

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

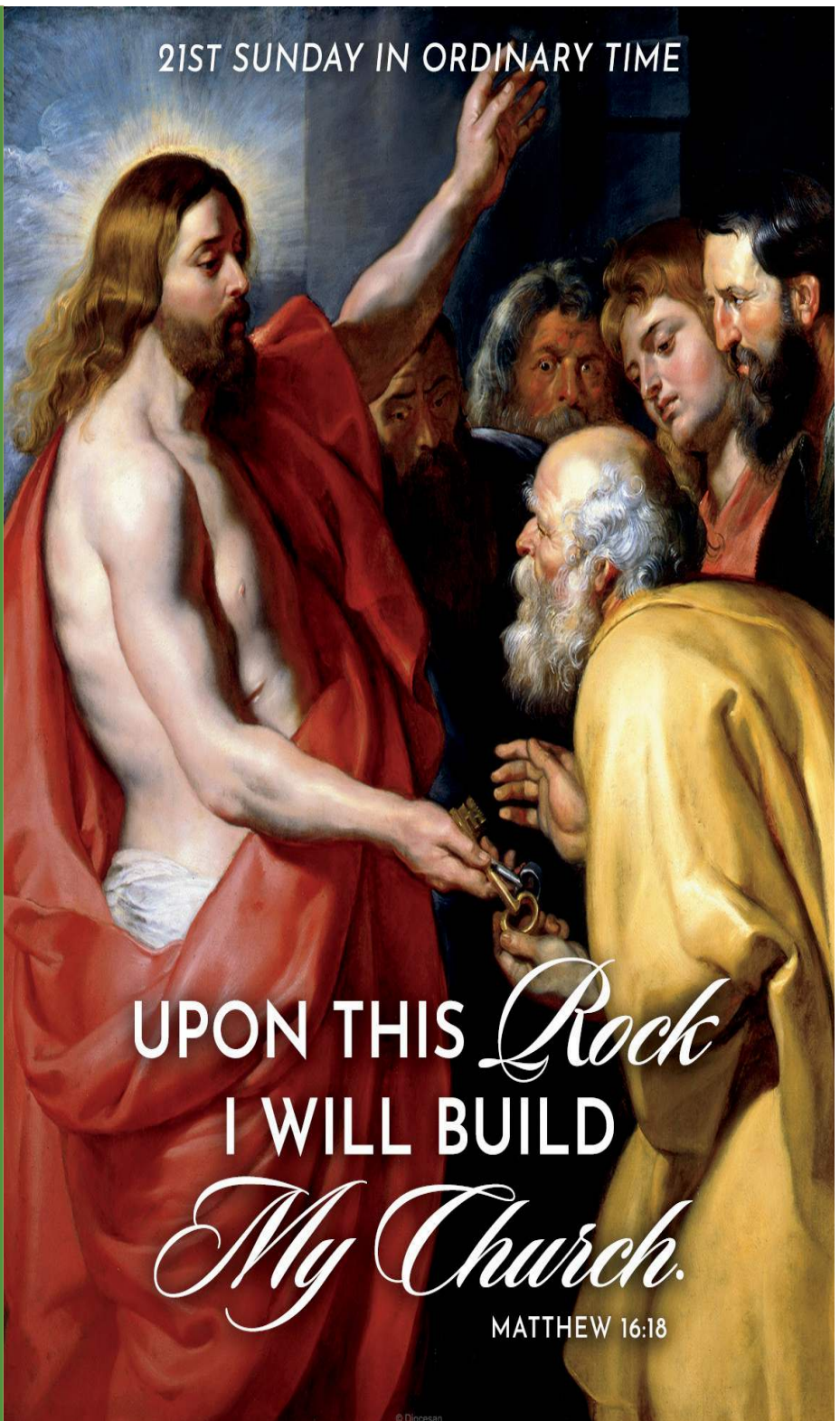
School Office
(630)968-6155
440 Prairie Avenue
Downers Grove

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



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

UPON THIS *Rock*
I WILL BUILD
My Church.

MATTHEW 16:18

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 23, 2026

Monday, August 24th
8:00 am† Robert J. McMahon

Tuesday, August 25th
8:00 am† Bernard Donovan

Wednesday, August 26th
8:00 am† Sister Christine Matthews

Thursday, August 27th
8:00 am† Karen Zrout

Friday, August 28th
8:00 am† Bernard Donovan

Saturday, August 29th
4:00 pm† Diane Main

Sunday, August 30th
8:00 am† The People of the Parish
10:00 am† Diane O'Connor
12:00 pm† Ted & Eleanor Kolpa
6:00 pm† Bernard Donovan, Grazia Evola, Vincenzo Palazzolo

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	Kenneth Boese

Welcome

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

Brandon Honey
Laura Stellfox
Evan & Liz Shields
Matthew & Dina Ibach
Mitchell & Tracy Reiner

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

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



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.

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

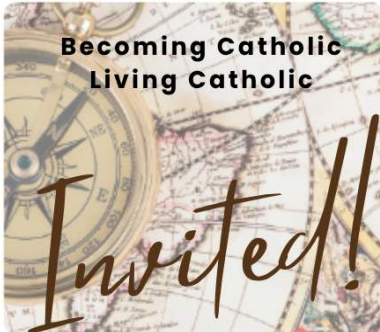
St. Vincent dePaul Society.....(630)969-1068

Scripture Readings
For the Week of August 23, 2026

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
Monday	Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle Rev 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13; Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday	2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday	Memorial of Saint Monica 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 24:42-51
Friday	Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday	Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21; Mk 6:17-29
Sunday	Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

Adult Faith Formation

BECOMING CATHOLIC



Interested in the Catholic faith? Baptized, but not Confirmed?

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 Sacraments, we welcome you.

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

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



LIVING CATHOLIC

Tuesday Evening Faith Formation

Looking for a BibleStudy 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, each week the Tuesday offerings this year will help you grow in relationship with 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.



Begins August 24! Register Online!

Be A Part Of It!

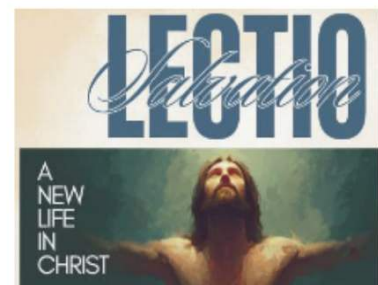
Something amazing is happening Monday nights! Inspired by the practice of Stations of the Cross, this study brings the Scriptures to life, immerses you in the story of salvation history, and opens your eyes to amazing spiritual insights. It will also reshape the way you see your entire life.

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 husbands, 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.



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](https://www.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

A Call to Stewardship Monthly Collection July 2026

Envelope Donations	\$89,712
Online Giving	\$44,022
Total Collection	\$133,734

Collection Total to Date	\$133,734
Collection Goal to Date	\$126,883
Over (under) Goal	\$ 6,851

Second Collection: Peter's Pence: \$4,295.79

Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful stewardship. Your support makes it possible for our parish to carry out its mission and ministries.

For your convenience, we offer secure online giving through WeShare. You may schedule recurring donations by credit card or direct bank withdrawal on a weekly, monthly, or customized basis.

Visit:

<https://www.wesharegiving.org/app/giving/smgonline-donation>

Or simply scan the QR code below to get started



Labor Day

Monday, September 7, 2026

**In observance of Labor Day, our
parish offices, Adoration Chapel,
and school will be closed. Morning
Mass will be celebrated at 9:00
AM. We wish everyone a safe,
restful, and blessed Labor Day!**

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.



Religious Education Registration is Now Open

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



School Mass on Tuesdays

Our school Masses have been moved from Wednesdays to Tuesdays and will remain at the same time, 8:00 AM.

Crossing Guard



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

THE MIX

- Rise in Faith.
- Rise in Friendship.
- Rise Together.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

ST. ISAAC JOGUES + ST. MARY'S | STARTING SEPT 18TH | FRIDAY 4:30-5:45 PM | 6TH-8TH GRADE

ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE WELCOMED!



Thank you Sponsors!



The Brown Family



The Ciarrachi Family



The Schroeder Family



COMPASS

The Dinon Family



The Murphy Family



A Huge Thank You to Our Incredible Race Volunteers!

We are so grateful to everyone who worked tirelessly all summer to bring this event to life.

Special thanks to:

- Hallie Nester- 5K Committee Chair
- Mallory Bruns, Tammy Brown, Brooke Ciarrachi, Carrie Murphy, Jenell Schroeder, Kaite Watson- Committee Members

We also appreciate our amazing students and parents who pitched in during the days leading up to the race and on race day itself. Your energy, time, and dedication made this event possible. We couldn't have done it without you!





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

Lower Parish Parking Lot



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One Parish, One School,
One Family!



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Fr. Anthony Nyamai



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