

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
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



*The Most Sacred
Heart of Jesus*

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, October 5, 2025

Prayer Ministry I Staff

Monday, October 6th
8:00 am† Robert McMahon

Tuesday, October 7th
8:00 am† Carmen Giannini

Wednesday, October 8th
8:00 am† Richard Drobney
8:00 am† Mark Gowgiel

Thursday, October 9th
8:00 am† Kathy Berg

Friday, October 10th
8:00 am† Ray Pietryla

Saturday, October 11th
4:00 pm† Eugene & Irene Mersch

Sunday, October 12th
8:00 am People of the Parish
10:00 am† Kay Selfridge
12:00 pm† Carol Leveillee
6:00 pm† Natividad Balagatas

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 Dempsy
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 Arbutnot
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	Anna Bandur

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 Svoboda
Isabella Czopek
Jack Culligan
Ben Gartlan
Zachary Frana
Aiden Browning

Baptism

The following children were baptized on Sunday, September 28, 2025.

Everly Svea Lown daughter of Jordan & Molly Lown
Genevieve Linda Smetana daughter of Kristin Smetana
Penelope Gabriella Bazigos daughter of Tylanos & Allison Bazigos
Cameron Jac Winchel son of Brian & Katie Winchel

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish/School Staff

Gabriella Senese-Burns.....Director of Development
gsenes-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 October 5, 2025

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
Monday	Jon 1:1-2:1-2, 11; Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday	Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday	Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday	Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 11:5-13
Friday	Jl 1:13-15; 2: 1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday	Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12, Lk 11:27-28
Sunday	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Kgs 5:14-17; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4; 2 Tm 2:8-13; Lk 17:11-19

Adult Faith Formation

Made for Greatness

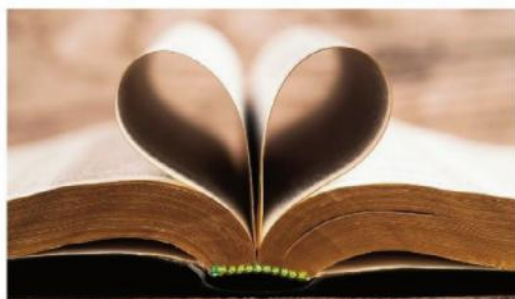
■ The Virtue of Hope ■

Hope is more than a wishy-washy emotion. "Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit." (CCC 1817)

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, October 6, at 7PM

Hope



The Story of Salvation History

The Old Testament

If our Old Testament history is rusty, we have a problem. To truly understand Jesus, we must understand the Old Testament for it lays the foundation for the teachings and events found in the New Testament.

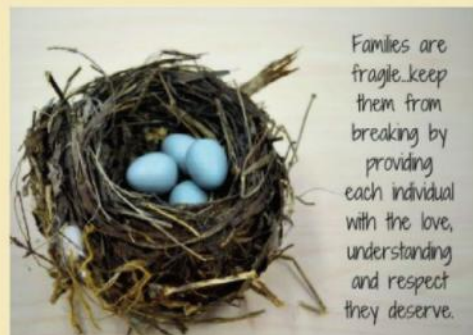
In the Old Testament we learn how to love and serve God as God's character is revealed. It shows through repeatedly fulfilled covenants and prophecies. And it all begins in a garden...

This discussion lecture is open to all adults as part of our Becoming Catholic, Living Catholic offering and is a supplement to our What We Believe all-parish faith formation. All are welcome!

Tuesday, October 7, at 7PM

Who's Caring for the Caregiver?

We are! With Nourish for Caregivers, caregivers receive the support they need to build resilience and strengthen their sense of purpose, so they don't just cope, but thrive!



Family Dynamics

the good, the bad and the ugly

Caring for a loved one adds an incredible amount of stress to the normal challenges a family faces. Tension escalates discussions quickly. Develop a plan to avoid the blowups and seek resolution.

As caregivers, we know a lot about planning, preparing and communications. Same holds true for our relationships, especially with our family member surrounding care. There are some proactive steps we can take to help avoid the really "ugly" stuff.

Make space for taking care of yourself and strengthen your relationship with God.

Nourish for Caregivers is for anyone juggling the challenges of life, health and career while caring for a disabled child, an aging parent, grandparent, or spouse, either in your home, in town or at a distance.

Nourish provides family caregivers practical and emotional supports, shared experiences and useful tools, all with a Christ-centered view. Come see what it's all about - you'll be glad you did!

Wednesday, October 8, at 2PM

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/>

Cash donations and Gift Cards are also appreciated

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

Life: Our Sign of Hope

October is Respect Life Month, a time to recognize the gift of every person's life at every stage and in every circumstance.

The theme for this year's Respect Life month, "Life: Our Sign of Hope," reflects the message of the ongoing Jubilee Year of Hope.

We are called to be signs of hope to all people, especially those whose goodness, value, and dignity are undermined. As members of the Body of Christ, we carry this hope with us as we continue Jesus' mission on earth.

As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning to the end of their lives, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life.

Around our Parish and Diocese

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Taking Care of Business

When we were kids, my brothers and sisters and I thought that you were not supposed to say the blessing before meals in a restaurant. You were not supposed to flaunt your faith in public. It probably had more to do with fear of being embarrassed if non-believers saw us praying. I think of that when I hear St. Paul telling Timothy, “God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control” (2 Timothy 1:7). All three readings mention the difficulties that people of faith will encounter, and each reading has its own way of facing those hardships.

Jesus gives the practical advice: Look at the difficulties of being a disciple as just part of your job. No servant expects to be praised by his master for doing his job. So if the Lord says I must forgive those who hurt me, or be patient with customers, or share what I have with the poor—no problem; it’s part of the job of a disciple. If someone I know is in pain, I’m there to support them. Too tired to go to church after work on a holy day? Just taking care of business.

So how do we get the strength and self-control to roll with the punches? Paul reminds us in the second reading to stir the gifts of the Spirit into flame. If you take time to pray every day, if you look for God in other people, if you see difficulties as your share of the cross—you’ll find those gifts of faith, power, love, and self-control beginning to grow stronger inside.

We can trust that this is more than just wishful thinking by going to the first reading. When the prophet cries out for help with the misery and violence in the world, he hears God’s promise that the vision (of hope for deliverance) will be fulfilled even if it seems to be delayed. We too hear that promise when we start to get discouraged, for God’s promise “will not disappoint” (Habakkuk 2:3).

Tom Schmidt

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.



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

DIOCESE OF JOLIET

Around our Parish

Children's Liturgy of the Word



10:00 A.M. Mass

October 5 & 26

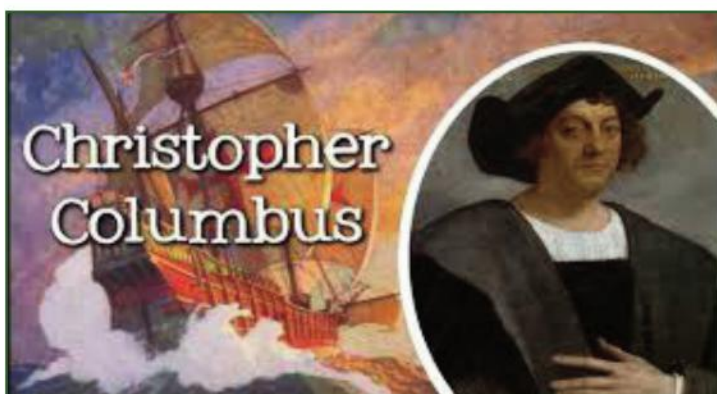
Pet Blessing



Pet Blessing

Pet blessing will be Sunday, October 5, at
1:30PM in the parking lot.

Christopher Columbus



Christopher Columbus Day

The Parish Office and Adoration Chapel will
be closed on October 13th Christopher
Columbus Day

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A Pastoral Letter for the People
of the Diocese of Joliet

If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts
— 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time —



Around Our Parish

Aging with Confidence

Senior Symposium Panel Discussion



Wednesday, November 5th

Doors open 5:30 PM
Panel begins 6:00 PM
in the Gathering Place
Light Refreshments

Registration suggested: On our website or 630.969.1063



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