

Church of Saint Mary

April 13th & 20th
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

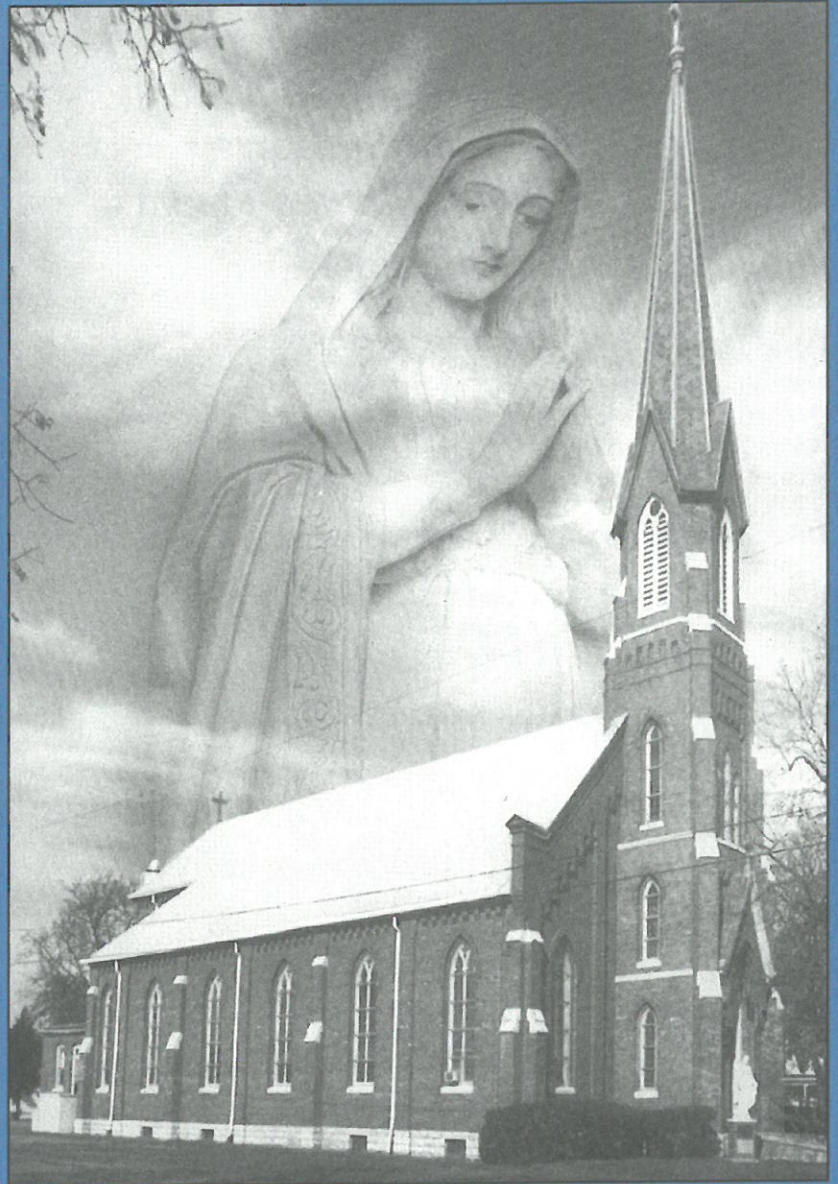
Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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, APRIL 12TH

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH - PALMSUNDAY

8:00am + Robbie Byczynski (anniv. + 4/18)
by Megan Byczynski

10:00am + Don and Gloria Steichen (wedding anniv. 4/11)
by Tim Burgess Family

MONDAY, APRIL 14TH

7:00am + Peter and Carol Kadelak

TUESDAY, APRIL 15TH

7:00am + Braxton Carr

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH - SPY WEDNESDAY

7:00am Justine Rauh (birthdate)

THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH - HOLY THURSDAY

7:00pm Mary Frances Fritts (birthdate)

FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH - GOOD FRIDAY

3:00pm Service

7:00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH - EASTER VIGIL

8:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH - EASTER

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am + Susy Pennell (birthdate) by Family and Friends

10:00am + Kate Schwarz by Barbara Zick

MONDAY, APRIL 21ST

7:00am Ronnie Glynn by Brian Gross Family

TUESDAY, APRIL 22ND

PRIVATE + Nick VanWingerden

NO HOLY HOUR TODAY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23RD

7:00am + Ron Chadwick

THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH

7:00am Jerry Thorsen by Brian Gross Family

FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH

7:00am + Lois Schott (anniv. + 5/1)

Weekly Offering

Donations received March 26th-April 8th

Adult Envelopes	\$4,922.00
Loose Collection	\$1,743.00
Building Fund	\$55.00
Food Pantry	\$20.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$25.00
PADs Dinner Donations	\$100.00
Easter Flower Memorials	\$890.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$193.00
Online Giving	\$96.58

Pray for the Sick of our Parish

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

Gospel Meditation for April 13th

Jesus proceeded on his journey up to Jerusalem.

Today we begin the holiest week of our Church year. We join the crowds and shout, "Hosanna!" as Jesus enters Jerusalem. We listen to him teach, even while people plot to kill him. We see him wash his disciples' feet and offer them his Body and Blood, despite knowing that one will betray him and the rest will abandon him. We watch as he is rejected by his people and handed over to death on a cross.

It's easy to see Jesus just as an unfortunate, tragic victim of hatred and violence—and he was. But he was more than that. He freely chose to embrace his passion and death. He freely chose to offer himself as a sacrifice for our salvation. He offered no resistance to his captors, like the Suffering Servant who "gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard".

This week, we have the chance to accompany Jesus as he makes his way to the cross. He invites us to receive his Body and Blood that he freely poured out for us. And he invites us to stay awake with him, to "get up and pray that you may not undergo the test".

Like the disciples, we may not do this perfectly. But as Jesus freely chose to offer himself for us, we can freely choose to stay close to him. We can read his word and recall all he did for us. We can sit before the Lord in prayer and participate in the liturgies of the Triduum. We can try our best to love the people around us as Jesus loved us. And if we fail, we can receive the mercy he offers from the cross: "Father, forgive them".

"Thank you, Lord, for suffering for me. Help me to remain close to you this week."

Gospel Meditation for April 20th

They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him.

What a glorious day! It's Easter Sunday, the day of the resurrection. Only Jesus isn't showing up! In fact, today's Gospel reading focuses on an absent Jesus. Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John are confronted with an empty tomb, and they don't know where he is. So rather than rejoicing, they are disappointed, bewildered and scared.

These three disciples didn't know what had happened to Jesus, but we do. In just a short time, he will greet Mary Magdalene and commission her to proclaim the good news. Later that day, he will appear to Peter and the apostles and breathe the Holy Spirit on them. And he will appear to them again and again before ascending into heaven.

But we don't hear any of those stories today. Instead, we're waiting outside the empty tomb. We believe that Jesus is risen, but we don't see him. We have experienced our sin being washed away, but we still fall sometimes. We get occasional glimmers of the heavenly life that awaits us, but we also know times of darkness and fear. And so we live somewhat precariously, always at risk of falling to temptation.

So why bother rejoicing today? Because Jesus is truly risen, whether we see him or not! Because he truly has defeated death, and we truly do belong to him. Because we will see him one day. And until that day comes, we can experience his Spirit filling us with God's love and gradually transforming our hearts.

Today truly is a glorious day—not because we have come to the end of our journey, but because we know that the risen Christ is walking beside us. Step-by-step, he is leading us to the throne of God—to a glory that will far surpass our wildest dreams!

"Jesus, Risen Savior, I praise you, and I believe in you!"

Weekends of April 13th & 20th

Readings for Week of April 13th

Sunday: Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14-23:56
Monday: Isaiah 42:1-7; Psalm 27; John 12:1-11
Tuesday: Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 71; John 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 69; Matthew 26:14-25
Thursday: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Psalm 116; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15
Friday: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 31; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42
Saturday: Genesis 1:1-2:2; Psalm 104; Genesis 22:1-18; Psalm 16; Exodus 14:15-15:1; Exodus 15; Isaiah 54:5-14; Psalm 30; Isaiah 55:1-11; Isaiah 12; Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Psalm 19; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Psalm 42; Romans 6:3-11; Psalm 118; Luke 24:1-12

Readings for Week of April 20th

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Psalm 118; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9
Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Psalm 16; Matthew 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Psalm 33; John 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Psalm 105; Luke 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Psalm 8; Luke 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Psalm 118; John 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Psalm 118; Mark 16:9-15

Announcements

Schedule Notes: There will not be morning Mass or Holy Hour on Tuesday, April 22nd. Fr. Driscoll will offer the day's Mass and intention privately.

In Remembrance: Our parish mourns the passing of Mary (Snell) Kalisiak on March 19th. Please keep her family in prayer during this difficult time. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Change for Life: Every year churches in the area help support Abigail Women's Center by engaging their congregations and giving them an opportunity to help women choose life for their babies and helping families in need. Bottles are given to churches for collection. These funds go to support the work of the Center and to provide free confidential services such as pregnancy confirmation, limited obstetrical ultrasounds and parenting classes for mothers and fathers. Each person who fills their bottle has a direct effect on the lives of babies, mothers and families and on the lives of those babies that are saved from abortion. Please help us to meet our needs and help women choose life for their baby and choose Jesus for their life. Our parish will be running our "Change for Life" campaign from May 3rd - June 1st. Baby bottles will be available soon. For any check donations, we ask that you make them payable to St. Mary Parish so that we can forward one check to Abigail's in June. Thank you for your support!

Word Among Us: New issues for the Easter season are available on the back table. We hope you enjoy the daily bible readings and reflections.

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

REBOOT
a life changing event

Chris Stefanick will be coming to St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Peoria on Tuesday, May 6th. Make plans to join him! The high-energy, 2-hour event (beginning at 7:00 p.m.) will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with tools to live the life God created you for: A life of JOY! Scan the QR code to secure your spot!



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.



Easter Memorials: Thank you to all that donated towards the purchase of flowers for the sanctuary. A listing of family and friends especially remembered will be available Easter weekend.

Decorating for Easter: Please consider donating some time to help us decorate the church in splendor for Easter. We will meet in the church at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 19th.

CCD: There will not be religious education classes on April 13th or 20th. Enjoy your Easter break!

PADs Dinners: The client count at the homeless shelter remained high each month this season, but the parishioners of St. Mary met the challenge! The ladies of the Altar & Rosary Society would like to express their gratitude to everyone that helped cook a dish for an evening meal or made a monetary donation. The final meal for the season will be provided using the cash donations received.

Altars of Repose: You can participate in the pious Lenten tradition of visiting churches on the evening of Maundy Thursday. Following the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Blessed Sacrament is placed on the Altar of Repose in churches for Adoration. During this time, the faithful pilgrimage to different area churches to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. This is in response to the request Jesus made to his apostles while they were in the Garden of Gethsemane, as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew 26:40, "Could you not, then, watch one hour with me?" Let's hear the Lord's words and be with him in the Holy Sacrament which he gave us on that first Holy Thursday. *A listing of area churches and their adoration times for Holy Thursday are listed on the back page of this bulletin.*



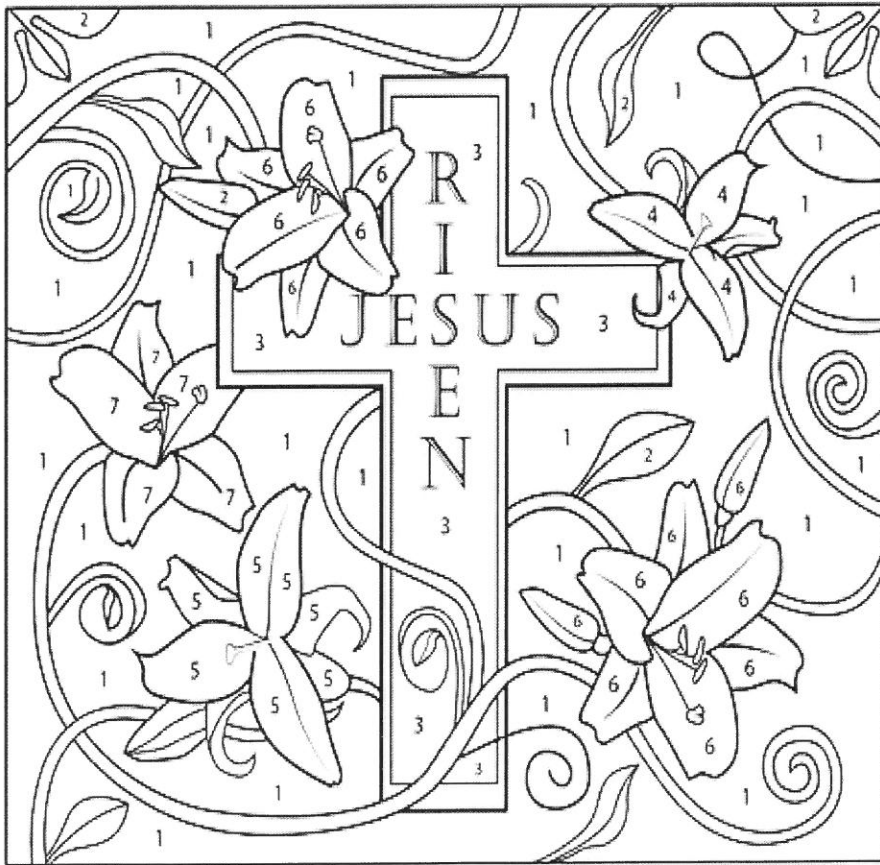
real life
CATHOLIC

Area Churches - Altars of Repose

<u>Church</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Hours</u>
St. Thomas More	Dalzell	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Sacred Heart	Granville	8:00pm – 11:00pm
St. Patrick	LaSalle	7:30pm – 12:00am
St. Hyacinth	LaSalle	8:00pm – 12:00am
Holy Cross	Mendota	7:00pm – 12:00am
Holy Family	Oglesby	8:00pm – 10:00pm
St. Patrick	Ottawa	8:30pm – 12:00am
St. Joseph	Peru	8:00pm – 12:00am
St. Bede Abbey	Peru	8:30pm – 10:00pm
St. Louis	Princeton	8:00pm – 10:30pm
Nativity of Our Lord	Spring Valley	8:00pm – 11:00pm
St. Mary	Utica	8:00pm – 10:00pm

Kids Corner

Color by Number.



- | | | |
|-------------------|----------|-------|
| 1—Light Blue | 4—Yellow | 7—Red |
| 2—Green | 5—Purple | |
| 3—Light Brown/Tan | 6—Pink | |

Word Search.

**Words chosen from Easter Sunday Gospel.*

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

BURIAL CLOTHS	DARK
DEAD	DISCIPLE
MARY MAGDALA	MORNING
PETER	RAN
RISE	SCRIPTURE
STONE	TOMB
UNDERSTAND	