

St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic Church

445 Prairie Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Rev. Shaun Cieslik
Pastor

scieslik@stmarygostyn.org

Rev. Asirvadam Dandu

Parochial Vicar

adandu@stmarygostyn.org

Deacon Al Agurkis

deaconal@stmarygostyn.org

Deacon Bob Miciunas

deaconbob@stmarygostyn.org

Deacon Thomas Jagiello

deaconthomas@stmarygostyn.org

Parish Center

Hours: M-F, 8:30AM-4:30PM

(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

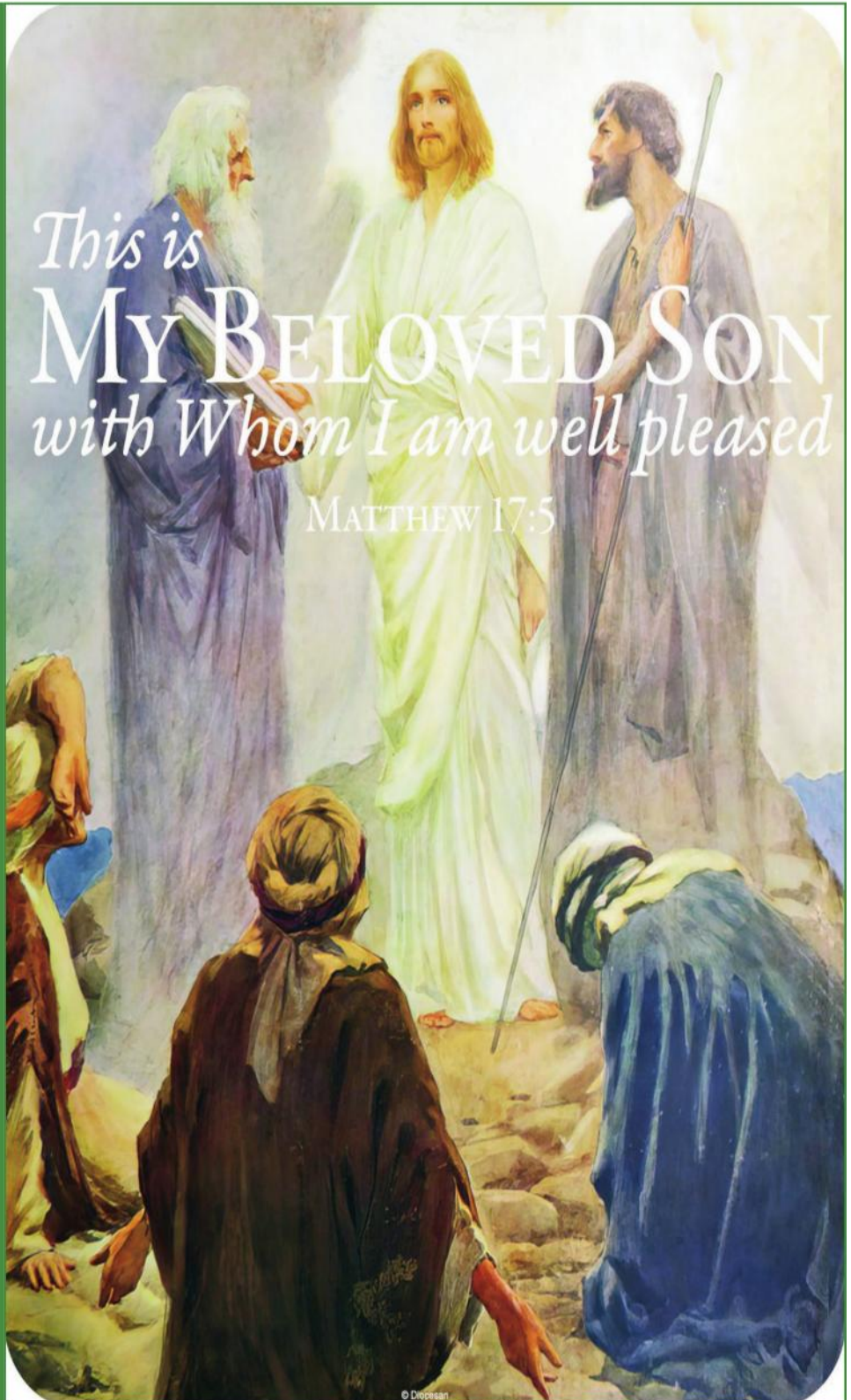
New Parishioners

We encourage you to register

in person at the Parish Office or

register online through our

website, www.stmarygostyn.org



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time | August 3, 2025

Prayer Ministry I Staff

Monday, August 4th
8:00 am (Living) Adam Bach and spouse

Tuesday, August 5th
8:00 am† Betty Kolpa

Wednesday, August 6th
8:00 am† Annette Gallagher

Thursday, August 7th
8:00 am† Jane Shannon

Friday, August 8th
8:00 am† David Kozlowski

Saturday, August 9th
4:00 pm† Henry Pavlak

Sunday, August 10th
8:00 am† Barbara Saunders & Rudy Mercado

10:00 am† deceased members of the Crown family

12:00 pm† Mary Ann Parenty

6:00 pm People of the Parish

Prayers for the Sick

Jason Malkowski	Patricia Finn
Skip Castaldo	Mary Kern
Philip Kern	Kenneth Boese
John Hejny	Ginger Jurish
Anna Bandur	Patricia Kangas
Marie Rossi	Donald Ulrich
Noreen Fitzgerald	Alan Juscik
Dolores Ronaldson	Vincent Barbaro
Lauren Dempsey	Mary Miraglio
Eliza Skipworth	Mike Kern
Frank & Buddy Davis	Gloria Caracello
Joyce Kessler	Jan Pietka
Larry Szmurlo	Garry Kornack
Lauren Marshall	Joseph Leto
Frances Mchaffey	Jim Mchaffey
Stephanie Rodriguez	Frank Davis
Julie Worch	Lois Bach
Sue Conrad	Sharon Kling
Karen Swanson	Nick Affatato
Dorothy Troost	Patricia Arbuthnot
Melvin Smith	Susan L. Aparicio
Reenie DeMay	Jerry Benish
Laura Davidson	Bonnie Hagen
Scott Melrose	Michael Carbon
Mary Mayer	Gail Earley
Sarah Szczepkowski	Larry Szmurlo

Names will be removed after four weeks.

Prayers for the Military

Kevin Braasch
Michael Martel
Natalya Brechlin
John Svoboda
Kathleen Halloran
Isabella Czopek
Nathan Kjowski
Jack Culligan
Kyle Ng
Ben Gartlan
Peter Gatlan
Zachary Frana
Noah Sommer



Baptism

The following children were baptized on Saturday, July 26 and Sunday, July 27, 2025.
Gemma Eloise Montgomery daughter of C.J. & Christina Montgomery
Olivia Jade Schoolcraft daughter of Tyler & Amanda Schoolcraft
Christian Robert Unterfranz son of Christopher & Megan Unterfranz
Thomas Leno Villa son of John & Maura Villa

Parish/School Staff

Gabriella Senese-Burns.....Director of Development
gsenese-burns@stmarygostyn.org

Ed Ahern.....Operations Director
eahern@stmarygostyn.org

Annabelle Tumlos.....Business Manager
atumlos@stmarygostyn.org

Susan Tuskey.....Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper
stuskey@stmarygostyn.org

Kelly Johnson.....Adult Faith Formation
kjohnson@stmarygostyn.org

Jennifer Liszka.....Director of Religious Education
jliszka@stmarygostyn.org

Erin Lawrence.....Music Director
elawrence@stmarygostyn.org

Pat Vena.....Sacristan/Bulletin
pvena@stmarygostyn.org

Lisa Keough.....Parish Administrative Assistant
lkeough@stmarygostyn.org

Christine Kalal.....School Principal
ckalal@stmarygostyn.org

Audrey Krueger.....Assist Principal/Co-Athletic Director
akrueger@stmarygostyn.org

Juli Majchrzak.....Marketing Director
jmajchrzak@stmarygostyn.org

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

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the following family
Patricia Riley

Scripture Readings

For the Week of August 3, 2025

Sunday	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21
Monday	Memorial of Saint John Vianney, Priest Nm 11:4b-15; Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday	Nm 12:1-13; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13, Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday	Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36
Thursday	Nm 20: 1-13; Ps 95: 1-2, 6-7, 8-9, Mt 16:13-23
Friday	Dt 4:32-40; Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21; Mt 16:24-28
Saturday	Dt 6: 4-13; Ps 18: 2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51; Mt 17:14-20
Sunday	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 18:6-9; Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or Heb 11:1-2, 8-12; Lk 12:32-48 or Lk 12:35-40

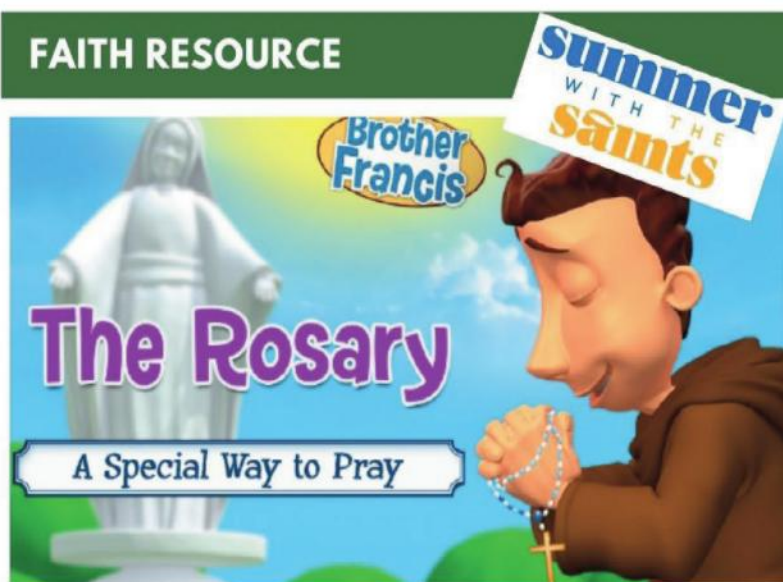
Adult Faith Formation



Praying with Music. Music has the amazing power to evoke emotion and draw us deeper into prayer. Our next Holy Hour will feature the reflective and compelling harp music of our Music Director. Music can be a profoundly efficacious way to connect with God. Calming and cathartic, and when mixed with prayer, this natural effect of music can be powerful and deeply spiritual.

Tuesday, August 5th at 7PM in Church. Holy Hour will include, along with harp music, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, prayers and reflection, as well as opportunity for individual confession.

FAITH RESOURCE



Week: 10

Featured Saint: Saint Dominic

Feast Day: August 8

St. Dominic recognized the need not only for contemplation but also active apostolic work. We see this in the Rosary prayed well: contemplating the mysteries with a firm resolution. Study, prayer, service.

Video for Adults: Catholic Saints: Saint John Vianney whose feast day we also celebrate this week, August 4.

Video for Kids: Brother Francis: The Rosary, A Special Way to Pray. Join Brother Francis in this entertaining and guidance-filled presentation that will inspire children to deepen their faith by praying the Rosary!

Family Summer Activity: Family Rosary Night. Grab your rosaries and pray together to celebrate the feast of Saint Dominic, who was given a rosary by the Virgin Mary herself!

BECOMING CATHOLIC



The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) (formerly known as the RCIA) is the way we welcome people into Catholic Church. Our OCIA Inquiry Course will begin in the Fall and is a way to encounter the love of Jesus and learn to live as a Catholic.

- If you're baptized in another faith tradition or never been baptized, or attending Mass because your spouse is Catholic, we welcome you to this journey of faith, and if interested, become Catholic.
- Or, if you're baptized Catholic, but have not received all your Sacraments, we welcome you on this journey.
- If you're a life-long Catholic, we invite you to accompany inquirers along the faith journey, a way to share your faith in conversation with others and model what it means to live as a Catholic.

Together, we'll share in the journey, growing closer in relationship as a faith community, with each other and with Jesus.

Curious? See the website for more details and a full list of topics. If you are interested in receiving Sacraments, call the office at 630.969.1063 or contact Father Shaun.

Around the Parish | Diocese



Join us for the
Diocese of Joliet

**JUBILEE MASS FOR
GRANDPARENTS AND
ELDERLY**
Pilgrims of Hope

**Saturday, October 4, 2025
11:00 AM**
Cathedral of St. Raymond
604 N Raynor Ave, Joliet, IL


RSVP by scanning
the QR code or by
calling 815-221-6192




JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Questions? Call Jim Elias 815-221-6134

**"Take care to
guard against all
greed, for though
one may be rich,
one's life does
not consist of
possessions."**



**The Journey
BEGINS**
Register for Religious
Education Today

Religious Education Registration is now open to
All Parish families!
Please go to:

stmarygostyn.org

Go to "Religious Education" and click on "RE
Registration Information" for all registration
information and forms.

FILL US AT DAYBREAK
**WITH YOUR
MERCY**
THAT ALL OUR DAYS
WE MAY SING FOR JOY
PSALM 90:14



CALLING FORTH CATECHISTS

catechistsjourney.com

Who Makes a Good Catechist?

- A person of faith who wants to share it.
- Someone willing to work with children or middle schoolers.
- An adult age 18 and up.
- Any adult still passionate about his/her faith.
- A person willing to follow a catechist guide with easy lesson plans.

Can you see yourself in this description? So many times, we think we have to rely on the parents of the children in the program. Did you know that a vast amount of our catechists are not parents from our RE families? Many are parents, but not all.

Consider how you can participate. It's all about sharing what you have been given by someone else. Training is available and encouraged. We're praying for you to consider this opportunity. Please contact the RE office at 630-960-3566 for more information.

Around the Parish | Diocese



The 2025 CMAA

Your gift to CMAA makes an impact!

If you have already pledged your support to the Catholic Ministries annual Appeal (CMAA), we sincerely thank you! Let's join together to meet our parish's goal of \$144,000. Each and every gift, regardless of size makes a difference.

If you still plan on making your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how best you can open your heart to God's goodness in support of those in need throughout our diocese. Pledge envelopes are still available in the church, or you can use the envelope you received in the mail from the diocese. We also welcome online gifts at joilet-dioceseappeal.org

Remember, if we raise more than our goal, the diocese will return 70% of the amount over our goal to us to reinvest in our own parish. This is an incredible opportunity and blessing!



SHARE YOUR FAITH BRING JESUS TO OTHERS

Our Homebound Ministers of Care of Holy Communion bring Holy Communion to those who are homebound and are unable to attend Sunday Mass. We currently have a ministry team but are seeking more volunteers.

Ministers of Care are trained and commissioned to bring Communion to parishioners in individual homes or care facilities who are unable to attend

Mass due to being sick or homebound. They offer prayers and support through active listening and a caring presence.

Ministers of Care volunteers must

- have a vehicle and drive to the homebound residence
- complete a Minister of Care course training
- satisfy Diocese of Joliet requirements for working with vulnerable populations

Interested or to learn more, call our parish offices, email Deacon Bob or call 630-737-9637



Though one may
be rich, one's life
does not consist
of possessions

Luke 12:15

Reflections for the Week

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Robbing a Bank

The second reading from the Letter to the Colossians goes well with the first reading and the Gospel. Those passages warn how useless material wealth will be when we die. St. Paul continues this warning by reminding us that we have already died with Christ in baptism and risen to new life. To live this new life we must put to death whatever tendencies keep us from Christ.

Wealth can be a gift from God. The abuse is not necessarily in the possession of wealth. More likely, we abuse wealth either in the ways we attain it or use it—or both. How do we abuse the attainment of wealth? I can give an obvious answer, such as robbing a bank, but this makes it too easy to justify myself. Do I work a full day for my pay, or do I spend a lot of time visiting with other employees, surfing the Web, taking extra-long breaks, or texting my friends? Am I honest with my customers, charging only for work I have done?

As for using our wealth, we usually think of family first. Do we spoil our kids, so they can “have the things I couldn’t afford when I was young”? Or do we teach them to work for what they get? Do we also think of the poor and homeless? Do we teach our children to be generous to others?

Notice that Paul does not mention wealth. Instead he goes deeper, pointing out the thoughts and desires that lead to a life centered in wealth. In baptism, we put to death passion and greed, tendencies that push us to own more or to control another person. Paul uses the image of taking off these vices as if they were clothing and putting on a new self that shows Christ in us. When we have been renewed that way, then Christ becomes visible in all people. We no longer have reason to look down on anyone for being poor or sickly or of another race. We begin to see Christ in them, for as Paul says, “Christ is all and in all” (Colossians 3:11).

Tom Schmidt

SAINT JOHN MARY VIANNEY (1786-1859)

August 4

A busy pastor jokingly suggests the secret of John Vianney’s holiness: “He died seventeen years before telephones!” Call they didn’t, but visit they did, keeping Vianney eighteen hours a day in the confessional. Stories abound of reading hearts and exorcisms, but Vianney’s first miracle was getting ordained. Difficulty with studies delayed him, prompting the rector’s apology to the bishop, “So far to ordain just one, especially *this* one!” The bishop, who could not know he was ordaining the future patron saint of parish priests, replied, “No burden to ordain one good priest!” In Ars, only an elderly handful attended Mass, “praying,” one told Vianney, “for a priest with brains.” But he stayed forty-two years, fulfilling the promise he made the day he arrived. In a sculpture just outside the village Vianney points skyward: “Show me the way to Ars,” he tells a boy, “and I’ll show you the way to heaven.” To someone who feared there was no heaven beyond the grave, Vianney smiled, “My child, it would have been heaven enough to have lived as Jesus’ disciple on earth.”

—Peter Scagnelli

SAINT TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS (EDITH STEIN) (1891-1942)

August 9

“Come,” Edith gently whispered, taking her sister Rosa’s hand, “let us go for our people!” These were Edith Stein’s last words as the Nazis, enraged at the Dutch bishops’ condemnation of their genocide, took into custody all Catholic converts from Judaism. Born Jewish, but non-practicing from her teens, Edith’s search for truth led to a doctorate in philosophy, a brilliant career as professor and author and, finally, to the *Autobiography of Saint Teresa of Ávila*, which she read in one sitting, then declared, “That is the Truth!” Baptized on January 1, 1922, observed then as the feast of Jesus’ initiation into the covenant of Abraham, confirmed on February 2, the feast of Jesus’ Presentation in the Temple, Edith entered the cloistered Carmelites in Cologne, transferring to a convent in Holland when she realized that, because of the Nazi persecution of the Jews, her presence could imperil the safety of the other nuns. She died in the gas chambers of Auschwitz as a daughter of Israel and of the Church.

—Peter Scagnelli



Around the Diocese | Parish

ANNOUNCING THE 47TH ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

August 17, 2025
2:00 p.m.
Cathedral of St. Raymond
604 N Raynor Ave., Joliet, IL
Registration Required

Couples celebrating anniversaries of 25 years, 50 years, and more than 50 years, are welcome to attend. Bishop Ronald A. Hicks will celebrate the Mass and will lead all couples in a special renewal of wedding commitment.

Pre-registration is required by August 8, 2025. Scan the QR code or website link:
<https://forms.office.com/r/qu9fbEpfkr>



Office of Lifelong Lay Formation
Questions? Contact Jim Elias
(815) 221-6134
jelias@dioceseofjoliet.org
DIOCESE OF JOLIET



Sacred Art: Pilgrim Icon Program

For more than 45 years, the Knights of Columbus have shared sacred art with parishes around the world for prayer and devotion. This year, the Knights' Pilgrim Icon Program depicts an image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

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