

Church of Saint Mary

March 30th & April 6th
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

office@stmarysutica.org

www.stmarysutica.org

Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays

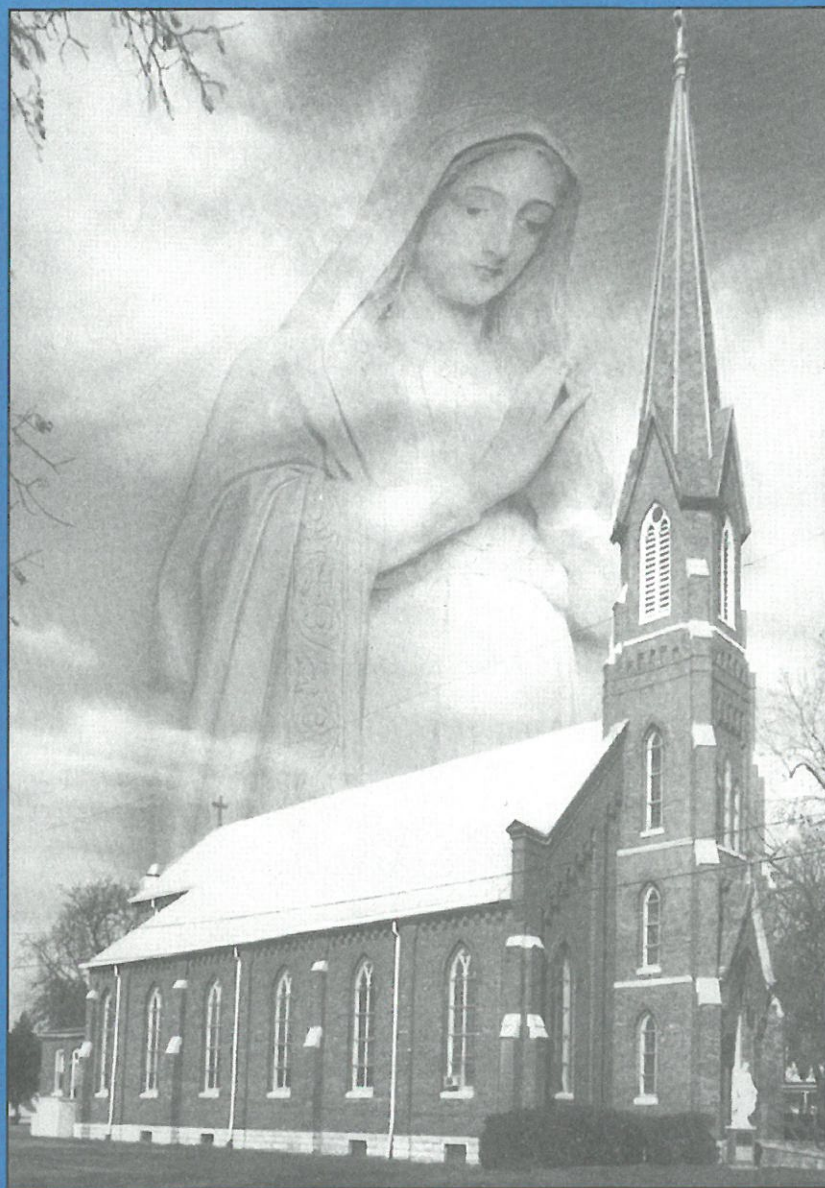
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Fr. Michael Driscoll, Pastor
frdriscoll@stmarysutica.org

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, MARCH 29TH

5:00pm + Thos. Pfalzgraf (birthdate 3/28)
by Geo and Mary Kay Hodgson

SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH - 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00am For the People of the Parish
10:00am + Rita Stewart by Margaret Comiskey

MONDAY, MARCH 31ST

7:00am + Gary Eiten

TUESDAY, APRIL 1ST

7:00am + Jordan Carr
7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2ND - ST. FRANCIS OF PAOLA

7:00am + Robert Lee

THURSDAY, APRIL 3RD

7:00am Living and Deceased Members of the Olinger
Family

FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH - ST. ISIDORE

7:00am Living and Deceased Members of the Pocivasek
Family

7:00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH - ST. VINCENT FERRER

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS
5:00pm + Karen Robey by Donald Robey

SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH - 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS
8:00am + Eileen Rogowski Riota by the Rogowski Family
10:00am For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, APRIL 7TH - ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

7:00am + Virgil Leroy Nave by Dalia Nave

TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH

7:00am + Winifred Mannion Fasano
by Pat and Anne DeVane

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH

7:00am Cassandra Stephanic (birthdate)

THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH

7:00am + Rudolph and Theresa Dust
by Maurice and Jane Dust

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH - ST. STANISLAUS

7:00am + Lois Schott
7:00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

March 30th	Joey and Jake Patyk, Ava Myers
April 6th	Nathan and Nina Leffers, Bentley DiLuciano
April 13th	Peter and Olivia Villareal, Ava Myers

Gospel Meditation for March 30th

Be reconciled to God.

These four words from St. Paul are a great summary of what Lent is all about. But just what does it mean to "be reconciled to God"?

For Paul, reconciliation with God meant to be restored to God's favor. He taught that we have all turned away from God through sin, but that in Christ, God has brought us back. By coming into this world as a man and offering himself on the cross, Jesus has repaired the breach in our relationship with God. He has done something we could never do on our own. "All this," Paul wrote, "is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ". Now the Lord asks us to receive the favor he holds out to us.

And what favor it is! We can live as sons and daughters of God; we can experience all the riches of heaven filling our hearts. Sin might cloud our relationship with him, but our heavenly Father continues to offer us his mercy. It's as if we hear God calling out to us personally as we read Paul's words.

We can hear our Father's pleas in today's Gospel story of the prodigal son, too. The father of the prodigal stands ready, on the lookout, to welcome his wayward younger son back into the family. And he goes out to beg his resentful older son to join him and experience the fullness of life that is already his.

Lent is a perfect season to lay hold of this restoration in a new and deeper way. And what better way to do it than through the Sacrament of Reconciliation! The examination of conscience can help you prepare to receive this sacrament with an open heart. So let your heavenly Father restore you through the life-giving power of Jesus' death and resurrection. Listen to his voice as he pleads with you to receive all the riches of his "home." It's all there—come and receive it!

"Lord, I say yes to the reconciliation you offer me!"

Weekly Offering

Donations received March 12th - 25th

Adult Envelopes	\$3,330.00
Loose Collection	\$1,138.00
Building Fund	\$245.00
Food Pantry	\$160.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$200.00
PADs Dinner Donations	\$20.00
Online Giving	\$175.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$50.00

Pray for the Sick of our Parish

Michael Ball, Katie Becker, Tim Burgess, Don and Pam Edwards, Tony Hinterlong, Jill Kain, Mary (Snell) Kalisiak, Richard Kepper, Ed Liss, Ava Lukascy, Rosie Sander, Drew Shinnick, Tom Varney, Dennise Watson, Karen Williams

Weekends of March 30th & April 6th

Readings for Week of March 30th

Sunday: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12; Psalm 34; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-11-32
Monday: Isaiah 65:17-21; Psalm 30; John 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; Psalm 46; John 5:1-16
Wednesday: Isaiah 49:8-15; Psalm 145; John 5:17-30
Thursday: Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 106; John 5:31-47
Friday: Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; Psalm 34; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 7; John 7:40-53

Readings for Week of April 6th

Sunday: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11
Monday: Daniel 13:1-9; 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Psalm 23; John 8:12-20
Tuesday: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 102; John 8:21-30
Wednesday: Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Daniel 3:52-56; John 8:31-42
Thursday: Genesis 17:3-9; Psalm 105; John 8:51-59
Friday: Jeremiah 20:10-13; Psalm 18; John 10:31-42
Saturday: Ezekiel 37:21-28; Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; John 11:45-56

Announcements

PADS Dinner: Thank you to all that signed up to prepare our meal at the homeless shelter on April 2nd. There is one more dinner left for the season. Please consider helping us out by volunteering. Our sign-up sheet is located on the back table. The parishioners of St. Mary's have certainly risen to the task, with client counts remaining around 50 each month. Our parish is certainly blessed by your giving hearts!

Sacramental Gifts: 1st Communion will be here before you know it. Consider shopping locally for the special youth in your life. Jobst Monuments & Granite in Ottawa has a variety of gifts available including bibles, rosaries, frames, crosses, prayer books, music boxes and medals. The shop is located at 402 W. Main St. They are open Monday thru Friday 10:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

IV Cursillo: Please join the area Cursillo community for an evening of Mass, food, and fellowship at their April Utrey. It will be held on Saturday, April 12th at St. Hyacinth Catholic Church, LaSalle. Mass begins at 4:30 p.m. Following Mass we will proceed to the gymnasium of Trinity Catholic Academy for the potluck dinner and program. The evening's speaker, Chris Kuhn, will discuss the topic "Count Your Blessings, It Could Be Worse".

Palm Sunday Breakfast: The St. Rose Society of Peru is hosting a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast at the St. Joseph Hall in Peru (1925 5th St.) on April 13th. Serving is from 7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Cost: Adults \$10, Children 6-12 \$6, Under 6 FREE

Easter Flower Offering: Envelopes are available in your packets. Donations are used to decorate the sanctuary with spring flowers for Easter. Additionally, all names submitted will appear in our Palm Sunday/Easter bulletin. Deadline to return is April 8th.

1st Friday Latin Mass: Fr. Driscoll will offer Mass at the OSF Elizabeth Chapel on April 4th at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

Important Dates

- * Saturday, April 12th—We will be decorating church for Palm Sunday at 8:00 a.m.
- * Saturday, April 19th—Easter decorating at church. We will start at 8:00 a.m.

All available helping hands are appreciated!

Holy Week Schedule

April 17th

Holy Thursday Mass @ 7:00 p.m.
Altar of Repose 8:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.

April 18th

Good Friday Service @ 3:00 p.m.

April 19th

Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil) Mass @ 8:00 p.m.
(Reminder—No 5:00 p.m. Mass on this date)

April 20th

Easter Masses @ 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.



Attention Servers: Don't forget to let Fr. Driscoll or our parish secretary, Jennifer, know which holy day Masses you would like to serve. Thank you for your service at the altar!

Additionally, it is time to start thinking about our May and June scheduling for the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please submit any conflicts to the office by e-mail (parishoffice@stmarysutica.org) or telephone (815) 667-4677.

Rosary Reminder: Coming up on April 5th, we will offer recitation of the rosary beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross: Come meditate on the Lord's journey to Calvary. Stations will be at 7:00 p.m. on April 4th, 11th, and 18th.

Academy of St. Carlo Acutis Jr. High Facility Tour

 **Monday, April 28th**  **5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

Join us for a tour of our **Peru building** (2003 5th Street) if you have a child entering **5th through 8th grade**.

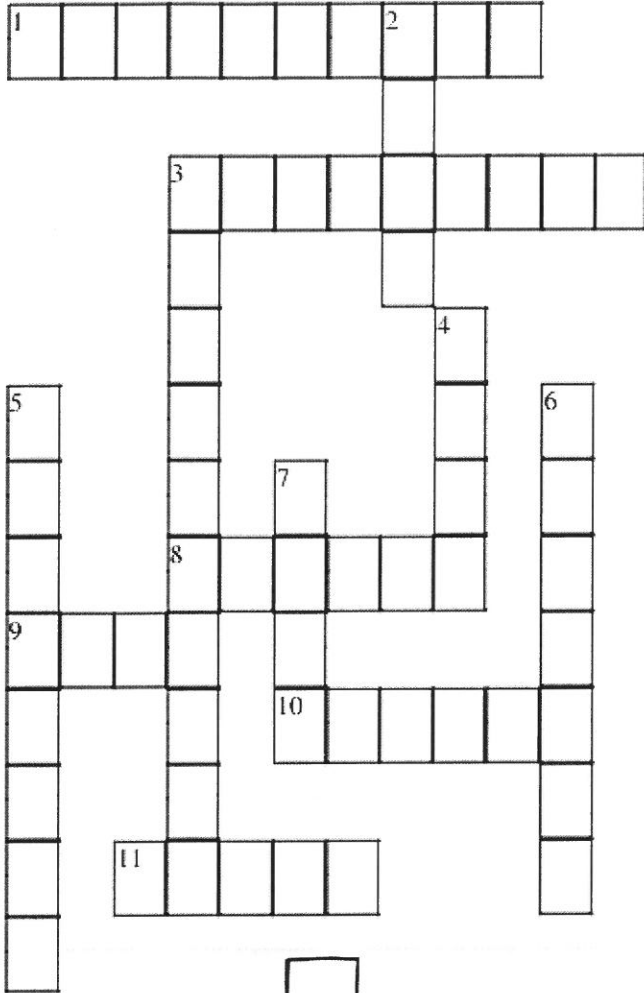
- Explore the learning spaces
- Meet the principals
- Learn more about what we have to offer

We look forward to welcoming you!

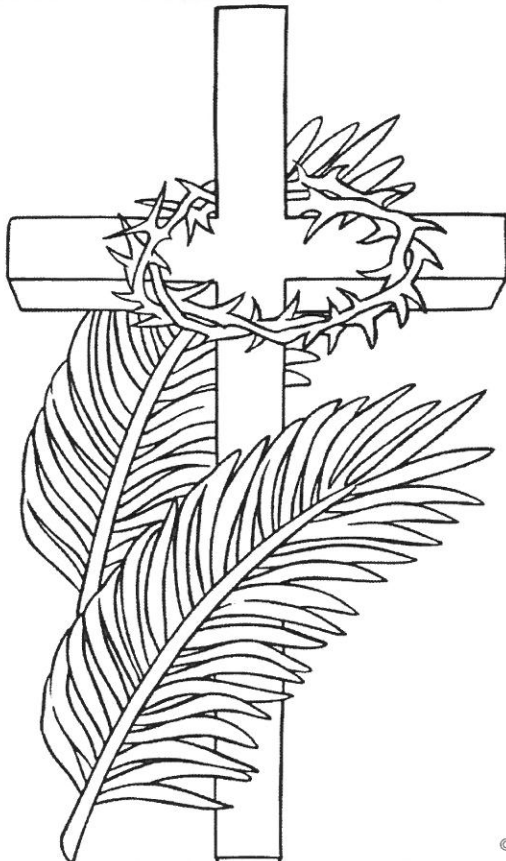
Kids Corner

Crossword.

**4th Sunday of Lent Gospel.*



Color.



Across

1. The youngest son _____ his inheritance.
3. What the Father asked the oldest son to do.
8. They brought the robe, the ring, and the sandals.
9. What the pigs ate.
10. Not much to eat.
11. The brother's reaction.

Down

2. When he returned, the son was dressed in this garment.
3. On seeing his son coming home the Father was filled with _____.
4. The son took care of them.
5. The younger son wanted his share of this.
6. The Pharisees and scribes did not welcome them.
7. Meal for the party.

Word Search.

**Based on readings from 5th Sunday of Lent.*

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

Word Bank

ADULTERY	CONDEMN	ELDERS
LAW	MOSES	PHARISEES
SCRIBES	SIN	STONE
TEACHER	TEMPLE	TEST