

Church of Saint Mary

September 14th & 21st
2025

Mass and Sacraments

Holy Mass

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday Masses: 8:00am, 10:00am

Monday-Friday: 7:00am

Sacramental Confession

Saturdays: 4:00-4:45pm

Sundays: 7:15-7:45am

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Church anytime
day or night.

Parish Office

P.O. Box 159

303 South Division Street

Utica, IL 61373

Phone & Fax 815-667-4677

parishoffice@stmarysutica.org

www.stmarysutica.org

Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays

8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Fr. Michael Driscoll, Pastor

Fr. Jeff J. Windy, Asst. Pastor

Jennifer Newman, Secretary

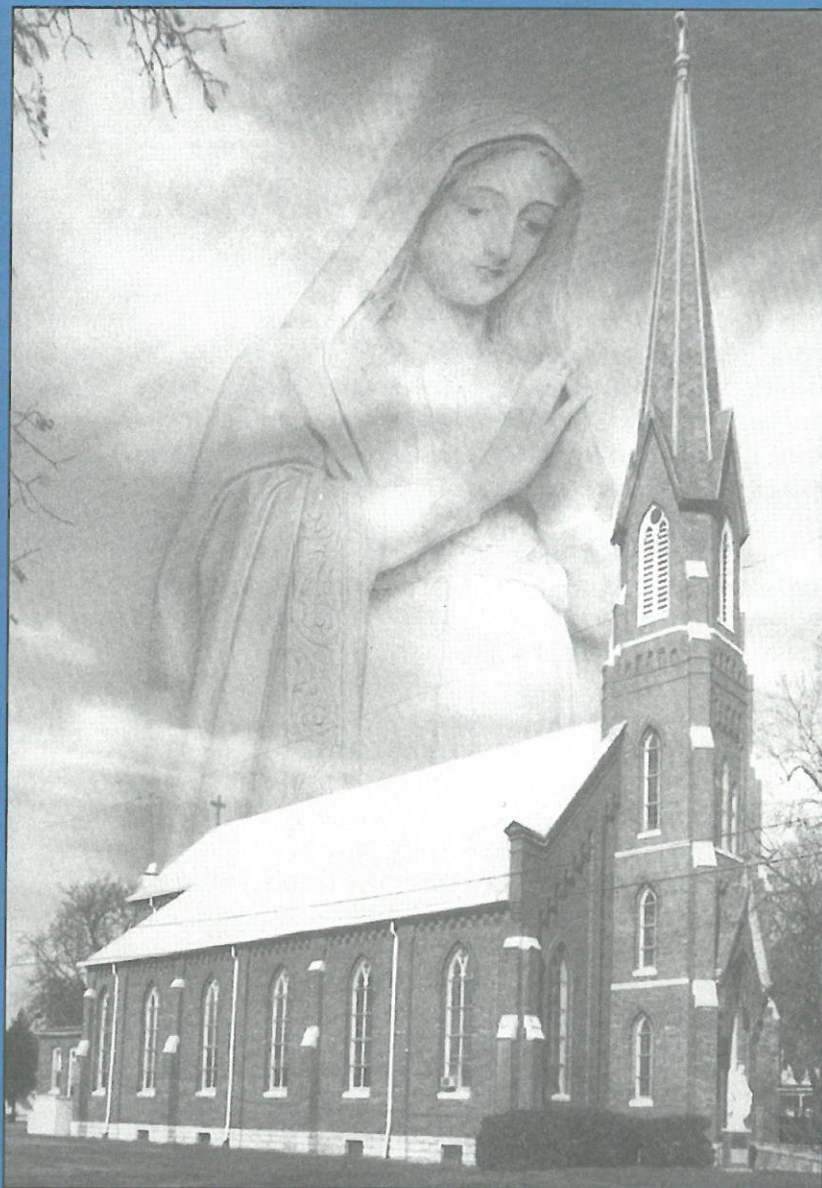
parishoffice@stmarysutica.org

Heather Leffers, CCD Coordinator

heatherleffers@stmarysutica.org

Bill Brown, Cemetery Sexton

bbrown@stmarysutica.org



On Holy Thursday, April 11, 1675, Father Jacques Marquette offered the first parochial Mass in the Illinois Country at Utica in the presence of 5,000 Native Americans. Father Marquette and his companion, Louis Joliet, took possession of this land in the name of Jesus Christ and founded the Mission of the Immaculate Conception. A monument in his honor stands in the northeast corner of the property. That mission eventually became the Church of Saint Mary. In 1858 a small frame church was built which was destroyed by fire seventeen years later and a brick and stone church was built. The Reverend Canon Jeremiah Moynihan was appointed the first resident pastor in 1884. The Reverend Francis J. O'Reilly succeeded Canon Moynihan in 1888 and in the same year erected the present church. In September 1986, Saint Mary's Church was completely redecorated. Though damaged, it survived the Utica tornado of 2004 and was quickly restored.



Saint Mary's Church
Diocese of Peoria
303 S. Division Street
North Utica, IL 61373

Mass Intentions and Schedule

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH—ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH—EXALTATION OF HOLY CROSS

8:00am + Joe and Esther Campeggio by Kathy Jo Lindner

10:00am + Sharon Doerr (wedding anniv. 9/18)

by Jack and Kathy Cantlin

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH—OUR LADY OF SORROWS

7:00am + Maurice Lorenz by Maurice and Jane Dust

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH—STS. CORNELIUS & CYPRIAN

7:00am + Karen Robey (wedding anniv.)

by Donald Robey

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH—ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE

7:00am + Lois Schott

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH

7:00am + Ron Lindner (anniv. + 9/19)

by Kathy Jo Lindner

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH—ST. JANUARIUS

7:00am Emily Rauh (birthdate 9/20)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

5:00pm + Pat Byczynski by Megan Byczynski

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST—25TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am For the People of the Parish

10:00am + Rita Stewart by Annarita Bennett

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

7:00am + Andrea Kaszynski

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD—ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA

7:00am + Chris Smith

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH

7:00am + Kent Pryde (anniv. + 9/28)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

7:00am + Daniel H. Snell (birthdate)

by Joe and Darlene Woodshank

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH—STS. COSMAS & DAMIAN

7:00am + Sandy Brown (wedding anniv. 9/27)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH—ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

5:00pm + Mary Cadegiani by family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH—26TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

8:00am + Ron Lindner (birthdate 9/29)

by Mark and Beth Ann Connell

10:00am For the People of the Parish

Pray for the Sick of our Parish

Michael Ball, Katie Becker, Tim Burgess, Nancy Camenisch,
Don and Pam Edwards, Jill Kain, Richard Kepper, Ed Liss,
Ava Lukascy, Rosie Sander, Drew Shinnick, Tom Varney,
Dennise Watson

Gospel Meditation for September 14th

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him...might have eternal life.

This verse from the Gospel of John may be the most famous passage in the whole Bible. It's especially appropriate on this feast of the Exaltation of the Cross because it's a concise summary of why the cross of Christ is central to our faith. Let's reflect on it today.

Love. "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son". God is a communion of three Persons, with a love and unity beyond our comprehension. Yet this triune God so desired to share his perfect love with us that the Son of God became a man. Out of that love, Jesus was willing to suffer and die on the cross—all so that he could save us. This love is so immense; it knows no bounds. It will go to any lengths and give everything to bring us into God's loving embrace.

Life. "...so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life". God never wanted us to die. In Adam, we brought death upon ourselves when we turned away from God and went our own way. But on the cross, Jesus offered himself up as "expiation for our sins". Through the shedding of his blood, Jesus conquered sin and death for everyone. This means that we can begin to experience eternal life even now. We don't have to be slaves to sin, and we don't have to fear death! When we do sin, the Holy Spirit can assure us of God's mercy and forgiveness. And now, we can look forward in hope to life everlasting in his presence.

Love and Life: this is the message of the cross. Today at Mass, gaze at the cross, and thank God for all that he has done for you in Christ Jesus, Our Lord!

"Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, may the cross always remind me of your overflowing love for me."

Weekly Offering

Donations received August 27th—September 9th

Adult Envelopes	\$4,995.00
Loose Collection	\$2,121.00
Building Fund	\$90.00
Holy Days	\$20.00
Initial Offering	\$5.00
Food Pantry	\$20.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$35.00
Altar & Rosary	\$195.00
Memorials	\$50.00

Attention 10:00 a.m. Servers: It is time to start working on the new schedule for October and November. Please e-mail the parish office with any conflicts you are aware of. Thank you!!

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

September 14th	Nathan and Nina Leffers, Ava Myers
September 21st	Finn and Rory Carter, Abby Brown
September 28th	Jake and Joey Patyk, Nina Leffers

Weekends of September 14th & 21st

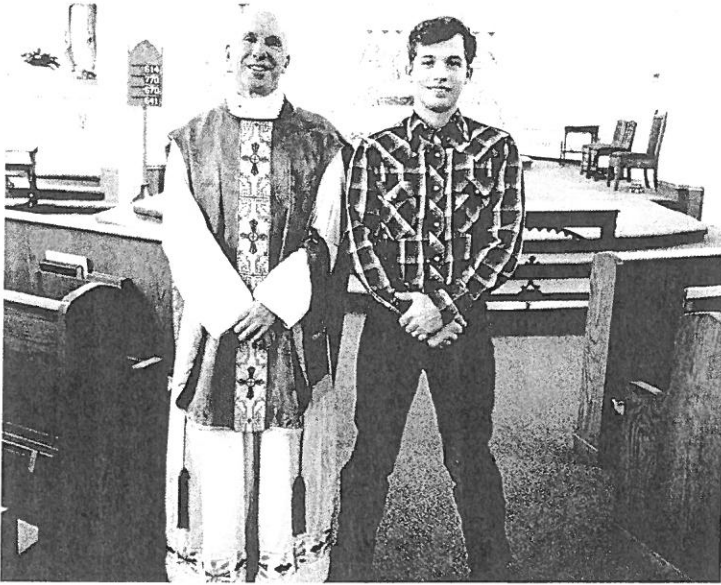
Readings for Week of September 14th

Sunday: Numbers 21:4b-9; Psalm 78; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17
Monday: 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Psalm 28; John 19:25-27
Tuesday: 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Psalm 101; Luke 7:11-17
Wednesday: 1 Timothy 3:14-16; Psalm 111; Luke 7:31-35
Thursday: 1 Timothy 4:12-16; Psalm 111; Luke 7:36-50
Friday: 1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Psalm 49; Luke 8:1-3
Saturday: 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Psalm 100; Luke 8:4-15

Readings for Week of September 21st

Sunday: Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13
Monday: Ezra 1:1-6; Psalm 126; Luke 8:16-18
Tuesday: Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Psalm 122; Luke 8:19-21
Wednesday: Ezra 9:5-9; Tobit 13:2, 3-4a, 4b, 5-6, 7-8; Luke 9:1-6
Thursday: Haggai 1:1-8; Psalm 149; Luke 9:7-9
Friday: Haggai 2:1-9; Psalm 43; Luke 9:18-22
Saturday: Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Luke 9:43b-45

Announcements



In Service of God and Country: We give thanks for the many years of faithful service that William Mix (*pictured above with Fr. Driscoll*) has given to St. Mary Parish as an altar server. His dedication and reverence at the Lord's table have been a true gift. Now, as he leaves to serve our country in the United States Air Force, we send him forth with our prayers, gratitude, and blessings. May God watch over him and keep him safe.

Tumblers: In celebration of our milestone 350th anniversary, hot/cold tumblers were designed for our parishioners. The imprint features Marquette and Joliet travelling the Illinois River by canoe with an image of our church in the distance. After Mass, we will have someone in the back to help pass them out. Tumblers are for adults, maximum of 2 per family. We hope you enjoy using them!

Our Lady of Sorrows Mass: There will be a beautiful traditional Latin Solemn High Mass with Procession and Benediction at Queen of the Holy Rosary Shrine in LaSalle on our lady's feast day (Monday, September 15th). The Mass begins at 7:00 p.m.

Mass Intentions: The 2026 Mass Intention book will open on Tuesday, September 16th. At this time, requests may be made for weekends, holy days, and Monday & Friday weekdays (times subject to change). Please use the blue forms available on the back table. The \$10/Mass stipend should accompany your request.

PADs Dinner: We have the sign-up sheet on the back table if you wish to volunteer to prepare a dish for the October 1st meal at the homeless shelter. Monetary donations are also appreciated as current client counts at the shelter are high.



Baptism Blessing: Fr. Windy had the honor of baptizing Helen Rae Mangels (*pictured above*) on August 31st at St. Mary. Helen is the daughter of Anthony and Rachel (Senica) Mangels. May this little one grow in faith and love. Congratulations!

In Gratitude: We express our appreciation for the memorial donation made to the parish in memory of Karen Williams. May she rest in eternal peace.

Tootsie Roll Drive: Our Knights of Columbus members will be collecting donations to help individuals with developmental disabilities the weekend of September 20th/21st after all Masses. Locally, funds support Horizon House, Starved Rock Development, Lighted Way and Special Olympics. Thank you for your kindness.

Become an Altar Server: All youth who have received their First Communion are invited to join this special ministry. A training session will be held on Saturday, September 20th at 9:00 a.m. in the church. Come learn how you can serve God and our parish at the altar!

Holy Hour: Holy Hour on September 23rd will be cancelled so that our priests may attend the Confirmation in Oglesby for Brady Holland and Julia Stewart. Thank you for your understanding.

Fuel Up for a Cause!: Is your gas tank in need of filling? From September 1st–October 31st, use pumps 7 & 8 at the Utica Shell Station and a portion of each gallon will benefit KC Council #1775's Tootsie Roll Drive, supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities.

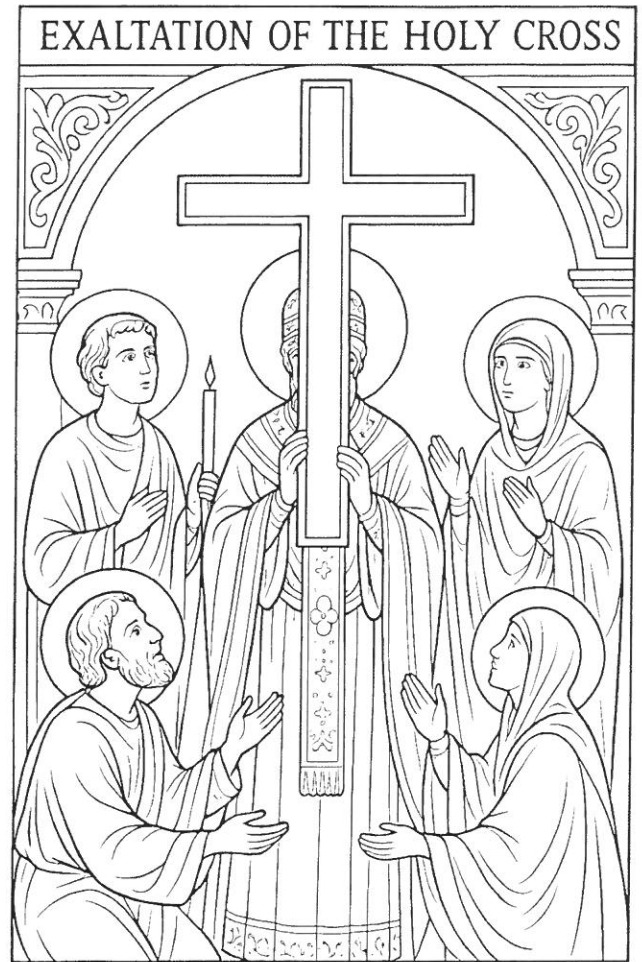
Word Search. For the weekend of September 20th/21st.

Color.

H T W I K S X X S E T A H K D M
P C R L R O R E I N P M I K I F
R T I U J P R O O U A X S K S S
E E M R S V H M T L P S B R H U
P M O B A T M H K B T N E N O D
A P E N X A W R D U E D D B N O
R Q T D M A T O E X N D R E E G
E J T P E N L B R A P A A G S Y
M V X M E S S Y U T S J W K T G
L R O D A H P Q P C H A E U B L
K B U L X S S I U M S Y T L Z C
P R O P E R T Y S H P Q S M T V
P J L J V S O E A E M O C L E W
Z J D H I O Q M R W H E A T X H
J H L X L D E V O T E D O N S L
L T T P O D I H I R N Y M P X V

Word Bank

ASHAMED	BEG	DEBTORS	DESPISE	DEVOTED
DISHONEST	GOD	HATE	LOVE	MAMMON
MASTER	OLIVE	PREPARE	PROPERTY	PRUDENT
RICH	SERVANT	SQUANDER	STEWARD	TRUSTWORTHY
WELCOME	WHEAT			



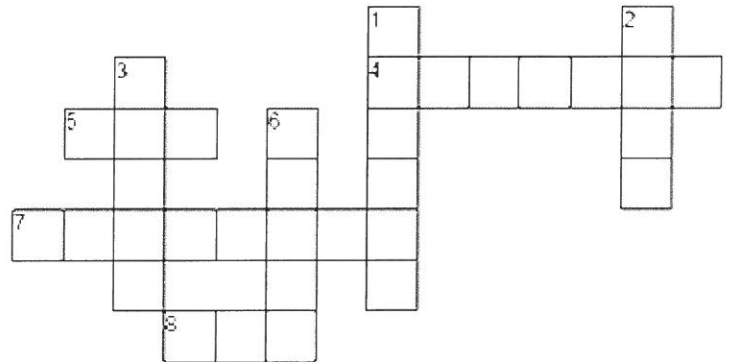
Crossword. Gospel from Exaltation of the Cross.

Across

4. Lasting forever; without end
5. Male offspring
7. Accept something as being true, genuine, or real
8. The creator of heaven and earth

Down

1. To die or be destroyed
2. To rescue from danger or harm
3. The earth with its inhabitants and everything on it
6. Care very deeply for someone



Complete the Phrase. Use the word bank to fill in what Jesus said in today's Gospel.

For _____ so _____ the _____ that he _____
his only _____, so that everyone who _____ in
_____ might not _____ but might _____
_____ life. ~ John 3:16

Word Bank: ETERNAL, HIM WORLD, PERISH, GOD, SON, HAVE, GAVE, LOVED, BELIEVES