

Church of Saint Mary

August 31st &
September 7th, 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

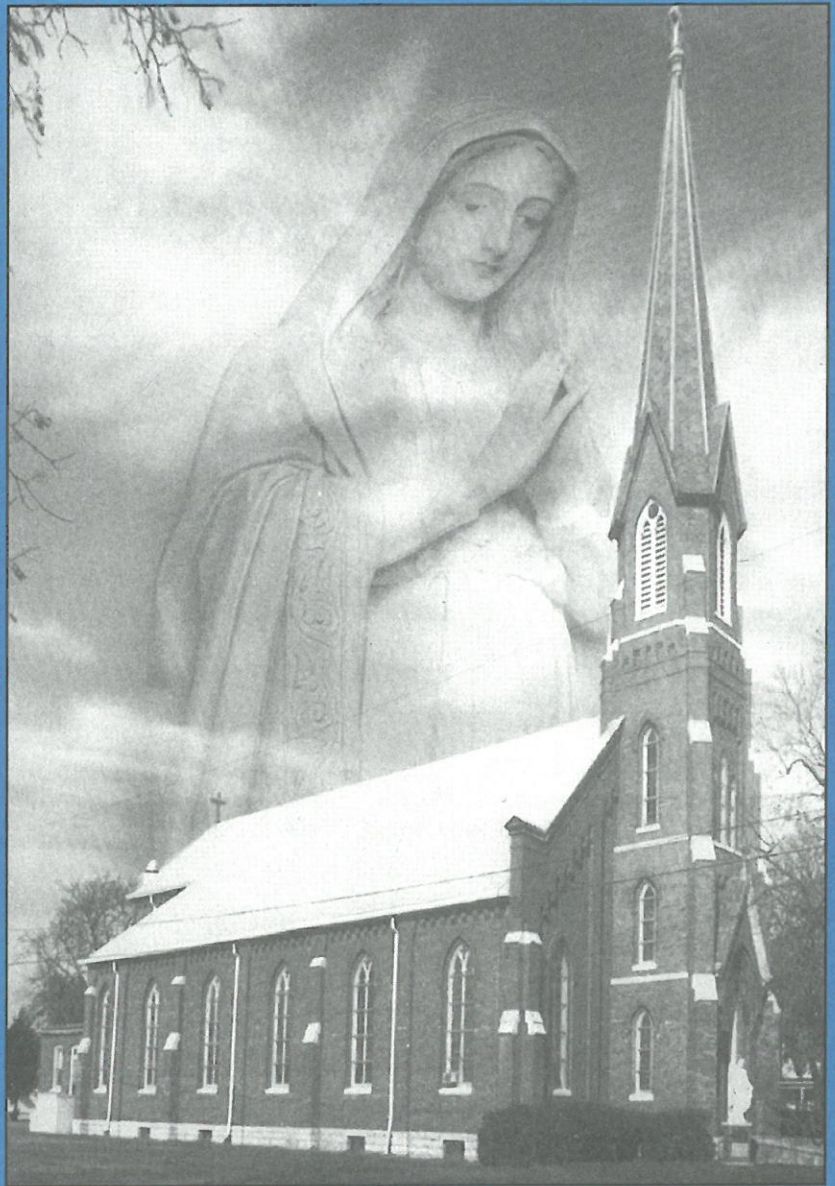
Please call the Church anytime
day or night.

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, AUGUST 30TH

5:00pm + Karen Robey (birthdate 8/27) by Donald Robey

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST—22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am For the People of the Parish

10:00am + Mary Irene Walsh (birthdate 9/9)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

7:00am James Ryan by Sherry Powley

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

7:00am For the intention of Fr. Michael Driscoll
by Maurice and Jane Dust

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD—ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

7:00am + Mary Ann Newell (wedding anniv.) by family

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

7:00am + Ed Lopatka (birthdate) and + Betty Fontana
(birthdate)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH—ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

7:00am Mary Loy (birthdate) and Nicolas Loy (birthdate
9/7)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH—23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am + Paul Larson by Rich and Linnea Ricci

10:00am + Kathryn "Kate" Bennett (birthdate 9/8)
by her family

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH—NATIVITY OF BVM

7:00am Jack Rauh (birthdate)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH—ST. PETER CLAVER

7:00am + Don and Charlotte Gahan
by William and Cindy Landers

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

7:00am + Patricia "Tricia" Hanson Corless
by Jim and Diane Polizzi

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

7:00am Andrew Wong (birthdate 9/12)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH—MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY

7:00am + Mary Dewey

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH—ST. JOHN SHRYSOSTOM

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

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

10:00am + Sharon Doerr (wedding anniv. 9/18)
by Jack and Kathy Cantlin

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 7th

*...that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but ...
a brother.*

Despite being one of the shortest books in the Bible, St. Paul's Letter to Philemon still reveals the power of the gospel to change us. It had changed Paul so much that he viewed a runaway, criminal slave, Onesimus, as his own spiritual son, and it had changed this slave so much that he viewed himself as a beloved, forgiven man. Now Paul is inviting Onesimus' owner, Philemon, to let the gospel change him.

While he was in prison, Paul evangelized Onesimus, who had run away from his owner and had come seeking Paul's help. As they grew close, Paul came to view Onesimus as his spiritual "child". But he didn't stop there. In today's reading, Paul pleads with Onesimus' owner, Philemon, to take him back.

Paul's letter is clever and inviting but also direct. He says he could command Philemon based on his authority as an apostle, but he chooses a different tone: "I rather urge you out of love," he writes. He begs Philemon to see the spiritual reality of the situation, not just the legal reality. "Perhaps this is why he was away from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a brother".

This letter shows that the gospel is not just good news that announces our salvation—it changes us. Just as it did for Onesimus and Paul, it lifts our hearts, it reconciles broken relationships, and it changes the way we treat one another.

During this Jubilee Year, let's invite the Holy Spirit to show us how we can be transformed by the power of the gospel. Perhaps there is someone he will help you see differently—a boss, a family member, maybe even yourself!

"Thank you, Holy Spirit, for setting us free to see ourselves and others as you do."

Weekly Offering

Donations received August 13th-26th

Adult Envelopes	\$4,310.00
Loose Collection	\$2,203.00
Building Fund	\$110.00
Food Pantry	\$30.00
Initial Offering Env.	\$15.00
Holy Days	\$550.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$15.00
Online Giving	\$175.00
Altar & Rosary	\$20.00

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

August 31st	Abby Brown, Jake and Joey Patyk
September 7th	Peter and Olivia Villareal, Nathan Leffers
September 14th	Nathan and Nina Leffers, Ava Myers

Weekends of August 31st & September 7th

Readings for Week of August 31st

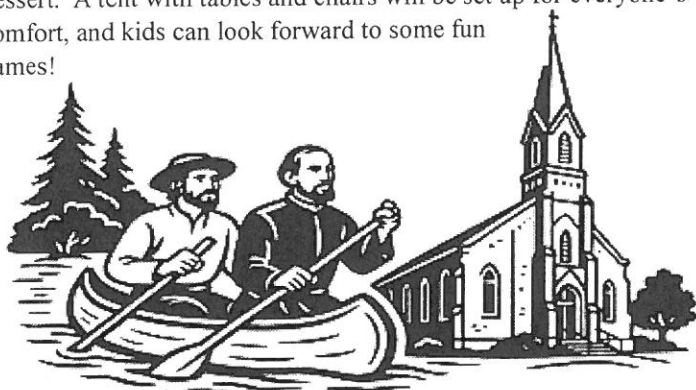
Sunday: Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Psalm 68; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a; Luke 14:1, 7-14
Monday: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Psalm 96; Luke 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11; Psalm 27; Luke 4:31-37
Wednesday: Colossians 1:1-8; Psalm 52; Luke 4:38-44
Thursday: Colossians 1:9-14; Psalm 98; Luke 5:1-11
Friday: Colossians 1:15-20; Psalm 100; Luke 5:33-39
Saturday: Colossians 1:21-23; Psalm 54; Luke 6:1-5

Readings for Week of September 7th

Sunday: Wisdom 9:13-18b; Psalm 90; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33
Monday: Micah 5:1-4a; Psalm 13; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23
Tuesday: Colossians 2:6-15; Psalm 145; Luke 6:12-19
Wednesday: Colossians 3:1-11; Psalm 145; Luke 6:20-26
Thursday: Colossians 3:12-17; Psalm 150; Luke 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14; Psalm 16; Luke 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Timothy 1:15-17; Psalm 113; Luke 6:43-49

Announcements

Come spend some time in fellowship. To celebrate our parish anniversary, we'll be serving sandwiches, salads, drinks, and dessert. A tent with tables and chairs will be set up for everyone's comfort, and kids can look forward to some fun games!



PARISH PICNIC

September 14 • 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

FOOD • GAMES • FUN

Celebrate 350 Years!

In Remembrance: Our parish mourns the passing of Karen Williams on August 26th. Please keep her family in your prayers. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Cursillo: Please join the IV Cursillo Community for our Ultreya. It will be held on Saturday, September 13th at Holy Family Catholic Church in Oglesby (311 N. Woodland Ave.). Mass will begin at 4:00 p.m., followed by a potluck dinner and program in the school gymnasium. The evening's speaker will be Christine Kasproicz.

Faith & the Eucharist: St. Vincent de Paul Church in Peoria invites you to their parish for a special event on September 25th at 7:00 p.m. Come hear Catholic Speaker and Comedian, Paul J. Kim. You are sure to leave both laughing and inspired by his message on Faith and the Eucharist. FREE admission.

Mum Pickup: Thank you to everyone that placed an order for the Altar & Rosary sale. Parishioners may pickup their order on Saturday, September 6th from 10:00-Noon at the rectory porch.

CCD News: There is a mandatory parent meeting on Sunday, September 7th at 9:00 a.m. in the church. Then, the first day of class will be the following weekend.

Giving Pump to Raise Funds: The Utica Shell Station is hosting a "Giving Pump". If you use pumps 7 & 8 from September 1st through October 31st, Fr. Marquette Knights of Columbus council #1775 will receive a monetary portion per gallon pumped. Proceeds will be donated to the council's annual Tootsie Roll Drive which raises money for individuals with Intellectual Disabilities.

Celebrate the Inspiring Story of Blessed Carlo Acutis!: Join us for a special this weekend as we discover the remarkable life of Blessed Carlo Acutis — a 15-year-old who lived with a deep love for God and a joyful spirit. We'll watch a 45-minute video about Carlo's life on **Sunday, August 31st at 2:00 p.m.** in the **Relic Chapel at St. Patrick's Church, La Salle.** Blessed Carlo will be canonized a saint by Pope Leo XIV on September 7th and we'll have even more reason to celebrate! With the recent unification of our area Catholic schools, the schools in La Salle, Peru, and Oglesby have been renamed in his honor. Come be inspired and share in the joy of this exciting moment for our Church and our community!

Youth Group: Highschoolers are encouraged to join the IV youth group. They have several activities planned in addition to their regular Sunday evening Teen Life Nights. In late September they will be attending St. John Bosco Youth Day in Wisconsin. And in October there is a pizza retreat with Fr. Dominic Margherio and the Girls TEC weekend. To stay up to date on all upcoming events, join them on the Remind App at rmd.at/338aef (Class Code @338aef) or text the message @338aef to 81010.

ADA: The Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA) helps support the many ministries of our Diocese that reach beyond individual parishes—strengthening worship, education, service, and more. Our kick-off weekend is coming up September 6th–7th. You'll soon receive a mailing with details on how you can take part in this important effort.

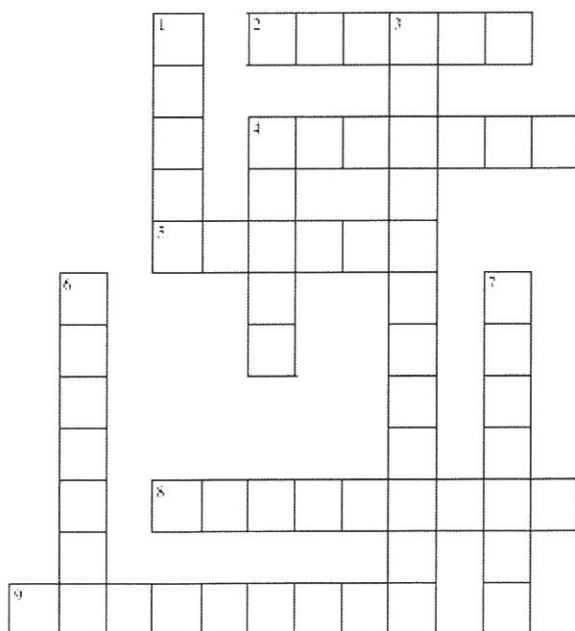
Word Search.

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

Word Bank

BANQUET	BLESSED	BLIND
CRIPPLED	EXALTED	FRIEND
GUEST	HUMBLED	INVITED
LAME	PARABLE	PHARISEES
POOR	REPAID	RIGHTEOUS
SABBATH	TABLE	WEDDING

Crossword.



Color.



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Feast Day: September 8th

Across

2. Last place. _____ place.
4. Opposite of exalted.
5. Another name for a meal. Not lunch, but _____.
8. Resurrection of the _____.
9. To pay back.

Down

1. Cannot see.
3. Another word for humiliation
4. Best places at table are places of _____.
6. A story that teaches a lesson is called a _____.
7. A fancy word for a wedding meal.

Use these words to complete the crossword:
RIGHTEOUS, HUMBLED, BLIND, BANQUET,
PARABLE, REPAYMENT LOWEST,
EMBARASSMENT, HONOR, DINNER