

Church of Saint Mary

April 28th & May 5th
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

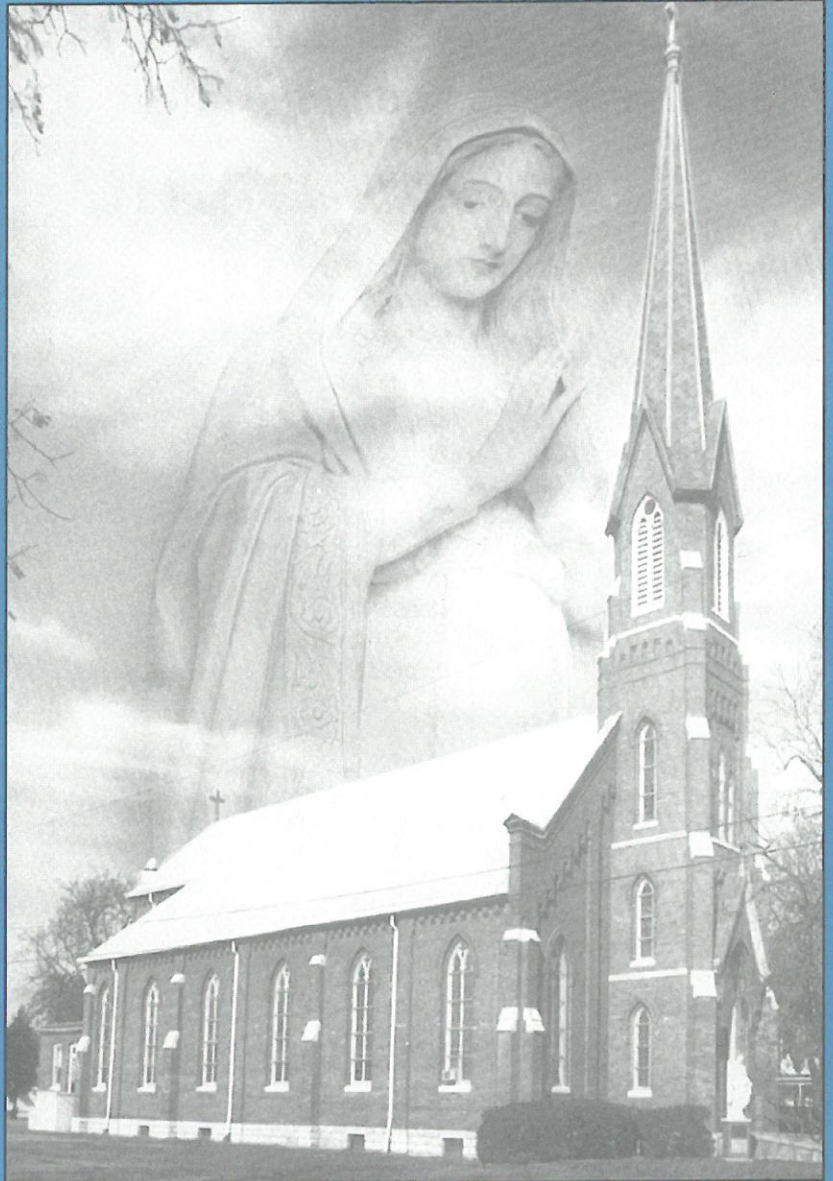
Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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, APRIL 27TH

5:00pm + Donald and Charlotte Gahan (wedding anniv. 4/23) by Kathy Gahan

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH - 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00am Elizabeth Rauh (birthdate 4/27)

10:00am For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, APRIL 29TH - ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

7:00am Stone Wong

TUESDAY, APRIL 30TH - ST. PIUS V

7:00am + Julie Reynolds (birthdate 5/3)
by Mary Lou Lorenzi

7:00pm ADORATION IN CHURCH

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1ST - ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

7:00am + Terry Fransen by Kevin and Mary Hinders

THURSDAY, MAY 2ND - ST. ATHANASIUS

7:00am + Darrel Reis (birthdate 5/1)

FRIDAY, MAY 3RD - STS. PHILIP AND JAMES

7:00am Cyndi Freeman (birthdate 5/1)

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS

5:00pm + Joseph M. Carey (birthdate 5/2)
by Teresa Carey

SUNDAY, MAY 5TH - 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am + Eileen Rogowski Riota
by Bill and Janice Rogowski

10:00am For the People of the Parish, especially our 1st Communicants

MONDAY, MAY 6TH

7:00am Selena Rauh (birthdate 5/19)

TUESDAY, MAY 7TH

7:00am Special Intention of Joan Francis

7:00pm ADORATION IN CHURCH

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH

7:00am Special Intention of Kevin Murry

THURSDAY, MAY 9TH - ASCENSION OF THE LORD

7:00am + Sandra Harbeck (anniv. +) by Roger Harbeck

FRIDAY, MAY 10TH - ST. JOHN OF AVILA

7:00am Owen Smith (birthdate 5/14)



**The fruit of silence is prayer.
The fruit of prayer is faith.
The fruit of faith is love.
The fruit of love is service.
The fruit of service is peace.**

~ St. Teresa of Calcutta

Gospel Meditation for April 28th

Ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.

Have you ever heard of snake oil salesmen? They sell a product that they promise will solve all of our problems, cure all of our ills, and guarantee a happy life. It's a tempting offer. But we know deep down that the salesman's promises are empty.

In today's gospel, Jesus tells us that we can come to him and ask for whatever we want. Does that mean that, like a snake oil salesman, he is promising to give us whatever we desire, even if it's riches, fame, or power? Not at all.

When Jesus makes this promise, he begins by saying "If you remain in me and my words remain in you". That's the key: abiding in Jesus. He wants us to be like branches that are constantly fed and sustained by a vine. That means staying connected to him so that he can feed us and form us.

The closer we are to Jesus and the more we let his words shape us, the more our hearts can become like his. Our desires and dreams start to reflect his desires and dreams for us. As a result, it's more likely that we'll be "asking" according to God's will.

Of course, this doesn't happen overnight. Even as we strive to align ourselves with God's will, we should still keep bringing our needs or desires to Jesus. We should always come to him with the confidence of children who trust in their loving father. After all, we have a good God who wants to give us good things. But in the end, prayer is not an exercise in trying to get him to bend to our will. It's a process of freely embracing his will.

Jesus is promising us that we can ask and receive as we align ourselves with him and hold onto his words. He himself will dwell within us and lead us to our heavenly Father. And that's not an empty promise!

"Jesus, help me to abide in you!"

Weekly Offering

Donations received April 10 - 23

Adult Envelopes	\$4,455.00
Loose Collection	\$1,414.35
Online Giving	\$55.00
Building Fund	\$890.00
Food Pantry	\$15.00
Easter	\$60.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$20.00

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

April 28th	Nathan and Nina Leffers
May 5th	Finn Carter, Bobby and Olivia Villareal

Weekends of April 28th & May 5th

Readings Week of April 28th

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Psalm 22; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8
Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Psalm 115; John 14:21-26
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Psalm 145; John 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Genesis 1:26-2:3; Psalm 90; Matthew 13:54-58
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Psalm 96; John 15:9-11
Friday: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Psalm 19; John 14:6-14
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Psalm 100; John 15:18-21

Readings Week of May 5th

Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17
Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Psalm 149; John 15:26-16:4a
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Psalm 138; John 16:5-11
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Psalm 148; John 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:17-23; Mark 16:15-20
Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Psalm 47; John 16:20-23
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Psalm 47; John 16:23b-28

Announcements

1st Communion & May Crowning: At the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 5th, we will celebrate seven students that will make their 1st Holy Communion. Please keep them in your prayers.

Jacob Brown	Gianluca Mattioda
Rory Carter	Ella Nichols
Patrick Daley	Eden Sobkowiak
Andrew Diss	

We will also honor our Blessed Mother, crowning her with flowers. All children of the parish are invited to participate in this tradition. Our parish will provide carnations for the occasion. Please just listen for instructions by Fr. Driscoll.

PADS Dinner: The sign-up sheet is available on the back table for the May 1st. This will be our last meal until the Fall. We cannot sufficiently express our gratitude to all those that have prepared a dish for a meal at the shelter. We simply say, "Thanks".

ADA: Our parish continues to be short of the assessed goal. If you have not participated, please help us out. Any shortage will become the responsibility of the parish to pay. We have pledge forms on the back table to use. You can also just use a regular contribution envelope and write "ADA" across it.

Baby Bottle Campaign: Make sure to take a baby bottle from the entryway. Baby bottles will be at the back of the church beginning May 1st and will run through the end of the month. Please consider saving your loose change or make a donation to this campaign. All proceeds will go to the Abigail Women's Center. Abigail's is local crisis pregnancy center. All of their services are confidential and offered at no cost to anyone in the Illinois Valley area. Please bring baby bottles back to church with your donation before May 30th. Checks should be made payable to St. Mary's. Thank you for your support!

Sealed with the Holy Spirit: Confirmation at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception was a beautiful occasion! Check out the picture of our students on the back of the bulletin.

Holy Hour: Make time to come adore Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Fr. Driscoll offers a Holy Hour every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. In addition to a reflection, there is quiet time to just sit and be in the presence of God. Confession time is also available for those that would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Word Among Us: We have complimentary copies of the new May edition of The Word Among Us on the back tables. We hope you enjoy the daily readings and reflections.



Calling All High Schoolers!

Stuebenville Youth Conference

In our ever-changing world, Jesus is the answer to the longing of our hearts, for meaning, fulfillment, security, and love.

Who: ILLINOIS VALLEY YOUTH - All high schoolers and freshmen in college (Fall 2024) are invited to attend this retreat with our group.

When: Friday-Sunday, July 5th-7th, 2024

Where: Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

Cost: \$215 Includes conference, lodging, transportation, and 5 meals

What can you expect?

- Experience the peace of Jesus Christ through inspiring talks, praise and worship, and the sacraments.
- Connect with hundreds of other Catholic teens.
- Return home with memories that will last a lifetime, knowing that you are never alone.

Scholarships Available!

Don't let finances stop you from saying YES!

For more information or to register, contact Gisela Bustos (815) 223-0641 or gbustos@lasallecatholic.org

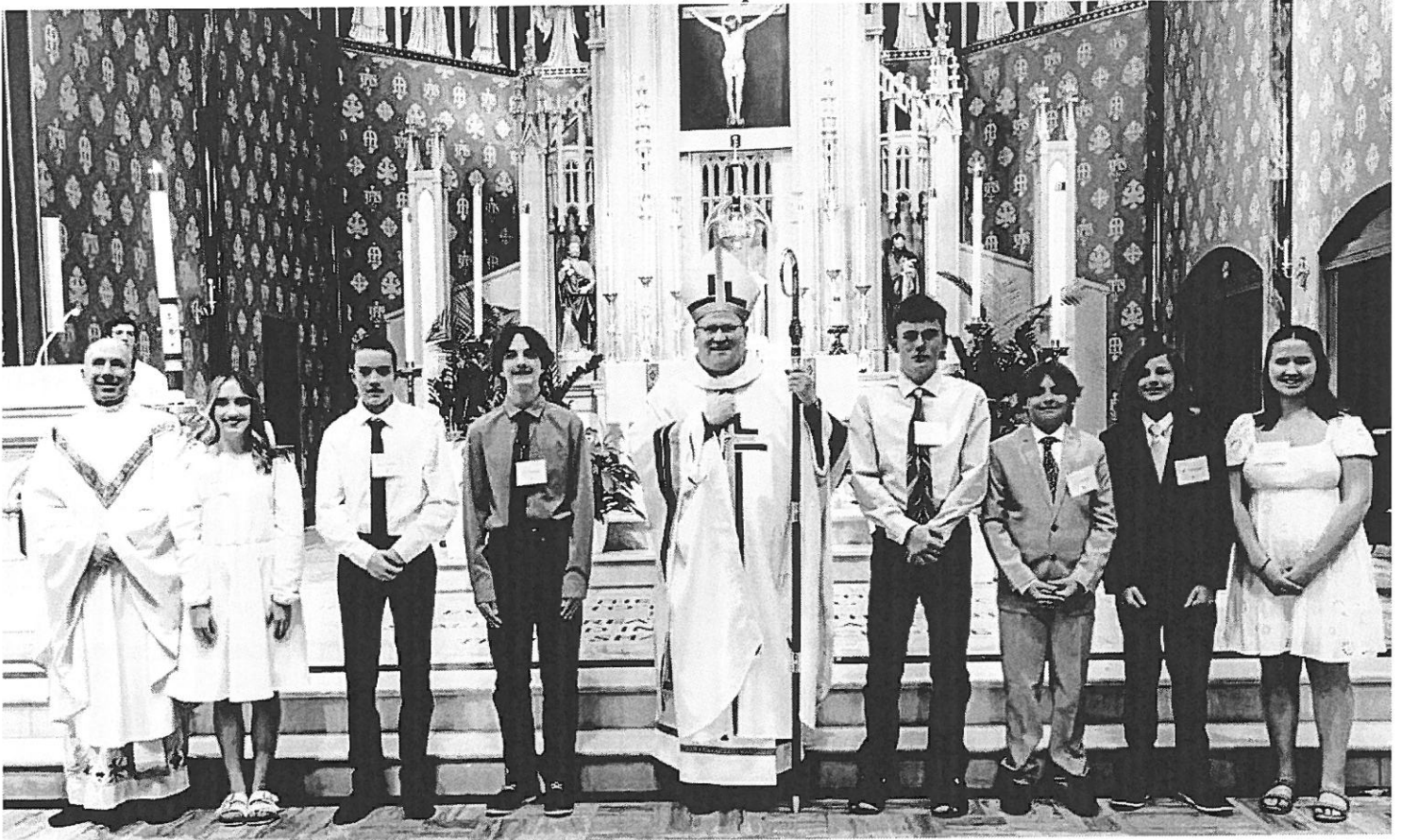
Sacramental Gifts: If you are in need of a gift for Confirmation, Graduation, 1st Communion, etc., consider visiting Jobst Monuments & Granite (402 W. Main) in Ottawa. They carry a variety of bibles, rosaries, frames, crosses, prayer books, music boxes, medals, and more. They are open Monday through Friday 10:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., and on Saturday from 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Emmaus Days: Open to boys entering 7th grade through college age, dates for Emmaus Days retreats have been set for this summer! Checkout more information by visiting comeandfollowme.org/emmausdays.

Pray for the Sick of our Parish

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

Confirmation—April 21, 2024



Pictured L to R: Fr. Michael Driscoll, Nina Leffers, Matthew Brown, Nathan Leffers, Bishop Louis Tylka, Bentley DiLuciano, Jameson Daley, William Kummer III, Mary Craven

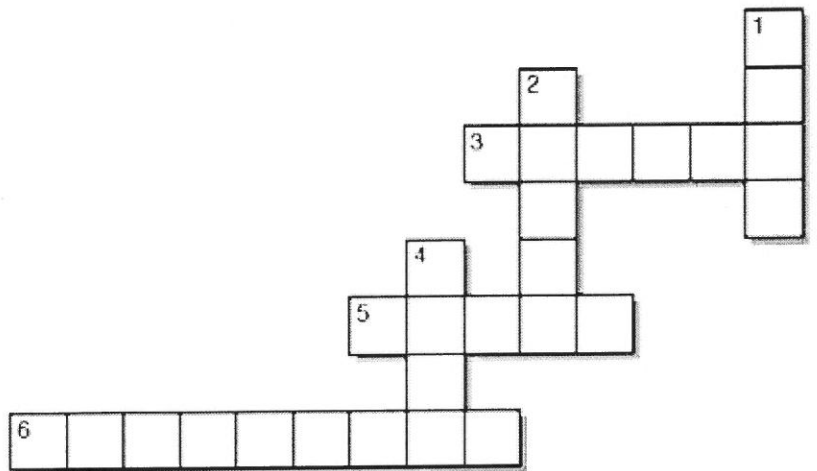
Word Search.

Z E P E Y N B S O V I U X F Y
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 F A R I H R P E X H U Y U E I
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 F Y Y B E I E R P I N L S M B
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Word Bank

BEAR	BRANCHES	DISCIPLES	FATHER
FIRE	FRUIT	GLORIFY	PRUNE
REMAIN	TRUE	VINE	WITHER

Crossword.



Across

- Vines grow on this.
- Today is the _____ week of Easter.
- The followers of Jesus are called his _____.

Down

- This weeks Gospel is from the Gospel according to _____.
- A kind of food; Jesus says the vines “will bear much _____.”
- Where grapes grow.