

St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic Church

445 Prairie Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Rev. Shaun Cieslik
Pastor
Rev. Asirvadam Dandu
Parochial Vicar

Deacon Al Agurkis
Deacon Bob Miciunas

Parish Office
(630)969-1063
Website
www.stmarygostyn.org

School Office
(630)968-6155
440 Prairie Avenue
Downers Grove

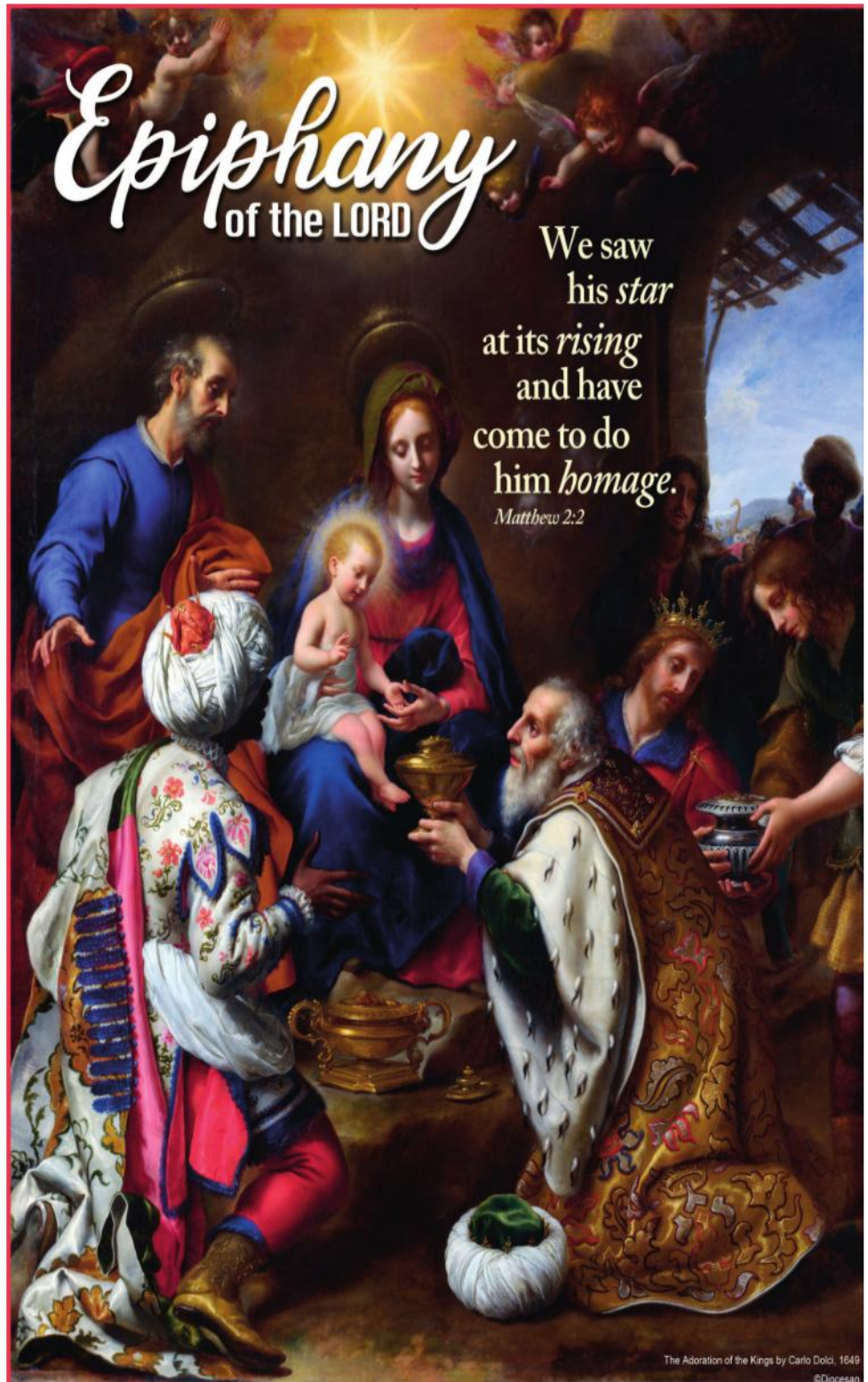
Religious Education Office
(630)960-3566
445 Prairie Avenue
Downers Grove

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.



Sunday, January 7, 2024! The Epiphany of the Lord

Prayer Ministry/Staff

Monday January 8th

8:00 am

Bhorade Radiation & Oncology Technicians

Tuesday January 9th

8:00 am

† Patricia Hill

Wednesday January 10th

8:00 am

† Iva "Lucille" Hatley

† Rick Cronquist

Thursday January 11th

8:00 am

† Peggy Davis

Friday January 12th

8:00 am

† Hugh F. Toner, Jr.

Saturday January 13th

4:00 pm

† Theresa Hurley

† Adrienne Stefka

Sunday January 14th

8:00 am

People of the Parish

10:00 am

† Brittany Battaglia

12:00 pm

† Jim Massura

6:00 pm

† Dylan Moran

† Beau Christensen

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the families of
Denise Deno
Eric Schultz
John Gastaldello

Prayers for the Sick

John Mika	Kim Iaffaldano
Beth Smith	Luke Hyland
Baby Cameron	Jack Egan
Irene Karlinski	Rosemary Powell
Patricia Brennan	Richard Craven
Mary Buchler	Charlene Oliver
Rose Jaskula	Sharon Kling
Pam Stefik	Lois Bach
Kenneth Twardzik	Emily Torres
Ellie Paruszkiewicz	Adalyn Harres
Christina Bronk	Barb LeBreton
Sue Conrad	Stephanie Rodriguez
Donald Smith	Thomas Twardzik, Sr.
Nicole Moyer	James Bentley
Jack Riley	Mary Kalins
Barbara Compton	Folisi-Steck families
Cyndi Smith	Jackie Craven

Prayers for the Military

Kevin Braasch	Michael Martel	Natalya Brechlin
John Svoboda	Kathleen Halloran	Isabella Czopek
Nathan Kjowski	Jack Cuilligan	Kyle Ng
Brenday Vrtis	Ben Gartlan	Peter Gartlan

Welcome

We welcome the following to St. Mary of Gostyn,
John & Louise Gritis
Matthew & Jessica Witt
Deanna Johnson

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

Diocese



Bishop Ronald A. Hicks

Bishop Hicks' Statement on Fiducia Supplicans

On December 18, 2023, the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith announced the Declaration, Fiducia Supplicans. The full Declaration can be accessed here, https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_ddf_doc_20231218_fiducia-supplicans_en.html

It is important to understand that the Declaration does not change the Church's meaning about the Sacrament of Marriage. The document reminds us that in the Catholic Church marriage is an "exclusive, stable and indissoluble union between a man and a woman, naturally open to the generation of children."

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) issued this statement:

"The Declaration issued today [December 18] by the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (DDF) articulated a distinction between liturgical (sacramental) blessings, and pastoral blessings, which may be given to persons who desire God's loving grace in their lives. The Church's teaching on marriage has not changed, and this declaration affirms that, while also making an effort to accompany people through the imparting of pastoral blessings because each of us needs God's healing love and mercy in our lives."

If a priest or deacon is asked to provide a blessing outside of the context of the sacrament of marriage, Fiducia Supplicans states "there is no intention to legitimize anything, but rather to open one's life to God, to ask for his help to live better, and also to invoke the Holy Spirit so that the values of the Gospel may be lived with greater faithfulness."

Please be assured of my prayers as I ask you to continue to keep me in yours.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

TUESDAY EVENINGS

Holy Hour With Guest Speaker Abbot Austin Murphy, OSB. Abbot Austin will share insights and reflections on the Eucharist and Real Presence. In Adoration, the time of silence and reflection will help you pray and cultivate a deeper relationship with the Lord. Join us for this faith-filled evening, **Tuesday, January 9th, 7PM in Church.**

The Holy Hour of Adoration includes Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, as well as reflection on topics of faith, with silence, and prayer. Opportunity for individual confession throughout the evening.

Mark your calendar for the upcoming Becoming Catholic, Living Catholic discussion on **Tuesday, January 16 @ 7PM in the Gathering Place.**

Topic: The Liturgy - The word "liturgy" technically means the 'work of the people', yet there are two more aspects that help us understand why we even have the Mass in the first place.

BE FORMED - THE EUCHARIST

In cooperation with the Diocese of Joliet, Be Formed is a 90-day discipleship experience for men and women that includes weekly videos, small groups, prayer, fellowship and nights of reflection. Through Be Formed, individuals are given the opportunity to pray and listen to the ways the Lord is calling.

St. Mary's hosts several in-person groups, and there is a huge variety of time/day options available virtually. The next season, focusing on the Eucharist, begins on Ash Wednesday, but advance registration is required. See website for more information.

ST. MARY'S THURSDAY AM CAFÉ

Women were essential to the ministry of Jesus and the flourishing of the early church. Our **Women in the New Testament** study delves into the lives of the fascinating women who befriended Jesus, were healed and transformed by him, followed him as disciples, and proclaimed the good news of his resurrection. Journey through the New Testament, exploring the social and religious world of first-century Palestine and the remarkable lives of these women of faith.

This next study begins January 18th, both virtual and in-person options. See website for details and registration.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

“ Lord Jesus, Who in the Eucharist make your dwelling among us and become our traveling companion, sustain our Christian communities so that they may be ever more open to listening and accepting your Word. ”

Saint Pope John Paul II

GUEST SPEAKER AT HOLY HOUR



ME? A CAREGIVER?

You might be! Caregivers are as varied as the duties you perform for someone else: running errands, picking up medications, accompanying to the doctors, or even performing light nursing or helping with activities of daily living. Often, we don't realize what we're doing is caregiving.

But, what you do is sacred and meaningful. St. Mary's has multiple ways to support you during this journey. Don't go it alone! Instead, see the blessings in what you do.

"This is exactly what we need to encourage us to be a better caregiver."

Nourish for Caregivers participant, Kathy M.

There are many resources available on our website, including links to a Nourish online group. Plus, our Nourish group meets this week, Wednesday, in the Gathering Place at 2PM. All are welcome!

HOMEBOUND MINISTERS

Did you know? Homebound Ministers of Care are trained and commissioned to bring Communion to parishioners in individual homes or care facilities (like Oak Trace) who are unable to attend Mass due to being sick or homebound. In addition to bringing the Eucharist, they offer prayers and support through active listening and a caring presence. Please contact Deacon Bob to volunteer: 630.969.1063.

Around the Parish



Time to get the HOTTEST TICKET in Town

The 2024 Garden Gala committee is thrilled to announce the official opening of registration for the most anticipated event of the year - The Annual St. Mary of Gostyn Gala! This enchanting evening promises to be a celebration of our school, bringing together parents, parishioners, supporters, and friends for a night of camaraderie and generosity. The Annual Gala serves as a vital fundraising initiative to support the education and growth of our children at St. Mary of Gostyn.

The Garden Gala Details

- Saturday, February 3, 2024 at Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace.
- Cocktail hour starts at 6pm with an Open Bar and Hors d'oeuvres.
- You will be seated at 7pm for dinner with a preselected meal choice. Please see the details below.
- Dress code: Semi-formal to formal.

Dinner Choices

Filet Mignon and Chicken Combo
Salmon Filet
Vegetable Kabob

Please see our website to register!

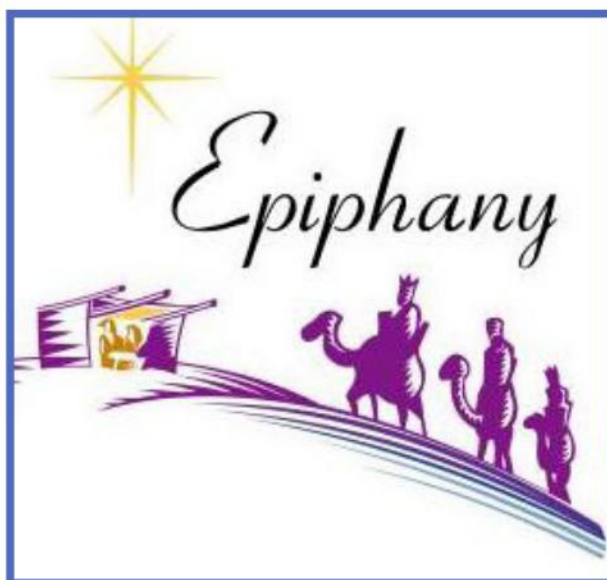
smggala2024.givesmart.com

There are still opportunities to sponsor the event and/or donate an auction item. Your support will help to underwrite this event. Thank you. Details are on the website under "Sponsorship Opportunities".

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place the following Sunday;

January	February	March	April	May
1/7	2/4	3/3	4/7	5/5
1/14	2/11	3/10	4/21	5/12
1/28	2/18		4/28	



Around the Parish

Epiphany of the Lord January 8, 2024

The word “epiphany” comes from the Greek *epiphainen*, a verb that means “to shine upon,” “to manifest,” or “to make known.” Thus, the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11).



Then they opened their
TREASURES AND OFFERED HIM
GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE,
AND MYRRH.



Diocese

The 2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun!

As the Diocese of Joliet launches the 2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we are humbly asking all parishioners to pledge their support for this important effort, as together we can make a profound difference.

This year's CMAA theme is For the Glory of God. Through our support, we ensure that the mission and ministries of Christ's Church are available to everyone. Together, we can help provide safe shelter for the homeless, feed the physical and social needs of those who are hungry, inspire those discerning a life of vocation, and aid in the education of our next generation of Catholics. Our parish could not accomplish all of this on its own, but together through the appeal we can do so much more.

Our parish's goal for the 2024 CMAA is \$GOAL, and 70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us and used fruitfully within our own parish. Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet this month and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal.

If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

Diocesan is proud to be printing

St. Mary's Sunday Bulletin

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