

Church of Saint Mary

May 11th & 18th
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

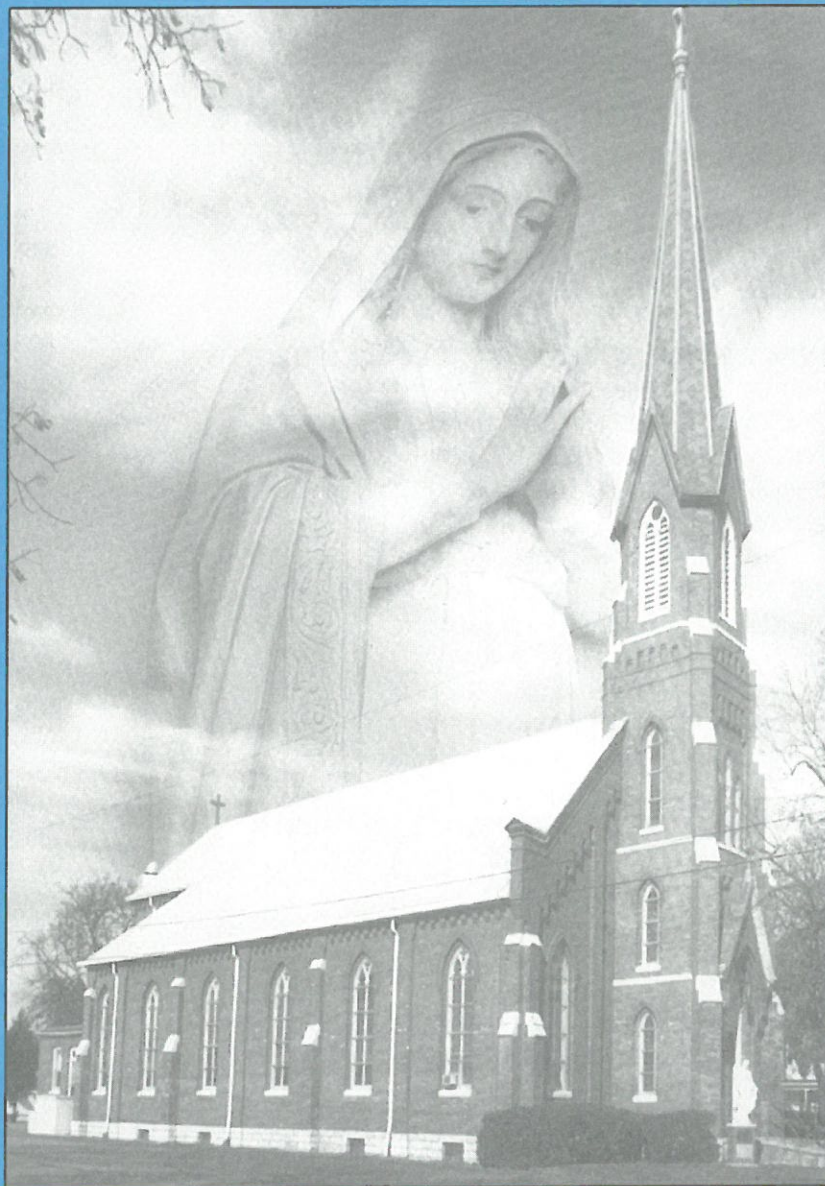
parishoffice@stmarysutica.org

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, MAY 10TH - ST. JOHN OF AVILA

5:00pm + Ann Jansen by Julie Toellen

SUNDAY, MAY 11TH - 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00am For the People of the Parish

10:00am + Don Steichen (birthdate 5/12)
by Tim Burgess Family

MONDAY, MAY 12TH - STS. NEREUS & ACHILLEUS

7:00am James Ryan by Sherry Powley

TUESDAY, MAY 13TH - OUR LADY OF FATIMA

7:00am Vicar General of the Peoria Diocese

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14TH - ST. MATTHIAS

7:00am Kosiah Kosi (birthdate) & Owen Smith (birthdate)

THURSDAY, MAY 15TH - ST. ISIDORE

7:00am Liz Rauh (birthdate)

FRIDAY, MAY 16TH

7:00am + Peter & Carol Kadelak

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH

5:00pm + Jim Christmann (birthdate 5/22)
by Jean Christmann

SUNDAY, MAY 18TH - 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am + Steve Siemers

10:00am For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, MAY 19TH

7:00am Selena Rauh (birthdate)

TUESDAY, MAY 20TH - ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA

7:00am + Dr. John & Helen Dust
by Maurice & Jane Dust

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST - ST. CHRISTOPHER MAGALLANES

7:00am + Robert Pohar by the Manley Family

THURSDAY, MAY 22ND - ST. RITA OF CASCIA

7:00am + Harold Aubry (birthdate)

FRIDAY, MAY 23RD

7:00am + Mary Margaret Pawlak (birthdate & anniv. +)
by Joe & Darlene Woodshank

Gospel Meditation for May 11th

The Lamb...will shepherd them.

Have you ever heard of a lamb that was also a shepherd? Today's second reading tells us that Jesus, the Lamb of God, will shepherd the saints who stand before the heavenly throne. Although this Lamb still bears the wounds of his sacrifice, he will protect the saints, lead them to life-giving water, and wipe away their tears. How odd!

Actually, it's not so odd. Jesus, the Lamb of God, is a perfect shepherd for us. Here's why:

- This Lamb is a shepherd who lived his life completely obedient to the will of his Father. Every moment, he united himself with God's will. He alone perfectly walked in the path of righteousness, so of course he knows how to lead us on the same path!

- This Lamb is a shepherd who defeated the powers of darkness through his humble self-offering. He freely handed himself over to death on the cross. When he rose from the dead, he defeated sin and death! He is uniquely able to protect us in the face of whatever trouble or foe comes our way.

- This Lamb is a shepherd who poured out his own blood on the cross to cleanse us from all impurity. The water that flowed from his pierced side is the living water of Baptism and new life. It is to this life-giving water that he leads us.

- This Lamb is a shepherd who has suffered in every way we have. He embraced our weakness and frailty. His experience of sorrow makes him all the more attentive to our own, and he tenderly wipes away our tears.

As you celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday today, spend some time considering Jesus, the Lamb who is your shepherd. Rejoice that he has not left you to make your way on this journey alone. He has gone before you, and he will lead you home.

"Jesus, Good Shepherd of my soul, thank you for your love and protection!"

Weekly Offering

Donations received April 23rd-May 6th

Adult Envelopes	\$3,860.00
Easter Collection	\$95.00
Ascension	\$5.00
Loose Collection	\$1,466.00
Online Giving	\$100.00
Building Fund	\$105.00
Food Pantry	\$50.00
PADs Dinner Donations	\$30.00
Change for Life	\$150.00
Holy Land—Good Friday	\$30.00

Pray for the Sick of our Parish

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

10:00 a.m. Serving Schedule

May 11th	Nathan and Nina Leffers, Abby Brown
May 18th	Peter and Olivia Villareal, Ava Myers
May 25th	Finn and Rory Carter, Bentley DiLuciano

Readings for Week of May 11th

Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52; Psalm 100; Revelation 7:9, 14b-17; John 10:27-30

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 42; John 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Psalm 87; John 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Psalm 113; John 15:9-17

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Psalm 89; John 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Psalm 2; John 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Psalm 98; John 14:7-14

Readings for Week of May 18th

Sunday: Acts 14:21-27; Psalm 145; Revelation 21:1-5a; John 13:31-33a, 34-35

Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Psalm 115; John 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Psalm 145; John 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Psalm 122; John 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Psalm 96; John 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Psalm 57; John 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Psalm 100; John 15:18-21

Announcements

From the Pastor's Desk

I received a phone call and letter from Bishop Tylka letting me know, that on November 1st of this year, I will be leaving St. Mary's and beginning a new assignment as pastor of Sacred Heart in Granville and St. Patrick in Hennepin. Fr. Paul Carlson will be the new pastor of St. Mary's in Utica, while remaining pastor of Holy Family in Oglesby. Additionally, Fr. Jeff Windy will be assigned as parochial vicar.

I will not say a goodbye yet, since I am blessed with six more months at St. Mary's. I have loved being here and am very grateful to all of you for your inspiration and support. Please include me and the parish in your daily prayers.

Thank you and may God bless you.

Fr. Mike Driscoll

May Crowning: It is May Crowning weekend (May 11th)! All youth at our 10:00 a.m. Mass are invited to process with a carnation for our Blessed Mother. Fr. Driscoll will provide instruction.

Change for Life: Take a baby bottle as you leave Mass this weekend. We ask parishioners to help make a difference in the lives of mothers and their babies by collecting change throughout the month of May. All monies donated will be given to assist The Abigail Women's Center for our area. Check donations should be made payable to St. Mary's Church. Thank you for your support!



National Eucharistic Pilgrimage: The legacy of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage continues in 2025 with another historic cross-country journey... The St. Katherine Drexel route. This time, we're beginning in Indianapolis, the location of the 10th National Eucharistic Congress last summer, and we're going all the way to Los Angeles.

A Journey WITH Jesus: Jesus desires to accompany us in life, not just spiritually but physically through the Eucharist. By giving us the Eucharist, Jesus made it possible for all believers—not just those in the first century—to walk with him. Catholic Eucharistic processions continue this tradition, allowing the faithful to publicly accompany Jesus and help others encounter him personally.

Be a part of the journey!: Join us for another historic moment of grace as we walk with Jesus. The Blessed Sacrament will be in our diocese for 3 days (May 19-21).



Confirmed in Spirit: Congratulations to Landon Harmon and Weston Mix (pictured above with Fr. Driscoll and Bishop Tylka). The boys were confirmed at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Peoria on May 4th. May this special day bring them closer to Christ.

Altar & Rosary Meeting: Join us for the last meeting before summer break! We will meet at the 308 building on Tuesday, May 20th at 6:00 p.m.

May 19th: Bishop Tylka will receive Our Eucharistic Lord from Bishop Hicks (Joliet Diocese) at St. Patrick Church, Seneca at 2:00 p.m.

The pilgrimage will then journey to St. Mary Church, Utica, where from 3:30-4:00 p.m. we will offer prayers, bible readings, songs, and time for adoration. The Eucharistic Procession will enter our parish grounds from Washington Street. We will gather around the Fr. Marquette statue (weather permitting) recognizing the historical significance of our parish to the Illinois Valley. Fr. Marquette first celebrated Mass here within the Diocese of Peoria 350 years ago.

Parking—We ask those in attendance to park in the south or west lots. Please refrain from parking in the spots directly on the road in front of the church.

The day will conclude with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 5:30 p.m. in St. Hyacinth Church, LaSalle. Following Mass, there will be a Eucharistic Procession to Holy Rosary Shrine.

Kids Corner

We honor Mary throughout the month of May!

Our Lady of Grace—Mary, the Mother of God, appeared twice to St. Catherine Labouré, a novice in the Daughters of Charity in Paris, France. During the first visit, the Blessed Mother sat in a chair and Catherine knelt at her feet, with her hands in Mary's lap. Mary said, "God wishes to give you a mission." In the next visit, Mary told her to have a medal made to be worn around the neck as a reminder that God gives grace to those who ask him in trustful prayer. Catherine obeyed and a goldsmith made ten two-sided medals per her instructions. People all over the world still wear Mary's "Miraculous Medal" as a reminder to seek God's grace through fervent prayer.

Prayer: O Lady of Grace, our Spiritual Mother, help us in our time of need! Remind us to pray always with great trust in your promise to shower grace upon those who ask with faith. Obtain from your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the grace I need most in this moment. Amen.

Activity: Enjoy coloring the miraculous medal to the right using the color code below.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| 1 = Yellow | 5 = Brown |
| 2 = Gold | 6 = White |
| 3 = Light Blue | 7 = Green |
| 4 = Dark Blue | |



Word Search. (Words chosen from 4th Sunday of Easter Gospel.)

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

Word Bank

FATHER	FOLLOW	GREATER	HAND
HEAR	KNOW	LIFE	ONE
PERISH	SHEEP	VOICE	

Complete the Phrase.

Use the work bank to fill in what Jesus said in the Gospel for the 5th Sunday of Easter.

Commandment	You	Love	Should
Another	Give	Loved	I

I _____ you a new

_____:

_____ one another as _____

have _____ you, so

_____ also _____

love one _____.