He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. – Lk 2:51-52
Registration is now open for our biggest event of the year.

**Blue and Gold Gala**

February 9, 2019, at 6:00 pm

Esplanade Lakes Ballroom, Downers Grove, IL

Dinner, Dancing, Live and Silent Auction

Drawing for our Blue and Gold Raffle

$100 per person, $1000 for a table of 10

Check out some of our new offerings this year:

**Montana Sporting Club vacation**

**See the Chicago Skyline like you never have before**

**Great Outings, events and auction baskets**

Registration and more information is available at:

Please remember in prayers.

December 22 marked the third anniversary of the death of Bishop Joseph L. Imesch. Bishop Conlon celebrated a Memorial Mass at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus on December 23 in memory of Bishop Imesch, as well as for the priests and deacons who have died during the past months.

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Priests
- Father Ernest Norbeck (March 7, 2018)
- Father Henry Wilkening (April 17, 2018)
- Father Thomas Sularz (July 15, 2018)
- Father Dennis Settles (September 16, 2018)
- Father Denis White (December 4, 2018)

Deacons
- Deacon Roy Anderson (January 11, 2018)
- Deacon Alan Symonanis (February 1, 2018)
- Deacon Bart Federici (April 24, 2018)
- Deacon Anthony Schubert (May 18, 2018)
- Deacon Jesse Pagliaro (September 10, 2018)
- Deacon Frank Bina (September 23, 2018)
- Deacon Frank Annerino (October 27, 2018)

Questions of the Week

- What stands out for you most in this Gospel passage? Why?
- As Christians, we believe that Jesus was both fully human and fully divine. Does this story of the 12-year-old Jesus emphasize his humanity or divinity? Which do you tend to relate to more when you think of him and pray to him?
Stewardship

Due to the early production date of this bulletin, the December 23rd collection was unavailable.

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Collection 12/16/18 $35,004.18
Weekly Goal (Fiscal Year 18/19) $29,500.00
Goals to Date
  Sunday Goal to Date $737,500.00
Collections to Date
  Sunday Collections to Date $730,506.17
  Total (Under) Goals to Date ( $6,993.83)

The ultimate aim of Saint Paul’s Letter to the Colossians is to teach the community how to deepen its relationship with Christ Jesus. His list of virtues summarizes the ideals of communal stewardship: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. For Paul, practicing these virtues opens our hearts to Christ as individuals and as a worshipping community. This is how the Christian community ought to live. This is how its members should behave in their dealings with others, particularly with fellow believers. As we approach a new year, how might we embrace one of these virtues more fully in order to deepen our relationship with Jesus?
The Catholic Church celebrates January 1, the octave of Christmas, as the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**. The feast invites us to reflect on Mary’s relationship to Jesus. On Christmas Christians focus on Jesus, the birth among us of God’s own Son. On Monday, we bring Mary from the background of Luke’s story to the foreground.

Mary is the woman whom Luke tells us accepted God's invitation to bear a child. This child would be conceived that is—the Holy Spirit. Mary is the woman who carried this child in the womb for nine months, labored to give him birth and breath in our world, wrapped him in warm blankets, and found a place for him to sleep in a feed trough for animals.

In Monday’s gospel, the shepherds put Mary and Joseph in the position of hearers of God's word. When the shepherds see the child lying in the manger, the sign the angel sent them to see, they tell Mary and Joseph the good news the angel announced to them: "I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is the messiah, the Holy the Holy One."

Luke's characterization of Mary gives us an example of how to perceive the Spirit at work in our lives and our world. Mary first of all treasures the words and encounters with others that happen in her life. To treasure is to hold in mind, to remember. Luke pictures Mary not only as a woman who holds words in her mind but who reflects on them in her heart. Mary gives us a model of a reflective disciple. In Luke’s characterization Mary is not a favorite who from the beginning shares the secret of God’s special plan for the world. She is rather a human person like us who must use her head and open her heart to all that happens in her life.

In Monday’s gospel Mary is beginning her life not only as Jesus’ mother but as his disciple, who treasures all God has done, recognizes the Spirit at work in her life and the lives of the shepherds, and undoubtedly wonders where such life-giving power will lead.

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We would like to express our thanks to you and your family for your spirit of cooperation and generosity this past year.

Along with our thanks, we send an assurance of a place in our thoughts and prayers in the coming New Year, 2019! A special thanks to all those who sent cards, gifts, and remembrances during this Holy Season!

The Beautiful Nativity in front of the Altar is from Italy, Fontanini. Thank You to the donors of the figures:

**Mary**

A gift from Ronald and Linda Cuchna

**Joseph**

A gift from Gail and Konrad Miskowicz-Retz

**Baby Jesus**

A gift from The Kolek Family

Fr. Jim and Fr. Shaun
Deacons and Staff of St. Mary of Gostyn
MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018
6:15 AM - Jesus’ Agony in the Garden
5:00 PM - Kelly McHugh Walters req. Mary Ann Dion
  Living Intention for Buddy Davis req. Mehaffey Family

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019
10:00 AM - Shirley Pollachek
  Daniel L. Glover req. Nick & Nadine Onesti
  Living Intention for Joseph McSweeney req. Ullmer Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2019
8:00 AM - In Thanksgiving req. Deacon Steve & Therese DeSitter

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2019
8:00 AM - Lorraine Switalla req. Donna, Chuck & Jaclyn Golly

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2019
8:00 AM - Fr. Jim, Fr. Shaun & All God’s Priests req. Harrington Family

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 2019
8:00 AM - Bill Borchardt req. Gerry & Carolyn Mueller
4:30 PM - Frank Bava req. Kimberly & Robert Bruining
  Charles F. Chambers req. Chris Chambers

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019
8:00 AM - Robert Noonan Family req. Family
10:00 AM - Loretta Weis req. George & Shelby Vogrin
12:00 PM - Ed Resh req. Gene & Blanca Adams Family
6:00 PM - People of the Parish

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading - Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel
(1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28)
Psalm - Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84)
Second Reading - See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God
(1 John 3:1-2, 21-24)
Gospel - The boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They found him in the temple,

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:
  Monday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
  Tuesday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
  Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
  Thursday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
  Friday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
  Saturday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
  Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
**Medical Missions.**

Thank you to the ladies who helped wrap 50 items (throws, fleece and shawls) for our homebound parishioners.

There will be **NO January Meeting.** 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. Also, if you need yarn, please let me know. We are starting to collect throws for next year. If you have time, please make a throw for our parishioners who can not attend church.

Thank you helping the Medical Missions to help the home-bound with a lap throw, etc.

**Thank You!**

Waterleaf would like to extend a heartfelt “THANK YOU” to the parishioners of St. Mary of Gostyn Parish for participating in this year’s Baby Bottle for Life fundraising campaign. As of December 13, 2018, St. Mary of Gostyn Parish has raised $4,244.66! Your support ensures that we can provide the material and emotional support necessary for men and women to choose life for their babies. Sometimes, just the simple fact that our doors are open and a woman visits us, rather than an abortion provider, is the difference between life and death. We greatly appreciate your support, and ask that you keep Waterleaf in your prayers. For information about Waterleaf and our programs and services, please contact us at 630-701-6270 or visit us on the web at www.onechoiceonelife.org.

**A Warm Welcome**

We welcome: Harry & Kathy Ambrosat who registered at St. Mary of Gostyn Parish recently.

**Baptism**

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

Isabella Allie Mary Shelton, daughter of Robert & Amanda Shelton

**St. Mary Book Group**

**Wednesday, January 9 Parish Center 9:30 AM**

I’ve Got My Eyes on You by Mary Higgins Clark

An 18 year old girl is found dead in the family pool and her sister sets out to find the murderer.

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

**SMG Evening Book Discussion**

**Thursday, January 17 Parish Center 7:00 PM**

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

A Count is ordered to spend the rest of his life inside a luxury hotel in 1920’s Russia.

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

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**Presider Schedule for Saturday, January 5th and Sunday, January 6th**

<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. Shaun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
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<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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</tbody>
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Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and Altar Servers, please consult your online personal schedule and email reminders for assignments.
THE TIME IS NOW TO SIGN UP FOR:
ST MARY’S OF GOSTYN MEN’S WEEKEND
Experience a spiritual journey that is powerful, positive & fulfilling

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH

CRHP

Start: Saturday, January 26, 2019 ● 8:45 am
End: Sunday, January 27, 2019 ● 3:00 pm

Steve Doyle
5doyles@sbcglobal.net
630.258.4085

Don Bailey
dcbailey@ameritech.net
708.870.3771

Please join fellow women of St. Mary’s for CRHP. CRHP, also known as “Christ Renews His Parish” is a retreat put on for women by women, and it’s not your typical retreat.

- RELAX and hear inspiring stories and get to know members of our parish
- REFLECT and renew your spiritual growth
- INVEST in yourself, your family and SMG

For more information, please contact Molly Roche at molly.c.roche@gmail.com
The following persons have requested prayers from our parish community:

Hugh Toner                 Joseph Karlinski            Irene Karlinski  Sr. Loretta Glanz                  Leonard Fisher
Jaclyn Golly                 Joseph Balice                Spencer Mehr                     Buddy Davis                        Theresa Herman

In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the families of
JoAnn Bennett
Beatrice Vlasik, great-aunt of Fr. Shaun

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

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, 445 Prairie Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515
For your convenience, you can also register to become a St. Mary of Gostyn parishioner on our website: https://stmarygostyn.org/new-parishioner-registration/
You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.

Acts 1:8

Step boldly into the new year. Be transformed!

Experience the radical love of the Early Church in this study Acts.
All women of the parish are welcome.
*Babysitting Available!*
Even if you’ve never participated before, you’ll be glad you did.

Thursdays, 9:00am. Beginning Jan 10th.
www.stmarygostyn.org Faith Formation tab.

The ONE topic ONE night Speaker Series aims to provide our parish community a platform to foster dialogue, cultivate enriching ideas, and continue an appreciation of learning as an active and lifelong process.

**One topic. One night. One faith.**

Date: Jan. 17th at 7:00pm
Speaker: Father Shaun
Topic: Why is there Suffering?

**Alpha at St. Mary of Gostyn**
Beginning February 5th
Youth Alpha begins Jan 24
Be a part of it.
Invoke a friend.

www.stmarygostyn.org/alpha/
Protect the Dignity of All Human Life.

Join us on January 13th for the annual March for Life Chicago along with 8,000 other joyful and peaceful marchers! Many travel great distances to join in unity and solidarity to speak out for the lives of the most vulnerable, innocent, and least protected of God’s beings: the little boy or girl child in his or her mother’s womb. Bring your friends and your family!! All are welcome to join this exciting celebration of LIFE right here in Chicago!

We will be leaving on a bus from St. Petronille Parish in Glen Ellyn at 12:50PM and returning by 5PM. The cost is $15, and includes transportation and a yummy lunch! If cost is a problem, scholarships are available!
Contact Claire today so she can register you and save you a seat on the bus.
More info? Contact Claire or visit:
http://www.marchforlife-chicago.org/

Youth Ministry in 2018 has been such a blessing… 2019, Here we come!

Thank you to all the parish and community at St. Mary’s for being so encouraging, generous, and supportive!
We received this Thank You note from the people at C3 for Cancer and wanted to share it with all of you. In November we sent out their flyer for their annual fleece blanket drive for Cancer patients as an idea for a Service Opportunity and many of our RE & School 7th and 8th graders answered their call. Thank you for taking the time to help this wonderful organization and help touch so many lives.

**Religious Education Dates**
Please pay attention to the following dates on your calendar.

- Dec. 20-Jan 6: Winter Break  No RE classes
- Jan. 9/10: RE classes resume
- Jan 16/17: RE class
Many of you have had questions as to why we are now at a $2,200,000 budget for our Activity Center project. Unfortunately, many things have led to the increase in the budget and we assure you that we are diligently working to hit that target.

Our original budget of $1,000,000-$1,200,000 was based on the idea that we could make one space that we could “partition off” in some way so that gym classes could be happening at the same time as lunch was being eaten in the designated area for lunch. That would have prevented us from having to build a new wall in the middle as well as adding much more additional square footage to the space. Once the realization occurred (too much noise for both activities, i.e., gym class and lunch to occur at once, lots of logistics to handling removal of portable wall, tables, etc. for the weekends when games were going on, etc.) that we needed to separate the two rooms, the initial cost projection went to $1,500,000.

When we started working with the Village to get the overall space to fit within the legal limits for easements, etc. we had to design the gym space to run north and south, causing us to deconstruct the current gym wall and build a new one. We also have to re-do all the ceiling support structure to brace the new wall, and be more “creative” with the placement of the storm water drainage vault for the addition. The additional square footage also is adding an entirely new electrical room that will tie into the current school vs. just being able to tie into the current electrical grid of the school. We had the flooring tested for mercury, which turned out positive, so that will have to be abated before we start the work. The drop off of the grade, over 8 feet, is adding additional foundation work for the project.

Lastly, over the past six months, the cost of steel, in particular, as well as other building products, has escalated with the tariff situation for imports. The building market is very good right now due to the good economy, so labor is escalating at a rapid rate. We also have a tight window of time in which we would like this project to occur in order to not disrupt the school year too dramatically.

All of these things were not in play in the early process of this plan. Once we got to the stage that the plan was ready to go out to bid, we realized that the project had grown way out of the scope of even $1,500,000 and are now in the process of pulling back on the square footage for the overall space, shaving space out of the storage areas, the eating space and the gym. We are still maintaining the initial goals that we set for the renovation., i.e., a multi-functional space for eating, the ability to close down the main school when classes are not in session, but the Activity Center is in use, a full sized junior high basketball court with two practice basketball courts and storage space for the equipment needs of the end users. We are down to $2,200,000-2,300,000 in the plan with one more revision step to get it pulled down to the $2,000,000 goal that we have set.

Please trust that we are doing all we can to build the appropriate space for a long term vision within a budget that we know we can support. Your contributions to this project are greatly appreciated.
St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic Church

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Direct Line 630–960-3566
JENNIFER LISZKA, Religious Ed. Assistant

SCHOOL: 440 Prairie Avenue 630-968-6155
SCHOOL STAFF:
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CHRISTINE KALAL, Assistant Principal
LA VONNE 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 / 31
5:00 PM Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass Church

Tuesday / 1
Happy New Year!
10:00 AM Solemnity of Mary Mass Church

Wednesday / 2
3:30 PM Basketball Gym
6:30 PM 6 PM Choir Church

Thursday / 3
1:15 PM Small Christian Communities Living Room
3:30 AM Basketball Gym
7:00 PM 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal Church
7:00 PM Baptism Prep. Class Large Conf. Rm.
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Gathering Place

Friday / 4
5:00 PM Basketball Gym
6:30 PM PADS Gathering Place

Saturday / 5
12:00 AM PADS Gathering Place
8:00 AM Basketball Gym

Sunday / 6
8:00 AM RCIA Large Conf. Rm.
12:30 PM Basketball Gym
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.

St. Mary of Gostyn Parish