

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

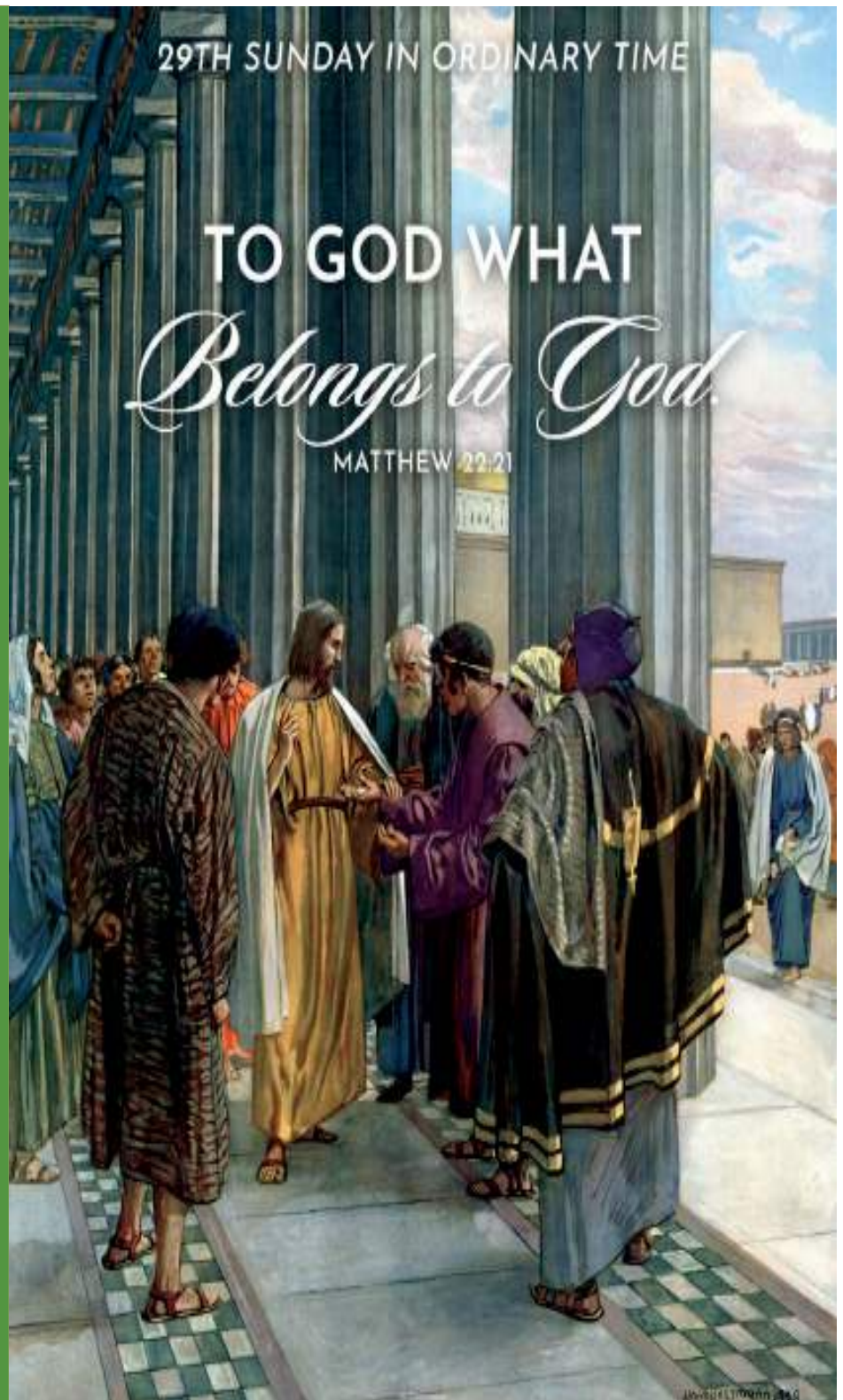
School Office
(630)968-6155
440 Prairie Avenue
Downers Grove

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



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 18, 2026

Monday, October 19th
8:00 am† Roger Godel

Tuesday, October 20th
8:00 am† Anna Giannini

Wednesday, October 21st
8:00 am† Mary Lou O'Toole

Thursday, October 22nd
8:00 am† Chester Slapke

Friday, October 23rd
8:00 am† Eleanor Zubcic

Saturday, October 24th
4:00 pm† Dorothy Miriani & Juanita
Johnson-Purtell

Sunday, October 25th
8:00 am† The People of the Parish
10:00 am† David Shannon
12:00 pm† Bernard Donovan
6:00 pm† George & Kathy Michniuk

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.

Baptism

The following children were baptized Sunday, October 11, 2026.

Isabella Sophia Lofredo daughter of Anthony & Gretchen Lofredo
Patrick Griffin Reiner son of Mitchell & Tracy Reiner
Lucia Gonzales Weber daughter of Tim & Julie Weber



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.

Prayers for the Sick

Aleena Truby	Robert Truby, Sr.
Lois Bach	Phil Kern
Donald W. Johnson	Mike Kern
Marilyn Totsi	Judith Koczor
Dan Kozor	Frank Davis
Marilyn Gaughan	Mary Kern
Skip Szot	Bill LeBeau
Kenneth Boese	

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
gseneseburns@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

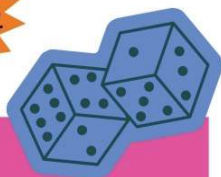
For the Week of October 18, 2026

Sunday	Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21
Monday	Memorial of Saints John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests and Companions, Martyrs Eph 2:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5; Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday	Eph 2:12-22; Ps 85:9ab-10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday	Eph 3:2-12; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Lk 12:39-48
Thursday	Eph 3:14-21; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19; Lk 12:49-53
Friday	Eph 4:1-6; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 12:54-59
Saturday	Eph 4:7-16; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Lk 13:1-9
Sunday	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ex 22:20-26; Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51; 1 Thes 1:5c-10; Mt 22:34-40

Adult Faith Formation

BUNCO BASH

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 12



Bring your friends, your good vibes, and get ready to roll the dice! And for a good cause - free will offering to support our St. Vincent de Paul Society & Food Pantry.



7:00 - 9:00
DOORS
OPEN AT
6:45PM

We'll provide the snacks
BYO the fun!
Register for full details



NO COST TO ATTEND, BUT REGISTRATION IS
REQUIRED TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

BUNCO

BONDING

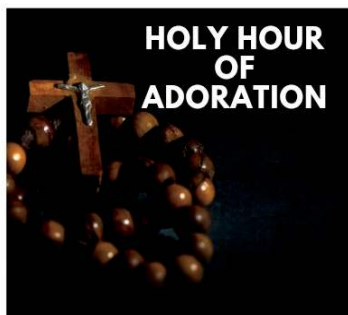
BLESSINGS

Exploring Life's Burning Questions:

Why did Jesus have to die? What does following Jesus really mean to you? Does the CROSS save us?

Tues., Oct. 20, 7PM in the GP.

Life brings joy, uncertainty, challenges, and questions. In every season, our Catholic faith offers a solid foundation and the presence of Christ to guide us. Tuesday evenings are an opportunity for adults of every stage of faith to explore Scripture, Catholic teaching, Tradition, prayer, and the Sacraments. **Come with your questions. Grow in your faith.**



All are welcome - stop in for a few moments or stay for the whole hour. Either way, come!

Tuesday, Oct. 27, in Church.

In the Presence of the Lord

At the very heart of our Catholic belief is the conviction that Jesus Christ is truly present in the Eucharist. Holy Hour of Adoration is a continuation of worship. It is an occasion of abundant grace, a way of showing devotion to our Lord.

This Holy Hour will also offer a reflection on the Rosary. October is a month typically dedicated to Mary and the Rosary, and our reflection and prayers will lead you to a rich understanding of the strength of this powerful prayer.

In addition to Adoration and Benediction, there will be the opportunity for Individual Confession and times of silent prayer.

St. Mary's Men's Group



**Something amazing happens
on Monday nights!**

Catholic men pursuing heroic virtue to become better husbands, fathers and leaders. Mondays at 7PM in the GP. All men 18+ are always welcome.

Thursday AM Women's CAFÉ



Through Scripture and Catholic Tradition, our study discussions will lead to a deeply Catholic, deeply biblical answer understanding God's salvific message.

St. Mary's Café features a unique style of study which engages the 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! Thursdays at 9AM in the Gathering Place.



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!**

A Call to Stewardship Monthly Collection September 2026

Envelope Donations:	\$ 81,875
Online Giving:	\$ 47,873
Total Collection:	\$129,748
Collection Total to Date:	\$423,073
Collection Goal to Date:	\$412,368
Over (under) Goal:	\$ 10,705



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/smgonlinedonation>

Or simply scan the QR code below to get started



All Saints' November 1 & All Souls' November 2



**Saturday, October 31, 4:00 PM Mass, and
Sunday, November 1, regularly scheduled
Masses (8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, and
6:00 PM) will be for All Saints' Day.
On Monday, November 2, there will be an 8:00 AM
Mass and a 7:00 PM Mass for All Souls' Day.
*The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed
(All Souls' Day) with names read of all the
deceased who had funerals at our Parish this
year, will be at the Monday 7:00 PM Mass.***

An Adoption Love Story

*Read the full version at
respectlifeprogram.org/adoption-love-story.*

Having children and raising a family had always been our expectation. We soon learned, however, that our chances of becoming pregnant were small.

It wasn't long before we started talking about the possibility of adoption. I wondered if my heart was big enough to love an adopted child as I would have loved a biological child. But with prayerful discernment, we decided to start the process. On Christmas Eve, Bill* and I left the hospital with Andrew. It didn't take long before there was no doubt in our minds that he was our son, the greatest gift from God! We can't imagine loving a child whom we conceived more than we love Andrew.

**We can't
imagine
loving a child
whom we
conceived
more than we
love Andrew.**

*Names changed for privacy. This is a summary of a USCCB Respect Life Program article by the same name and is reprinted with permission. © 2019, USCCB, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.

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SCHOOL NEWS

Playground Project *Update*

Exciting Progress for Our SMG Students!

Our school community is reimagining our playground and play space to create a safe, engaging, and vibrant environment for all of our students—from preschool through 8th grade.



\$225,000
ALREADY RAISED



\$100,000
MATCHING GIFT
Double your impact!
The Love Like Sean Foundation will match every dollar raised, up to \$100,000.



A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

New play structures, expanded play space, and improved multi-use areas for our students.



The moment our students spend here may be brief,
BUT THE MEMORIES THEY MAKE WILL LEAVE A LEGACY OF PLAY.

As planning has progressed, much-needed drainage improvements have increased the overall scope and cost of the project, but these improvements are essential to creating a safe, functional, and lasting space for our students.



To learn more about the playground project, please contact Gabriella Senese-Burns at gsenese-burns@stmarygostyn.org.



St. MARY OF GOSTYN
McTeacher's Night



20% of all food sales benefit St Mary's!
100% of cookie sales benefit the school!

Wednesday,
October 21st
4:30-6:30pm
225 Ogden
Downers Grove



THE MIX

RISE IN FAITH. RISE IN FRIENDSHIP. RISE TOGETHER.

OCT 2	THE MIX OUTDOOR FUN	NOV 2	THE MIX CLUB
OCT 9	THE MIX CLUB	NOV 13	THE MIX CLUB
OCT 16	GLOW CLUB	NOV 20	THE MIX CLUB (SERVICE PROJECT)
OCT 23	BOWLING NIGHT (\$15.00- Food Included)	DEC 4	THE MIX CLUB (SERVICE PROJECT)
OCT 30	COSTUME CLUB	DEC 11	THE MIX CLUB CHRISTMAS THEME

SIGN UP FOR EACH EVENT HERE!

SCAN TO SIGN UP!

4:30 - 5:45 PM
PARISH CENTER AT ST. ISAAC JOGUES

ALL 6TH - 8TH GRADERS WELCOME!

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.

FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER

\$50 PER PERSON

PICKLED! WOODRIDGE

6:00PM - 8:00PM

7250 WOODWARD AVE, WOODRIDGE

Nancy's IS DONATING THE PIZZA!

Scan Now!

Register at: smgpickleball26.givesmart.com

ST. MARY OF GOSTYN SMG *Community Faith Fun*

TRUNK or TREAT & CHILI TO EAT

A FUN-FILLED AFTERNOON FOR OUR SMG COMMUNITY!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 | 2:30 - 4:30 PM | SMG PARKING LOT, DOWNERS GROVE, IL

\$50 PER FAMILY

FOOD • FUN • COMMUNITY • ALL ARE WELCOME!

OUR CHILI CONTEST
Taste, Vote, Cheer!

TRUNKS TO VISIT AND DONATE YOUR CANDY
Spooky Fun for a Sweet Cause!

SKUDDLEBUTTS
Grilling Up Hot Dogs!

DONUT TRUCK
A Sweet Treat for Everyone!

DASH OF DUST Sparkle Bar!
GLITTER • STYLE • FUN

TAP ART • CRAFT STUDIO
Get Creative!
ART • CRAFT • IMAGINATION

NINJA SQUAD GYM
Mini Ninja Challenge!
CLIMB • PLAY • HAVE A BLAST!

REGISTER HERE

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children ages 3 to 6 are invited to join us in the Gathering Place during the homily for Children's Liturgy of the Word, where they can learn about the Word of God. Second Graders should NOT participate in CLOW. Since Second grade is a two sacrament year, they should stay in church for all of Mass.

Children Liturgy of the Word dates
**October 18, 25
November 8**

DIOCESE OF JOLIET

World Mission Sunday
October 18, 2026

There will be a second collection on Sunday, October 18, 2026 for World Mission Sunday. The basket will be passed only once. Thank you for your generosity.

Social Sunday
October 18, 2027
hosted by
The Knights of Columbus

Please join us for coffee, juice, donuts, and conversation in the Gathering Place after the 8:00AM and 10:00AM Masses.



St. Vincent DePaul's September Update

"Nobody gets to heaven without a letter of reference from the poor"

James Forbes

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

SVDP is grateful to the St. Mary's school families who supported the food pantry during the Food Drive, sponsored by the Students for Life Club, and through the Student Council Spirit Day donations. The many donations helped to fill the pantry shelves, and the monetary donations will assist in the purchase of the monthly household-supplies that are provided to the pantry families.

Since January, the food pantry has provided food and household staples to over 3,500 individuals - over 450 in September alone. SVDP is successful in this mission due to the generosity of St. Mary's parishioners.

At this time, the pantry is in need of dish detergent, cans of chili, Chef-Boy-Ar-doe, corn, and pineapple, instant mashed potatoes, toothpaste, and bar soap.

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.

September Collection Envelope THANK YOU!!

We extend our sincere thanks to all parishioners who contributed to the special St. Vincent de Paul collection in September. Your generous donations go directly to our local conference, helping us assist families in need within our community. Your support makes a real difference. Thank you for living out the Gospel through your kindness and compassion.

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 of Gostyn

For Venmo - send to svdpSMG

CELEBRATING ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

St Vincent de Paul put his faith into action through compassion and personal service to others. His example reminds us that our mission is not simply to provide financial assistance, but to serve others with dignity and kindness.

At our SVDP Feast Day Mass on September 25, Father Shaun reinforced this message as he welcomed the 65 representatives from our conference as well as organizations throughout DuPage County, including Catholic Charities, DuPage County Housing Authority, Love Christian Connection, Sharing Connections, and other SVDP conference members from nearby parishes.

Fr. Shaun recognized the importance of working together toward the common goal of helping families facing financial and housing challenges by connecting them with the resources and support they need. We are deeply grateful for Fr. Shaun's faith-filled support, his thoughtful message on our feast day, and his continued encouragement.

Following Mass, we gathered for coffee, donuts, and fellowship. It was a wonderful opportunity for many of our community partners to meet face-to-face. We often work together by phone to coordinate assistance for families, but there is great benefit to gathering and strengthening those relationships.

Clothing Drive THANK YOU!!

Your generous donations of clothing and linens filled our truck!

We are deeply grateful for your kindness and support in making a difference

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.

WE ARE **ONE**



One Parish, One School,
One Family!



IN LOVING
MEMORY OF

Fr. Anthony Nyamai



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