

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

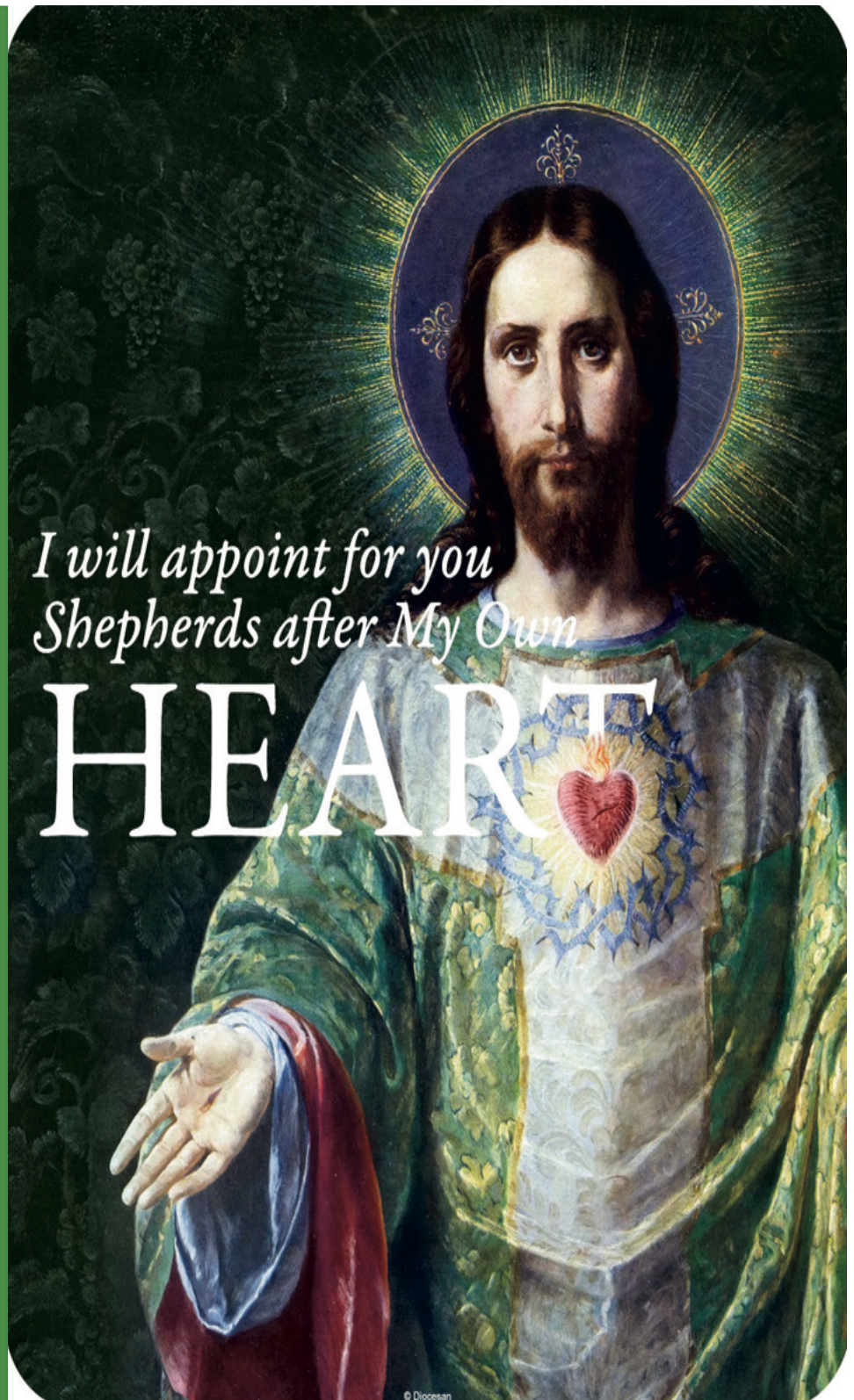
Saturday.....8:30am-9:30am

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



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time | August 24, 2025

Prayer Ministry I Staff

Monday, August 25th
8:00 am† Joseph Cosenza

Tuesday, August 26th
8:00 am† Joseph Cosenza

Wednesday, August 27th
8:00 am† Mark Wojcik & Karen Zrowt

Thursday, August 28th
8:00 am† Kathryn Krynicki

Friday, August 29th
8:00 am† Diane Main

Saturday, August 30th
4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, August 31st
8:00 am† Joseph Cosenza & Barb Lenski
10:00 am† Anna Giannini
12:00 pm† Ted & Eleanor Kolpa
6:00 pm† Dorothy O'Halloran

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
Garry Kornack	Lauren Marshall
Joseph Leto	Frances Mchaffey
Jim Mchaffey	Frank Davis
Stephanie Rodriguez	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	Larry Szmurlo
Sarah Szczypkowski	Ann Maria Jussick
Koka Haralambos	John Saniat
Larry McCarthy	Shirley Twardzik

Names will be removed after four weeks.

Welcome

We welcome the following to St. Mary of Gostyn.
Luis & Ana Parinda-Rangel

Prayers for the Military

Kevin Braasch
Natalya Brechlin
Kathleen Halloran
Nathan Kijowski
Kyle Ng
Peter Gartlan
Noah Sommer
Michael Martel
John Sovobda
Isabella Czopek
Jack Culligan
Ben Gartlan
Zachary Frana
Aiden Browning

Baptism

The following children were baptized on Saturday, August 16, 2025.

Rocco Patrick Barber son of Sean & Olivia Barber

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the following family.
Richard Drobney



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

Scripture Readings For the Week of August 24, 2025

Sunday	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30
Monday 22	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday	1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-3, 4-6; Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday	Memorial of Saint Monica 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday	1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17; Mt 24:42-51
Friday	Memorial of the Passion of John the Baptist 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12; Mk 6:17-29
Saturday	1 Thes 4:9-11, Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday	Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14

Adult Faith Formation

NEW DATE!

Parents *And Grandparents* in Prayer



United in Prayer. As our students head to college or back to school, unite with other parents (and grandparents) in prayer for the health, safety and well-being of our students at a Holy Hour of Adoration.

Bonus: Bring your college student's address: we'll have stationery to write a note; we'll pay the postage and stick in a Starbucks gift card!

In addition to special prayer intentions for students, the Holy Hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, as well as opportunity for individual confession. And if you don't have a student starting school, come anyway. Prayers are always appreciated!

NOTE: Date changed to **Tuesday, September 2nd at 7PM in Church.** There will still be an August 26th Holy Hour. It will simply include Confession and silent Adoration. The Parents in Prayer Holy Hour will be September 2nd.

EVENING FAITH FORMATION

What We Believe

THE BEAUTY OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

EXPLORE THE AMAZING RICHES OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Discover the Amazing Riches of the Catholic Faith

How much do you really know about your faith? And, what is the Catholic Church all about anyway? What does it mean to be Catholic? What do Catholics actually believe? **The Catholic Church is extraordinary.**

Founded by Christ himself, the Catholic Church is where we encounter God in his Word, his Sacraments, and his Saints. The Church faithfully proclaims the fullness of faith, leaving no truth out. It proclaims the fullness of life, leaving no person out. It calls all to repent and to believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the source of all life and salvation.

This study is open to all adults; you will be profoundly moved by the beauty and the richness of the Catholic Church in this evening offering, What We Believe.

Join in! All parishioners, both men and women are welcome as we explore the depth and joys of our Catholic faith. Using the best-selling study from Ascension Press, **What We Believe**, the Tuesday evenings' journey begins September 9th. See website for full schedule and registration.

STARTING THIS FALL

FOR WOMEN



There's a hot cup of coffee waiting for you! Join other women of the parish in rich and uplifting conversations about our faith.

This fall we'll kick off with a Guest Speaker! In her talk, **Friendship with Jesus**, Dr. Mary Amore will share reflections on Pope Francis' writings. Sept. 11th 9AM. Register online.

Then we'll begin **Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled**. With its powerful prose and beautiful details, The Gospel of Luke will deepen your desire to draw closer to Jesus and be transformed by his teachings. Begins September 18th, 9AM. Register online.

FOR MEN



Strengthen your faith through discussions centered on the life-affirming message of Jesus. Experience true friendship in a relaxed welcoming environment.

Next study: The most decorated Chaplain in US Army History, Servant of God Emil Kapaun's story inspires and reminds us that every man can achieve the greatness to which God has called us. The Kapaun's Men Virtue Series features fellow Prisoners of War and invites you to dive into the life of Fr. Kapaun and the virtues he exemplified. In addition, men from many walks of life help to illustrate what virtue looks like in today's world.

St. Mary's Men's Group welcomes men of all ages to be committed disciples of Jesus Christ and be better husbands, fathers and men in their local community, equipping them with the spiritual confidence and initiative to continue to grow in their faith journey. Begins Sept 8th with a kickoff and fellowship night for the Bears Monday Night Football opener. Register online.

Around the Parish

A Journey of Faith

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is the way we welcome people into Catholic Church. Our OCIA Inquiry Course Studies will begin in the Fall and is a way to encounter the love of Jesus, learn about the faith and discover what it means 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 of Initiation, welcome to 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 as a faith community, and in relationship with each other and with Jesus.

Curious? See our website for details. If you are interested in becoming Catholic or receiving any of the Sacraments of Initiation, call the Parish Office at 630.969.1063 or contact Father Shaun.



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

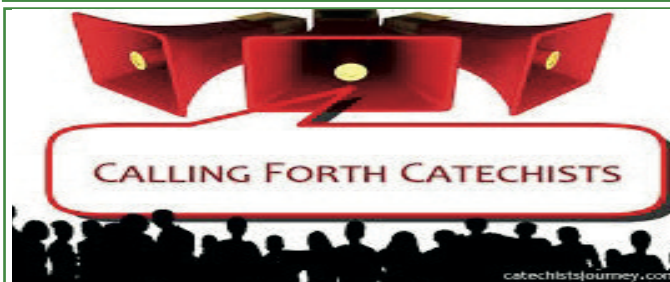
Altar Server Training will be on
October 7th, Tuesday, 4:30pm-6:30pm
October 14th, Tuesday, 4:30pm-6:30pm
You will be required to attend only ONE session.
More information to follow.



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.



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.

They shall proclaim my glory among the nations

Isaiah 66:19

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 joiletdioceseappeal.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

BE FORMED

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EXPERIENCE PRAYER,
SCRIPTURE,
THE SACRAMENTS,
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THE CATHOLIC CHURCH



SEASON 11 - THE CREED - PART I
THE FATHER

September 12th - December 10th, 2025

Register online July 24th
through August 17th, 2025

Late registrations run
through September 3rd, 2025



4TH ANNUAL SMG MUM SALE



Cost: \$10 each

Color Options: Red, Orange, Yellow,
White, Purple, Pink

Size: 9 inch Pots, 18 inch Flowers

Online Order Deadline: Tues 8/26

Pick-up: Wed 9/3 3pm-6pm

Lower Parish Parking Lot



Around the Parish



Thank you Sponsors!



Sean Reynolds Family



A Huge Thank You to Our Incredible Race Volunteers!

We are so grateful to everyone who worked tirelessly all summer to bring this event to life.

Special thanks to:

- Hallie Nester- 5K Committee Chair
- Kaite Watson- 5K Community Lead
- Mallory Bruns, Brooke Ciarrachi, Kristin Menick, Carrie Murphy, Josie Riccio, Jenell Schroeder, Randy Wostratzky- Committee Members
- Kimberly Enriquez- Volunteer Organizer

We also appreciate our amazing students and parents who delivered neighborhood letters/maps before the race, as well as all the adults and students who pitched in during the days leading up to the race and on race day itself.

Your energy, time, and dedication made this event possible — we couldn't have done it without you!



Around the Diocese

Important Update for Parishioners: Action Required Regarding CMAA InPew Envelopes

The Development Office of the Diocese of Joliet is committed to maintaining transparency and open communication with our parishioners. We wish to provide an important update concerning the status of the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) InPew Envelopes. As many of you are aware, we encountered an unexpected challenge with UPS back in March, which resulted in the loss of 23 packages containing InPew Envelopes, many with checks made out to the CMAA. To date, UPS has been unable to locate these missing packages. In light of this situation, we strongly advise parishioners who made a gift via check using an InPew Envelope to verify their transaction with their bank.

If you find that your check has not been cashed, we recommend you take the necessary steps to stop payment on that check. We deeply appreciate your commitment to the CMAA, and we hope you will prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2025 CMAA through one of our mailings, or by making a secure gift over the phone by calling (815) 838-8515, or online at www.jolietdioceseappeal.org. Please deduct any incurred bank fees from your gift to the CMAA.

The Development Office would like to reassure all our parishioners that there have been no reported incidents of fraud related to these delivery issues. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we worked tirelessly to remedy this issue as best we could. And we are humbled and grateful for your generous support of the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal which is so vital to our mission. Your contributions make a significant difference in the lives of so many, and we are thankful for your ongoing commitment to our shared mission of spreading Jesus' kindness and love to all.

For more information, please contact the Development Office at (815) 838-8515 or our Chief Development Officer, Jane Lager, at jlager@dioceseofjoliet.org.

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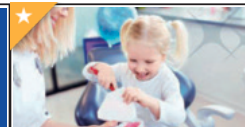
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