

# Church of Saint Mary

February 8th, 2026  
5th Sun. Ordinary Time

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## 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.

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## Parish Office

P.O. Box 159  
303 South Division Street  
Utica, IL 61373  
Phone & Fax 815-667-4677  
office@stmarysutica.org  
www.stmarysutica.org

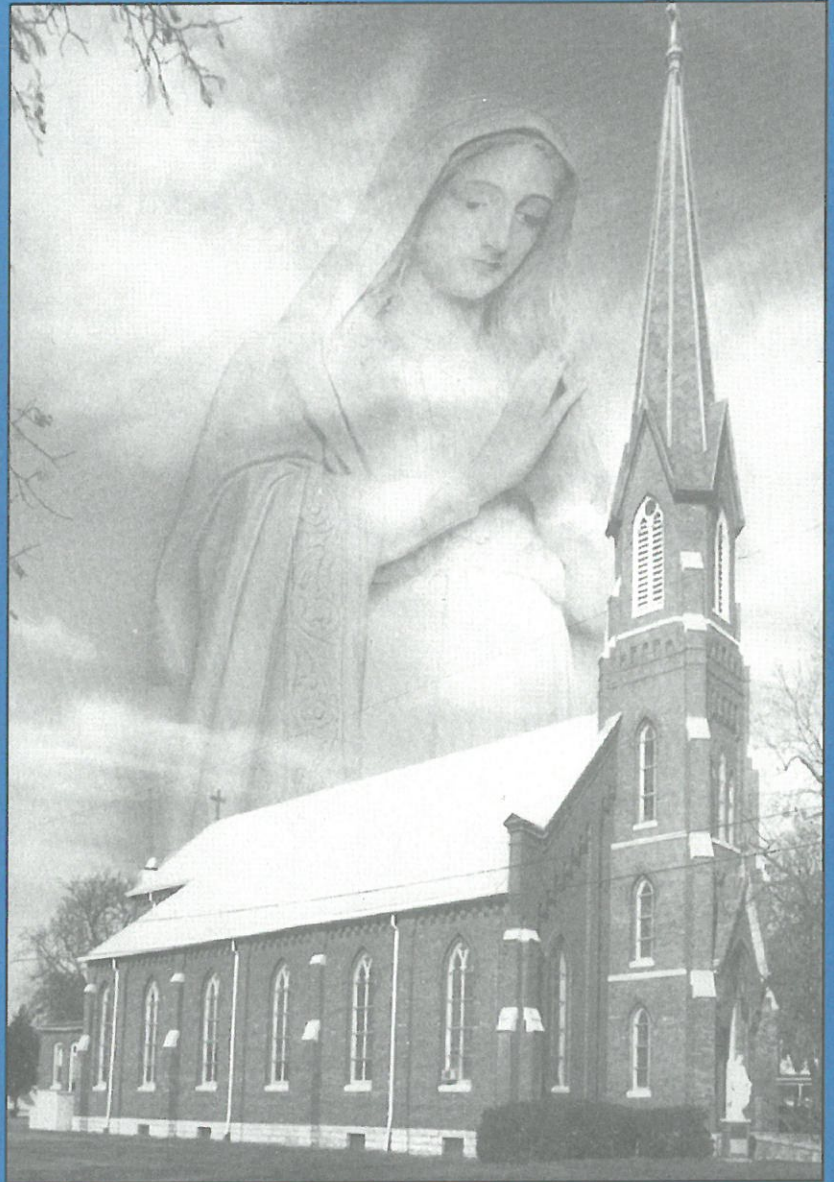
Hours: Wednesdays & Fridays  
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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Fr. Paul Carlson, Pastor  
Fr. Jeff Windy, Parochial Vicar

Jennifer Newman, Secretary  
parishoffice@stmarysutica.org

Heather Leffers, CCD Coordinator  
Bill Brown, Cemetery Sexton



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.



# NEWS & EVENTS

The traditional Blessing of Throats will be available at the main entrance as you leave Mass this weekend.

St. Blaise, pray for us.



**Crux:** Stop by either parish office to get a copy of Ascension Press's *Crux: Daily Lenten Meditations*. This great devotional encourages prayer, scripture, and simple spiritual and physical disciplines that keep our hearts focused on our true identity in Christ. You can study with them on your own or join our weekly discussion group that will meet throughout Lent on Monday afternoons. Copies are only \$10.

**Behold the Lamb:** From the first book of the Bible until the last, we see the lamb. Have you ever wondered why the lamb is all over Catholic artwork and theology? What's so important about the lamb? Why is it the center of our belief as Catholics? Come join Fr. Windy on an incredible Lenten journey discovering the meaning of the lamb in the Bible and in our lives as Catholics. The Bible Study will be held on Mondays in the St. Anne's room at Holy Family from February 23rd through March 23rd following our special 6:00 p.m. Mass during Lent. Hope to see you there!

## Alfano's Pizza Sale

Support the Academy of St. Carlo Acutis Athletic & Extracurricular Program by treating yourself, and your family, to delicious Alfano's pizza! With 11 different topping combinations to choose from, there's something for everyone!

- Orders are due by February 17th, with pickup details provided soon.
- Return the order form with payment in the collection basket. Make checks payable to: ASCA.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Description	Qty.	Price each	Subtotal
Cheese		X \$13.25	
Sausage		X \$13.75	
Pepperoni		X \$13.75	
Sausage & Pepperoni		X \$14.00	
Sausage & Mushroom		X \$14.00	
White Garlic		X \$14.50	
White Garlic & Sausage		X \$15.75	
Meat Lover		X \$16.75	
Supreme		X \$16.75	
Italian Beef		X \$16.75	
Bacon Cheeseburger		X \$16.75	

Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

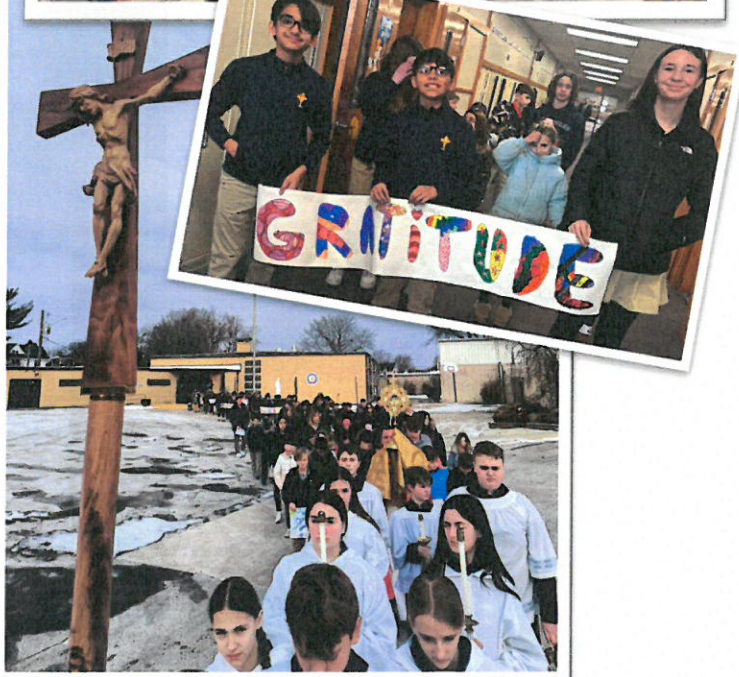
**In Remembrance:** Janice Washkowiak, a long-time parishioner of St. Mary and Holy Family, and a familiar warm smile and helping hand at our school over the years, passed away this week. Our prayers are with her family during this sad time. May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**Marriage Blessing:** All married couples are invited to receive a special blessing at the 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Mary's on Valentine's Day.

**In Celebration:** Tori Lou Klimek is turning 95 years old this weekend. St. Mary's parish family sends her our warmest wishes. May God shower her with His love and fill her heart with joy today and always.

**March PADs Dinner:** We have the sign-up sheet available on the back table. We would love for YOU to volunteer to prepare a dish for next month's meal at the homeless shelter.

**Ministry Volunteers:** We are still in need of readers for Saturday evening Mass. Please contact Jennifer in the parish office if you are interested.



Catholic Schools Week concluded with a beautiful Eucharistic Procession and all-school Mass at St. Joseph Church in Peru.



# GOSPEL MEDITATION

By Fr. John Muir

I recently learned why zebras have stripes. Scientists used to think it was for camouflage, but new research suggests something more interesting: the stripes help zebras blend in with one another. When a predator looks at a herd, the overlapping stripes make it hard to single out one animal. But if a researcher spray-paints a dot on just one zebra, predators lock on it and eventually attack. The lesson? In the wild, blending in is protection. Standing out can be dangerous.



Human beings are not so different. Most of us would rather blend in than stand out, especially when it comes to our faith. We know that giving bold witness to Jesus — through our words, values, or public choices — can make us targets for criticism, isolation, or judgment. That's why Jesus' words in today's Gospel are so challenging: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14).

A city on a hill draws attention. It also draws fire. But that's part of the cost of discipleship. Jesus doesn't call us to be tribal or boastful. He calls us to stand in the open with humble confidence, so that people might see our good deeds and glorify our Father in heaven. Today, let's ask for the courage not just to believe in Christ, but to be seen believing in him.



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

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

5:00pm Tori Lou Klimek (95th birthday) by her family

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH - 5TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

8:00am + Roger Coleman  
by Glenn and Dorothy Stevenson  
10:00am For the People of the Parish

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

7:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH - ST. SCHOLASTICA

7:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory  
7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

7:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

7:00am Special Intention of Fr. Jeff Windy  
by Deena Pavinato

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

7:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

5:00pm + Patricia "Tricia" Hanson Corless (anniv. +)  
by Mark and Beth Ann Connell

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH - 6TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

8:00am For the People of the Parish  
10:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory

## Ministry Schedule

Sunday, February 8th, @ 8:00 a.m.

Reader: Ryan Mann

Sunday, February 8th, @ 10:00 a.m.

Reader: Mary Ann Voreis

Altar Servers: Finn and Rory Carter, Nina Leffers

Sunday, February 15th, @ 8:00 a.m.

Reader: Kathleen DiLuciano

Sunday, February 15th, @ 10:00 a.m.

Reader: Colette Spears

Altar Servers: Olivia and Peter Villareal

## Weekly Contributions February 1st - 6th

Adult Envelopes: \$1,998.00

Loose Collection: \$864.00

Catholic Charities: \$10.00

Cemetery Upkeep: \$25.00

## Parish Council

### Holy Family Representatives

Deena Pavinato

Mike Bima

Stan Wolf

Amie Walker

Brian Sherman

Lana Peterlin

Nathan Boudreau

Mark Duttlinger

### St. Mary Representatives

Tom Wojciechowski

Mary Steinbach

Mary Kay Hodgson

Heather Leffers

Nick McFadden

Greg Scullans

Jane Wilson

Connie Guerrero




**ST. BEDE ACADEMY**  
8TH GRADE SHADOW DAYS

SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A BRUIN!



Scan here to sign-up.





**MARQUETTE ACADEMY**  
**CRUSADERS**

Sneak Preview Day

Experience a day in the life of a Crusader and discover why we are more than a school — we are Marquette!

February 13th, 2026  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
(Lunch provided)

Marquette Academy  
1000 Paul St., Ottawa

For details: 815-433-0125 ext. 1022, [www.marquetteacademy.net](http://www.marquetteacademy.net)

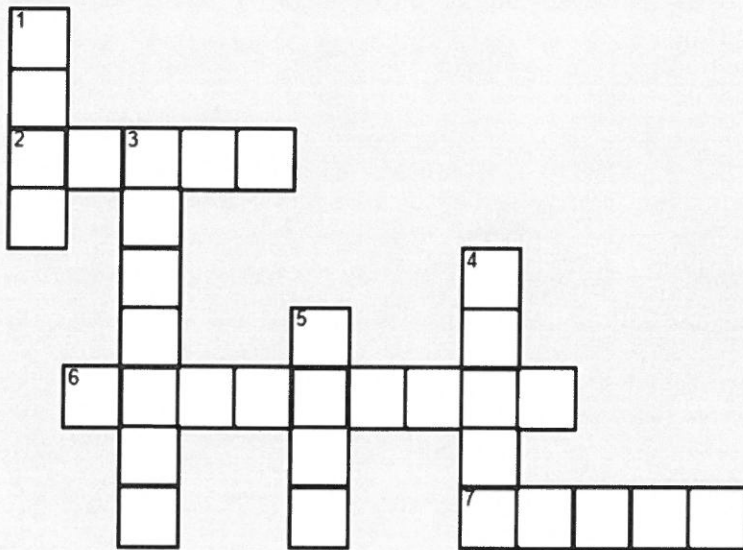


Word Search.

BASKET	CITY	DEEDS
DISCIPLES	GLORIFY	GOOD
JESUS	LAMP	LIGHT
MOUNTAIN	SALT	SHINE
TASTE	TRAMPLE	UNDERFOOT
WORLD		

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

Crossword.



Across

- 2 The opposite of dark
- 6 Jesus' followers
- 7 To glow with light

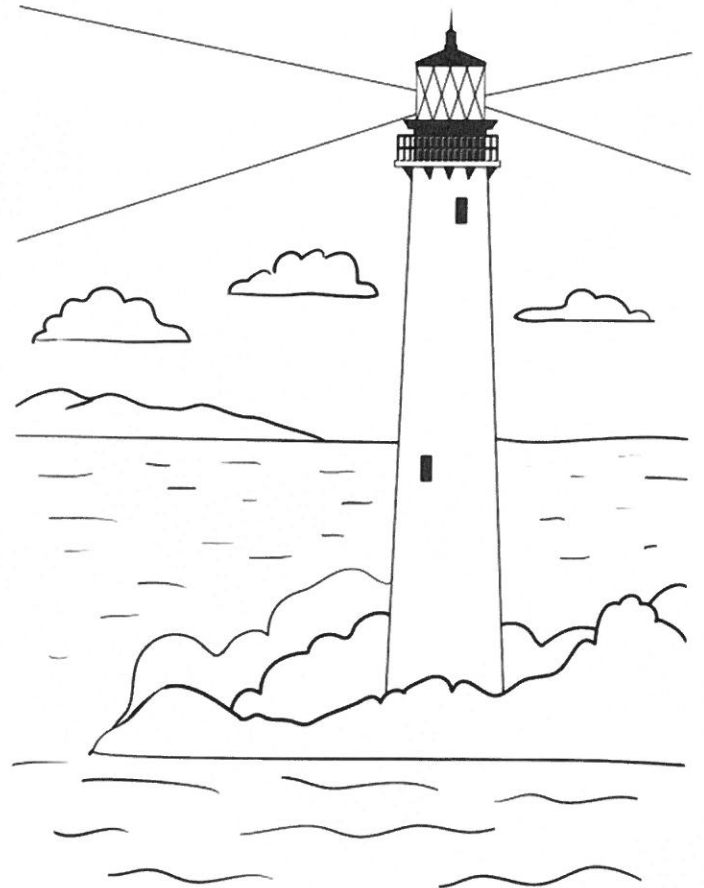
Down

- 1 Used to make food taste better
- 3 To praise God in word and action
- 4 Things we do
- 5 To put out of sight



Visit [CatholicMom.com](http://CatholicMom.com) for  
more resources for you and  
your family!

Color.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE  
BEFORE OTHERS.