

Church of Saint Mary

February 4th & 11th
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

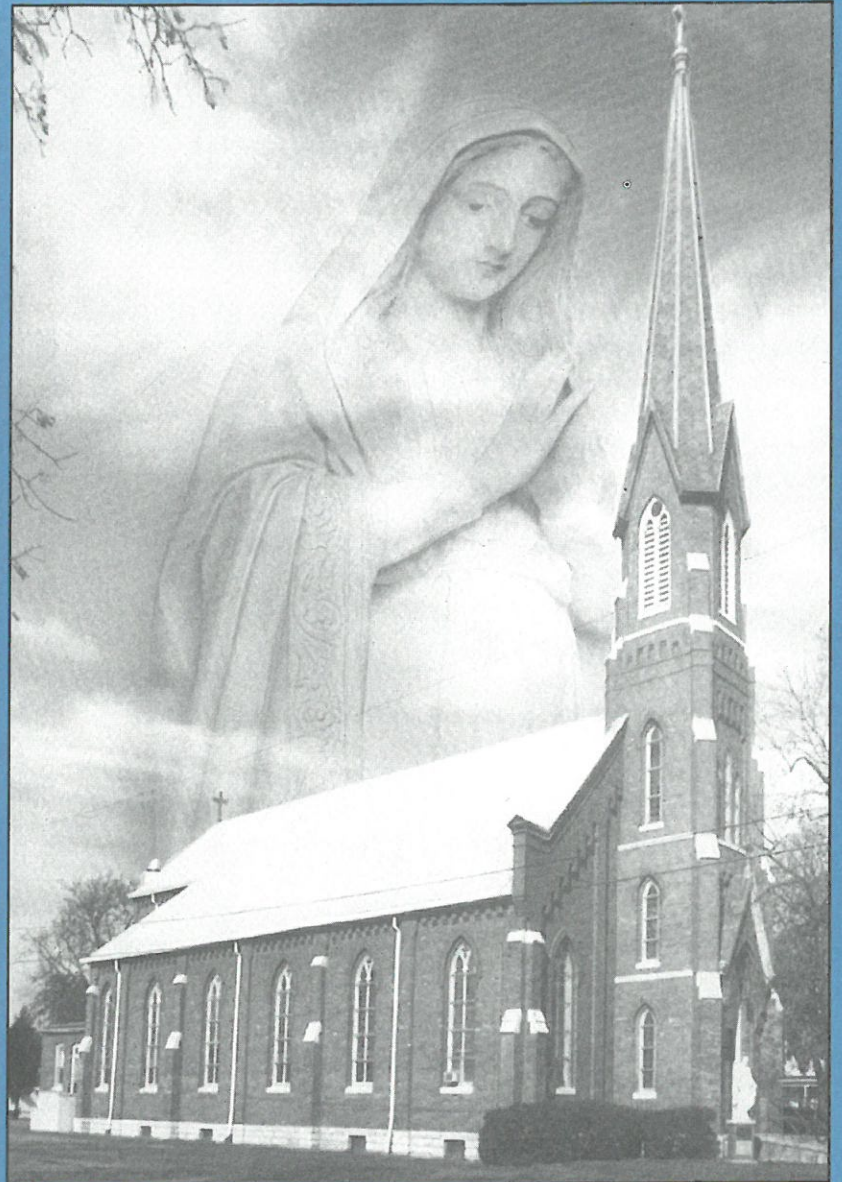
parishoffice@stmarysutica.org

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, FEBRUARY 3RD - ST. BLAISE

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS
5:00pm + Annarita Bennett

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH - 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am For the Parish
10:00am + Douglas Holland (birthdate 2/6)
by Mary Holland

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH - ST. AGATHA

7:00am Living and Deceased Members of the Oligier
Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH - ST. PAUL MIKI/COMPANIONS

7:00am Luka Stevanovic (birthdate 1/20)
7:00pm EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

7:00am + Fr. Thomas Royer

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH - ST. JEROME EMILIANI

7:00am + Fr. Lawrence Sepich

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

7:00am + Fr. Thomas Royer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH - ST. SCHOLASTICA

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS
5:00pm + Fr. Lawrence Sepich

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH - 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS
8:00am + Heather (Mix) Endicott
10:00am For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

7:00am Rena Daly

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

7:00am + Scott Hancock (anniv. +)
7:00pm EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH - ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00am Judy Lee
6:00pm + Fr. Thomas Royer

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

7:00am Samson Wong

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

7:00am + Brother Marion Sanchez (anniv. +)

Meditation for February 4th

My days...come to an end without hope.

Poor Job! He had lost his possessions, his family, and his health. But perhaps worst of all, he had lost his hope. Now there was nothing for him to do but suffer and wait for death to take him out of his misery. He was convinced that he would "not see happiness again".

We all need hope, but it's not something we can manufacture on our own. Instead, we need something to pin our hopes on, and that was what Job was lacking. Like Job, if we don't see something on the horizon that will improve our current situation, we will find it hard to keep going.

Perhaps that's how the people in Jesus' time felt as well. They had been living under harsh Roman occupation, and they didn't know when God would come to rescue them. But then Jesus came on the scene. In today's Gospel, he heals Peter's mother-in-law and then spends the evening healing people and casting out demons. What hope this must have sparked, not only in the people he had cured, but in everyone who had witnessed such divine power! Perhaps he really was the Messiah they had been waiting for!

The next morning, Jesus told the disciples that he was going to other villages in Galilee to preach and heal. "For this purpose have I come."

For this purpose I have come. Jesus came to give us hope: to heal us of our sins and free us from the power of death. He came to give us life in him, a life that begins now but will last into eternity.

Perhaps you are tempted to feel hopeless about a difficult situation in your life. Or maybe you're discouraged about what the future will hold. But remember what Jesus said: he came for a purpose, and that purpose is being fulfilled in your life and in the world even now. He is the horizon you can look to whenever you are tempted to give up hope. May we always keep our eyes on him!

"Jesus, you are my hope, now and forever."



Weekly Offering

Donations received January 17th - 31st

Adult Envelopes	\$3,540.00
Loose Collection	\$1,431.50
Building Fund	\$140.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$175.00
Online Giving	\$100.00
Catholic Education	\$10.00
Aid for Eastern Europe	\$10.00

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

February 4th	Nina Leffers, Joey and Jake Patyk
February 11th	Ava Myers, Finn Carter, Bentley DiLuciano

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

Weekends of February 4th & 11th

Readings Week of February 4th

Sunday: Job 7:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 147; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

Monday: 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Psalm 132; Mark 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Psalm 84; Mark 7:1-13

Wednesday: 1 Kings 10:1-10; Psalm 37; Mark 7:14-23

Thursday: 1 Kings 11:4-13; Psalm 106; Mark 7:24-30

Friday: 1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19; Psalm 81; Mark 7:31-37

Saturday: 1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Psalm 106; Mark 8:1-10

Readings Week of February 11th

Sunday: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; Psalm 32; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45

Monday: James 1:1-11; Psalm 119; Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday: James 1:12-18; Psalm 94; Mark 8:14-21

Wednesday: Joel 2:12-18; Psalm 51; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1; Luke 9:22-25

Friday: Isaiah 58:1-9a; Psalm 51; Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 86; Luke 5:27-32

Lenten Confessions: Take the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation...that holy moment in which we place ourselves in His presence and honestly acknowledge our sins, especially mortal sins. With absolution, we are reconciled to God and the Church. The Sacrament helps us stay close to the truth that we cannot live without God.

Saturdays 4:00-4:45 p.m.

Sundays 7:15-7:45 a.m.

Tuesdays 7:30-8:00 p.m.

The New and Eternal Covenant

A Catholic Bible Study

Fr. Driscoll will be offering a 5-part Bible study in the church during Lent. It will be held on Tuesdays from 7:00-7:30 p.m., followed by an opportunity for the sacrament of confession. We hope you consider joining us! There is no cost to attend.

The New and Eternal Covenant

February 19th: Bible, Covenant, and Sacrifice

February 26th: The Old Testament

March 5th: The New and Eternal Covenant

March 12th: The Mass and the Eucharist

March 19th: The Sacraments and the Covenant

Announcements

Ash Wednesday Schedule

When: Wednesday, February 14th

Mass Times: 7:00 a.m. (Latin)

6:00 p.m. (English)



Lenten Regulations (Fasting & Abstinence)

What Is Fasting?

In the Catholic Church, fasting is a practice in self-discipline with a penitential focus. In the context of Lent, it refers to reducing food intake and limiting how many meals we have.

What are the Lent fasting rules?

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, fasting rules allow Catholics to eat only one full meal and two smaller meals which, combined, would not equal a single normal meal. Additionally, Catholics may not eat meat on these two days—or on any Friday during Lent.

What are the Lent rules on abstinence?

In this context, abstinence refers to “abstaining” from meat on Fridays during Lent. Whereas Catholics fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday with just one large meal, Catholics must refrain from eating meat on other Fridays, though can have three full meals.

At what age do you start fasting for Lent?

Those ages 18-59, in reasonable health, are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those 14 and older must abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent. Canon Law does mention that for young children not fasting, parents should still communicate the meaning and penance.

Who is exempt from fasting during Lent?

Children, adults with physical and mental illness, pregnant women and those nursing are all exempt. The USCCB stresses that “common sense should prevail” and that no one should jeopardize their health to fast.

IV Cursillo: Please join the Illinois Valley Cursillo Community for an evening of Mass, food and fellowship at our February Ultreya. It will be held in Peru at St. Valentine’s Church (1109 Pulaski St.) on Saturday, February 10th. Mass begins at 4:00 p.m. Potluck and program will follow in the parish hall. Speaker, Adam Ford will discuss “Jesus Was Really There, My Holy Land Experience”.

Stations of the Cross: “We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world”. Join us at St. Mary’s for Stations of the Cross every Friday, beginning February 16th at 7:00 p.m.



Spring TEC: Teens Encounter Christ will be holding their boys Spring retreat March 2nd-4th. Boys of our parish are encouraged to attend. It will be a great weekend of prayer, adoration, new lifelong friendships, deep discussion, lots of delicious food, fun, and most importantly...encountering Jesus. For more information, visit www.peterstowntec.com.

Lenten Mini Retreat: Come to St. Valentine’s in Peru for a 3-day retreat given by Dominican Father Lawrence Lew, OP, author of “Mysteries Made Visible” from Ignatius Press. He will present how Our Lady gave St. Dominic the rosary and how to use it for our gospel mission and to bring peace to our lives.

Sunday, February 18th: 10:30 a.m. Holy Mass, 6:30 p.m. Talk

Monday, February 19th: 6:00 p.m. Holy Mass, 6:30 p.m. Talk

Tuesday, February 20th: 6:00 p.m. Holy Mass, 6:30 p.m. Talk with rosary procession (indoors), followed by Enrollment in the Rosary Confraternity

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

Please call or e-mail the parish office with additions/deletions for our prayer list. Thank you!

Faith in Action

The Utica Father Marquette Council of the Knights of Columbus recently presented a check totaling \$2,000 to Mary Jo Credi, Executive Director of the Illinois Food Pantry.

Pictured at the check presentation were (from left to right) Bill Brown, Jim Polizzi, Chuck Voreis, Mary Jo Credi, Mike Brown, and Jay Allen.

Photo taken by Ken Lunn of the Food Pantry.



The Knights wish to thank Council Members and St. Mary parishioners who donated to our Food Drive Fund. Mary Jo Credi expressed much gratitude for the donation and again shared with us their budget crunch as the State of Illinois has decreased funding to the Pantry by 80% for this year.

Kids Corner

Color.



Word Search.

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

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

Word Bank

ANDREW	CURE	DEMONS
FEVER	GALILEE	JAMES
JOHN	PRAY	PURPOSE
SICK	SIMON	VILLAGES