

St. Mary Of Gostyn
445 Prairie Ave.
Downers Grove, IL 60515
www.stmarygostyn.org



ST. MARY OF GOSTYN
PARISH CENTER 630.969.1063

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PAROCHIAL VICAR
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MARKETING
JULI MAJCHRZAK

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
630.969.1068

WEEKEND MASSES:
SATURDAY 4:00PM
SUNDAY 8:00AM, 10:00AM,
12:00PM AND 6:00PM
WEEKDAY MASSES:
MONDAY - FRIDAY 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

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 12, 2023 | 32nd Sunday Of Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions



Monday November 13th

8:00 am

† Brittany Battaglia

Tuesday November 14th

8:00 am

† Mary Toriello

Wednesday November 15th

8:00 am

† Anna & Louis DalPonte

† Marvin Ronaldson

4:30 pm

Thursday November 16th

8:00 am

† Mary Murphy

Friday November 17th

8:00 am

† Mary M. Murphy

Saturday November 18th

4:00 pm

† Joseph Karlinski

† Raymond & Barbara Heye

Sunday November 19th

8:00 am

† Samuel & Mary Easterly

† Brittany Battaglia

10:00 am

People of the Parish

12:00 pm

† Deceased family members & friends of the James Regis Family

Please Pray

Pray for the Sick

John Mika

Sue Conrad

Sharon Kling

Beth Smith

Donald Smith

Lois Bach

Baby Cameron

Nicole Moyer

Emily Torres

Ellie Paruszkiewicz

Irene Karliński

Luke Hyland

Denise Deno

Jack Riley

Adalyn Harres

Deacon Bob Miciunas

Mary Buchler

Nick Affatato

Charlene Oliver

Barb LeBreton

Stephanie Rodriguez

Jack Egan

Pam Stefik

Thomas Twardzik, Sr.

Kenneth Twardzik

Rosemary Powell

For Our Military Members;

Kevin Braasch

Michael Martel

Natalya Brechlin

John Svoboda

Kathleen Halloran

Isabella Czopek

Nathan Kijowski

Jack Culligan

Kyle Ng

Brendan Vrtis

Ben Gartlan

Peter Gartlan

Zachary Frana

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the families of

James Grek

Fidel Flores

Louis Velasquez

Seminarian Endowment Campaign

There will be a special collection for "*I Will Give You Shepherds*," the Seminarian Endowment Campaign on the weekend of November 11-12 to help educate our seminarians, studying to become Priests for the Diocese of Joliet. You should have received an envelope for this collection with your regular offertory envelopes. Thank you for considering and for your generosity as we pray and support vocations to the Priesthood. Please place your envelope in the basket with your Sunday offertory, as the basket will be passed **ONLY ONCE**.

For you my body yearns;
for you my soul thirsts

Psalm 63:2

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View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



October 2023

Dear St. Mary of Gostyn Parishioner:

As I became the new Pastor of St. Mary of Gostyn this past July, I am most thankful to Fr. Jim Schwab and all our previous Pastors for their servant leadership since the foundation of our parish in 1891. St. Mary's is a vibrant parish with many ministries where we all grow as a family of faith. I am delighted to be here to continue our rich heritage and many traditions as we desire a life-long relationship with Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church.

Community has always been a strength at St. Mary's. We began our fall ministries with a welcome back barbeque, an ice cream social to begin our school year, and a 5K race for our community to support our school. At the heart of community is worship at Mass where we receive the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist: Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. The Lord's Day and Sunday Mass are the foundation by which Jesus Christ unites us as his disciples for eternal life.

Two years ago, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops launched a "National Eucharistic Revival." This revival is an outreach in our country to help us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery. The Covid pandemic paralyzed our globe, forcing us to close our churches. As we slowly reopened, we have faced economic struggles, health concerns, inflation, supply chain disruption, low church attendance, and many other challenges that seem ongoing. Life is busy, but it is important to slow down and consider life's most vital questions: How do we experience God's love and put our faith into action? Why is Sunday, the Lord's Day, different than any other day of the week? Is the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ central to my life as a Catholic Christian?

Jesus Christ calls us to go deeper, and he promises to restore and renew his people. Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength, which is Jesus in the Eucharist. Jesus invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith by participating in the celebration of the Eucharist. Nothing is more significant than our loving Triune God, who desires our salvation. The Church exists for the salvation of souls. Our number one priority at St. Mary's is the gift of eternal life for all our families.

We invite you to return if you have been away from our Sunday Masses at St. Mary's these last few years. We miss you, and we love you. St. Mary's is not the same without you. We strive to be a welcoming community, and your presence brings great joy when we gather as Church, the Body of Christ, and we see friendly faces in the pews. We understand some of you are not able to join us due to health concerns; please be assured of our prayers for you. May we remain open to the Holy Spirit as we thank God for his transformative love for us. May the peace of Jesus Christ bring joy to your life as we encounter his Real Presence in the Eucharist at Sunday Mass. You and your family remain in my prayers, and may your faith be renewed today and always!!

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Shaun Cieslik

445 Prairie Avenue Downers Grove, IL 60515 630.969.1063

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

UNDERSTANDING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Just like we don't become more patient simply by wishing it so, or more kind by proclaiming ourself as kind, faith too doesn't just happen; it takes time and effort. The Tuesday evening offerings at St. Mary's are ways to help strengthen and grow in faith - through dialogue with others, teachings and learnings, and time spent in the presence of Jesus.

Tuesday, November 14th is another Becoming Catholic, Living Catholic discussion @ 7PM in the Gathering Place. The Trinity: Scripture contains many "portraits" of God, as does the world around us. This session will explore how God created and sustains all, and our Catholic understanding of the Trinity.

Next Holy Hour is Tuesday, November 28th @ 7PM in Church. Each Holy Hour of Adoration includes Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, as well as reflection on topics of faith, silence, and music. Optional opportunity for individual confession throughout the evening.

NOURISH FOR CAREGIVERS

NOVEMBER IS...

National Family Caregivers Month. Honoring family caregivers and all they do, day-in and day-out, to tirelessly provide for the well-being of their loved one.

Take a look around, chances are you're standing or sitting by a caregiver. Or, perhaps you see one looking back at you in the mirror. **There are over 65 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. This reality is especially true in our church communities. **These family caregivers are the backbone of our health system—providing 90% of all care delivered today**, in the home for their loved ones, doing essential work with devotion, often at great emotional, physical, financial and spiritual cost.

"How we treat our children, parents, and loved ones and how we value those who care for them are fundamental to who we are as a Nation...During National Family Caregivers Month, we honor the Americans who lift up our communities and our Nation by providing dignified, professional, and invaluable care to the people we cherish the most." (Presidential Proclamation 2023)

See St. Mary's website for resources and groups for caregiver support and encouragement.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Since Christ Himself has said, 'This is My Body,' who shall dare to doubt that it is His Body?

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem

MEN'S GROUP

LEARN. LIVE. LEAD.

St. Mary's Men's Group strengthens the faith through real discussions centered on the life-affirming message of Jesus Christ in our Catholic tradition. Experience true friendship in a relaxed and welcoming environment. As iron sharpens iron, St. Mary's Men's Group encourages each other to reach their full potential.



Each gathering begins with video and facilitated discussion, and ends with socializing, beverages and time to watch whatever sports game is on! Mondays in the Gathering Place at 7PM.

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October 19, 2023

Get Ready to Party at THE 2024 GARDEN GALA Registration Launches Late November!

Can you feel all that excitement in the air?! Maybe it's the fall weather or maybe it's all the buzz in the air as we gear up for the most fabulous event of the year – The 2024 Garden Gala! While ticket details are right around the corner, we're already rolling up our sleeves to bring you all the juicy tidbits and ensure this Gala will be an absolute *BLAST*.

Our success is rooted in your generosity. The gifts, goods, and services from the SMG, Downers Grove, and surrounding communities provided through sponsorships and other donations are carefully curated into live and silent auction packages. All of these donations, activities and your participation are *vital* for The Gala to be a success.

How can I help? Our SMG community wouldn't be complete without wonderful supporters like you! We know you generously gave to the SSEF and THANK YOU for all your support. Right now, we are looking ahead and asking for commitments (theme parties, auction items, and sponsorships) and not actual cash. Here are a few ways you can contribute:

Explore Sponsorship Opportunities

Now's the perfect time to let us know if you're interested in becoming a sponsor for this year's event.

We have some wonderful opportunities to showcase your business and some special perks for you if it's a family sponsorship.

NEW THIS YEAR: Sponsors will be invited to a Pre-Gala Champagne reception to start the night right!

Your support is greatly appreciated!

Feel free to **visit the [Sponsorship Page](#)** and check out all the details.

Let's Make our Auction Spectacular

We're on the hunt for incredible auction items!

Your contribution could make a world of difference for our live and silent auctions supporting SMG.

Do you have a connection with:

- Sporting tickets: Bulls, Hawks, Cubs, or Sox
- Concert venues or musical productions
- Vacation getaways
- Gift cards to stores or restaurants
- Sports memorabilia
- Fun themed basket products
- Or a service that you can donate

Ready to make a difference? **Share your offer [here!](#)**

Let's top last year! Please consider a business or family sponsorship, an auction donation, or host a theme party with other families. These are super fun & wonderful fundraising opportunities raising \$38,000 for SMG last year.

Questions?

Please email: gala@stmarygostyn.org

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Christmas 2023 Adopt-A-Family

Saturday, December 9, 2023

St. Mary of Gostyn St. Vincent de Paul Society

Adopt-A-Family is a Christmas outreach program for needy families. For more than 30 years, this program has provided Christmas gifts and dinner for 100+ families. Typically, we have about 40 families from the Downers Grove area and 60 families from our sister parish, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, in Joliet. If you wish to participate, your family purchases a new Christmas gift valued at a minimum of \$30 for each member of a needy family. Each needy family provides a 'wish' list to St. Vincent de Paul. You also provide all the food necessary to prepare Christmas dinner (or grocery gift cards for one meal). This is a wonderful experience that you and your family and friends can be involved with during the coming Christmas season. We welcome extended families, school groups, religious education classes, scout troops, office groups, neighborhoods, and others to participate.

How to Get Involved

First, consider the size of the family that you would like to adopt. Family sizes available for adoption range from a single person (1) up to families of 10 or more. Sign up will be by email or telephone.

To sign up, please email Cathy and Ihor Hlohowskyj at ihorcathy@sbcglobal.net or call 630-241-3447.

Once you've signed up, information about your adopted family will be provided either by email and/or mail.

Schedule

Sign-up: Beginning Oct 28 until all families are adopted.

Gift Drop-off: Saturday, Dec 9, 2023 from 8-10AM at SMG. (Early drop-off dates will be available upon request).



WE SHALL ALWAYS BE WITH THE LORD

1 Thessalonians 4:17



Christmas Presents for Kentucky

Since 1986, St. Mary of Gostyn has generously provided Christmas presents for the children in Appalachia. As we have done in the past few years, we ask that if you would like to receive a name, or would like more information, please e-mail us at st.mary.appalachia.outreach@gmail.com or call Deacon Al at (630) 960-3565 ext. 221 or Nancy Babel (630) 852-2692. If you do send an e-mail, please include your full name, the number of children you wish to buy for, your phone number and mailing address.

The gift of New Clothing consists of a pair of jeans, socks, underwear, a winter hat and a shirt or sweatshirt. For some of the children this may be the only Christmas gift they receive.

The gifts may be dropped off at the Parish Center, 445 Prairie Avenue, between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday, November 13 through Friday, November 17 to Deacon Al's attention. We will also be collecting the presents at 5817 Webster in Downers Grove on Sunday, November 19 from 9:30 AM and 12:00PM. Thank you for your continued support and please stay safe.



Marquee Sign Update

Our marquee sign at the corner of Fairview and Prairie has served us well for nearly three decades, but the time has come for an updated, more efficient model. While the Village of Downers Grove does not permit electronic versions, the new model promises to be clearer, slightly brighter and easier to read. During removal of the old sign, an unexpected issue was discovered requiring ongoing communications with the village. We thank you for your patience in the meantime, as we look forward to installation of the new sign soon.

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Blood Drive!

**Thank you
For your
Support**



BLOOD DRIVE HONORING JAMES JOSEPH MASSURA

November is the month we remember the souls of our beloved dead. The Knights of Columbus would like remember and honor the soul of one of our brother knights; Jim Massura who passed away unexpectedly this year. Jim and his wife Diane were frequent donors at our Blood Drives over the years. In addition, he also served his Parish at St. Mary of Gostyn as an Order of Christian Initiation of Adults catechist.



**THURSDAY
November**

30

3:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Helpful tip: Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.
PHOTO ID REQUIRED.

We ask that you help us honor Jim by donating life at our upcoming blood drive. Please sign up to donate today.

Blood Drive is sponsored by the St. Joseph's Parish Knights of Columbus and will be in the Lower Level of the Church at 4801 Main St. in Downers Grove.

3:30PM TO 7:30PM

To schedule your donation, scan the QR Code >>>>>>>> visit www.versiti.org/IL or call/text Camille from Versiti at 847-305-9998.

Appointments are encouraged; walk-ins welcome.



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St. Mary's Sunday Bulletin

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