

Church of Saint Mary

January 7th & 14th
2024

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

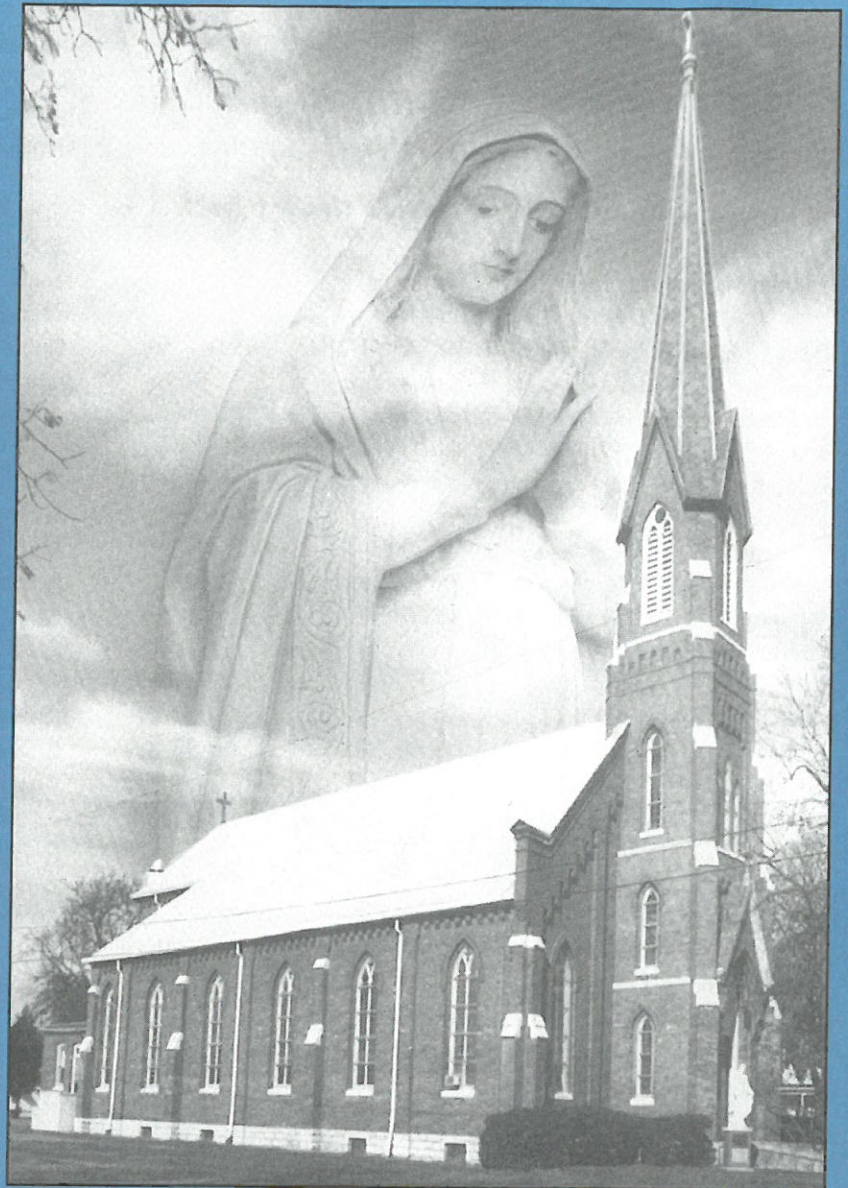
Hours: Tuesdays & Wednesdays
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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, JANUARY 6TH - ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS

5:00pm + Lucille Pfalzgraf (anniv. +)
by Geo. and Mary Kay Hodgson

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH - EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00am + Louis Escatel by Adam Ford

10:00am For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, JANUARY 8TH - BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7:00am + Katy Umland (anniv. + 1/1)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9TH

7:00am + Nicholas Connell (birthdate)
by Mark and Beth Ann Connell

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10TH

7:00am Kevin Daly

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11TH

7:00am Special Intention of Kevin Murry

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12TH

7:00am Fr. Kyle Shinseki, SJ

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13TH - ST. HILARY

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14TH - 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am + Ron Lindner by Mel Harth

10:00am + Rita Stewart by Don and Dianne Carpenter

MONDAY, JANUARY 15TH

7:00am Escatel Family by Adam Ford

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16TH

7:00am William Wallace (birthdate 1/15)
by Mark and Beth Ann Connell

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17TH - ST. ANTHONY

7:00am + Loretta and Ken Harmon (wedding anniv.)
by Dave and Karen Harmon

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18TH

7:00am + Jordan Carr

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19TH

7:00am + Susy Pennell (wedding anniv.)
by Family and Friends

Meditation for January 7th

They prostrated themselves and did him homage.

In your high school English class, you might have learned that an “epiphany” is the moment when a character is struck with a life-changing realization that changes the rest of the story. Every good novel has one. That’s one way to think about the feast we’re celebrating today. God revealed himself to the Gentiles, and that moment changed everything.

There had been hints of God welcoming the Gentiles throughout the Old Testament. But Matthew’s Gospel shows us this pivotal moment: pagan astrologers from the East came to worship Jesus, the newborn king of the Jews. They are the first of the “nations” whom Isaiah prophesied would walk by the Lord’s light. They are the first of those Paul says will be “coheirs...in Christ Jesus through the gospel”.

Why is this event so important? Because it reveals to us that God’s love is far more expansive than anyone had ever thought. We begin to see that in Christ, a loving relationship with God is open to everyone who comes to him, Jew or Gentile.

That includes you! And your annoying cousin. And the notorious atheist on that YouTube channel. The invitation to come to Jesus extends to everyone. Because God’s loving desire to draw all people to himself cannot be contained; no one is excluded from it. And that’s a life-changing realization!

Today, as you celebrate this great feast, give thanks to God who loves so extravagantly that he opens his arms wide to welcome everyone who believes. Pray, too, that all people will come to the Lord.

Lord, God, your revelation to the Gentiles has changed the course of history! Thank you for your love that reaches out to everyone!”

Weekly Offering

Donations received December 20th—January 2nd

Adult Envelopes	\$3,549.15
Loose Collection	\$1,691.00
Christmas Collection	\$2,879.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$398.00
Building Fund	\$320.00
Food Pantry	\$10.00
Online Giving	\$100.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$155.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

January 7th	Jake and Joey Patyk
January 14th	Bentley DiLuciano, Nathan and Nina Leffers

Bulletins are printed every two weeks. Please keep this in mind when submitting information for publication.

Weekends of January 7th & 14th

Readings Week of January 7th

Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Monday: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29; Mark 1:7-11

Tuesday: 1 Samuel 1:9-20; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Psalm 40; Mark 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Samuel 4:1-11; Psalm 44; Mark 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Psalm 89; Mark 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Psalm 21; Mark 2:13-17

Readings Week of January 14th

Sunday: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; Psalm 40; 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42

Monday: 1 Samuel 15:16-23; Psalm 50; Mark 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 89; Mark 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Psalm 144; Mark 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Psalm 56; Mark 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Samuel 24:3-21; Psalm 57; Mark 3:13-19

Saturday: 2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Psalm 80; Mark 3:20-21

Announcements

Attention 10:00 a.m. Servers: There is a new altar server schedule on the back of the bulletin. Thank you for your service at the altar!

Mass Intentions: Another year is upon us. Have you scheduled a Mass for your deceased loved ones? Please use the blue intention forms from the back table and return in the collection basket or directly to the parish office. The \$10 stipend fee should be included.

Additional Flower Memorials: Our office received a few flower memorials after our publication deadline. We would still like to recognize them, and to thank all those that donated in memory/honor of their loved ones this Christmas. The church radiated in splendid beauty!

- In memory of John Hannen
- The Pfalzgraf and Hodgson Families
- In memory of Msgr. James J. Swaner

Adoration Holy Hours: Have you resolved to grow in your spiritual life this year? Coming to our weekly Holy Hour of Adoration would be a great thing to add to your routine. They are held on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Draw close to our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament! There is always time for quiet prayer, scripture reflection and the sacrament of confession.

Donation Statements: Would you like a copy of your contributions to St. Mary's from 2023? Simply call or e-mail the parish office to make the request.

For ADA Gifts: Tax letters will be mailed out from the Diocese of Peoria by the end of January to all donors regardless of the amount of their donation. Parishioners do not need to call us to request a tax letter.

Christmas Decoration Takedown: It is time to put up the lights, trees and banners. Can you spare some time to help take down our Christmas decorations? If so, join us immediately after the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 14th.

Annual Diocesan Appeal: St. Mary's Parish is still 45% short of our \$28,904 assessment. Please consider making a pledge for the campaign. Donations may be sent directly to the diocese or our church office.

B-I-N-G-O: Come have some fun AND support Catholic Education. Holy Family School will be offering Bingo at Cortileno's in Oglesby (131 E. Walnut St.) each of the next four Thursdays.

- January 11th
- January 18th
- January 25th
- February 1st

Games are played between 6:30-8:30 p.m. Cost to play is \$5 per board. There will be cash prizes and 50/50 opportunities. Hope to see you!

Emmaus Knights!: Emmaus Knights is a monthly event bringing the fun, faith, and fraternity of Emmaus Days to 7th-12th grade men year round. The next event will be on Sunday, January 28th from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Emmaus House. Contact Fr. Chase (chilgenbrinck@cdop.org) for more information about how you can get your young men plugged in.

MAHS Freshman Open House - Wednesday, January 10, 2024
Want a high school experience where you'll get a great education, spiritual guidance, be involved in sports and clubs, all in a family-like environment? Join us for our freshman Open House at Marquette Academy High School! The activity fair begins at 6:00 p.m., with guided tours starting at 6:30 p.m. Get all the information about financial aid and scholarships, athletics, clubs and organizations that Marquette has to offer. You can meet our coaches, staff and other Marquette Academy students. The school is also giving away lots of prizes, including a FULL and a HALF year tuition to 2 lucky students! Come see why we're more than a school, We Are Marquette! Visit www.marquetteacademy.net to RSVP online and be entered to win a \$100 voucher towards tuition or the MA spirit shop.

The Living Scripture Retreat: Are you a mother, a father, a grandparent, who has suffered the loss of abortion in your family? You need not suffer alone. Start your healing journey today by attending a Living Scripture Retreat. Registrations are being accepted for a weekend retreat for healing after abortion to be held in the Peoria area on February 9th-11th. Living Scripture Retreat is a safe place to renew and rebuild hearts broken by abortion. Call (309) 264-1489 or e-mail rwrpeoria@gmail.com

~ All communications are confidential. ~

Pray for the Sick of our Parish

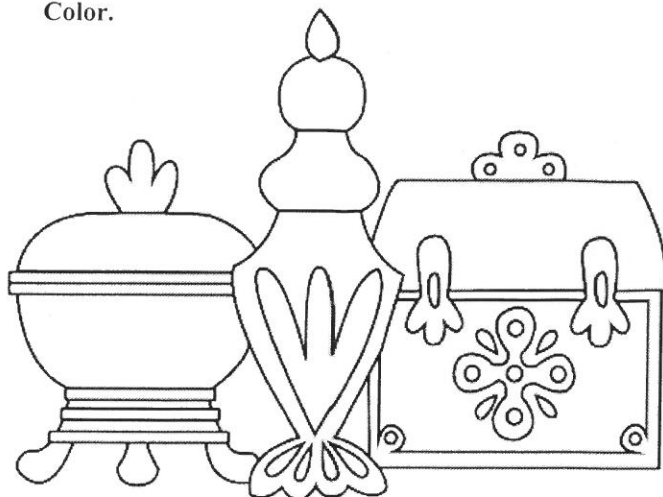
Michael Ball, Katie Becker, Tim Burgess, Don and Pam Edwards, Darlene Jenkins, Jill Kain, Mary (Snell) Kalisiak, Richard Kepper, Ed Liss, Ava Lukacsy, Rosie Sander, Drew Shinnick, Dennise Watson, Karen Williams

Kids Corner

10:00 a.m. Altar Server Schedule January & February 2024

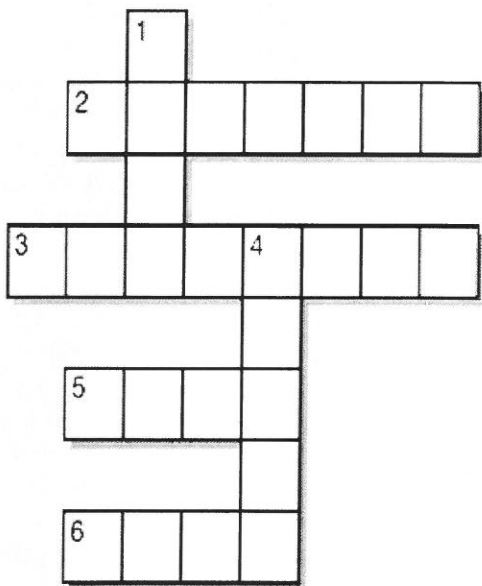
January 7th	Joey and Jake Patyk
January 14th	Bentley DiLuciano, Nathan and Nina Leffers
January 21st	Ava Myers, Joey and Jake Patyk
January 28th	Finn Carter, Bentley DiLuciano, Nathan Leffers
February 4th	Nina Leffers, Joey and Jake Patyk
February 11th	Ava Myers, Finn Carter, Bentley DiLuciano
February 18th	Joey and Jake Patyk, Ava Myers
February 25th	Nathan and Nina Leffers, Finn Carter

Color.



They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Crossword.



Across

- Today's reading is from the Gospel according to _____.
- Today is the Feast of the _____.
- The magi followed a _____ to the newborn king.
- The Gifts the Magi brought were _____, Myrrh and frankincense.

Down

- The three wise men who brought gifts are called _____.
- The King of Judea when Jesus was born was King _____.

Word Search.

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

Words can go in any direction and can share letters as they cross over each other.

Word Bank

BORN	CHRIST	FRANKINCENSE
GIFTS	GOLD	HEROD
HOMAGE	JOY	MAGI
MYRRH	SHEPHERD	STAR



More fun activities like today's crossword search can be found at catholicmom.com or by simply scanning the QR code.