

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 Jagielo

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet,
do not recline at table in the place of honor.
A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him..."

Luke 14:8



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | August 31, 2025

Prayer Ministry I Staff

Monday, September 1st
9:00 am Labor Day Mass

Tuesday, September 2nd
8:00 am† Joseph Cosenza

Wednesday, September 3rd
8:00 am† John Barranco

Thursday, September 4th
8:00 am† Eddie Jennings

Friday, September 5th
8:00 am† Raymundo Sambo

Saturday, September 6th
4:00 pm† Mary Splawski

Sunday, September 7th
8:00 am People of the Parish
10:00 am† Dr. John & Rita LaCognata
12:00 pm Christ Renews His Parish #5
6:00 pm† Jose Daniel DeLeon

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.

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

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the following families.
Robert Orseski, Jr.
Thomas Sullivan

Baptism

The following children were baptized on Sunday, August 24, 2025.

Opal O'Connell daughter of Kerry & Brooke O'Connell
Lucca Olaf Arellano son of Axel and Gabrielle Arellano
Tess Rae Rappaport daughter of Ben & Cassidy Rappaport
Kaylee Rosenthal daughter of Travis & Karen Rosenthal
Grant Michael Grobe son of Kevin & Molly Grobe
Keeley Marjorie Conness daughter of Ty & Jessidca Conness

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 31, 2025

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
Monday	1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13; Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday	Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Col 1: 1-8; Ps 52: 10, 11; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday	Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11
Friday	Col 1:15-20; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 5:33-39
Saturday	Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8; Lk 6:1-5
Sunday	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

Adult Faith Formation

Parents (& Grandparents) in Prayer

The Power of a Parent's Prayer: There is a unique power in a parent's prayer—a way of releasing our children into God's hands and trusting Him to guide, protect, and nurture them. We may wish to shield them from every struggle, but God reminds us that our role isn't to control every outcome but to faithfully pray and trust Him with their lives. This next Holy Hour of Adoration will incorporate prayer reflections specifically for parents, and grandparents, as our students head to college or back to school for the health, safety and well-being of our students.

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!

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! This **Tuesday, September 2nd at 7PM in Church.**



St. Mary's Men's Group

Be the Man God Called You to Be. 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.

Caring for You...

...through your stages of caregiving. Whether you're just beginning by running errands and attending doctor visits. Or you're realizing taking care of another requires more time managing medicines and dealing with health and safety concerns. Or maybe you're a full-time caregiver. At whatever stage, Nourish for Caregivers is here to support you and your needs with practical, emotional and spiritual support.

Walking with Christ. Nourished by Grace. Regardless of the circumstances and challenges, we can confidently know that the Lord goes before us. Walking with Christ shines light on our path. His grace helps us see the blessings in caring for another as we uncover God moving in the midst of these experiences. **Wednesday, September 10 at 2PM in the Gathering Place.**

Thursday AM Women's CAFE

For a Lifetime of Spiritual Growth. St. Mary's Cafe will shed new light on sacred Scripture, helping you more deeply understand Christ and His Church. By engaging the mind and feeding the soul, this time together will help you grow ever closer to Christ. If you've never been to a Bible Study before, or if you are an avid Bible student, St. Mary's Café is right for you.

Kick off the fall session with a Guest Speaker! In her talk, Friendship with Jesus, Dr. Mary Amore will share reflections on Pope Francis' writings.

Then we'll begin Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled, an 8-session study from Ascension Press. 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. See how the Holy Spirit is working in your life, just as he did in the life of Jesus.

Thursday mornings, 9AM.

Guest speaker September 11th.

Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled begins September 18th.

Registration is helpful, see online for more details and registration.

Discover the Richness...

...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?

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.

What We Believe is open to all adults. You will be profoundly moved by the beauty and the richness of the Catholic Church. Together with our Holy Hours of Adoration, What We Believe forms a rich offerings for everyone to learn about our faith and be transformed in relationship with Jesus.

Come! Explore the depth of our Catholic faith. with the best-selling study from Ascension Press, **What We Believe.** Begins Tuesday, September 9th. See website for full schedule, materials and registration.

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.

*For you will be repaid
at the resurrection of
the righteous.*

LUKE 14:14



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 CMMA

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

BE FORMED

A 90 DAY DISCIPLESHIP EXPERIENCE
FOR MEN AND WOMEN

EXPERIENCE PRAYER,
SCRIPTURE,
THE SACRAMENTS,
COMMUNITY,
AND THE TEACHINGS & TRADITIONS OF
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



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

Lower Parish Parking Lot



Around the Parish



Terri O'Dekirk Retirement

Dear Parishioners:

As many of you know, Terri O'Dekirk has served our Parish and School for over ten years as our Development Director. Over the past ten months, she has been working closely with Gabriella Senese-Burns to transition this responsibility to Gabriella. As of June, Terri has stepped back from most of the Development Office responsibilities to spend time with her family and new volunteer opportunities. She will still be available to the Parish and School staff when needed and will continue to stay involved with growing our School Staff Enrichment Fund. Gabriella will lead all the other development events and opportunities for the School and Parish, ie, Gala, Golf Outing, 5 K, and other fundraising.

Terri remains committed to supporting St. Mary's as it has **been her home** Parish for over 30 years and both of her children are graduates of our School. Thank you, Terri, for all you have done for our parish and school. We are grateful that you are willing to assist our parish and school as a resource to build the Kingdom of God here on earth.

With sincere gratitude,
Fr. Shaun



On Monday, September 1st, Labor Day Mass will be at 9:00AM, and the Adoration Chapel will be closed.



The beautiful Altar flowers are in memory of
Eleanor and Ted Kolpa
85th Wedding Anniversary

In his holy abode, God
gives a home to the
forsaken

Psalm 68:6-7



Our Thanks



Thank you Sponsors!



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!

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

WE ARE ONE



One Parish, One School, One Family!

**ADVERTISE
HERE**

**Promote your Business
AND Support your Parish.**

**Jeff Ingersoll ~ 616-299-2388
jingersoll@diocesan.com**

#ThankYouForYourPriesthood

catholicmatch®
Michigan

CatholicMatch.com/goMI



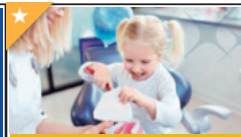
**Get this bulletin
emailed to you
every week.**

**Simply go to
www.DM.CHURCH/1651**

...or scan →



DISCOVERMASS



We LOVE your smile!



**Patient Focused Comprehensive
Dental Care for the Entire Family**

- Gentle & Compassionate Care
- Advanced Treatment
- Local, Family-Owned Practice

630-963-6750

**JacksonFamilyDentistry.us
Eric G. Jackson, DDS, MAGD**

**2033 Ogden Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515**

**Quality Work
Reasonable Prices**

**DEMMIS
PLUMBING
& Sewer**

EMERGENCY SERVICE

**Ask for a
PARISHIONER DISCOUNT**

630-991-3641

Lic#055-044826

demmisplumbing.com

The Businesses listed above make this bulletin possible.

Please support them when you can.

Sign up to get our bulletin in your email each week. Go to DiscoverMass.com/subscribe

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



Auto • Home • Life • Business
FARMERS INSURANCE
Greg Procopio
 630-968-1666
 gprocopio@farmersagent.com

Rick's Home Tuneups, Inc.
HANDYMAN SERVICE
 From odds and ends to basic home maintenance.
 Electrical • Plumbing • Shower & Bath
 630-964-2504



Cappetta's
WEST SUBURBAN
 Funeral Home & Cremation Services

Anthony P. Cappetta
Anthony F. Capetta
 Family Owned & Operated
 westsuburbanfh.com
 (630) 852-8000
 4920 Main St.
 Downers Grove

EWTN.COM/RADIO
EWTN
 Global Catholic Radio
 TUNE IN

Hallowell & James
 Funeral Home
 Providing Distinguished Service Since 1923
 FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
 301 75th Street
 Downers Grove
 (630) 964-6500
 www.HJfunerals.com

Maureen K. Flavin
 Let's Discuss Your Real Estate Plan!
 Call/ Text 630.297.1787 • www.HomeswithStyle.net
 SMG Parishioner & Parent

LAW OFFICE OF
EILEEN R. FITZGERALD
 Elder Law
 Estate Planning
 Wills
 Trusts
 Probate
 630-493-4380
 1561 Warren Ave.
 Downers Grove, IL 60515
 www.EFITZLAW.COM

MANAR MUASHER
 REAL ESTATE BROKER AND CONSULTANT
 (630) 460-0098
 Local Realtor &
 SMG Parishioner
 @properties

NAZARETH ACADEMY
N
 Catholic ~ Co-Ed
 College Prep
 8th Grade
 Shadow Program
 nazarethacademy.com

FUNERALS • BURIALS • CREMATIONS • MEMORIALS
Knollcrest FUNERAL HOMES
 1500 S MEYERS RD • LOOMBARD, IL 60140
 WWW.KNOLLCREST.NET
 KNOLLCREST@KNOLLCREST.NET
 (630) 932-1500
Steuerle
 15 W PARK BLVD • VILLA PARK, IL 60181
 WWW.STEUBERLEFH.COM
 VPOFFICE@KNOLLCREST.NET
 (630) 832-4161

OAKLEY HOME BUILDERS, INC.
Parishioner
 oakleyhomebuilders.com ~ 630-241-9402

Adams Winterfield & Sullivan
 Funeral home and cremation services
 630-968-1000
 4343 Main Street | Downers Grove, IL 60515
 www.adamswinterfieldsullivan.com

State Farm
Benote H. Wimp, Jr.
 AGENT
 FINANCIAL SERVICES
 6900 Main Street, Ste. 54
 Downers Grove, IL 60516
 331-777-2957 or
 www.benotewimp.com

MODELL
 FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES
 — EST. 1955 —
 Celebrating lives well-lived
 Frank A. Modelski Jr.
 Christina M. Brunsen
 Andrew A. Brunsen
 7710 S Cass Ave
 Darien, IL 60561
 (630) 852-3595
 modelldarien.com

LAW OFFICES OF EDWARD R. THEOBALD
 ✉ Bears51@aol.com
 ☎ (312) 346-9246
 General practice with emphasis on Personal Injury, Labor & Employment Law, Criminal Defense. In private practice since 1981. Downers Grove resident since 1978.
 Arboretum Lakes, 901 Warrenville Rd., Suite 175, Lisle, IL 60532
 WWW.EDWARDTHEOBALD.COM

Ed the Plumber
Ed the Carpenter
630.663.1444
 Best Work • Best Rates
PARISHIONER DISCOUNT

LAW OFFICES OF JOHN R. HUBENY P.C.
 (630) 455-0500
 FULL SERVICE LAW FIRM
 CONCENTRATING IN:
 REAL ESTATE • ESTATE PLANNING • PROBATE • BUSINESS
 WWW.HUBENYLAW.COM
 200 E. CHICAGO AVE. #200 • WESTMONT

ADVERTISE HERE
 Promote your Business AND support your Parish.
 Jeff Ingersoll ~ 616-299-2388
 jingersoll@diocesan.com

Parishioners
Americraft
 Design • Renovate • Live
 • DREAM KITCHENS
 • BEAUTIFUL BASEMENTS
 • LUX BATHS
 • ADDITIONS
 www.americaft1.com
630-541-8692
 Showroom: 2201 Curtiss St.
 A Downers Grove Favorite!

Life Insurance Since 1879
CCU Life
 CZECH CATHOLIC UNION
 Annuity/IRA for Insurance Member
 2 yr 4% & 5 yr 4.25%
 Please contact our office for more information. Rates effective 4/1/24 and subject to change.
 (216) 341-0444 • www.czechccu.org

HOSPITAL PLAZA
 FOOT & ANKLE INSTITUTE
 630-810-9966
 www.thefootspecialists.com
 1228 OGDEN AVE. • DOWNERS GROVE, IL

myParish
 The App for Catholic Life Every Day
 www.myParishApp.com
 Available for Apple and Android

Level Up academy
 clarendon hills
 Tutoring & Enrichment Center • PreK-12th
 Westmont, IL • (331) 704-0848 • lu-academy.com

BOXER EXTERIORS
 EXPERIENCE THE BOXER STANDARD
 www.boxerexteriors.com | 630.570.0269