

St. Mary of Gostyn

Catholic Church

445 Prairie Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Rev. Shaun Cieslik

Rev. Asirvadam Dandu, Parochial
Vicar

Deacon Al Agukis
Deacon Bob Miciunas

Parish Office

(630)969-1063

Websitewww.stmarygostyn.org

School Office

(630)958-6155

444 Prairie Ave., Downers Grove

Religious Education Office

(630)960-3566

445 Prairie Ave., Downers Grove

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil for Sunday....4:00pm

Sunday...8:00am,10:00am,12:00pm

6:00pm

Monday-Friday.....8:00am

Confessions

Saturday.....8:30am-9:30am

Holy Hour on Tuesday.....7:00pm

Or by appointment

New Parishioners

We encourage you to register in
person at the Parish Office, or
register online through our website,
www.stmarygostyn.org



Advent

~ a time for preparation ~

© Diocesan

Sunday, December 3, 2023|First Sunday of Advent

Prayer Ministry

Mass Intentions

Monday December 4th

8:00 am

† **Jim Massura**

Tuesday December 5th

8:00 am

† **Bonnie Pearsall**

Wednesday December 6th

8:00 am

† **Christopher McCarthy**

Thursday December 7th

8:00 am

† **Franco Alban**

6:00 pm

† **Fr. Michael Walsh & Mary Ellen Walsh**

† **Brittany Battaglia**

Friday December 8th

8:00 am

† **Mrs. Nancy Phillips**

† **Amy Alderfer**

12:00 pm

† **John Rheintgen**

7:00 pm

People of the Parish

Saturday December 9th

4:00 pm

† **Dorothy & Nancy Miriani**

† **Patrick John O'Connor, III**

Sunday December 10th

8:00 am

People of the Parish

10:00 am

Dorothy Cambell

† **Brittany Battaglia**

12:00 pm

† **Dennis Martens**

6:00 pm

† **Pearl Houston**

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the families of

Joe Magno

Collette Clausen

Prayers for the Sick

John Mika

Beth Smith

Baby Cameron

Irene Karlinski

Denise Deno

Mary Buchler

Charlene Oliver

Pam Stefik

Kenneth Twardzik

Christina Bronk

Dennis Kalins

Sue Conrad

Donald Smith

Nicole Meyer

Luke Hyland

Jack Riley

Nick Affatato

Jack Egan

Rosemary Powell

Richard Craven

Konrad Miskowicz-Retz

Rose Jaskula

Sharon Kling

Lois Bach

Emily Torres

Ellie Paruszkiewicz

Adalyn Harres

Bob LeBreton

Stephanie Rodriguez

Thomas Twardzik, Sr.

James Bentley

Mary Kalins

Prayers for the Military

Kevin Braasch

John Svoboa

Nathan Kijowski

Brendan Vrtis

Zachary Frane

Michael Martel

Kathleen Halloran

Jack Culligan

Ben Gartlan

Natalya Brechlin

Isabella Czopek

Kyle Ng

Peter Gartlan

Welcome

We welcome the following to St. Mary of Gostyn

Joseph & Kassandra Lauder

Joseph Binder

Michelle Glosky

Rachel Chorney

Baptism

The following children were Baptized November 26, 2023

Maeve Amelia O'Brien daughter of Patrick and Ellen O'Brien

Otto Severino son of Matthew Stopka and Jessica Rizzi

Ella Elizabeth Landers daughter of Alex and Meghan Landers

Noah William Landers son of Alex and Meghan Landers

Rocky Theodore Alyash son of Matthew and Paula Alyash

Layla Annette Alyash daughter of Matthew and Paula Alyash

Alia Rafaella Alyash daughter of Matthew and Paula Alyash

Parish/School Staff

Terri O'Dekirk.....Director of Development

Ed Ahern.....Facilities Director

Annabelle Tumlos...Business Manager

Kelly Johnson.....Adult Faith Formation

Jennifer Liszka.....Director of Religious Education

Erin Lawrence.....Music Director

Leanne Brown.....Parish Administrative Assistant

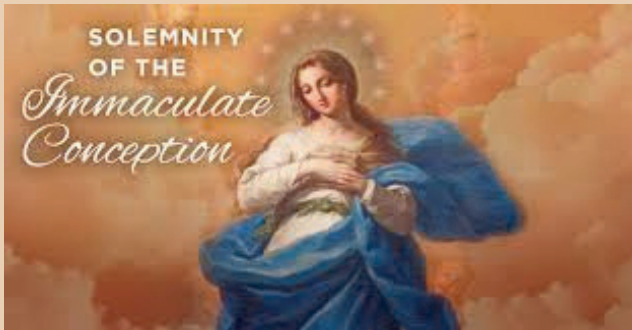
Christine Kalal.....School Principal

Audrey Krueger.....Assist Principal/Co-Athletic Director

Juli Majchrzak.....Marketing Director

St. Vincent dePaul Society...(630)969-1068

Advent, Christmas, Obligation



Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, December 7th

6:00PM Vigil Mass

Friday, December 8th

8:00AM, 12:PM, 7:00PM Mass



2024 calendars are now available at all the entrance doors of the church.



Adoration Chapel Advent /Christmas

Adoration chapel will be **closed Saturday, December 23rd and will reopen Wednesday, December 27th.**

The Adoration chapel will also be **closed Sunday, December 31 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd.**



Fourth Sunday Of Advent December 23, 2023

Saturday Vigil for Sunday

4:00PM Mass

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2023

8:00AM, 10:00AM Mass, **no 12:00PM Mass**

Christmas Eve December 24, 2023

3:00PM Mass in Church and Gym

7:00PM and 12:00AM Mass in Church

12:00AM Mass will have incense

Christmas Day, December 25, 2023

8:00AM, 10:00AM, 12:00PM Mass in Church

No 6:00PM Mass

New Years Eve Mass December 31, 2023

8:00AM, 10:00AM, 12:00PM Mass

No 6:00PM Mass

New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

January 1, 2024

9:00AM Mass



Oplatki Christmas wafers are available in the Narthex at the Faith Network desk.

A SEASON OF JOY

Advent

GROW THROUGH FAITH

HOLY HOUR

"It is there that I dare go for the solutions to all my problems." We all struggle with concerns and problems. Holy Hour is the place to come for 'solutions to all problems'.

Despite the busyness of the Season, Holy Hour provides a perfect time to pull back from normal routines, away from noise and distractions, to find joy, guidance, grace, healing, forgiveness and peace. Holy Hour includes Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and opportunity for individual confession.

Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00 PM in Church: This Holy Hour includes a Scriptural reflection on the meaning of the Advent and Christmas season. Spend time prayerfully reflecting on the true meaning of Christmas and the great importance of Emmanuel - God with us.



RECONCILIATION

Rediscover the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent: it's like housekeeping for the soul! Find peace and joy, for God is rich in mercy in this Sacrament of Healing. Individual confession available:

- Tuesday evening, December 12th, 7:00 PM
- Saturday mornings, 8:30-9:30 AM
- Thursday evening, December 21st, 6:30-8:00 PM

UNDERSTANDING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Through him [Christ] the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord.

Ephesians 2:21

Throughout his ministry, Jesus used images and models to help people get a better understanding of the Kingdom of God. For example, Jesus said it was like a tiny mustard seed that grows into a large bush where birds of the air nest.

There are several models Catholics use to describe the Church. Each model makes a unique contribution to our understanding of this complex and mysterious reality. These various examples help to deepen our appreciation of the Church. Tuesday evening's discussion will unpack these foundational truths of our faith. Join us.

Tuesday, December 5th is another Becoming Catholic, Living Catholic discussion at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Place.

ADVENT BOOKLETS

Daily Prayer booklets are available at the Faith Network Desk in the Prairie Street Narthex, after all Masses. The booklets provide Scripture, reflection and a faith in action suggestion to deepen your Advent prayer journey.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

[It is the] personal encounter with the Lord that then strengthens the social mission contained in the Eucharist, which seeks to break down not only the walls that separate the Lord and ourselves, but also and especially the walls that separate us from one another.

Pope Benedict XVI



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

Around the Parish



Knights of Columbus Council 16062 Presents

ST. MARY OF GOSTYN
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



COUNCIL 16062

Pizza with St. Nick Saturday, December 9th

Join us **Saturday, December 9th from 5:15 – 7:30 PM** (after mass) at the Gathering Place for this event. Enjoy complimentary 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.

ST. MARY OF GOSTYN
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



COUNCIL 16062

Help Us to Help Others!

As the St. Mary of Gostyn, KOC Fr. Ernie Norbeck Council 16062, we have been actively involved in the parish, school, and community. Our council over the last few years has supported St. Mary's with the following programs and services:

- Food Pantry Donations
- Nativity House Donations (www.nativity-house.org)
- Support for Right to Life Organizations
 - Sidewalk Advocates for Life (SMG)
 - Waterleaf
 - March for Life
- Coats for Kids
- Scholarships for Seminarians
- Tootsie Roll Drive for Person with Intellectual Disabilities
- Special Events
 - Passion of Christ
 - Late Night Catechism
 - Score Night with Mark Grote

As you can guess, these programs/services require funding. During this season of thanksgiving and gift giving, we are asking for your help. **We are selling raffle tickets for \$20 apiece.** The prize is a **Solo Stove Bonfire 2.0 and Accessories Kit (\$500 value).** Every dollar raised through this raffle will go towards supporting the SMG Knight's charity programs.

Tickets will be on sale until December 15th or until they sell out. Only 100 tickets will be sold! To purchase your tickets, please go to our website:

<https://stmarygostyn.org>



Diocese

Around the Parish

Retirement Fund for Religious

Next weekend, December 9 & 10, there will be a collection for Retirement Fund For Religious. Please help support the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please place your envelope in the basket with your Sunday offertory, as the basket will be passed **ONLY ONCE**. Thank you for your support.



Downers Grove Boy Scout Troop 89 Fundraiser

Farm Fresh Christmas Trees, Wreaths, & Garland

Opening Day is Friday, November 24 at 10AM

St. Mary of Gostyn Parking lot

445 Prairie Ave, Downers Grove

Weekday Hours Dropbox sales only (Self service)

Weekend Hours 10am-4pm

Diocesan is proud to now be printing

St. Mary's Sunday Bulletin

You are invited to help support our Parish!

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