Mission Statement

The Church of St. Mary, is a Roman Catholic Church whose Mission is that of Jesus Christ: The conversion of sinners and the salvation of souls. This is accomplished by preaching and living the Gospel, celebrating Sacraments and evangelizing the world around us.
**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18

**Tuesday:** 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 3:31-35

**Wednesday:** Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20

**Thursday:** Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25

**Friday:** Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34

**Saturday:** Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41

**Sunday:** Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

---

**HOPE HAVEN VOLUNTEERS:**

**COOK SCHEDULE**

01/30/21 – Marcy Billington

---

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 25, 2021 – JANUARY 31, 2021**

**Monday, January 25 - The Conversion of St. Paul**

8:15 AM  
In Memory of Irene Nunez  
(by Holland family)

**Tuesday, January 26 - Ss. Timothy and Titus**

8:15 AM  
In Memory of Mark Joseph Bussone  
(by family)

**Wednesday, January 27 - St. Angela Merici**

8:15 AM  
In Memory of Linda Marie Lane Sabel  
(by family)

**Thursday, January 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas**

8:15 AM  
In Memory of Pauline Friend  
(by Skokowski Family)

**Friday, January 29**

8:15 AM  
All Souls’ Day Intentions

**Saturday, January 30**

8:00 AM  
In Memory of William Arado  
(by Mary Anne Arado & family)

5:00 PM  
In Memory of Charles Kazmer  
(by family)

**Sunday, January 31 - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM  
People of St. Mary - Living & Deceased

9:30 AM  
Spanish Speaking Mass

11:00 AM  
In Memory of Charles Kazmer  
(by family)

---

**St. Blaise and the Blessing of Throats**

*In honor of the feast of St. Blaise, Father Beekman will be doing the blessing of throats at the January 30 & 31, 2021 weekend Masses.*

---

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

January 24, 2021

The kingdom of God is at hand.

Repent, and believe in the gospel.

— Mark 1:15

---

**HOPE HAVEN VOLUNTEERS:**

**Cook Schedule**

01/30/21 – Marcy Billington

---

**Request a Mass Intention**

Have a mass celebrated for a special occasion, on behalf of a family member or friend or a deceased loved one. We currently have openings. Call or stop by the parish office to schedule. $10 stipend. Phone: 815-895-3275
“KAIROS” MOMENTS

Our readings today speak of “Kairos” times, of God proclaiming new moments of opportunity of encounter with the Divine. From Jonah, we hear of God’s summons to the people of Nineveh to turn from evil. We hear Paul tell the church in Corinth that those who live in Christ must avoid clinging to anything transient, as all is secondary to God. And we hear of the beginning of Jesus’ ministry in Mark, as Jesus proclaims a moment of both opportunity and crisis. In these passages, there are no delaying tactics, no getting caught up in life’s distractions. Just a simple moment of choice. Perhaps we have had “Kairos” moments like these, or we may be facing one now. Sometimes, amid the complexities and uncertainties of our lives, clear choices emerge, and God asks us to choose. And our always patient and merciful God will accompany us in our choices.

THE INAUGURATION

Mark describes the beginning of Jesus’ ministry with his proclamation that the “kingdom of God is at hand.” The rest of Mark’s Gospel—all of Jesus’ preaching and healing, his death and resurrection—describes the inauguration of this kingdom of God. For Mark, the life of Jesus is the center point of history, where everything leads up to Jesus, and everything follows from Jesus. Mark then tells us that the first disciples follow Jesus immediately and wholeheartedly. They leave their work and family, all for Jesus. Because compared to Jesus and the life he offers, everything else is secondary. Perhaps our invitations from God do not entail such dramatic life changes. But all who follow Jesus are called to align our life and values with his ways of love. As we continue to mature in love and in faith, we might ask: What needs to be renewed, re-oriented, or discarded in light of our life in Christ?

JONAH AND NINEVEH

Jonah makes a rare appearance this week. The book of Jonah is a fascinating tale of God, stubborn Jonah, surprising Nineveh, and the famous fish (or whale). Please consider reading the whole book, just 48 verses, together with a good commentary. The book is read at Jewish services at Yom Kippur, as a profound reflection about God and about all of us.

Today’s passage takes place shortly after Jonah’s time in the fish’s belly. Jonah finally performs the task that God asks of him, to call the people of Nineveh to repentance. (Nineveh was notorious for its brutality.) Their sudden repentance is bitterly accepted by Jonah, as he resents God’s mercy for Nineveh. God reminds Jonah that the people of Nineveh are God’s beloved too. Like the parable of the Prodigal Son, the story hints at the vastness of God’s mercy, especially forgiveness of those who seem least deserving. We are reminded that all of us are sinners, and we are all in need of God’s mercy.

TODAY’S READINGS

Jonah 3:1–5, 10
Psalm 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9
1 Corinthians 7:29–31
Mark 1:14–20
**SACRAMENT INFORMATION**

**Baptisms**
Infant Baptism is by appointment, and is celebrated after 11:00 Mass on Sunday. There is one preparation session for the Baptism. Please call the parish office to set up an appointment.

**Marriages**
Arrangements should be made at least 6 months but no more than 18 months in advance. Please call Fr. Carl Beekman or email him at cbeekman@rockforddiocese.org.

**Confessions**
Saturday after morning Mass & 3:30 - 4:30 pm Or by appointment - please call the parish office.

**Anointing of the Sick**
Please call the parish office to contact Fr. Beekman if a loved one is seriously ill or in the hospital.

**The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)**
Persons interested in becoming Catholic or receiving the Sacraments as an adult should contact Fr. Beekman at the parish office.

**Registering to become a Parishioner**
Become part of the parish community and register at St. Mary. If you are uncertain if you are registered, or would like to register, call the parish office, or go to our website to register.

**Thank you to those who contributed to the National Appeal.**

**Died 316**
**Feast Day – February 3**
Saint Blaise is a bishop and martyr who lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. For a time, Blaise lived in a cave to escape persecution. On his feast the church recalls a miracle cure associated with him and celebrates the blessing of the throats. Blaise apparently saved the life of a boy who was choking on a fish bone. The saint said that anyone who lit a candle in his memory would be free of infection, thus candles are used in the traditional throat blessing. He is listed among the Fourteen Holy Helpers, saints revered as healers. He is the patron saint of throat illnesses, animals, wool combers, and wool trading.

**Are you an Employee or Volunteer?**

We are transitioning into a new database system for all Safe Environment required paperwork and trainings. Every employee and volunteer will be entered into this new database system. During this time you may receive an email from VIRTUS stating that your account has been updated or activated. This new system will allow us to email you when there is a revision to a document and you will be able to electronically acknowledge the changes saving our diocesan parishes, schools and entities time and money on paper, printing, and postage. In addition, beginning November 1, 2020, all new employees and volunteers that are required to complete this process will be asked to do so online.

If you have any questions please reach out to the Diocesan Safe Environment Office 815-399-4300 ext. 417 or your parish, school or entity directly.

**IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN THE CHURCH AND IT’S MINISTRIES, PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING!**

**ONLINE GIVING**

HTTPS://STMARYSYCAMORE.COM/ONLINE-GIVING
Remember in your prayers all the sick in our parish, the convalescents and shut-ins:

Dennis Ballarb, Jan Barone, Ann Battaglia, Linda Rose Berry, Thomas R. Blondell, Maryilene Bondell, Judith Brady, Nancy Brown, Quintin Byrne, Mary Cavileer, Chris Cohn, Stacey Condin, Danilo Cruz, Editha Cruz, Pia Cruz, Nancy Culver, Catherine Cwiklinski, Michael DeBartolo, Matt Deming, Allen Dietz, Donna Dodson, Deb Drager, Sara Elliott, Jim Erion, Marilyn Erion, Logan Fifer, Logan Fitch, Wayne Finn, Mary Fischer, John Garman, Al Gawrych, Deloris George, Tom Gilliam, Joanne Goyette, Raoul Goyette, Mariana Grimson, Ken Hamilton, Chris Hamlin, Pat Herrick, Pete Hicks, Larry Higgins, Ruth Higgins, Joan Holecchel, Diane Hogan, Joanne Irving, Vincent Jacobs, Joseph Johnson, Kathy Keller, Theresa Kelly, Bonnie Kennedy, Nancy Kissel, Aaron Lane, Jeremy Lloyd, Mary Low, Christopher Mamoser, Renee Mazan, William Mazan, Hank & Debbie Maestro, Patricia Martin, JoAnn MaKarrall, Charlotte Mirotznik, Cheri Mills, Jon Meredith, Charlotte Monroy, Sheryl Olson, Louis M. Ortega, Donna Petersen, Theresa Pivar, Josh Plagakis, C.J. Potter, Bill Powers, Michael Powers, Natalie Rangel, Ron Razniewski, Sergio Renteria, Patricia Richter, James Robers, Bill Rock, Denise Sanders, Robert Schein, Celeste Serafin, Nadine Saucedo, Denise Setchell, Joe Shade, Ruthanne Slayton, Jean Spartz, Sally Stran, Don Stroud, Mary Supple, Doug Truckenbrod, David Voss, Wayne Walter, Alice Warren, Ken Wiese, Warren Young, Dawn Yeloushan, and the patients at Kindred Hospital, the County Home, Oak Crest, Grand Victorian, Pine Acres, Bethany Healthcare, Heritage Woods and the homebound. If you wish to add or remove names from our prayer list, call Liz at 815-895-3275 ext.5.

Please pray for those who protect and serve us and our country.

Daily Marriage Tips

www.foryourmarriage.org

Couples separated by distance have blessings and challenges. Absence can make the heart grow fonder, but it can also cause loneliness and temptations. Plan ways to keep close even when you’re far away.

After you are blessed with a child (or children), you may think you don’t have time or money for a regular date night. Do it anyway. Think of it as an investment in your marriage.

FAITHFUL LIVING, GRATEFUL GIVING
THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP
Sunday Collection - January 10, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actual Collection</th>
<th>Amount Needed</th>
<th>Surplus (Shortfall)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$7,423.10</td>
<td>$12,775.00</td>
<td>($5,351.90)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember in your prayers all the sick in our parish, the convalescents and shut-ins:

Dennis Ballarb, Jan Barone, Ann Battaglia, Linda Rose Berry, Thomas R. Blondell, Maryilene Bondell, Judith Brady, Nancy Brown, Quintin Byrne, Mary Cavileer, Chris Cohn, Stacey Condin, Danilo Cruz, Editha Cruz, Pia Cruz, Nancy Culver, Catherine Cwiklinski, Michael DeBartolo, Matt Deming, Allen Dietz, Donna Dodson, Deb Drager, Sara Elliott, Jim Erion, Marilyn Erion, Logan Fifer, Logan Fitch, Wayne Finn, Mary Fischer, John Garman, Al Gawrych, Deloris George, Tom Gilliam, Joanne Goyette, Raoul Goyette, Mariana Grimson, Ken Hamilton, Chris Hamlin, Pat Herrick, Pete Hicks, Larry Higgins, Ruth Higgins, Joan Holecchel, Diane Hogan, Joanne Irving, Vincent Jacobs, Joseph Johnson, Kathy Keller, Theresa Kelly, Bonnie Kennedy, Nancy Kissel, Aaron Lane, Jeremy Lloyd, Mary Low, Christopher Mamoser, Renee Mazan, William Mazan, Hank & Debbie Maestro, Patricia Martin, JoAnn MaKarrall, Charlotte Mirotznik, Cheri Mills, Jon Meredith, Charlotte Monroy, Sheryl Olson, Louis M. Ortega, Donna Petersen, Theresa Pivar, Josh Plagakis, C.J. Potter, Bill Powers, Michael Powers, Natalie Rangel, Ron Razniewski, Sergio Renteria, Patricia Richter, James Robers, Bill Rock, Denise Sanders, Robert Schein, Celeste Serafin, Nadine Saucedo, Denise Setchell, Joe Shade, Ruthanne Slayton, Jean Spartz, Sally Stran, Don Stroud, Mary Supple, Doug Truckenbrod, David Voss, Wayne Walter, Alice Warren, Ken Wiese, Warren Young, Dawn Yeloushan, and the patients at Kindred Hospital, the County Home, Oak Crest, Grand Victorian, Pine Acres, Bethany Healthcare, Heritage Woods and the homebound. If you wish to add or remove names from our prayer list, call Liz at 815-895-3275 ext.5.

Please pray for those who protect and serve us and our country.

Daily Marriage Tips

www.foryourmarriage.org

Couples separated by distance have blessings and challenges. Absence can make the heart grow fonder, but it can also cause loneliness and temptations. Plan ways to keep close even when you’re far away.

After you are blessed with a child (or children), you may think you don’t have time or money for a regular date night. Do it anyway. Think of it as an investment in your marriage.

**ADORAÇÃO**

Pope Paul VI

Because Christ himself is present in the sacrament of the altar, he is to be honored with the worship of adoration. “To visit the Blessed Sacrament is...a proof of gratitude, an expression of love, and a duty of adoration toward Christ our Lord” (Paul VI. MF 66).

Yearning for Adoration?

Thursdays 9 AM - 6 PM

45 minute slots for 5 Parishioners at a time

Sign up at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0a45afa829a7f49-adoration

Please support our Church Bulletin Advertisers.
To advertise in the St. Mary Church Bulletin, Contact J.S. Paluch Co., at 800-566-6170

**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**

General Dentistry for the Quality Conscious
485 Plaza Dr. • Sycamore, IL • “Across from Farm & Flea”

815-895-2298

www.sycamoredentristre.com
Preschool through Grade 8 registration for the 2021-2022 school year opens on January 25th! New families should call the school office for registration information and find out how you may EXPEDITE your application.

Preschool Programs
PreK 3
M/W/F half day
M/W/F full day
M-F half day
M-F full day
PreK 4
M-F half day
M-F full day

Saint Mary School offers PE, Music, Spanish and Technology Instruction 1:1 Chromebooks in Grades 6-8
Clubs, Competitive Interscholastic Sports and Mass

The Empower Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship Program is beneficial for donors and scholarship recipients.
INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE DONORS can make contributions that are eligible for a 75% state tax credit. Saint Mary School can be specified for your donation.
For more information on donations or scholarships visit www.empowerillinois.org or contact Mrs. Strang at Saint Mary School.

The Guardian Angel Fund
The Guardian Angel Scholarship Fund provides need-based assistance to families who want to send their children to Saint Mary School but cannot afford to pay the full tuition. Please donate today online at:
https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/479

Thank you for supporting Saint Mary School through your donations, participating in our events and prayer. God bless you.
Religious Education

January 20th: In Person Class

January 27th: In Person Class

February 3rd: No Class

The Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

St. Joseph - Pray for Us

Contact Aubri Bourge with any questions:
Phone 815-895-3275
Email: youthministry@stmarysycamore.org
Website: stmarysycamore.com/faith-formation/youth-ministry
Facebook: St. Mary's Church of Sycamore Youth Ministry
Instagram: ymstmarys

We finally have a name for our Thursday night game nights! They will be called Faith Factor. Each week we will pray, read a verse and talk about it, and for the remainder of the time, play games! Until further notice, these will be virtual, but I am hoping soon they will be in person! Stay tuned. And email youthministry@stmarysycamore.org with any questions! God bless.
Get it Durable, all-weather tested system not or
Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder
Seamless, one-piece system keeps out

Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!

Receive a $25 Darden card with FREE in-home estimate
All participants who receive an in-home estimate and install new LeafGuard® gutters will receive a $25 gift card. (Gift cards do not expire.) Offer may be voided if LeafGuard® installation is not performed by a LeafGuard® Authorized Contractor. NEW Homeowners and first-time homeowners are not eligible to participate in the offer. Offer is void where prohibited by law. Offer not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount. Offer is limited to one participant per household and is only valid for homeowners 18 years of age and older. Offer expires 03/31/21. Offer is not sponsored or promoted by Darden and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 03/31/21.

LeafGuard® is guaranteed never to clog or we’ll clean it for FREE.
• Seamless, one-piece system keeps out leaves, pine needles, and debris
• Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
• Durable, all-weather tested system not a flimsy attachment

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America
Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.
Call us today at 800-399-1795 or email eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com
www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com

Hy-Vee
HICKORY HOUSE
COMFORT FOODS

BUY ONE ADULT MEAL, ONE CHILD EATS FREE

Coupon #95460

815-756-6174
2700 DeKalb Avenue