

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

Rev. Shaun Cieslik  
Pastor  
[scieslik@stmarygostyn.org](mailto:scieslik@stmarygostyn.org)

Rev. Christopher Otieno  
Parochial Vicar  
[cotieno@stmarygostyn.org](mailto:cotieno@stmarygostyn.org)

Deacon Al Agurkis  
[deaconal@stmarygostyn.org](mailto:deaconal@stmarygostyn.org)

Deacon Bob Miciunas  
[deaconbob@stmarygostyn.org](mailto:deaconbob@stmarygostyn.org)

Deacon Thomas Jagielo  
[deaconthomas@stmarygostyn.org](mailto:deaconthomas@stmarygostyn.org)

Parish Center  
Hours: M-F, 8:30AM-4:30PM  
(630)969-1063  
Website  
[www.stmarygostyn.org](http://www.stmarygostyn.org)

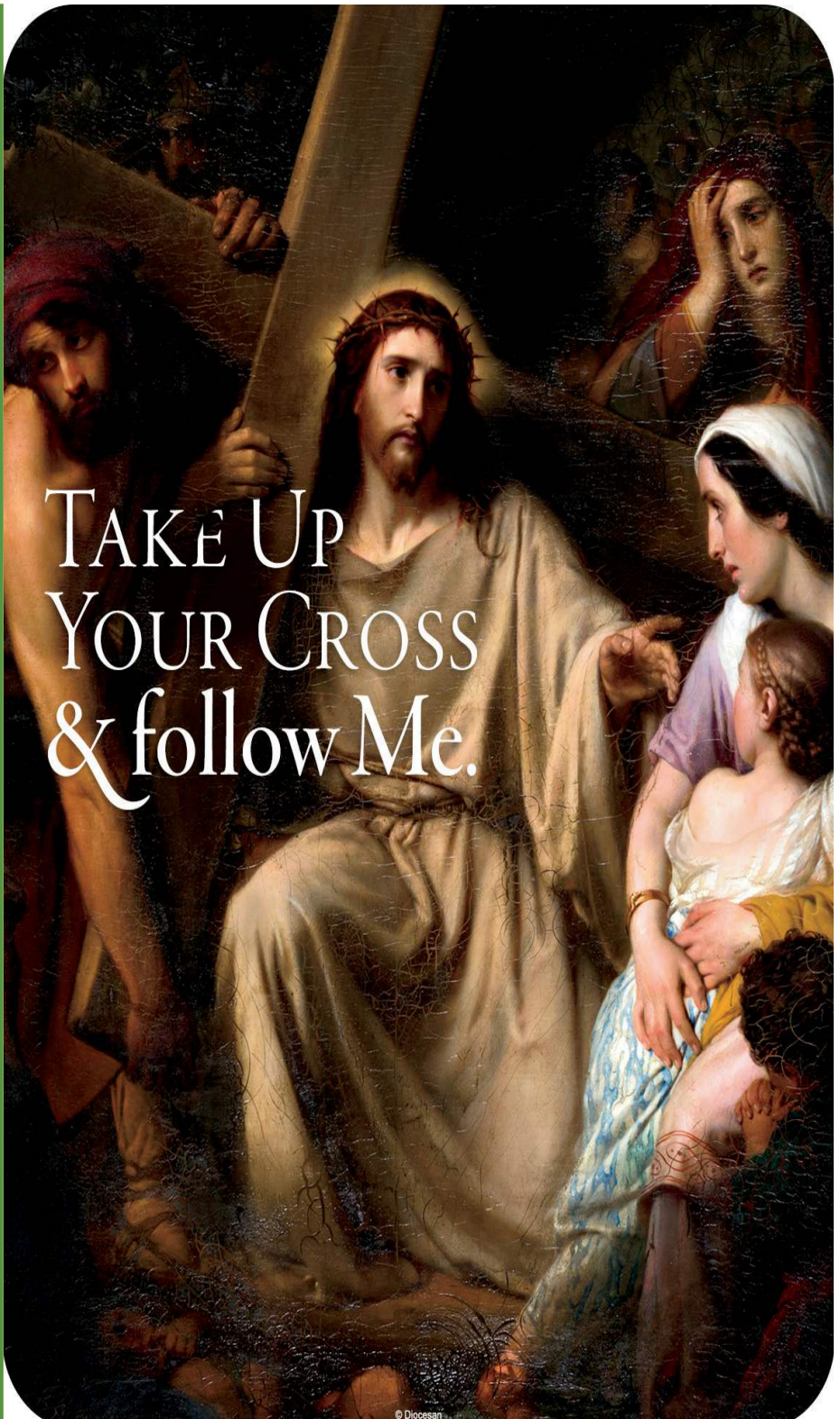
School Office  
(630)968-6155  
440 Prairie Avenue  
Downers Grove

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](http://www.stmarygostyn.org)



**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**August 30, 2026**

Monday, August 31st  
8:00 am† Anna Giannini

Tuesday, September 1st  
8:00 am† Maureen Toner, Gen Hadamik

Wednesday, September 2nd  
8:00 am† George Kalal

Thursday, September 3rd  
8:00 am† Marilyn LeFager

Friday, September 4th  
8:00 am† Don Darkes

Saturday, September 5th  
4:00 pm† Eleanor Zubcic

Sunday, September 6th  
8:00 am† Tom & Dorothy O'Hallaren  
10:00 am† Mark R. Volin  
12:00 pm† Mary Splawski  
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. |
| Tom Dooley    | Florence Fullen   |
| Paul Krefft   | Megan McClellan   |
| Ryan          | Lois Bach         |
| Bonnie Hagen  | Gloria Caracello  |
| Ron Cuchna    | Michael Kwee      |
| Kenneth Boese | Amy Robert        |
| Arlene Kucaba | Jason Ortega      |

### Baptism

The following children were baptized Sunday, August 23, 2026 at St. Mary of Gostyn.

**Luca Alexander Lawson** son of Alexander & Gianna Lawson  
**Hunter James Kapelinski** son of Michael & Abigail Kapelinski  
**Lily Marie Schnell** daughter of Aaron & Kaitlin Schnell  
**Matthew Lawrence Knoke** son of Kyle & Yasseline Knoke

### Welcome

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

Charles & Eileen Adkins

### 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  |

### 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

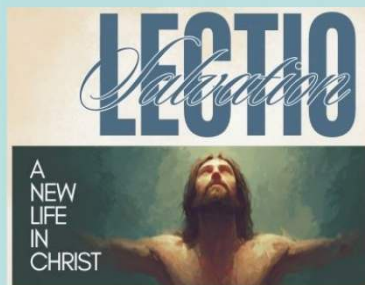


Out of reverence for the House of God, food and beverages are not permitted in church. Water may be permitted when needed for a health-related concern.  
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

### Scripture Readings For the Week of August 30, 2026

|           |                                                                                                                         |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time<br>Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27                    |
| Monday    | 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102; Lk 4:16-30                                                               |
| Tuesday   | 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14; Lk 4:31-37                                                         |
| Wednesday | 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44                                                                      |
| Thursday  | Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church<br>1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11 |
| Friday    | 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39                                                                   |
| Saturday  | 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21; Lk 6:1-5                                                                        |
| Sunday    | Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time<br>Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20                        |

# Adult Faith Formation



## Thursday AM Women's Café

Thursdays 9AM, Gathering Place.  
Begins Sept. 10. Register Online.

## What exactly 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! Discover the powerful and personal truth of God's Word and practical inspiration for your life.

St. Mary's Thursday AM Café is Catholic contemplation in a relaxed and welcoming environment with other women of the parish. St. Mary's Café features a unique style of study which engages your mind, faith, experience, and imagination, leading you to read, reflect, and respond. If you've never been to a Bible Study before, or if you are an avid Bible student, St. Mary's Café is for you!

## 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 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 7PM, 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.



## "Faith seeks understanding"

**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, each week the Tuesday offerings this year will help you grow in relationship with Jesus.

Deepening our knowledge of Jesus and learning about our Catholic Faith is a life-long process. Jesus continually invites us into a loving, personal relationship. He seeks an intimate friendship with you, each day. Through prayer, Scripture, the Sacraments and fellowship and conversations with others, the Lord draws our heart to His in intimate friendship.



### Exploring Burning Questions:

**How can we know God exists? Is God real? Have you ever questioned God's existence? What in your life leads you to believe God exists?** Join us with yours! Tuesday, September 1, 7PM in the Gathering Place.

## St. Mary's Men's Group



Monday Nights 7PM in the GP.  
All men 18+ are always welcome.  
Stations of the Eucharist Study.

## Something amazing is happening on Monday nights!

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.**



# 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](http://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](mailto: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,

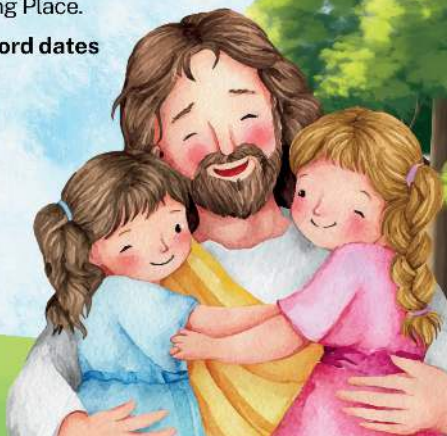
Deacon Bob

## Childrens Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word will begin Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at the 10:00AM Mass. Children ages 3 years old to 6 years old will have the opportunity to learn about the word of God during the homily down in the Gathering Place.

### Children Liturgy of the Word dates

September 13  
October 4, 25  
November 8  
December 6, 20  
January 24  
February 28  
March 14  
April 25  
May 23



## 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!**

**Adults Only!** **Space is Limited!**

**PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**

*Come out and have a great time with fellow parents!*

All ticket sales count towards the suggested family contribution.

**SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER**

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**ST. MARY OF GOSTYN SMG**

THURSDAY SCHOOL

**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.**

## MOTHER OF THE DIVINE SHEPHERD September 3

Mary is honored under this title by members of the Capuchin order, who have founded a number of churches under her patronage in their mission territories.



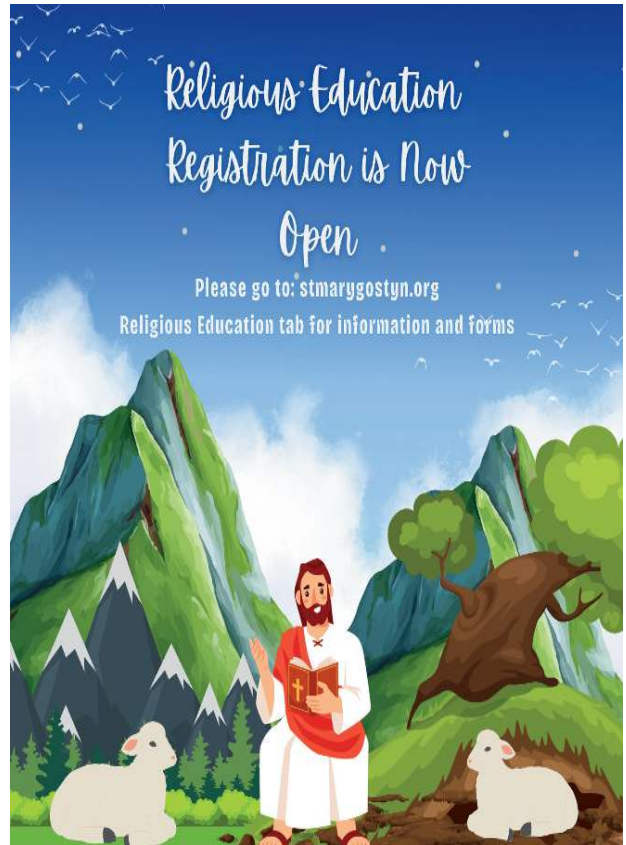
## CALL FOR CATECHISTS

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](mailto:religiouseducation@stmarygostyn.org) with any questions.





## Religious Education Registration is Now Open

Please go to: [stmarygostyn.org](http://stmarygostyn.org)  
Religious Education tab for information and forms



**Book Club**  
**TUESDAYS**  
5:30 PM



**Rosary**  
**EVERY**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
8:45 PM

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Contact Louis at [lculloton@sjpdg.org](mailto:lculloton@sjpdg.org)  
or 630-964-0216 x 1210



## THE MIX

Rise in Faith.  
Rise in Friendship.  
Rise Together.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

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

**ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE WELCOMED!**





## 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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