

St. Mary of Gostyn
Catholic Church
445 Prairie Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Rev. Shaun Cieslik
Pastor
scieslik@stmarygostyn.org

Rev. Christopher Otieno
Parochial Vicar
cotieno@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

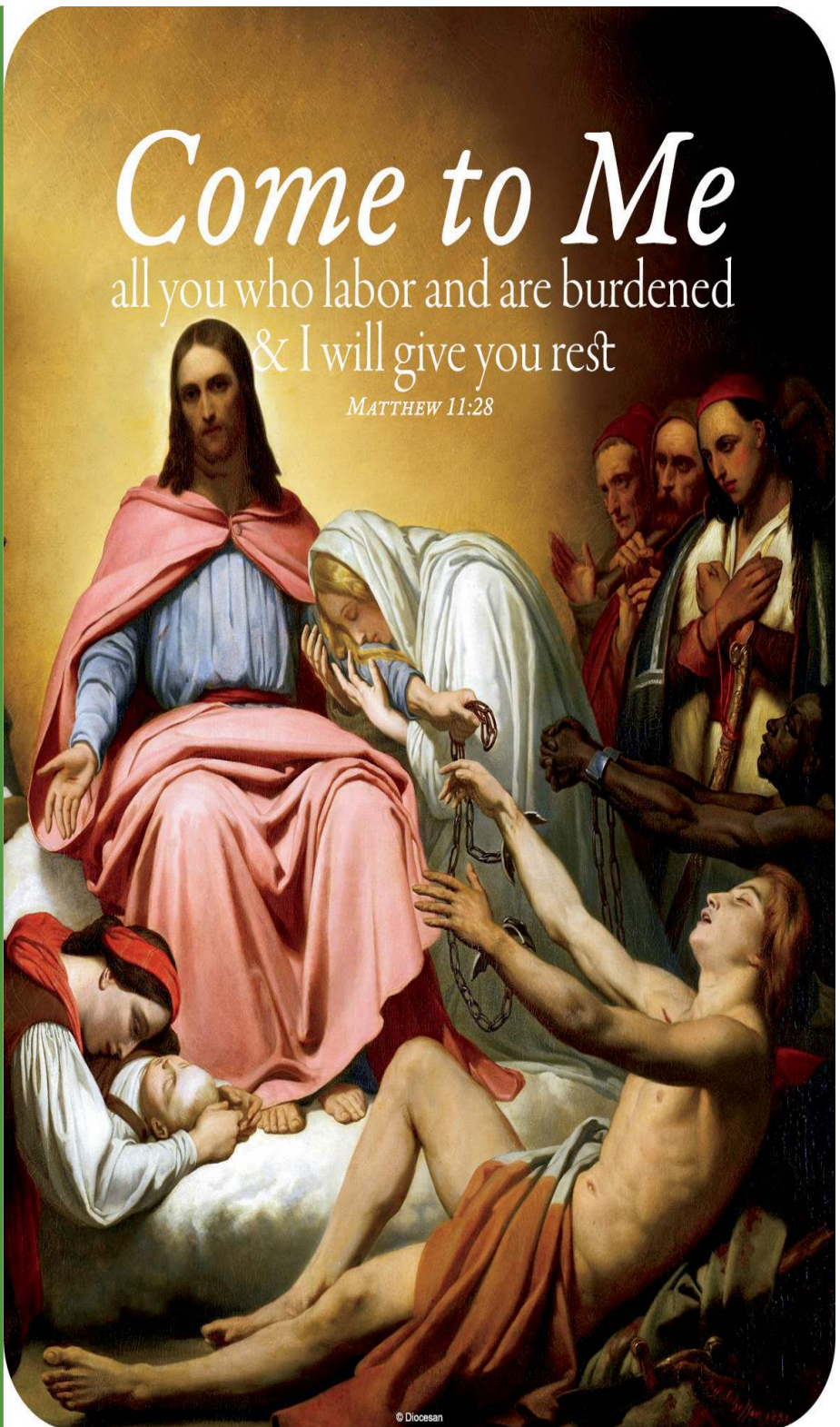
School Office
(630)968-6155
440 Prairie Avenue
Downers Grove

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



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 5, 2026

Monday, July 6th
8:00 am† Mary Claus

Tuesday, July 7th
8:00 am† Emmanuel Roldan

Wednesday, July 8th
8:00 am† Harrison Paul

Thursday, July 9th
8:00 am† Annabelle Adams

Friday, July 10th
8:00 am† Marian Santoro

Saturday, July 11th
4:00 pm† Loretta Ocwieja

Sunday, July 12th
8:00 am† Loretta Ocwieja
10:00 am† John Walsh & Annette Sparkis
12:00 pm† Kim Mecham
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

Aleena Truby	Robert Truby Sr.k
Vivian O'Connor	John Saniat
Eliza Skipworth	Ed Marek
Terry Schmittgens	Mary Schmittgens
Gen Hadamik	Paul Novoveski
Theodore Polychronos	Tom Dooley
Florence Fullen	Paul Krefft
Megan McClellan	Ryan

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the followign families.

Joseph Murphy
Margret Rice
Sarah Karmazin

Welcome

We welcome the following to St. Mary of Gostyn..

John, Cindy, Katherine
& Rebecca Edmundson

Prayers for the Military

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

Baptism

The following children were baptized on Saturday, June 27 and Sunday, June 28, 2026,

John Cole Moran son of John & Casie Moran
Lucy Wren Durkin daughter of Anthony & Aly Durkin
Elizabeth Mae Robinson daughter of Reynold & Priscilla Robinson
Finn James Carvell son of Michael & Nicole Carvell

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 July 5, 2026

Sunday	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Zech 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30
Monday	Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday	Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10; Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday	Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 10:1-7
Thursday	Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15
Friday	Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14, 17; Mt 10:16-23
Saturday	Memorial of Saint Benedict, Abbot Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33
Sunday	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or Mt 13:1-9



Father Christopher Otieno

My name is Father Christopher Otieno. I was born on December 19, 1991, in the western part of Kenya, where I grew for most part of my life. I am from a family of six: my dad, Rasmus, my mom, Lilian, and 3 siblings – Cyprian, Cecilia and Celestine. We are all Catholics. I was brought up in Catholic faith and I enjoyed going to church. It is from the frequent attendance of Mass on Sundays that my vocation to priesthood started growing. The desire to be a priest developed from seeing priests celebrate Mass, I was attracted to this, and I really wanted to celebrate Mass like these priests; their vestments and the way they conducted themselves in a solemn and recollected demeanor just attracted me even more.

I joined Mass servers at the parish and then later I went to the Minor Seminary for my High School education. Being at the Minor Seminary kept the desire burning, especially being able to attend Mass everyday and being taught by priests and nuns. When I was a sophomore, my uncle was ordained a priest, I attended his ordination and I believe at this point I made up my mind to seriously discern to be a priest in the Catholic Church. My uncle Fr. Daniel remains my role model to date. He inspired and encouraged me to start corresponding with the Vocations Director of Consolata Missionaries, a Religious Order he belongs to. I later joined the Consolata Missionaries in 2011 and went through their formation for 9 years. I discerned out of the Religious Order in 2020 because I felt that God was calling me to be a diocesan priest.

Through my uncle, Fr. Daniel, I met Fr. Clive who is a Kenyan priest here in the Diocese of Joliet. I shared with him my intention and desire to be a diocesan priest. Fr. Clive was kind enough to link me up with Fr. Borello, the Director of Vocation. After corresponding with Fr. Borello for two years, I was accepted to join the Diocese as a seminarian. I came to USA in December 2023. I was warmly received in the diocese. I lived at the rectory in Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Aurora, which serves as my home parish here in the US. I then joined Mundelein Seminary in August 2024. While at Mundelein I used to go to St. James the Apostle as my Teaching parish. I was ordained a Deacon on December 6th, 2025, and I was assigned to serve at Immaculate Conception, Elmhurst. I was ordained on June 6th, 2026, and have been assigned to St. Mary of Gostyn. I look forward to serving the People of God as a priest in this parish starting July 1st, 2026.

At my free time I enjoy taking nature walks, playing soccer, watching soccer (can't wait for the World Cup), meeting friends, and visiting families. My favorite foods are chicken and beef. I am very grateful to all people who have supported me in my journey of discernment so far, may God bless them abundantly. To God be the glory, now and forever.

Father Christopher Otieno

OTC

Adult Faith Formation

Caring for Caregivers

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.



Wed., July 8, 2 PM in the Gathering Place

About Our Faith

"Do not be afraid!"

Open, open wide the doors to Christ!"

Sunday is a day which is at the very heart of the Christian life...today I would strongly urge everyone to rediscover Sunday: **Do not be afraid to give your time to Christ!** Yes, let us open our time to Christ, that he may cast light upon it and give it direction. He is the One who knows the secret of time and the secret of eternity, and he gives us "his day" as an ever new gift of his love.

The rediscovery of this day [Sunday] is a grace which we must implore, not only so that we may live the demands of faith to the full, but also so that we may respond concretely to the deepest human yearnings. **Time given to Christ is never time lost**, but is rather time gained, so that our relationships and indeed our whole life may become more profoundly human.

Saint Pope John Paul II, Apostolic Letter, *Dies Domini*.

Need Help?

Resources are Available

"In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world." John 16:33

Food Insecurity or Financial Difficulties?

Contact our St. Vincent De Paul at 630-969-1068

Caregiving?

Visit www.nourishforcaregivers.com or the Nourish for Caregivers page on our St. Mary's website

Crisis Pregnancy?

Resources and links through the Diocese of Joliet: catechesis.diojoliet.org/respect-life

Suicidal Thoughts or Feelings?

Dial 988

Healing After Abortion?

Visit Rachel's Vineyard website or contact Heidi at 815-634-3796 or hmillercare@gmail.com

Widowed?

Call 708-354-7211 or visit joyfulagain.org

Divorced?

St. Helen's Divorced Faith and Fellowship Club, contact cmazur@dioceseofjoliet.org

Women's Addiction?

SAFE (Sacred Atmosphere Focused on Eternity) Email sacredatmosphere1@gmail.com or call Carrie at 312-825-7527

Same-Sex Attraction?

Visit Courage at www.couragerc.org or email joliet.courage@gmail.com

Family Member with Same-Sex Attraction?

Visit www.couragerc.org/for-families/ or email encourage@dioceseofjoliet.org

Loss of a Loved One and Grief?

Call our parish office at 630-969-1063

Individuals Grieving a Loved One to Suicide?

Catholic Charities' Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide Loss (LOSS), email mnovak@cc-doj.org

Domestic Violence?

For a listing of resources and supportive services, www.dupagecourts.gov/18th_judicial_circuit_court/

Mental Health?

Visit www.needyourightnow.com or email Deacon Gerard at FunDeacon@yahoo.com for details on an in-person support group

Wellbeing?

Virtual Catholic counseling service with Catholic Counselors, www.catholiccounselors.com

Marriage Difficulties?

Visit Retrouvaille "hope for a better marriage" at www.helpourmarriage.org or call 815-246-2080

Marriage Enrichment?

Visit Marriage Encounter at www.wwme.org for nearby retreat weekends

Children's Garden

Help Transform the SMG Children's Garden to Future Green Space!

We invite you to come back to the garden, or visit for the first time, for one day to help start the transformation of the SMG Children's Garden to a manageable and attractive green space; preserving the many trees and shrubs contributed by parishioners, but also removing the items that make it hard to maintain.

We also invite all who contributed to the garden to come take your engraved bricks home as the circle garden will be disassembled. Other garden related items will be available to take home including blank paver bricks, timber, garden tools, a rain barrel, benches and a bird feeder. We'll be sharing some bulbs and perennials for your garden too. Come for fellowship and to help imagine what's next for this lovely space.

Saturday, July 11th from 9 -11 AM at the SMG Children's Garden near Fairview and Prairie, just south of where the Boy Scouts sell Christmas Trees.

Here's a link to RSVP <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0844ADA82EA02-64350302-help>

From 2003 until 2021, the SMG Children's Garden Committee was active and involved in the Parish and School. Dozens of dedicated volunteers and hundreds of children spent time in the Garden: playing, learning, working, and praying. For a few years the space has needed a new purpose, especially since the relocation of the playground next to the school. Looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones! Any questions? Contact Hilary Denk at 630-725-8066.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION & READERS *Training*

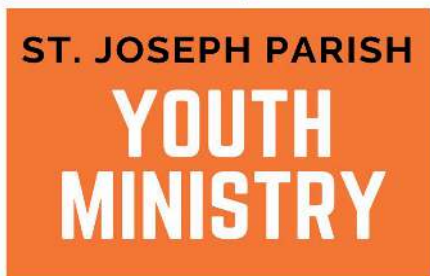
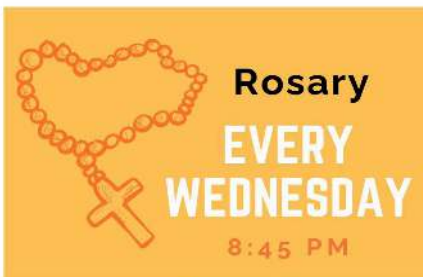
**Tuesday July 7 and July 21
at 6:30PM in the church. Please
choose one date only.**



Liturgical Ministry Opportunity for Students
Are you a student who has made their Confirmation?
We invite you to serve our parish as an Extraordinary
Minister of Holy Communion or a Reader!

- New to Ministry Scheduler Pro? Please register online at stmarygostyn.org. Scroll to Ministries, click on Liturgical Ministries, scroll down, and click Sign Up Here to fill out the form.
- Already have an account? If you are already in the system, please contact Pat Vena at pvena@stmarygostyn.org with the date you would like to be trained.

Thank you for your willingness to serve our community!



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!



Religious
Education
Registration Opens
July 1st

Please go to:
stmarygostyn.org
Religious Education tab
for information and forms



Out of reverence for the House of God, food and beverages are not permitted in church. Water may be permitted when needed for a health-related concern. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.





Catholic Singles Social Meetup

Ages 30-39

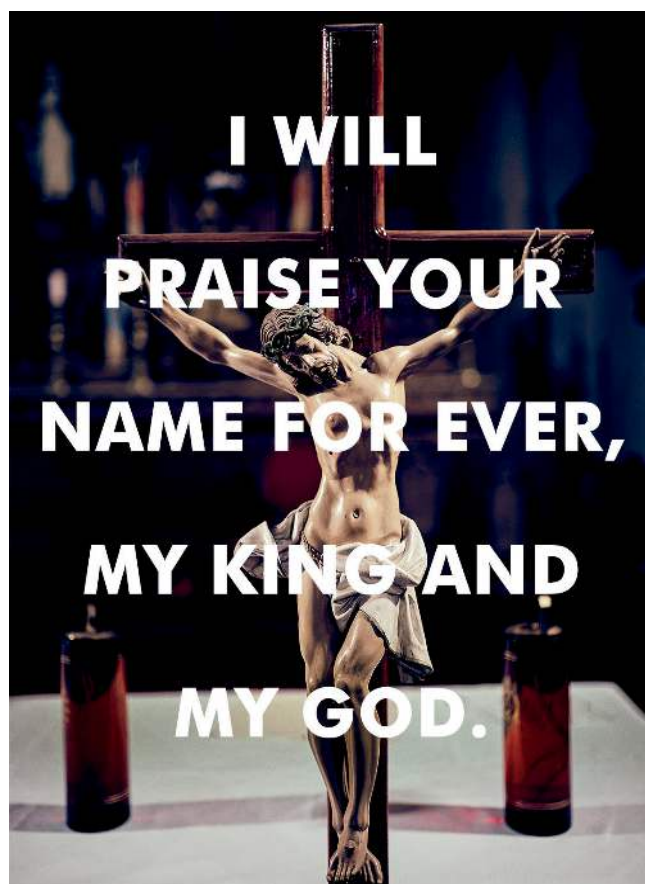
Are you a single Catholic in your 30s looking to meet others in person who share your faith and values? Join our group designed to help you build community and explore faith-centered dating. Members of all Catholic parishes are welcome!

Sunday, July 26, 2026

6:00 PM following 5:00 PM Mass

Fitzgerald Hall — St. Joseph Church
4801 Main St, Downers Grove

For more information:
Rachel / rfrustini@sjpdg.org



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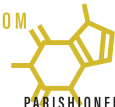
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