew), an article on a parish employee (Meet the Staff), and two articles on topics that are designed to be informative on programs or initiatives being supported by our Pastor and other parish leaders.

In order to keep our finger on the pulse of our parish, your input is needed. If you know the name of a volunteer worthy of acknowledgment, let us know.

If you would like to learn about some of our staff, whom you may speak with on the phone but know little about their job description, be sure to let us know.

Finally, if there is something going on in the parish that you feel parishioners would find newsworthy and would enjoy reading about, let us know that too!

Send your story ideas to Frank Glowaty, our Director of Parish Advancement, at fglowaty@stmarygostyn.org.
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2018
6:15 AM - Roy McDonald req. Sanderson Family
Sam & Mary Easterly req. Family
Living Intention for Krystyna Gnyla req. Family

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2018
6:15 AM - Leo Dardy req. Bostwick Family
8:00 AM - Mary Catherine Conniff req. Romani Family

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2018
6:15 AM - Mary Brankin req. Bostwick Family
8:00 AM - Marie McGuire req. Mike & Mary Signer

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2018
9:00 AM - People of the Parish

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2018
6:15 AM - Linda Kunze req. Calistro Family
8:00 AM - Bernice Seweryn req. Daughters Susan & Cynthia

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2018
8:00 AM - Kyle Mullins
4:30 PM - Deceased Members of the Stenner & Metzger Families req. Family

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2018
8:00 AM - Raymond Vinsik req. Lucado Family
10:00 AM - Norma & Elmer Oesterreich req. Leto Family
Elizabeth & Frank Mayhall req. Karen & Emil Mudra
12:00 PM - People of the Parish
6:00 PM - Frank Bava req. Deacon Al & Carol Agurkis

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading - Those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever (Daniel 12:1-3).
Psalm - You are my inheritance, O Lord! (Psalm 16).
Second Reading - Where there is forgiveness, there is no longer offering for sin (Hebrews 10:11-14, 18).
Gospel - Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away (Mark 13:24-32).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:
Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday: Dn 7:13-14; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33b-37
ALTAR FLOWERS

Our beautiful Fall flower arrangement on the altar was donated by DESPINA & FRANK PENTASSUGLIA in celebration of their 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU!

Baptism

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

Everett Jacques Brzozowski, son of Gregoire & Daniela Brzozowski
Reese Elizabeth Hawkins, daughter of Terry & Katie Hawkins
Grace Marie Schwendener, daughter of Jeffrey & Jennifer Schwendener
Vivienne Elise Walsh, daughter of Joseph & Jennifer Walsh

An Update from St. Mary’s PADS

Thank You from St. Mary’s PADS

It’s the season to give thanks and first of all we would like to thank the parishioners of St. Mary’s for their continued support of this important ministry. Our recruitment efforts in September resulted in a wonderful group of new volunteers who are now serving on various shifts throughout our six SMG teams. A very special thank-you to the families who come on Friday night and help to set-up the site. PADS is able to provide a safe, warm place for people to stay because of the 300+ volunteers who make up our teams. Thank you.

Help still needed on Saturday mornings

One area where help is still needed is the clean-up shift on Saturday mornings from 6:30 – 7:30 a.m. This shift needs workers high school age and older. The tasks include folding and storing the blankets; washing down the pads, pillows, tables, and chairs; cleaning the bathrooms; and washing the floor of the Gathering Place. As with any task, the more workers - the quicker the job gets done. Please consider donating an hour of your time some Saturday morning to help with this task. No need to call, just come on down any Saturday morning and tell the Team Captain you are there to help. You will be much appreciated!

Presider Schedule for Saturday, November 24th and Sunday, November 25th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Times</th>
<th>Presider</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 4:30 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Larry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and Altar Servers, please consult your online personal schedule and email reminders for assignments.
We had our Assembly to honor all our Veterans. We also had our own SMG fathers that served, speak to our students and share some of their personal experience and story while being in the Army and Marines.

Following the presentations, there was a tribute to our fallen Veterans while playing “Taps”, as the students exited the gym and placed poppies on the flag. The poppies represented a flag-draped coffin.

Thank you to all our wonderful men and women for your service ~ we appreciate all of you! And, thank you to our wonderful teachers, Mrs. Cantlin, Mrs. Drabik and Mrs. Ruddy for organizing this amazing event.
The following persons have requested prayers from our parish community:

Theresa Hurley  Dick Dibble  Emil Cici  Peter Caracello  Elizabeth McIlvain
Paul Mintautas  Mica Mendez  Bill Durante  Jaclyn Golly  John Duffy
Spencer Mehr    Judith Bogdanski  Olivia Parker  Tom Salansky  Frank Davis
Buddy Davis     Stephanie Rodriguez  Hailey Hessler  Nancy Miriani  Krystyna Gnyla
Leonard Fisher

In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the family of
Patricia Mika

To request to have your name, or with permission, the name of another, on the bulletin prayer list, please contact the Parish office. Names will be listed for four weeks and then removed automatically. You will need to call for an additional four weeks.

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    Kyle Ng  Christopher Randazzo  Joe McSweeney

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!

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

Confirmation

Saturday February 23rd at 11:00am.
The Bishop presiding will be Bishop Robert Kurtz.

Religious Education Dates

Please pay attention to the following dates on your calendar.

- Nov. 21/22   No RE classes
- Nov. 28/29   Regular RE classes
- Dec. 5/6 Advent Reconciliation Grades 3,4,5
- Dec. 12/13   Advent Reconciliation Grades 6,7,8
- Dec. 19      Advent Mass 6:30pm All RE Sessions
- Dec. 19/20   No RE classes because of Advent Mass

Searching for a 2nd grade catechist for the 4:30pm session on Wednesdays. Start date: November 28th.

No RE classes on Wednesday, November 21st or Thursday, November 22nd.

Happy Thanksgiving
Nov. 25: CARE PACKAGES FOR THE HOMELESS

Please consider donating:
Socks, small toiletries (mini toothbrush/paste, mouthwash, soap, hand sanitizer, mini wet-wipes, deodorant, chapstick)

Small nonperishable food items: beef jerky, granola bars, fruit snacks, crackers, gum,

Gift cards to restaurants (Subway, Panera, McDonalds, etc...)

*All donations can be dropped off in the Parish Center. Teens will assemble care packages during youth group!

SAVE THE DATE:

HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST WEEK:
Advent is a special time of year to gain spiritual fruits, particularly peace and joy. A special mediator of these graces is our Blessed Mother Mary. In her humanity, she responded with virtue in a special way when the Lord Jesus entered into her life. Her response teaches us lessons that we can best learn from her in the history of salvation. Prepare for Jesus’ birth as Mary did. We’ll guide you through Mary’s experiences to shed light on how they relate to your preparation for Christmas and the coming of Jesus.

Join us for this engaging and popular Marian Advent reflection - a prayerful time to draw more intentionally into the season of Advent.

Thurs, Nov. 29th at 9:00 AM
or
Tues, Dec. 11th at 6:30 PM
in the Gathering Place
Around the Parish (cont’d)

St. Mary of Gostyn’s St. Vincent de Paul Society
2018 Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program

2018 Adopt-A-Family Sign-Up

Name ______________________________________________________________
If applicable, please identify the group you represent ______________________________
Street address _______________________________________
Town ____________________________ Zip ________
Home/cell Phone: (______)____________________________
Email: ______________________________________________
Size of Family Wanted (circle number): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Can you help with the program or delivery on December 15? Yes No Maybe

Drop your completed form in any of the red baskets located at each church entrance.

Knights of Columbus Council 16062
Presents
Pizza with St. Nick
Saturday, December 8th

Join us Saturday, December 8th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM (after mass) at the Gathering Place for this annual event. Enjoy complementary pizza and spend time with St. Nick.

Bring a new unwrapped toy for St. Nick to take to Sharing Connections for their Toy Program.
Free will donations accepted, as well.

BOY SCOUT CHRISTMAS TREE & WREATH SALE
Downers Grove Boy Scout Troop 89 will host their annual Christmas Tree & Wreath Fundraiser from 11/23 - 12/14.
The Boy Scout Christmas Tree Lot will once again be located in The St Mary of Gostyn lower parking lot (near the Children’s Garden).
Opening Day is Friday 11/23 from 12PM - 8PM. Weekend hours are 8AM - 8PM. Weekday hours are 6:30PM - 8:30PM.
They will offer all natural Christmas Trees (3 to 10 feet tall); Christmas Wreaths (20” to 72” wide); and Christmas Garland.
All proceeds and donations will be used to fund activities, programs, and equipment for Boy Scout Troop 89.
For questions or special orders please call Rich at 630-215-3409.

St. Mary of Gostyn’s St. Vincent de Paul Society
2018 Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program

Sign-up: 17/18 and 24/25 or until all families are adopted

Gift Drop-off: Saturday, Dec 15, 2018, from 8-10AM at SMG parking lot
Questions? Please call Cathy at 630-241-3447 or email at ihorcathy@sbcglobal.net
St. Mary of Gostyn
Catholic Church

PARISH STAFF: 630-969-1063
FR. JAMES SCHWAB, Pastor, ext. 213
jschwab@stmarygostyn.org
FR. SHAUN CIESLIK, Parochial Vicar, ext. 212
scieslik@stmarygostyn.org
DEACON AL AGURKIS, Permanent Deacon, 630-737-9637
deeonbob@stmarygostyn.org
DEACON BOB MCIUNAS, 630-737-9637
Protecting God’s Children Administrator,
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TERRI O’DEKIRK, Development Director and
Parish Manager ext. 261, todekirk@stmarygostyn.org
KELLY JOHNSON, Adult Faith Formation, ext. 259
kjohson@stmarygostyn.org
FRANK GLOWATY, Office of Advancement, ext. 262
fglowaty@stmarygostyn.org
CLAIRE SIMEO, COORDINATOR OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRY, ext. 256, csimeo@stmarygostyn.org

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

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

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

This Week

Monday / 19
8:00 AM Parent Teacher Conf. Gathering Place
12:00 PM Book Fair L.R.C.
3:30 PM Basketball Gym
6:00 PM Legion of Mary Small Conf. Rm.
6:30 PM Rosary Church
7:00 PM Festival Choir Church

Tuesday / 20
3:30 PM Basketball Gym
6:00 PM ALPHA Gathering Place
6:00 PM Prayer Group Chapel

Wednesday / 21
3:30 PM Basketball Gym
6:30 PM 6 PM Choir Rehearsal Gathering P. C

Thursday / 22
9:00 AM Thanksgiving Day Mass Church

Friday / 23
9:00 AM Basketball Gym
6:30 PM PADS Gathering Place

Saturday / 24
12:00 AM PADS Gathering Place
8:00 AM Basketball Gym

Sunday / 25
8:00 AM Liturgy of the Word Gath. Place C
9:00 AM Social Sunday Gathering Place
10:00 AM Liturgy of the Word Gath. Place C
12:30 PM Basketball Gym
1:30 PM Communal Baptism Church
4:30 PM 6PM Choir Rehearsal Church
7:00 PM Youth Ministry Underground
8:00 PM Men’s Basketball Gym

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever!
Psalm 107:2
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.