First Sunday
OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 2, 2018

There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars. When these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.

Luke 21:25, 28
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) in 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.
Don’t Be Anxious

This Gospel from Luke is read on the first Sunday of Advent, the season we are to prepare for the coming of Jesus, not just as a baby but also at the end of time. It’s a frightening reading about roaring seas and nations in disarray. Jesus tells his disciples to pray for the strength to stand firm, “Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man” (v. 36).

My generation worries, as did generations before, about how quickly the world is changing. We’ve watched technological development escalate. We see the global scope of poverty and the rising horrors of terrorism and genocide. We live in an age of constant alteration and altercation, and we are worried.

Parents today are responsible for preparing children for a future none of us can even imagine. We have no idea what questions or decisions today’s children will face. Yet somehow, in the few precious years from infancy to adulthood, parents must equip their youngsters with the tools that will help them not only survive, but also do well, while revitalizing the world they inherit.

Certainly one of the key factors in facing the uncertainties of the future is belief in a greater reality, and hope in a higher power.

So much is possible and bearable when you believe in a loving God who promises not only to be with you but also in you. So much is possible and bearable when you know you are a part of something that is true and good, bigger and stronger than our chaotic world. So much is possible and bearable when you know you are not alone and can count on the support of others who will be there for you and with you. These are important truths in an uncertain world—important for grown-ups, too.
Activity Center News

Great News! The Village Council unanimously approved the petitions tied to the work we will be doing for the Activity Center. The feedback we received by the Council and the Mayor included wishes for successful completion of the project as well as their confidence that this change to our campus will positively impact our community. This endorsement allows us to proceed into the permit process for the project.

We have also met with five General Contractors to walk through the needs of the project. The bids will be submitted early December, at which time they will be reviewed by a Committee established for this phase. The final bid will then be presented to the Diocese for their approval.

Once again, we thank those of you who have already committed your support for the project. We have collected $790,000 in pledges as of 11/20 and are confident with this good news, many more will be coming in over the next few weeks. Thank you for all you do for our Parish.

Adoration Chapel News

Come visit the Adoration Chapel and see our newly refurbished tabernacle. This tabernacle was previously used at St. Mary’s many years ago and has recently been restored to its former glory.

Stewardship

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Collection 11/18/2018 $30,085.66
Weekly Collection 11/25/18 $30,119.69
Weekly Goal (Fiscal Year 18/19) $29,500.00
Goals to Date Sunday Goal to Date $649,000.00
Collections to Date Sunday Collections to Date $634,757.69
Total (Under) Goals to Date ($14,242.31)
Other Collections Catholic Campaign for Human Development $4,417.05

Advent is supposed to be a quiet, gentle time yet we hear the Lord describing global anguish and the catastrophic roaring of sea and waves, at the end of time. Before the new world comes, the old has to be cleared away. The Lord says, “When these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your head, because your ransom, your redemption is at hand.”
That quote from investor Warren Buffet underscores the value of planning for the future and the importance of being proactive about it.

Planned giving is sometimes referred to as gift planning or legacy giving. It is a way to support non-profits that enable philanthropic individuals to make larger gifts than they could make from ordinary income. By definition, a planned gift is any major gift, made in lifetime or at death as part of a donor’s overall financial and/or estate planning.

With a bit of simple planning today, you have the opportunity to make a gift that will have a great impact on the future of St. Mary of Gostyn Parish or School while, at the same time, supporting both your personal and philanthropic objectives equally. Popular gift planning options such as bequests and life insurance also have special advantages such as increased tax benefits.

At the same time, you can take comfort in knowing that your gift will provide vital future support for ministries, programs, facilities, and initiatives throughout our parish or school.

A bequest is an outright gift to St. Mary’s from your estate –whatever the amount–and is entirely free from federal estate taxes. This means that St. Mary’s is able to use the full amount of the bequest, whereas if it were left to an individual, a significant amount (up to 55 percent depending on your tax bracket) might go to estate taxes.

As people age, they often find that they have more life insurance than they really need. For example, their children may be grown and life insurance that was intended to provide education funds is no longer a concern. A gift of a life insurance policy, one that is paid up or one with premiums still due, makes a very good charitable gift. All you need to do to make this gift is name St. Mary’s as both the beneficiary and owner of the policy.

Planned gifts represent a special dedication to St. Mary of Gostyn and ensure our continued success long into the future. By setting aside a small niche in all your future giving, planned giving enables you to honor the impact our parish has made in your life.

The general considerations above are for information and awareness but are subject to change by law and from state to state, thus you should get advice from your trusted financial planner.

Support the Retirement Fund for Religious.

A donor writes, “Your flyer touched my heart—seeing the retired religious, such memories surfaced.” Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Please give to next week’s second collection.
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2018
6:15 AM - Carol Orseske req. Family
Sr. Xavier S.C.N. req. Jom

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2018
6:15 AM - Czeslaw Gnyla & Jan Rabiasz req. Family
8:00 AM - Mary Brennan req. Steve & Mary Spencer

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2018
6:15 AM - Jerry Papievis req. O’Flaherty Family
8:00 AM - John Jang req. Cantlin Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018
8:00 AM - Charles Hacker req. Ray Hacker

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2018
6:15 AM - Tom LeCren req. Esther Byrne
8:00 AM - Colleen McCoy req. Mike & Mary Signer
6:00 PM - Jeffrey Spratt req. Flanagan Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2018 - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, HOLY DAY
8:00 AM - Dorothy Miriani req. Jan Miriani
Joseph Massura req. Family
10:00 AM - Fr. Don Kenny req. Lucado Family
4:30 PM - People of the Parish
William Benton req. Bob Benton

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018
8:00 AM - Diane Main req. Mike & Mary Signer
Kay Selfridge req. Jackie Craven
10:00 AM - Gertrude Arndt req. Sanderson Family
12:00 PM - Ron Kramnic req. Cantlin Family
6:00 PM - Jim Donovan req. Mary Donovan

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading - The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).
Psalm - To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).
Second Reading - Abound in love for one another and for all (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).
Gospel - Stand erect and raise your heads; your redemption is at hand (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

READINGS 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: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6
Medical Missions.

I would like to thank all the ladies who have made lap throws so far for our homebound parishioners.

Our December meeting will be **Monday, December 3, 2018** in the Gathering Place at 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. December we will wrapping our lap throws for our homebound. If you know of someone who needs a lap throw, please call Kay Papineau at 630-963-4617 or email me at pkppapineau01@gmail.com. I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Thank you helping the Medical Missions to help the homebound with a lap throw and overseas missionaries with bandages.

**Golden Agers**
The Golden Agers will meet on Wednesday, December 5th in the Gathering Place. Doors open at 11:00 A.M. Lunch will be served at noon and Bingo will follow.

Any donations to the Food Pantry would be appreciated. Please call (630) 960 - 2126 for additional information.

**Please Note**

All Parish Center offices will close at 2:30 PM on Friday, December 7th for the Annual Staff Christmas Party.

**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!

Presider Schedule for Saturday, December 8th and Sunday, December 9th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Times</th>
<th>Presider</th>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Larry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
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Way to Go!

We had a great start to the new school year, and it was time to see the rewards of all the hard work. Mr. Tiritilli and Fr. Shaun sat down and shared report cards with our SMG students as our first trimester came to an end. There were many A’s and B’s on those report cards!

Great job everyone, keep up the excellent work!
The following persons have requested prayers from our parish community:

Hailey Hessler        Krystyna Gnyla        Constance McKee-Pinn        Leonard Fisher        Jaclyn Golly
Andrea Hoover         Spencer Mehr          Veronica Tschosik          Declan Robert Bronk    Patricia Hurley

In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the families of:
- JoAnn Eggebrectd, sister of Eleanor Pecka
- Nancy Miriani, sister of Jan Miriani
- Alex Pawlowicz, husband of Donna
- Nora Totaro
- Gregory Wahl, husband of Mary Jane Wahl

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?

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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
Please pay attention to the following dates on your calendar.

- 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
- Dec. 20-Jan 6 Winter Break No RE classes

Confirmation Reminder
Sponsor Forms are due on Monday, December 10th to the RE office.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Join us on the following Sunday’s at the 8am & 10am Masses:

- 12/2
- 12/9
- 12/16
- 1/13
- 1/27

It’s perfect for kids 3 to 8 years old to learn about the Gospel story through song, prayer and activities.

No RE classes December 20th to January 6th due to Winter Break!
Classes resume January 9th & 10th
SAVE THE DATE!

STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE TRIP
JUNE 14-16, 2019

OPEN TO STUDENTS ENTERING 9-12TH GRADE IN THE FALL OF 2019 AND CLASS OF 2018 SENIORS

COMING SOON:

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

Tuesday, December 11th
6:30 PM in the Gathering Place

RSVP: www.stmarygostyn.org
Faith Formation-Adult-Special Events tab

This Advent, don’t get caught up in all the busyness. Don’t get lost in the anxiety of preparing for a day. Joyfully anticipate the coming of the person of Jesus through an encounter with his Most Blessed Mother.

Prepare for Jesus’ birth as Mary did.

See how Mary’s experiences shed light on your preparation for Christmas and the coming of Jesus.

Prayerfully draw more intentionally into the season of Advent.

THE BEST CATHOLIC CONTENT.
ALL IN ONE PLACE.

It's EASY and FREE to Register using our Parish Access Code

Parish Code: 8PQ4J3

Get the FREE FORMED APP

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**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.

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**SERRA CLUB MASS AND DINNER**

The SERRA CLUB OF DUPAGE, a national organization supporting vocations to the priesthood and religious life, invites you to join them on Monday, December 10, 2018 at St Michael’s Parish in Wheaton. The evening will begin at 6:00PM with Rosary and Mass in the Church. Dinner will follow in the Parish Center. The Speaker at the Dinner will be Father Burke Masters.

When Fr Burke was in college at Mississippi he played in the College World Series and began work for the Kane County Cougars. While working for the Cougars, Father Burke felt the call to the priesthood and was ordained on June 1, 2002 out of Mundelein Seminary. Later, while he served as Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Joliet, he saw a 32 year high in the number of seminarians. He is currently Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechetics for the Diocese. And on the side, he serves as Chaplain for the Chicago Cubs.

To find out more about SERRA or to make a reservation for the dinner, please contact Joann Carr: carrgeojo@gmail.com or 630-665-0994

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**SPONSOR A NEEDY INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS**

Catholic Charities is providing the opportunity for you to help their clients at Christmas this year. The Gift of Christmas is an annual program that fulfills wish lists for individuals who are served by Catholic Charities.

Read stories about clients and choose who you would like to help this Christmas. Or, if you prefer, you can direct your donation to an individual or family who hasn’t been chosen yet.

Donating is simple: visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org and click on “donate.” Or, call 815-724-1140 to make your donation over the phone. To send a check, please note “Gift of Christmas” in the memo and send checks to:

Catholic Charities
16555 Weber Rd.
Crest Hill, IL 60403

If you have any questions, please call 815-724-1140 or email msnow@cc-doj.org. Thank you and God bless you! Merry Christmas!

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**BINGO for Safe Beds!**

Friday, December 14
1:00 – 3:00 pm

St. Joseph Church
4801 Main Street, Downers Grove
Church lower level

Did you know that it costs approximately $51.00 per night to provide one safe bed for a victim of domestic violence? For over 40 years, Family Shelter Services has been providing safe beds and other vital services to turn victims into survivors. They serve women and children in our area who could be our neighbors, coworkers, friends and even family.

This holiday season - emulate the innkeeper who provided a safe haven for a woman and her family in need. Come play Bingo to benefit Family Shelter Services. All proceeds go to them!

Prizes to all winners! Refreshments will be served.
Freewill donations at the door greatly appreciated.
For more information, call or text Linda Koscik at 630.292.2566.

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**THE GIFT OF FORGIVENESS**

An Afternoon Gathering of “Single-Again” Men & Women

When: December 8, 2018 (1:00-4:00 p.m.
12:45 p.m. check-in
Concluding with a 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Where: Blanchette Catholic Center
Diocese of Joliet 16555 Weber Rd., Crest Hill

Please register by December 4.
online at https://conta.cc/2uNhR3z, by calling 815-838-5334 or by emailing us at familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org

Please pay the $15 fee at the door with cash or by check payable to Diocese of Joliet.
This Week

Monday / 3
8:45 AM Medical Missions Gathering Pl. A
2:30 PM Brownie Troop #55103 Gathering Pl. C
2:30 PM Brownie Troop #55326 Gathering Pl. A
3:30 PM Basketball Gym
6:00 PM Legion of Mary Small Conf. Rm
6:00 PM Rosary Church
6:30 PM Boy Scouts Gathering Place
7:00 PM Band Concert Gym

Tuesday / 4
3:30 PM Basketball Gym
6:00 PM Prayer Group Chapel

Wednesday / 5
11:00 AM Golden Agers Gathering Place
2:30 PM Daisy Troop #55771 Gathering Pl. A
3:30 PM Basketball Gym
4:30 PM Religious Education School Church
6:30 PM 6 PM Choir Rehearsal Gathering Pl. C
6:30 PM Religious Education School/Church Large Conf. Rm.
7:00 PM Evangelization Cmte. Chapel
7:00 PM Revere for Life Chapel

Thursday / 6
1:15 PM Small Christian Communities Living Room
3:30 PM Basketball Gym
4:30 PM Religious Education School Church
5:45 PM Children’s Choir Rehearsal Church
7:00 PM 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal Church
7:00 PM Baptism Class Large Conf. Rm.
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Fac. Lunch Rm.
7:00 PM School: New Family Night Gathering Place

Friday / 7
7:00 AM School Gathering Place
5:00 PM Basketball Gym
6:30 PM PADS Gathering Place

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

Sunday / 9
8:00 AM Liturgy of the Word Gath. Pl. B & C
8:00 AM RCIA Large Conf. Rm.
10:00 AM Liturgy of the Word Gath. Pl. B & 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
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.