

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

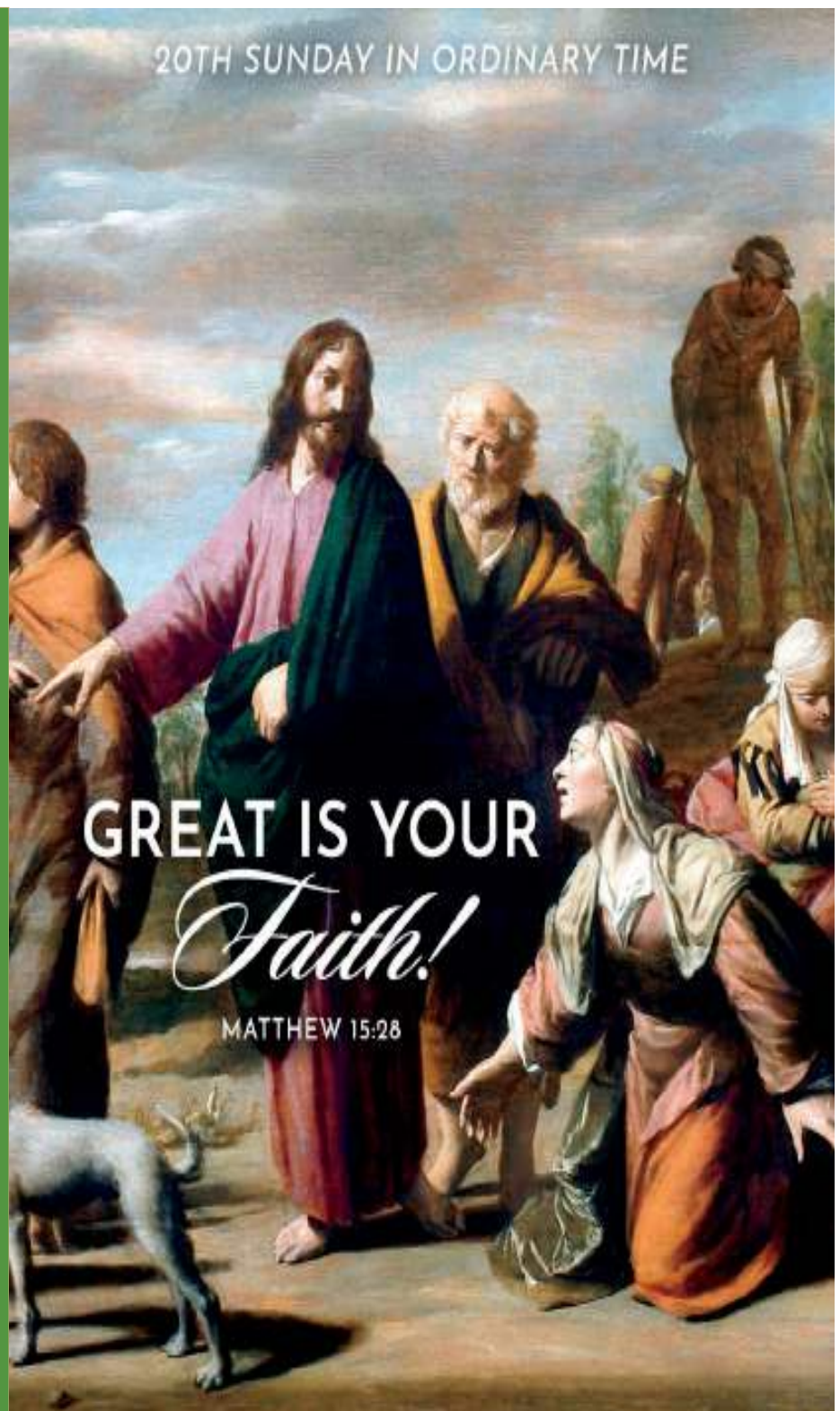
School Office
(630)968-6155
440 Prairie Avenue
Downers Grove

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



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 16, 2026

Monday, August 17th
8:00 am† Patricia Bruno

Tuesday, August 18th
8:00 am† Thomas Sullivan

Wednesday, August 19th
8:00 am† Thomas Sullivan & Cynthia
Villis

Thursday, August 20th
8:00 am† Delores Mendoza

Friday, August 21st
8:00 am† Mary Schilling

Saturday, August 22nd
4:00 pm† Garry Kornack

Sunday, August 23rd
8:00 am† Frank Czopek
10:00 am† Angeline & Michael Prince &
Margaret Lally
12:00 pm Ramonito Crudo (Living)
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	Lois Bach
Robert Truby, Sr.	Scott Melrose
Tom Dooley	Bonnie Hagen
Florence Fullen	Gloria Carcello
Paul Krefft	Ron Cuchna
Megan McClellan	Michael Kwee
Ryan	Mary Signer
Candice Kornack	

Welcome

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

John & Brenda Beck
Chris & Colleen Enger
Michael & Katie O'Brien
Anthony & Gretchen Lofredo

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the following families.

Gen Hadamik
Dennis Hofmaier
Sean Durkin
Daniel J. Nicholson

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 Sunday, August 9, 2026.

Barbara Ann Flavin Mikes
daughter of Andrew & Kathleen Mikes
Otto Eugene Davis son of
Will & Anna Davis
Patrick Arthur Finke son of
Cory & Rachel Finke

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

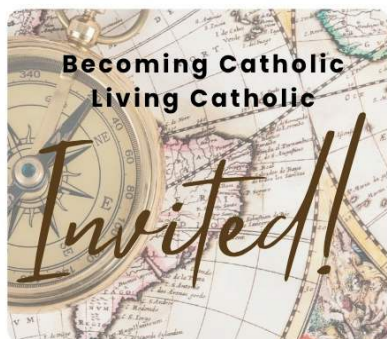
Scripture Readings

For the Week of August 16, 2026

Sunday	Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28
Monday	Ez 24:15-23; Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21; Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday	Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday	Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 20:1-16
Thursday	Memorial of Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14
Friday	Memorial of Saint Pius X, Pope Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 22:34-40
Saturday	Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab, 10, 11-12, 13-14; Mt 23:1-12
Sunday	Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

Adult Faith Formation

STARTING THIS FALL



Interested in the Catholic faith?

We invite you to register for our Becoming Catholic Living Catholic classes starting this September! The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is the way we welcome people into Catholic Church. Our OCIA Inquiry Course will begin in the Fall and is a way to encounter the love of Jesus and learn to live as a Catholic through a process of study, exploration, conversation, and faith formation.

Together, we'll share in the journey, growing closer in relationship as a faith community, with each other and with Jesus.

- 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, we welcome you.

OCIA classes will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm, specific dates available online. Curious? Interested in hearing more?

Scan the QR code or visit our website to learn more and to fill out an 'interest form'. Or call the Parish Office at 630.969.1063.



Begins August 24! Register Online!

Be A Part Of It!

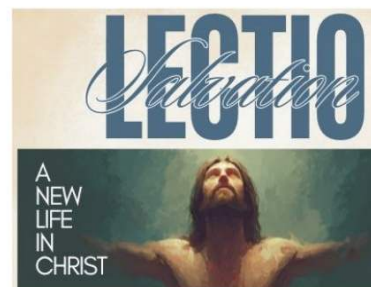
Something amazing is happening Monday nights! Inspired by the practice of Stations of the Cross, this study brings the Scriptures to life, immerses you in the story of salvation history, and opens your eyes to amazing spiritual insights. It will also reshape the way you see your entire life.

St. Mary's Men's Group gathers in a relaxed and casual setting to dive deeper into our faith to better understand what it means to be a Catholic man in today's world. The discussion is always "real". And, as we, as Catholic men, embrace our call to pursue heroic virtue, **we become better husband, fathers and leaders.**

What does Salvation mean?

This Fall, we'll explore Scripture and Catholic Tradition for a thorough, deeply Catholic, and deeply biblical, answer. At the core of our faith is the salvific message that God is love, and His love is one of transformation and redemption. This Good News is what the world needs to hear today!

Thursday AM Women's Café



Thursdays 9AM in the GP
Begins Sept. 10. Register Online.

Tuesday Evening Faith Formation

Looking for a Bible Study but your days are busy? Cannot commit to every week? Want engaging conversations about the faith? **Just want to know how to live in the joy, freedom, and confidence our faith promises?**

Then Tuesday evenings are for you! Alternating between times of silence and prayer in Holy Hours or lively faith-filled discussions with others, each week of the Tuesday offerings this year will help you grow in relationship with our Lord Jesus. Try it once; come when you can. You'll be glad you did! Weekly offerings will be posted in this bulletin and online. Beginning in September.



BE FORMED

THE CREED: THE HOLY SPIRIT

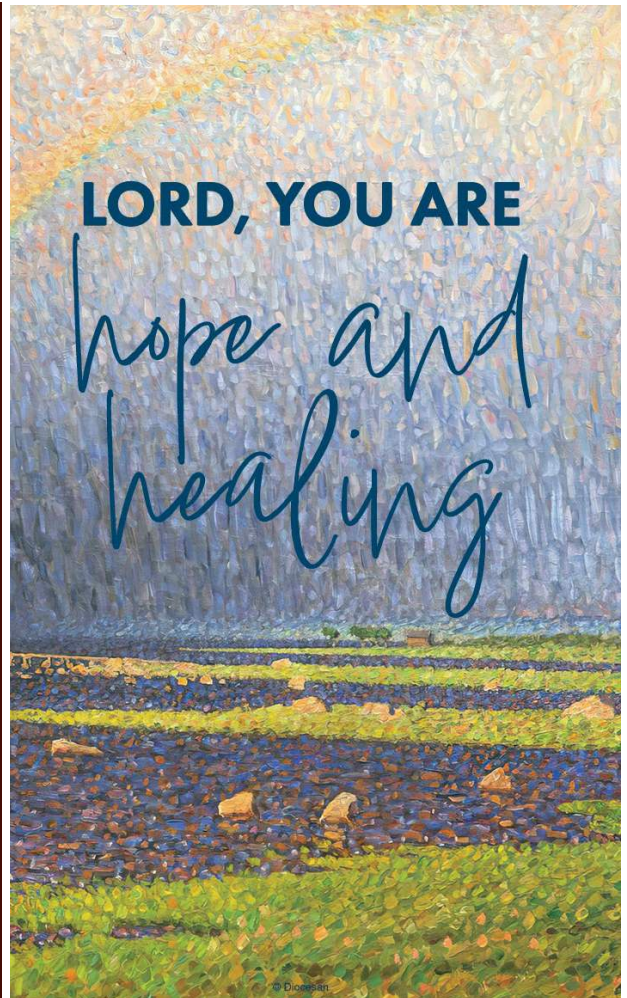
SEASON 13

SEPTEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 12, 2026

Join us for Season 13 to learn more
about the Creed and the Holy Spirit!

VISIT BEFORMED.NET TO LEARN MORE
AND TO REGISTER

**Join Be Formed, in groups here at St. Mary's or in
one of the many virtual day/time options
available through the Diocese of Joliet.
Be Formed is an occasion for each person to have
a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ!**



SUNDAY HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION AT OAK TRACE

Are you looking for a way to share your talents? Oak Trace is a retirement living/health facility in Downers Grove located on the 6600 block of Fairview Ave. On Sunday mornings (after the 8:00AM Mass), St. Mary's ministers distribute Holy Communion to residents in their health facility and assisted living. We currently have a ministry team who regularly participate but we are in need of more volunteers. The Sunday scheduling commitment would be up to you. Training will be provided. If you are able to assist or need more information, please email Deacon Bob at deaconbob@stmarygostyn.org or leave a message at 630-737-9636. You will then be contacted for additional information and training. There is walking required (you'll get your steps in). Thank you for your consideration.

Blessings,

Deacon Bob



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.

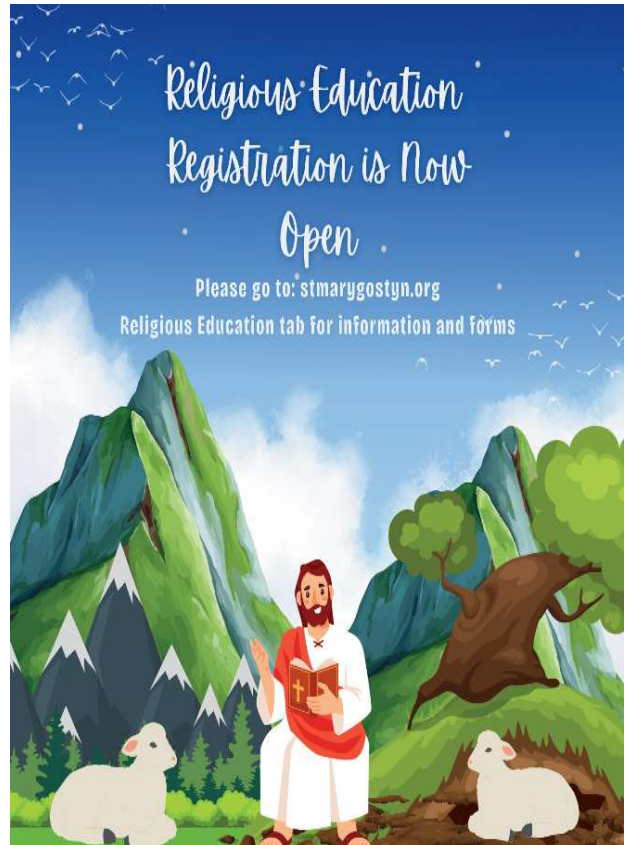


CALL FOR CATECHISTS

Our Religious Education program begins in early September. We are looking for Parishioners who would like to share their time, faith and talents with the children of our Parish.

We have need for teachers and teacher's aids in grades 1 to 8. Syllabi and lessons plans are provided for each grade level. We provide training and guidance for first time teachers, as well as long time teachers.

Please contact Jen Liszka in the Religious Education office at 630-960-3566 or religiouseducation@stmarygostyn.org with any questions.



Crossing Guard

Crossing Guards needed in Downers Grove! \$17.50 per crossing/shift. Please contact Teresa Johnson at 331-318-9882



Christ at the Center

**MONDAY,
AUGUST 17**
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

During supply drop off and the ice cream social, the church will be open for you and your child to come in --for a minute, for a prayer. No program, no agenda, just an open invitation to pause and pray with and for your child as the new year begins. A simple and easy way to put Christ at the Center.



St. Vincent DePaul's July Update

"Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who'll never find out" Frank C. Clark

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The hot summer days of July did not keep our neighbors from seeking assistance from the Food Pantry. Over 180 families sought food and household supplies from the pantry in July. The pantry has provided food and household supplies to over 2,700 individuals for the first six months of 2026.

Our pantry is successful in assisting those with food needs because of the generosity of St. Mary parishioners. Each week our volunteers happily shelf all the donations. SVDP is grateful for the support.

As neighbors now select the staples that they receive each week, we have a better idea of what food items we need. We ask our generous St. Mary donors to purchase the items that are requested in the bulletin and the Monday eBlast. Some items that once were popular, are not requested very often, so donating the published items will help our neighbors the most.

At this time, the pantry is in need of cans of: fruit, apple-sauce, corn, prepared pasta like Chef-Boy-Ardee, and Progresso soup. Dish detergent, tissue, olive oil, and coffee are also needed for monthly distribution.

REGULAR SIZE grocery items are preferred for storage and distribution purposes. Only unopened items can be distributed. Any items that are past the expiration date must be discarded.

**PANTRY DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED ON
WEDNESDAYS FROM 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
OR USE THE FOOD BARRELS
AT THE CHURCH ENTRANCES.**

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

We receive phone calls from neighbors in need. Our SVDP volunteers meet with the caller to understand their situation and how to best assist. Often, we will pay their rent and/or utilities directly. During the visit we may become aware of other needs and can direct them to local and county agencies that can also assist.

With the rising cost of living and increased monthly rents in DuPage County, the stories we encounter are heartbreaking.

Through your help, the SVDP Society is present to provide tangible help, action and spiritual support to ease a difficult time.

FALL CLOTHING DRIVE DATES

**Saturday October 10th
Sunday October 11th**

**Mark Your Calendar
&
Clean Your Closets**

Monetary donations can be placed in collection baskets during Mass using the SVDP envelopes available at the church entrances or an envelope labeled SVDP donation or mailing an envelope to:

SVDP/St Mary of Gostyn
445 Prairie Ave, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Online Donations are now being accepted as well.
For Zelle - send the donation to svdp@stmarygostyn.org
For PayPal - send to St. Vincent DePaul Society-St. Mary





Childrens Garden

We invite anyone who donated a commemorative brick for our Childrens Garden to retrieve it within the next couple of weeks. We thank you for your support and hope it will continue to serve as a meaningful reminder of this special parish project.

5TH ANNUAL SMG MUM SALE



Cost: \$10 each

Color Options: Red, Orange, Yellow, White, Purple, Pink

Size: 9 inch Pots, 18 inch Flowers

Online Order Deadline: Tues 9/1

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

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