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



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 15, 2026

Monday, November 16th
8:00 am† Roger Godel

Tuesday, November 17th
8:00 am (Living) Gabriel Michael Hernandez & Deceased members of the LaCognata & Starczynski Family

Wednesday, November 18th
8:00 am† Matt Selfridge

Thursday, November 19th
8:00 am† Sam & Mary Easterly

Friday, November 20th
8:00 am† Paul Bien

Saturday, November 21st
4:00 pm (Living) Bob & Kelly Johnson

Sunday, November 22nd
8:00 am† The People of the Parish
10:00 am† Annette Martel
12:00 pm† Garry Kornack
6:00 pm† Roger Godel

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.
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
Marie Rossi	Mary Durkin

Baptism

The following children were baptized, November 8, 2026 at St. Mary of Gostyn.
John Patrick Reiff son of Samuel & Katherine Reiff
Emiliana Sofia Arellano daughter of Axel & Gabriella Arellano
Lucy Renee Schober daughter of Matthew & Nikki Schober
Dawn Eileen Gomez-Craven daughter of Jose & Rebecca Anne Gomez-Craven

Welcome

We welcome the following to St. Mary of Gostyn.

Joseph & Allison Rademacher
Kevin & Bridget Sunyog

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



Scripture Readings
For the Week of November 15, 2026

Sunday	Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6, Mt 25:14-30 or Mt 25:14-15, 19-21
Monday	Rev 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday	Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious Rev 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday	Rev 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday	Rev 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6b, 9b; Lk 19:41-44
Friday	Rev 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday	Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rev 11:4-12; Ps 144:1, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday	The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

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
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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

Adult Faith Formation

Exploring Life's Burning Questions:

How does following rules lead to a happy life? It seems like it just limits my choices.

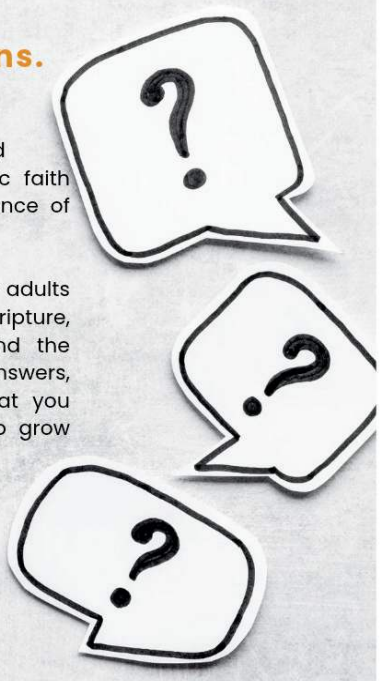
Isn't religion just following a bunch of rules? Why do I need the Church?

What does it mean to be free?

There are thousands of churches in the world. Is the Catholic Church the only true Church? How can I really know?

Tuesday, November 17, 7PM in the GP.

Come with Your Questions. Grow in Your Faith.



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. Whether you are seeking answers, returning to the Church, refreshing what you learned years ago, or simply longing to grow closer to God, you are welcome.

Through conversation, learning, and prayer, we will engage the mind, heart, and soul, deepen our faith, and grow together as a parish community.

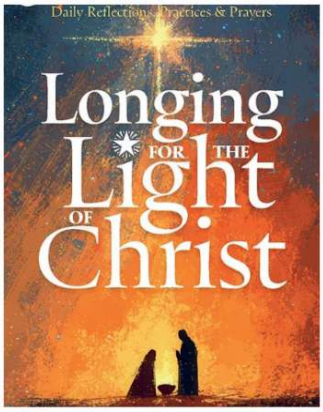
St. Mary's Men's Group

Are you a fan or a follower? Move from being just one of the crowd to a real follower of Jesus Christ. This video discussion series presented by Father Columba Jordan, focuses on essential aspects of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus: prayer, Sacraments, ongoing faith formation, community with other Catholics, and personal witness.

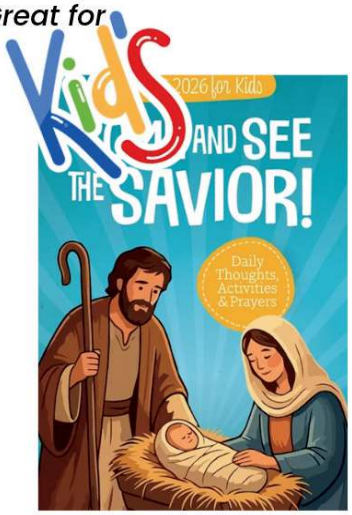
St. Mary's Men's Group gathers in a relaxed setting to better understand what it means to be a Catholic man in today's world. As men embrace the call to pursue heroic virtue, they become better husbands, fathers, and leaders. All men 18+ are welcome to dive deeper into the faith with 'real' conversations and fellowship. Mondays, 7PM in the GP.

Advent is coming!

Rather than Advent being a 'countdown to Christmas' this year, be intentional and have a holy, prayerful and transforming Advent. The Daily Prayer booklets, ***Longing for the Light of Christ*** and ***Come and See the Savior,*** will be available starting next week at the Faith Network Desk.



Great for



Peace. Joy. Hope.

The Monday morning parish-e-communication will also feature (free!) online Advent options, including The Best Advent Ever, a daily retreat with top Catholic speakers like Dr. Andrew Swafford, the *"Art of Waiting'* meditations, and much more. (Don't receive St. Mary's Monday e-blast? Call the parish office 630.969.1063 and ask to be added.) This year, make time for Advent!



Anointing of the Sick within the Mass



"Like all the Sacraments, Anointing of the Sick is both a liturgical and communal celebration...It is very fitting to celebrate it within the Eucharist, the memorial of the Lord's Passover" (CCC 1517, 1520).

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is for baptized members of the Christian faithful who have reached the age of reason who face a serious illness or surgery or who are impaired by old age. The Order of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. One may celebrate the Sacrament many times if needed for strength and healing in mind, body, and spirit. In this Sacrament of Anointing, Christ strengthens our faith and bestows God's grace in a time of anxiety and pain.

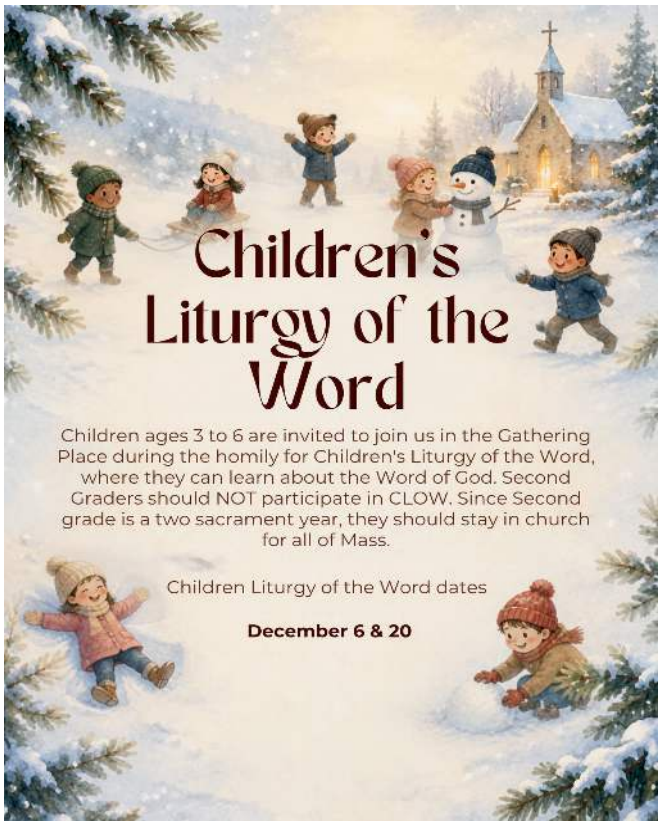
The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated within the Mass on Sunday, November 15 at 8AM Mass.

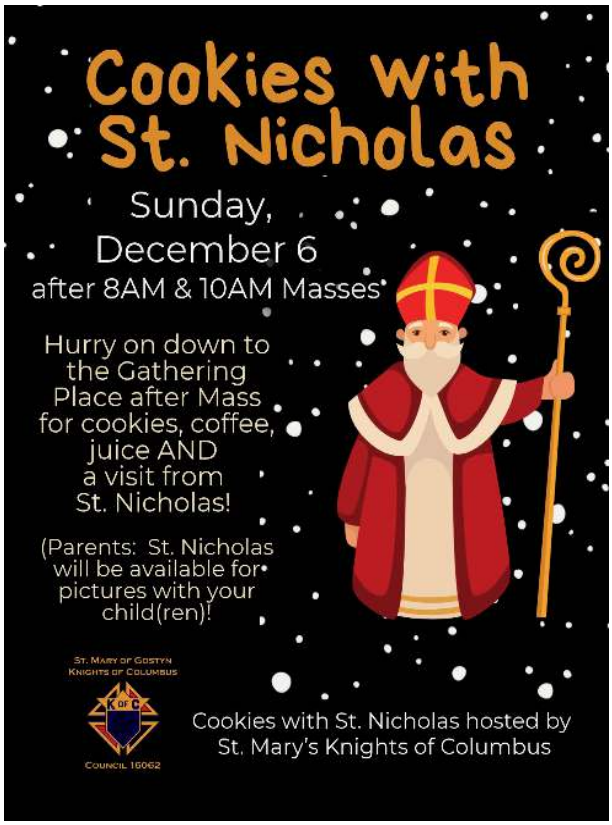


CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The second collection for this fund will take place on the weekend of November 14-15. The basket will be passed one time only.







St. Vincent DePaul's October Update

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." – Colossians 3:17

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

Your donations support our Food Pantry, and they also support our home visit ministry.

During October, our conference provided $12,674 in individual rent assistance to twelve households, averaging approximately $1,056 per household. Our highest individual rent was $2,056. In addition, we partnered with nearby St. Vincent conferences to provide $1,606 in shared rent assistance to four households.

Rent continues to be one of the greatest challenges facing the families we serve. Utilities are the second greatest need. Sometimes it takes just one unexpected event to turn a family's finances upside down. A job loss, reduced work hours, an injury, or an unexpected hospitalization can leave a family behind on rent and bills. Even hardworking families who have managed their finances carefully can suddenly find themselves struggling to make ends meet.

With the generosity of our parish family, SVDP can help those facing difficult challenges right here in our community. If you find yourself with extra funds and can give, please consider donating to St. Vincent de Paul at SMG. Your generosity helps a neighbor stay in their home, keep the utilities on, or begin to get back on their feet after an unexpected hardship.

If a financial gift is not possible at this time, we ask that you please continue to pray for our ministry, our volunteers, and the neighbors we serve.

Thank you for helping us bring Christ's love and compassion to our neighbors.

St. Vincent de Paul Society
Christmas 2026 Adopt-A-Family
Saturday, December 12, 2026

Adopt-A-Family is a Christmas outreach program for needy families. Typically, we have about 40 families from the Downers Grove area and 60 families from our sister parish, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, in Joliet. If you wish to participate, your family purchases a new Christmas gift valued at a minimum of $30 for each member of your adopted family (a family gift wish list will be provided to you), along with a grocery gift card for the Christmas meal.

We welcome extended families, school groups, religious education classes, scout troops, office groups, neighborhoods, and others to participate.

How to Get Involved
First, consider the size of the family that you would like to adopt. Family sizes available for adoption range from a single person (1) up to families of 10 or more.

Sign up will be by email or telephone.
For more information or to sign up, please email Cathy and Ihor Hlohowskyj at ihorcathy@sbcglobal.net or call (or text) 630-290-3447.

Once you've signed up, information about your adopted family will be provided either by email and/or mail.

Schedule
Sign-up: Beginning Nov 1 until all families are adopted.
Gift Drop-off: Saturday, Dec 12, 2026 from 8-10AM at SMG.
(Early drop-off dates will be available upon request).



FOOD PANTRY NEWS

SVDP is grateful to the parishioners of St. Mary's who supported the food pantry during the month of October. 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.

Thanks to the continued support of those who drop off the items requested in the monthly bulletin article and in the weekly e-blast, the 40 families who visit the pantry weekly received the staples they need to feed their families. The distributed food helped to provide for over 380 individuals in October.

The pantry needs dish detergent, cans of tomato soup, chili, Chef-Boy-Ardee, corn, and pineapple, ramen noodle packets, instant mashed potatoes, and rice.

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.

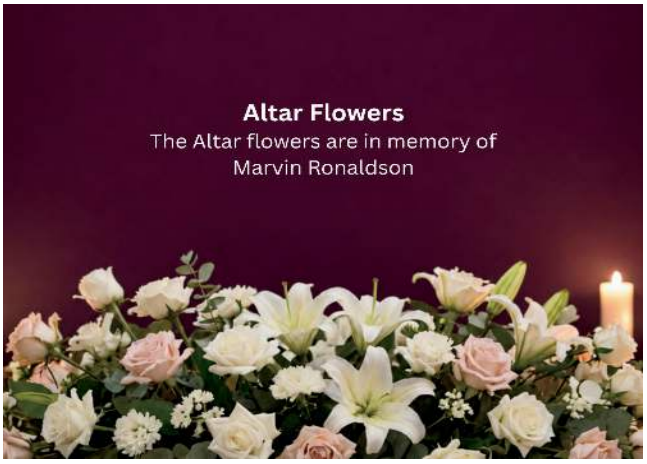
PANTRY DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED ON WEDNESDAYS
FROM 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
OR USE THE FOOD BARRELS
AT THE CHURCH ENTRANCES.

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, and we thank you for living out the Gospel through your kindness and compassion.

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 of Gostyn
For Venmo - send to. svdpSMG







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