

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

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

THIRD SORROWFUL MYSTERY



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

The Crowning with Thorns

©Diocesan / Christ as the Man of Sorrows - Quentin Metsys, 1530

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026

Prayer Ministry | Staff | Parish

Monday, March 9th
8:00 am† Franco Alban

Tuesday, March 10th
8:00 am† Esther Byrne

Wednesday, March 11th
8:00 am† Eugenio Ricchio & Patricia Riley

Thursday, March 12th
8:00 am† Tom & Dorothy O'Hallaren

Friday, March 13th
8:00 am† Martha Jelinek

Saturday, March 14th
4:00 pm† Barbara Lenski

Sunday, March 15th
8:00 am† Barbara Lenski
10:00 am† David & Judith Mates
12:00 pm† Richard Drobney & Thomas Sullivan
6:00 pm† The People of the Parish

Policy for Prayers of the Sick

- Names of the sick may be added to the prayer list in the bulletin for one month. The request should be made by the sick person requesting their name or by an immediate family member on behalf of the sick person, who is not able to make the request.
- After one month**, the name will be removed from the list.
- After two months, you may request to be added again for another one-month period.

At every Mass, we pray for ALL the living and the dead in the "Universal Prayer," that is, "The Prayer of the Faithful" and in the "Eucharistic Prayer," even if names are not mentioned.

Prayers for the Sick

Carolyn Muehler	Skip Castaldo
Judy Koczor	Dan Koczor
Janice Helene Battaglia	Don Van Dyke
Don Van Dyke	Lois Bach
George B. Metzger	Sarah Karmazin
Regina Smith	Maria Peffley
Patrick Kludac	Maureen Collins

Welcome

We welcome the following to St. Mary of Gostyn.

Jeff & Amy Rylander
Jon & Michelle Woodring
Nicole, Sophia, & Joseph Scalzetti-Eskew

Prayers for the Military

Peter Gartlan
Noah Sommer
Zachary Frana
Aiden Browning

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the following families.

Irene Osifichin
Garry Kornack



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 March 8, 2026

Sunday	Third Sunday of Lent Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rm 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 or Jn 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday	2 Kings 5:1-15ab; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 1 8:21-35
Wednesday	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday	Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 11:14-23
Friday	Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday	Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Lent 1 Sam 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a, Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Adult Faith Formation

Holy Hour of Adoration

"Beholding our Savior"

As we journey through Lent, the Church invites us to slow down, step away from the noise, and rediscover the gentle voice of Christ who speaks in the quiet. A Lenten Holy Hour is just such a merciful space: with time to be purified, time to turn back, time to prepare for what God is about to do next.

The theme for this evening is "Beholding Our Savior." Throughout Scripture, the word, 'behold' is God's invitation to pause, to pay attention, and to recognize that something sacred is happening before us. In the presence of Jesus—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—we will enter a time of silence, reflection, and prayer that helps us return to Him with our whole heart.

Whether you are new to Adoration or come often, this evening is an opportunity for renewal—to rest, to listen, and to allow Christ to meet you exactly where you are.

Come and be still with the Lord.

Come and let Him soften what is weary, heal what is wounded, and strengthen what is hopeful. Come and behold your Savior.



**Encounter
the Savior**

**Lenten Holy
Hour**

Tuesday, March 10 at 7 PM in Church.

Encounter

St. Mary's Men's Group

Understanding the Power and Purpose of Men

The Bible and the Virgin Mary. All men 18+ are welcome.

Monday, March 9 at 7 PM in the GP.

Thursday AM Women's CAFE

Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary

We continue this Lent study and, with Jesus, we enter into the Garden: The Agony in the Garden. All are welcome.

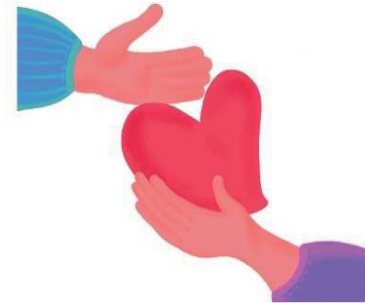
Thursday, March 12 at 9 AM in the GP.

Caring for the Caregiver

In Every Stages of Caregiving

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.

Note: Our next gathering will be with others at the Simple Soup Lunch & Stations on 3/13. Register online and plan to sit together with other caregivers! We'll nourish our body and soul this month!



Simply Soup Lunch & Stations

Something new! A simple soup lunch followed by Stations with the School Children. Registration required online or call the Parish Office.

Friday, March 13th, Noon in the GP.

Afternoon Stations with the School Students

All are welcome to the afternoon stations with the SMG school students: March 13th and March 27th.

Fridays, 1:30 PM in Church.

Stations of the Cross in the Evening

Centered on the Christ, the Station's prayers focus on particular intentions:

Mar. 13: **Stations of the Cross for Seniors** focuses on uniting the physical, emotional, and spiritual trials of aging with Jesus' suffering, offering hope & purpose.

Mar. 27: **The Way of the Cross**, the traditional devotion commemorating Jesus' last moments.

Fridays, 7 PM in Church.

Around Our Parish



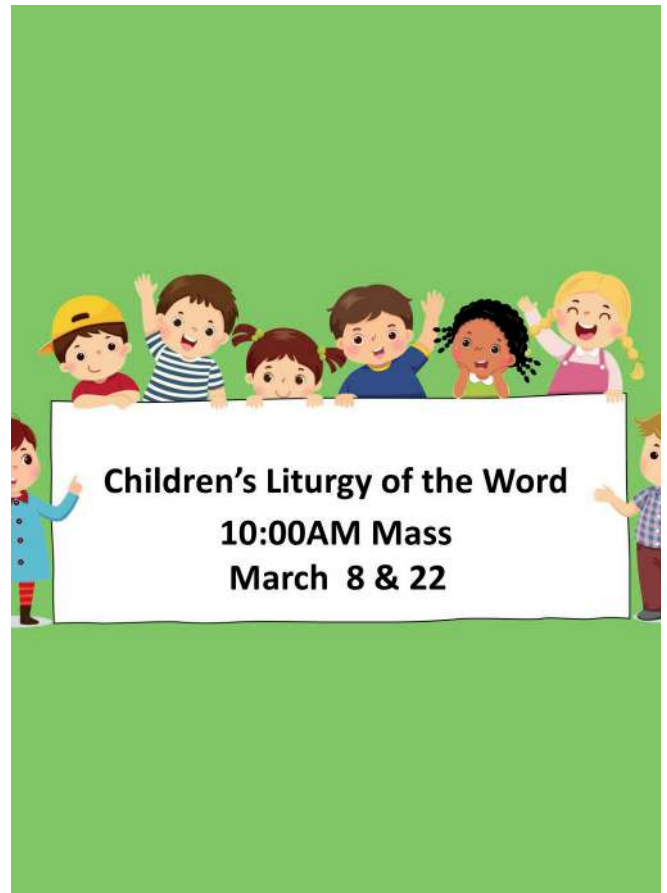
The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun!

The Diocese of Joliet invites all parishioners to support the 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Together, we can make a profound difference.

This year theme is Beyond all Expectations: Faith that Elevates! Through the CMAA, we ensure Christ's mission and ministries reach everyone. We provide shelter for the homeless, feed the hungry, support vocations, and educate the next generation of Catholics. Our parish cannot accomplish this alone. As a diocese, we can do so much more.

Our parish goal is \$146,000. We receive 70% of any amount raised over goal to use within our parish. Please review your mailing from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's appeal.

If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office. Thank you!



Children's Liturgy of the Word

10:00AM Mass

March 8 & 22



Fasting and Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Roman Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Roman Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Stations of the Cross
7:00PM Friday evenings
March 13 & 27



Around Our Parish



Passion (Palm) Sunday, March 28th - 29th

4:00PM Mass Saturday

8:00AM, 10:00AM, 12:00PM & 6:00PM

Mass Sunday

Holy Thursday, April 2nd

8:00AM Morning Prayer in Church

7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper (incense will be used)

Following Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel until 12:00AM (Midnight)

Good Friday, April 3rd

8:00AM Morning Prayer in Church

3:00PM Passion of our Lord Service with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion

Holy Saturday, April 4th

8:00AM Morning Prayer in Church

There will be no morning Reconciliation on this day

1:00PM Food Blessing in Church

8:00PM Easter Vigil Mass (incense will be used)

Easter Sunday, April 5th

8:00AM in Church

10:00AM in Church and Gym

12:00PM in Church

6:00PM No Mass

Adoration Chapel Hours

Monday - Friday, 8:30AM-4:30PM

**Saturday - Sunday Adoration
Chapel Closed**

**The Adoration Chapel will be
closed on Wednesday, April 1st at
4:30PM and will reopen on
Tuesday, April 7th at 8:30AM**

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays, 8:30AM-9:30AM

(no Reconciliation on Holy
Saturday,
April 4th)

Tuesday evenings March 10th and
24th 7:00PM-8:00PM with Holy
Hour Adoration

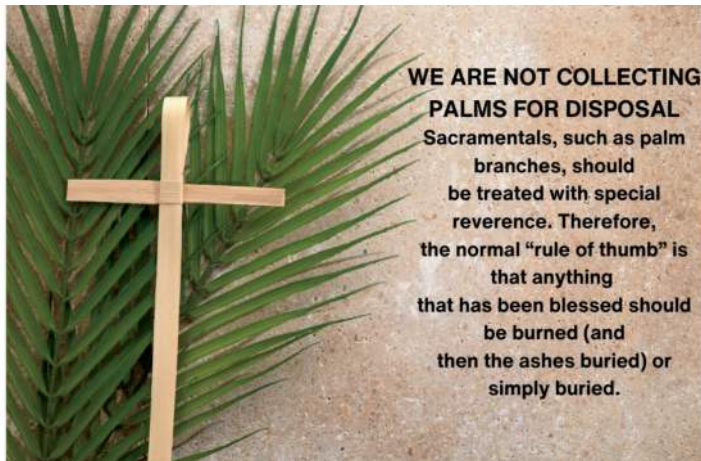
Tuesday, March 31st 6:30PM-
8:00PM last Reconciliation before
Easter

Around Our Parish

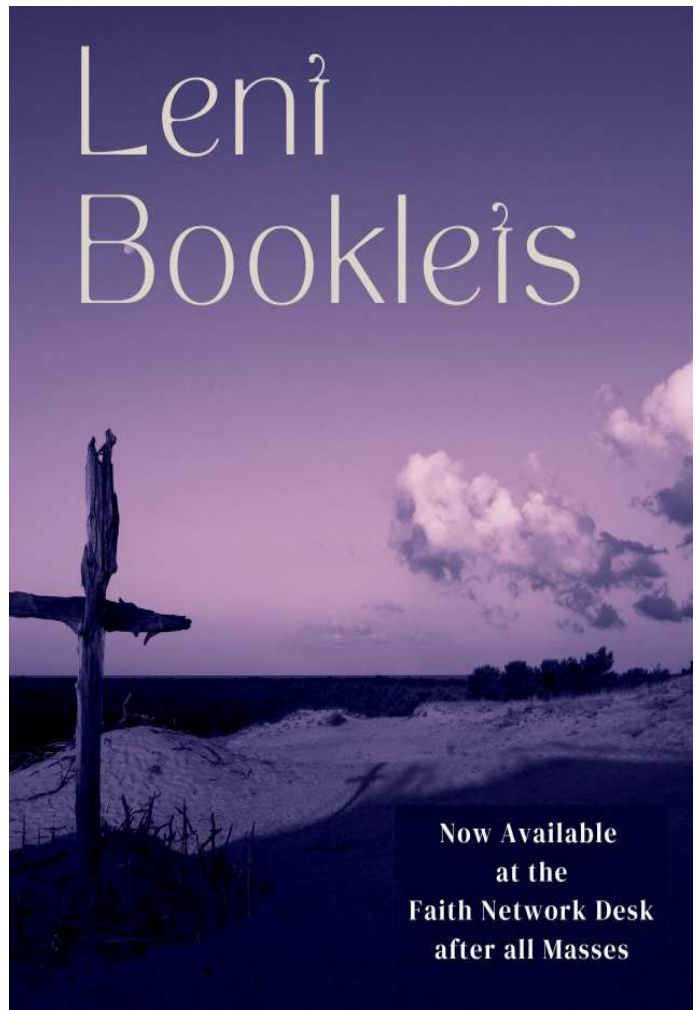


Golf Outing Committee Meeting
Thursday March 12 @ 6:30 PM
Parish Center

New and returning members please join us for an initial meeting for our Golf Outing that will be held on June 4 at Cantigny Golf. Volunteers will meet once a month from March through June. This is a short time commitment, but is sure to be a lot of fun! Please email Gabriella Senese-Burns gsenese-burns@stmarygostyn.org if you are available to attend. If you are interested in being on the committee, but not able to attend the initial meeting, please send an email letting us know. We look forward to seeing everyone on March 12!



WE ARE NOT COLLECTING PALMS FOR DISPOSAL
 Sacramentals, such as palm branches, should be treated with special reverence. Therefore, the normal "rule of thumb" is that anything that has been blessed should be burned (and then the ashes buried) or simply buried.



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Gail.Miskowicz-Retz@aah.org
 or
 630-852-5347



SIMPLE SOUP LUNCH & STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SOUP AND STATIONS...NOURISHMENT FOR THE BODY AND SOUL

Join us for simple, meatless soup lunch. Lent provides an opportunity to worship and pray, as well as gather to share a meal together. Friday, March 13 lunch at Noon in the GP, followed by Stations with the school children at 1:30 PM.



Registration required. Scan QR code, register online or call the office at 630.969.1063



Around Our Parish

Solemnity of the Annunciation Novena



Join us in praying a special novena March 16-24 in preparation for the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord on March 25. The Annunciation commemorates the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to inform her that she was to be the mother of our Savior. After giving her consent to God's word, Mary becomes the mother of God. Let us follow the example of Mary and call upon her intercession to help us open our hearts to say "yes" to God! Copies of the novena can be picked up in the Narthex at the Prairie Street entrance.

RESPECT LIFE Ministry

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Lent Campaign
February 18th - March 29th

Put your faith in action by joining your fellow parishioners for the Lent 2026 *40 Days for Life* prayer vigil to end abortion.

Please consider committing to a specific hour of prayer at the Access Health abortion clinic in Downers Grove during the hours of 8AM to 6PM beginning Ash Wednesday and ending on March 29th, and bring a friend.

For more information and to sign up, go to www.40daysforlife.com/downersgrove. Access Health Clinic is located at 1700 W. 75th Street, Downers Grove.

PRAY TO END ABORTION

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