

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

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name
who can at the same time speak ill of me.
For whoever is not against us is for us."

Mt 9:39-40



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Sept. 28, 2025

Prayer Ministry I Staff

Monday, September 29th
8:00 am† Virginia Horn

Tuesday, September 30th
8:00 am† Gene Kent

Wednesday, October 1st
8:00 am† Jerry Girsch

Thursday, October 2nd
8:00 am† Gail Vesely

Friday, October 3rd
8:00 am† Kathy Berg & Michael Oliver

Saturday, October 4th
4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, October 5th
8:00 am† Raymundo Sambo
10:00 am† Kay Selfridge
12:00 pm† Bill & Jane Purpura
6:00 pm† Dolores Molitor

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	Dolores Ronaldson
Vincent Barbaro	Lauren Dempsey
Mary Miraglio	Eliza Skipworth
Frank & Buddy Davis	Mike Kern
Gloria Caracello	Jan Pietka
Garry Kornack	Lauren Marshall
Joseph Leto	Frances Mchaffey
Stephanie Rodriguez	Jim Mchaffey
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
Szcypkowski	Larry Szmurlo
Ann Marie Juscik	Koka Haralambos
John Saniat	John McCarthy
Shirley Twardzik	George B. Metzger
Jeff Michniuk	Daniel Kozar
Matt Selfridge	Kathy Larson
Hunter Gomez	Rob Truby, Sr.
Kathleen Tully	

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 family.
Doris A. Hanlon

Welcome

We welcome the following to St. Mary of Gostyn.
Andrew & Jessi Jenkins
Kathleen Kozak-Miller
Andrew & Olivia Ricchio
Alex & Samantha Johnson



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 September 28, 2025

Sunday	Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31
Monday	Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5; Jn 1:47-51
Tuesday	Memorial of Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday	Memorial of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Lk 9:57-62
Thursday	Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 18:1-5, 10
Friday	Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9; Lk 10:13-16
Saturday	Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-35, 36-37; Lk 10:17-24
Sunday	Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10

Adult Faith Formation

Made for Greatness

■ Virtues: Habits of goodness ■

Faith is the beginning of our life with God, and it leads to true freedom. Cultivating and developing habits of virtue leads to freedom and is attractive to those around us, including our families, our boss, our community.

St. Mary's Men's Group gathers in a relaxed and casual setting to better understand what it means to be a Catholic man in today's world. All men 18+ are welcome. As men embrace the call to pursue heroic virtue, they become better husbands, fathers and leaders.

Monday, September 29, at 7PM

Faith



The Catholic Church is extraordinary

What We Believe

Join in! All parishioners, both men and women, are welcome as we explore the depth and joys of our Catholic faith. These Tuesday evening sessions will use the best-selling study from Ascension Press, *What We Believe*. And to accommodate busy schedules we only meet once or twice a month!

This week we begin the journey of faith. God reveals himself to his people and us today because he desires a relationship with us. What's your response to this invitation?

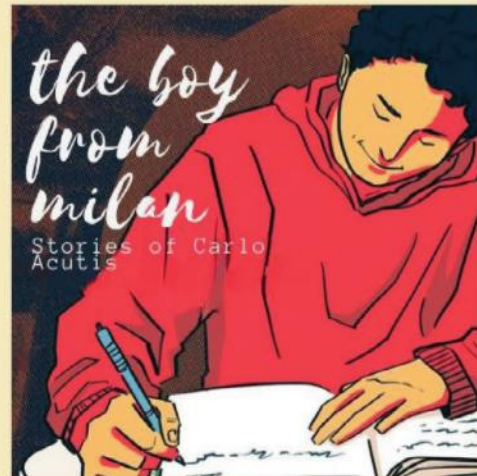
Tuesday, September 30 at 7PM

"All of us too, are called to be Saints."

Pope Leo XIV recently canonized two new saints, Saints Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis. An excerpt from Pope Leo's homily is a reminder of the universal call to holiness:

"Dear friends, Saints Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis are an invitation to all of us...not to squander our lives, but to direct them upwards and make them masterpieces.

"They encourage us with their words: 'Not I, but God,' as Carlo used to say. And Pier Giorgio: 'If you have God at the center of all your actions, then you will reach the end.' This is the simple but winning formula of their holiness. It is also the type of witness we are called to follow, in order to enjoy life to the full and meet the Lord in the feast of heaven."



Faith Resource

On our newest Saints

Explore the richness of the Catholic faith with FORMED.org. Access thousands of movies, audiobooks, studies and documentaries--for FREE. Solid Catholic content, all in one place. Including two engaging documentaries on the amazing new Saints, Carol Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati.

Looking for more - visit FORMED.org

Around our 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.



St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive

2:30 -5:15 OCT 4
7:30-12:30 OCT 5

The truck will be located at far East end of St Marys Parking Lot

Donations accepted

Clothing, shoes, boots, coats,
Linens, towels, toys, books, games, sports equipment
Small housewares : dishes, glassware, utensils, toasters,
blenders, small working appliances, etc.

SORRY NO TELEVISIONS OR COMPUTERS

NO LARGE EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

NO VACUUMS NO FURNITURE NO BABY EQUIPMENT

See full list of acceptable items at

<https://svdpjoliestores.org/>

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING



Altar Server Training at St. Mary of Gostyn is open to all young people in Grades 5 or above. You may register online at <https://stmarygostyn.org>. Go to Ministries, Liturgical Ministries, click on Sign-Up Here. Please fill out the enrollment form for Ministry Scheduler Pro. In the notes section of the enrollment form please put which session you will attend. Please choose only one session.

Tuesday, October 7 - 4:30pm - 6:30pm
Tuesday, October 14 - 4:30pm - 6:30 pm

Please note that the Ministry Scheduler Pro October schedule will not be live until October 1.

Question email: deaconbob@stmarygostyn.org
For sign up questions: pvena@stmarygostyn.org



Each weekend we continue to add a part of our new Mass of Joy and Peace Mass Setting by Tony Alonso. This weekend we will add the Great Amen and the Lamb of God. These videos will give you an idea of what to expect. Please enjoy!

Great Amen: https://youtu.be/pDYVSZ-FUudA?si=SXD_i_BzLkKZvBCU

Lamb of God: <https://youtu.be/ql61AEr-8SHs?si=RUmteJsw2oSiCkwp>

Around our Parish and Diocese

Email safety Notice

Dear Parish Family,

Recently, we have been informed that parishioners have been receiving emails from people claiming to be the priests and deacons of the parish requesting money, gift cards and other forms of payment to support various initiatives. **These emails are NOT from the parish clergy, DO NOT respond to their requests.**

This sort of scam is carried out in a manner sometimes called "spoofing". The perpetrators have gained access to a mailing list with priest email addresses and have "spoofed" them, which means that they mimicked their appearance using fake accounts. It is a practice similar to forging a signature on a letter or impersonating someone on the telephone. Email scams are significantly more dangerous because they are much easier to fake. The offenders in this scam have not gained access to our actual accounts, but rather made very convincing fake accounts that will appear in your inbox as "Father Shaun" or "Father Dandu", etc.

These emails will usually include a general greeting and then tell you a story about how one of us is experiencing an emergency (for example, our mother is in the hospital) and request that you purchase gift cards and send us the numbers. You also may be asked to provide bank account numbers, card numbers, passwords, social security numbers, or other sensitive information. **TO BE CLEAR THESE ARE FAKE.**

The parish priests and deacons will never request money transfers, gift cards, passwords, social security information, or other sensitive information from you over email. While Father Shaun and Father Dandu have no doubt of your generosity, if we are experiencing an emergency, please be assured we would not be reaching out to parishioners via email. If you are ever unsure of whether an email that appears to be from us is legitimate, you are encouraged to call the parish office and confirm it.

Please always be vigilant on the internet, always be skeptical of anything out of the ordinary, and NEVER provide information over email.

For more information and tips on how to avoid becoming a victim of fraud, The United States Federal Trade Commission has very helpful resources at consumer.ftc.gov.

May God bless you abundantly!

Father Shaun & Father Dandu

Keeping Catholic Education Strong

Since 1996, the Catholic Education Foundation (CEF) has secured the future of Catholic schools in our diocese. Through generous donors, more than 50,000 students at 40+ schools across five counties have received a faith-filled education.

This year, we aim to raise \$1 million to keep Catholic education vibrant for generations to come.



Join us! Visit CEFJoliet.org to learn more or use this QR Code to give today.



Around our Parish

Aging with Confidence

Senior Symposium Panel Discussion



Wednesday, November 5th

Doors open 5:30 PM
Panel begins 6:00 PM
Light Refreshments

Registration suggested: On our website or 630.969.1063

Kerry Quirin
SENIOR LIVING EXPERTS
Our Ageing, Your Dreams

Eileen Fitzgerald
ERF EILEEN R. FITZGERALD

Maureen Flavin
Maureen Flavin & Associates

Dan Rattary
Seniors Helping Seniors
Non-Profit Senior Services

Kelly Johnson
Nourish

Pam Graffagna
Weichert Presto

Christine Mountain
Edward Jones

Deacon Bob Miciunas
St. Francis



Children's Liturgy of the word



10:00AM Mass

**September 28
October 5 & 26**

St. Francis

October 4, 2025

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:

Lord make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, joy
O divine master grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console to be under-
stood as to understand
To be loved as to love
For it is in giving that we receive it is in pardon-
ing that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

Praise the LORD,
my soul

PSALM 146:2



Around our Parish

Twenty-six Sunday In Ordinary Time

Today's reading from First Timothy sounds almost like a coach getting his team ready for the big game. This coach has much higher goals than a home run or a touchdown. Instead of pursuing a league championship, he seeks faith, love, patience, and gentleness. How about us? Are we in the game or on the sidelines? Let's look at what Coach Paul is talking about.

Faith is a relationship with the Lord in which we imitate Jesus' outlook on life, his teachings, his love of God. We struggle with his commands to love our enemies, to turn the other cheek, to forgive all wrongs, and to take up our cross each day. As Paul would say, we are "competing well for the faith."

We pursue love by listening to the Gospel, in which Jesus tells the parable of the rich man who was only concerned with his own comfort. Jesus says that if we truly understood the prophets, such as our first reading from Amos, we would not spend all our energy and wealth on ourselves.

As we learn to let go of our need to have everything go our way, we become more patient with people who disagree with us, or with frustrations and problems. We learn to see God in our setbacks as well as in our successes. Experiencing the Lord is the championship we want.

Tom Schmidt

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Your Parish in
Your Will**

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