

# St. Mary of Gostyn 445 Prairie Ave. Downers Grove

WWW.STMARYGOSTYN.ORG

**DIRECTORY**  
ST.MARY OF GOSTYN PARISH CENTER  
630.969.1063

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**PAROCHIAL VICAR**  
FATHER SHAUN CIESLIK

**DEACONS**  
AL AGURKIS, BOB MICIUNAS

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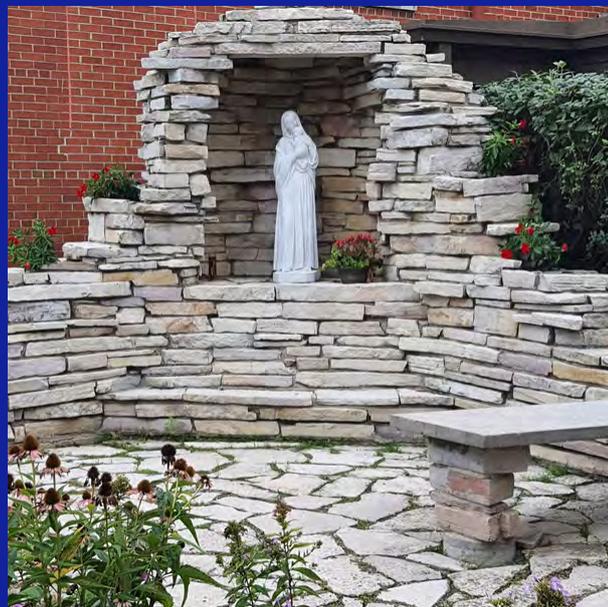
**SCHOOL**  
630.968.6155

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DIRECTOR  
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**WEEKEND MASSES:**  
SATURDAY 4:00PM  
SUNDAY 8:00AM, 10:00AM, 12:00PM  
AND 6:00PM

**WEEK DAY MASSES:**  
MONDAY 6:00PM, TUESDAY,  
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 9:00AM,  
WEDNESDAY SCHOOL/PARISHIONER  
MASS 8:00AM

### **New Parishioners:**

We are happy to welcome new members to our community, and encourage you to register in person at the Parish Office, or register online through our website, [www.stmarygostyn.org](http://www.stmarygostyn.org)

### **Reconciliation:**

Confessions are heard Saturday, 8:30AM to 9:30AM in church. Holy Hour on Tuesday 7:00PM will also provide opportunity for individual confessions. Please see our website or bulletin for Holy Hour dates.

**Sunday, November 13, 2022 | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Monday November 14th  
6:00 pm  
† Deceased family members & friends  
of the James Regis Family by James  
Regis Family

Tuesday November 15th  
9:00 am  
† Donald Stange by Family  
† Marvin Ronaldson by Family

Wednesday November 16th  
8:00 am  
† Anna & Louis DalPonte by JoAnn  
Rodl & family

Thursday November 17th  
9:00 am  
† Robert Harrington by Jim & June  
Burke

Friday November 18th  
9:00 am  
† Frank Acquavella by Joyce Duffy

Saturday November 19th  
4:00 pm  
† Samuel & Mary Easterly by Family

Sunday November 20th  
8:00 am  
† Judy Julian by Dianne & Frank  
Czopek

10:00 am  
† Joseph Karlinski by Wife & family  
† David Kotlicky by JoAnn Rodl &  
family

12:00 pm  
People of the Parish

6:00 pm  
† Rosalie Braasch by Paul & Claire  
Cimino



Lois Bach  
Vickie Swartz  
Nicole Moyer  
Charles Zezulak Sr.  
Beth Smith  
Susan Conrad  
Sharon Kling  
Joseph MacDonald  
George Metzger  
Hugh Toner  
John Mika  
Agnes Gibicar



Our deepest sympathy to the families of

Jeffrey D. Wagner, St.  
Rick Tatar  
Deacon Peter Rooney  
Frank Glowaty  
Patricia Menzenberger



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  
Zachary Frana  
Jack Culligan  
Kyle Ng  
Joe McSweeney  
Kevin Hanlon  
Brendan Vrtis  
Ben Gartlan  
Kathleen Halloran  
Peter Gartlan  
Isabella Czopek



**From Our Pastor  
Father Jim**

## *Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

If only we could shelter our children from all of the calamities and tragedies of life! But we can't. Our primary job is to get them ready for the real world—and calamities and tragedies are part of it. Besides, bad things happen even to the very young. Friends move away, parents separate, family members or beloved pets die, and those are just some of the possible tragedies. For parents there is a great temptation to say, “Don't cry. Everything will be alright.” It sounds like a very Christian response, rooted in faith and hope. In truth, the “Everything will be alright” part is fine. It's the “Don't cry” that needs to go.

Tears are cleansing. They are a gift of our human condition. They communicate our feelings, allow for the cohesive bond of compassion and open the door to healing. But sometimes tears get stifled. It takes faith and hope to trust that all will be well, just as it takes courage and humility to accept our own tears and those of others.

Parents often have almost a compulsive need to make things better, to solve problems, to fix things. And so we say things like, “Don't cry,” or, “Look at it this way,” when often what our children really need is just our quiet presence and our loving support. It helps, when we find a youngster in distress, to take a few moments for some quiet prayer of our own—to ask for the grace to experience and share God's comforting love.

If we take the time to suffer our children's pain with them, then perhaps later they will also be open to talking about and processing the experience. We need to allow our youngsters to show their grief, offering our comforting presence and gentle support as a testimony to our words, “Everything will be alright.”

Sunday, November 13, 2022 | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

# THANKSGIVING MASS

**November 24, 2022  
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 24th, at 9:00 AM.**

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



## **Thanksgiving Adoration Hours:**

Wednesday, November 23 - 12:00PM chapel is closed

Thursday, November 24 - closed

Friday, November 25 - back to regular hours

## PSALMS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING



The Thanksgiving holiday is an excellent time to rediscover the psalms of praise and thanksgiving. When you find a quiet moment, sit and relax with your bible. Think of a time when awe and gratitude overwhelmed you. Maybe it was a sunrise, or children playing in a park, an inspirational hymn at Mass, a family gathering, or a walk in the woods. Remember how you appreciated that special moment. Then, open your bible to one of the psalms of thanksgiving and recite it to yourself, like Psalm 118 for instance:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Listen to the words. Close your eyes. Let the psalm speak to you.

Other psalms of praise and thanksgiving you might consider include psalms 92, 95, 98, 100, 103, 104, 105, 107, 111, 117, 145, and 147.

Whatever psalm you choose for that quiet moment, thank God for that special time of awe as well as all the good things in your life, and praise God for his glorious deeds.

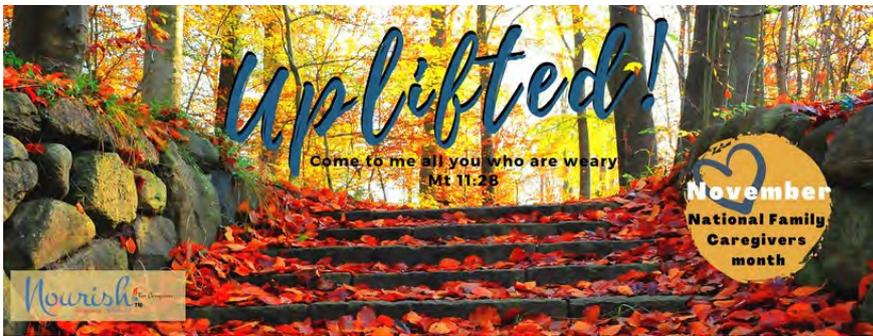
Sunday, November 13, 2022 | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

# GOD REACHING OUT TO US

"The Father sent his Son as savior of the world.  
We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.  
God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him."

1 John 4:14, 16

Sacred Scripture is the Living Word of God, the active and gentle voice of the Holy Spirit speaking in our lives today. The New Testament is the culmination of God's great love story. It is an unfolding and revelation of a God reaches out to help us in times of trouble, as well as a God who patiently restores us into right relationship with Himself, despite our faults and shortcomings. Sometimes we may feel like we are drowning in the circumstances that life throws at us because life can be tough. But, if we listen close enough, we'll realize that God is constantly reaching out to lend a helping hand. Hear more on this **Topic: The New Testament, including the Birth of Jesus, Ministry, Death & Resurrection on November 15, 2022 at 7:00pm in Gathering Place.**



National Family Caregiver Month honors the dedication and support given each day by family caregivers. Did you know:

- There are over 53 million Americans juggling the challenges of life, health, career and caring for an aging, ill or disabled adult or child, whether in town or from a distance.
- 1 in 5 people in our pews at Church are caregivers.
- Family caregivers are the backbone of our national health systems: they provide 90% of all care delivered today, in the home for their loved ones.
- Over five million Americans are caring for a veteran, the brave men and women who were injured, ill or wounded while serving our country.
- It's estimated one in four family caregivers are millennials.

National Family Caregivers Month honors the dedication of the unpaid, often unseen and underappreciated, who give so that others are better cared for with love and dignity.

## St. Mary's Cares For You Too!

In addition to offering our monthly Nourish for Caregivers gatherings, we'd like to offer the gift of a companion to support you--*The Caregiver's Companion: a Christ Centered Journal to Nourish the Soul*. You could order one for yourself on Amazon or through the publisher, Ave Maria Press - or we'll gift you one! Simply email [kjohnson@stmarygostyn](mailto:kjohnson@stmarygostyn) or call the Parish Office let us know who you are caring for and how we can pray for you. Then, in honor of all the care and selfless giving you are doing during National Family Caregivers Month, and everyday, we'll give you a copy of *The Caregiver's Companion*!

## ABOUT OUR FAITH

### Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini

Today we celebrate the feast day of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, the first American citizen saint. This remarkable woman dedicated her life to caring for the poor and forgotten, especially in Chicago. Cardinal George Mundelein verified two miracles attributed to her, and in 1946, Mother Cabrini was proclaimed a saint.

Her **devotion to the Eucharist, and time spent in front of the Blessed Sacrament** gave her the strength to be a valiant woman doing the work of Christ. Mother Cabrini is the patron saint of immigrants, recognizing her efforts on their behalf across the Americas in schools, orphanages, hospitals, and prisons. Her willingness to sacrifice everything to bring people to know, love, and serve Jesus continues to inspire us today. Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, pray for us.

## NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

When she [Mother Frances Cabrini] went to the chapel...her whole attitude...revealed that she was completely immersed in the Divine Presence.

Mother Saverio De Maria, on Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini

**Sunday, November 13, 2022 | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**



## From Our Pastor Father Jim

As I write this, I realize that this fiscal year, 2021/22, began in a very different way than it ended. We began the year still in the throes of some COVID restrictions. Our school had children masked and was under many restrictions and we were still in a guarded position with regard to Parish Ministries and meetings returning to campus. Lastly, we have had several key positions, ie, our Parochial Vicar, our Principal and our Business Manager, change personnel in our Parish and our School.

Yet we have once again weathered these changes in a strong spiritual as well as financial position, thanks to your continued support of St. Mary's. You have continued to share your talents, your treasures and your time with us. Your prayers have been a huge comfort to us and we ask you to continue to pray for the work that we are doing in our Parish as we move forward into what will hopefully be better times.

Even with the successes we have had, we know there are ongoing opportunities that we are facing. Mass attendance continues to be below pre-COVID times. For the next three years, we will, with Catholics worldwide, be participating in a Eucharistic Revival. It is important to be present in person at the weekly Eucharist, to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. We have several ways through our Adult and Children's Faith Formation programs to help us carry this message to all Parishioners. We hope that you will join us in this Revival.

We are also in need of additional volunteers for some of our Ministries: Weekend as well as at-home Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, St. Vincent DePaul Society, and Religious Education Catechists. Many of these Ministries have seen a decrease in those willing to serve, yet the need is still there. Please consider how you can help. Again, thank you for all that you do for St. Mary's. Your generosity, time and talent is so very much appreciated.

### ***Around the Campus***

Unlike our fiscal year 2020/21, we were not in receipt of a large bequest or PPP loan forgiveness, but that did not stop our continued progress on the upkeep, maintenance, and improvements to our campus. Once again our

maintenance team, with the help of our volunteers on our Buildings and Grounds Committee, has stepped up to the challenge as we continue to ensure that we provide you with a campus that is safe as well as up to date to serve the constantly changing needs of our Parishioners. We continue to do this, carefully managing our budget to ensure funds are available when we need them.

We opened our new playground north of the school in September 2021. This project was funded in large part through a Call for Cash at our Annual Gala in 2019. We are continuing to look for ways to improve the drainage as well as the weed control in the area.

Through an act of Mother Nature, large portions of the roof on the far western School building blew off back in late fall of 2021. This is a roof that we had slated for replacement in the near future. Our insurance carrier, with a Diocesan preferred roofer, came together to replace this roof very quickly, with little disruption to our students and in time before winter weather hit us. Sometimes it pays off not to rush into a big project like that!

We began the project to re-locate the Business Office from the Rectory to the Parish Center the summer of 2022. This allows the Rectory building to be used primarily by our Priests. We are continuing to work through this project to better utilize the PC's spaces for both meeting area as well as Parish Offices.

Lastly, we completed the Phase III portion of our Activity Center and Gym. We hung a beautiful crucifix, updated team flags and added a prayer in the Gym, added graphics in the AC and recognized larger donors in the AC with plaques and graphics.

Thank you for your continued gifts to the Parish. We want to continue to provide you with a well maintained campus within to worship.

## **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2021/2022**

The story of the Poor Widow's Mite found in Mark 12:41-44 tells of a widow who put the equivalent of a penny in the treasury after many rich people put in large sums. Jesus says to his disciples, "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." What a wonderful example Jesus gives us to teach true stewardship. We must be willing to trust God enough to give from our want and experience the peace and joy and providence we will receive in return.

St Mary of Gostyn has many parishioners who support the parish with financial contributions for which we are grateful. No matter what size gift you have given, SMG is very appreciative of your support to the mission of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. Below are some of the details for how much was received and how we used your funds.

- Our combined Sunday, Easter, Christmas and Holy Day collections ended the year \$101,000 over budget.
- Our CMAA Diocesan rebate totaled over \$40,000.
  - Favorable church operating results allowed us to add \$420,000 to our Maintenance Reserve for future projects, bringing this reserve up to \$820,000, in anticipation of a future parking lot project.
- In December 2021, we were able to pay off the Activity Center loan, with a final payment of \$277,000.
- The Religious Education program served 427 students in grades K-8.
- The School operated fully in person and completed the year with 405 K-8 students and 68 Preschool students.
  - School and Parish fundraisers brought in almost \$290,000. A contribution of \$50,000 was made to the Endowment fund for future generations of Catholic school students. Expenses of \$78,000 were accrued for the future, earmarked for potential school playground drainage and additional programs/projects related to the STEAM Lab from the funds raised at the 2022 We Are One Gala.
- Favorable school results allowed us to contribute \$57,000 to the future parking lot project.

## **BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS 2022/2023**

- Sunday collections are budgeted at the same budget level as last year. Christmas, Easter, and Holy Day collections were increased from \$195,000 to \$200,000.
- Parish and school staffs were budgeted for a 3% salary increase per Diocesan policy.
- The Religious Education program is budgeted for 400 students.
- A part-time Director of Youth Ministry is included in the budget.
- School tuition was increased 5% to cover the increase in salaries and expenses.
- We are offering a new full day PreK 4 program (filled to capacity!) in addition to our half day preschool programs.
- We budgeted for 402 K-8 students, 24 full day PreK 4 students, and 48 students in our half day 3 & 4 year old programs. Parish fundraisers are budgeted to raise \$164,000, net of costs, which. The Gala, Golf Outing and 5K run are all scheduled for this year.
- A full-time Interventionist and part-time Math and Reading Resource teachers will continue to collaborate and provide Student Support Team resources to students outside the classroom, most of which is funded by a generous benefactor. The average cost to educate one child (K-8) in 2022/2023 is budgeted at approximately \$6,800 vs. the tuition rate of \$5,040.
- The parish Investment in Education (subsidy) is budgeted at \$426,367 for the school (\$1,061 per child and 16% of the Elementary School's operating expenses) and \$84,327 for Religious Education and Youth Ministry.

## **PARISH HIGHLIGHTS 2022/2023**

- Our Parish enjoyed celebrations for all sacraments this year, reminiscent of pre-COVID times. We baptized 72 children, 121 students made their First Reconciliation and received First Communion, 103 children were confirmed by Bishop Hicks, 4 adults received Full Communion during the Easter Vigil, 9 couples were married and we had 56 Funeral Masses at our Church.
- We continue to support our community in need around us. St. Vincent DePaul has responded to the needs of many more local people due to the greater needs as government funding is pulling back to pre-COVID levels. Our Parish continues to work with them to carry out their mission. PADS, although no longer using our facilities, continues to be financially supported with donations from the Parish as well as monthly drive by Gift Card events, supported by our Parishioners.
- Many of our Ministries have returned to campus at this time. Please check with the Parish Office for more information.

ST. MARY OF GOSTYN PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

	JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022			2021-2022 ACTUAL	2022-2023 BUDGET
	Church	Rel Ed & YM	School <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Revenue:</b>					
Sunday Collections	\$ 1,500,322			\$ 1,500,322	\$ 1,414,724
Christmas, Easter & Holy Days	209,841			209,841	200,000
Tuition and Fees		\$ 89,448	\$ 2,126,964	2,216,412	2,288,590
Fundraisers, net of costs	20,650		126,436	147,086	164,000
Endowment Distribution	-				-
School Programs net income <sup>2</sup>			(12,968)	(12,968)	15,426
Other Revenue/Donations <sup>3</sup>	170,477		152,568	323,045	144,070
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,901,290</b>	<b>\$ 89,448</b>	<b>\$ 2,393,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,383,738</b>	<b>\$ 4,226,810</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Salaries & Fringe Benefits	\$ 602,289	\$ 65,078	\$ 2,188,669	\$ 2,856,036	\$ 3,096,307
Repairs & Maintenance	32,147		20,978	53,125	66,450
Services	114,330	4,338	175,652	294,320	413,230
Materials & Supplies	51,895	1,184	85,677	138,756	124,267
Rental Expense/Insurance	40,203		38,655	78,858	80,162
Utilities	45,030		50,656	95,686	115,800
Curriculum Expenses		20,667	80,039	100,706	111,450
Diocesan Expenditures	83,642			83,642	105,944
Ministries, Outreach, & Other	(27,192)	39,900	32,744	45,452	36,500
Restricted Expenses	12,420		44,349	56,769	
Capital Expenditures/Improvements	62,845		95,581	158,426	56,700
Diocesan Loans (interest)	1,939		-	1,939	-
Maintenance/Project Reserve	420,000			420,000	20,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,439,548</b>	<b>\$ 131,167</b>	<b>\$ 2,813,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,383,715</b>	<b>\$ 4,226,810</b>
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 461,742</b>	<b>\$ (41,719)</b>	<b>\$ (420,000)</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>-</b>
Parish Investment in Education	(461,719)	41,719	420,000	(0)	
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 23</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 23</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Additional Information as of 06/30/2022</b>					
School Endowment Fund Balance	\$ 2,102,958		Capital Campaign Account		\$ 146,154
Diocesan Deposit Account	\$ 1,334,620		Activity Center Loan Balance		\$ -

<sup>1</sup> School column includes the Elementary School, Preschool, After School Care, and Home School Association (HSA).

<sup>2</sup> School programs include Hot Lunch, Athletics, and Fine Arts.

<sup>3</sup> Other revenue includes bequests, donations, matching gifts, Diocesan interest income, and CMAA rebate.



## St. Vincent dePaul Food Pantry October Update

**October continued to be a busy month for the food pantry and we are serving more families with four to six members.**

We are grateful to St. Mary's third and sixth grades which held food drives for the pantry this fall. Their contributions helped stock our shelves along with our regular donors. This month St Mary's Food Pantry served 379 individuals within 118 families to bring the yearly totals to 2931 individuals within 1045 families.

If you are able to pick up and drop off the needed items listed below you will be instrumental in our mission to help local families.

**Most needed items are cans of tuna, pasta sauce, chili, as well as, saltine crackers, and regular size liquid dish soap.**

**PANTRY DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED ON WEDNESDAYS FROM 8:00 - 11:00 AM  
OR USE THE FOOD BARRELS IN CHURCH.**

*Thank you to all our friends of the pantry.*

Luke 3:1 And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise."

*Shoppers: You can donate to St. Mary's SVDP Conference at no cost to you by going to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and selecting St. Vincent de Paul - St. Mary of Gostyn. A percentage of your purchase is automatically donated to SVDP with every Amazon order you place. **Thank you for your support.***



If you are interested in adopting a family for Christmas through the St. Vincent de Paul's Adopt a Family program, please contact Cathy and Ihor Hlohowskyj at [ihorcathy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ihorcathy@sbcglobal.net) or call 630-241-3447 for details or to sign up.



**Altar  
Flowers**



The beautiful flower arrangement this weekend is in memory of Marvin Ronaldson.