

Church of Saint Mary

February 16th & 23rd
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

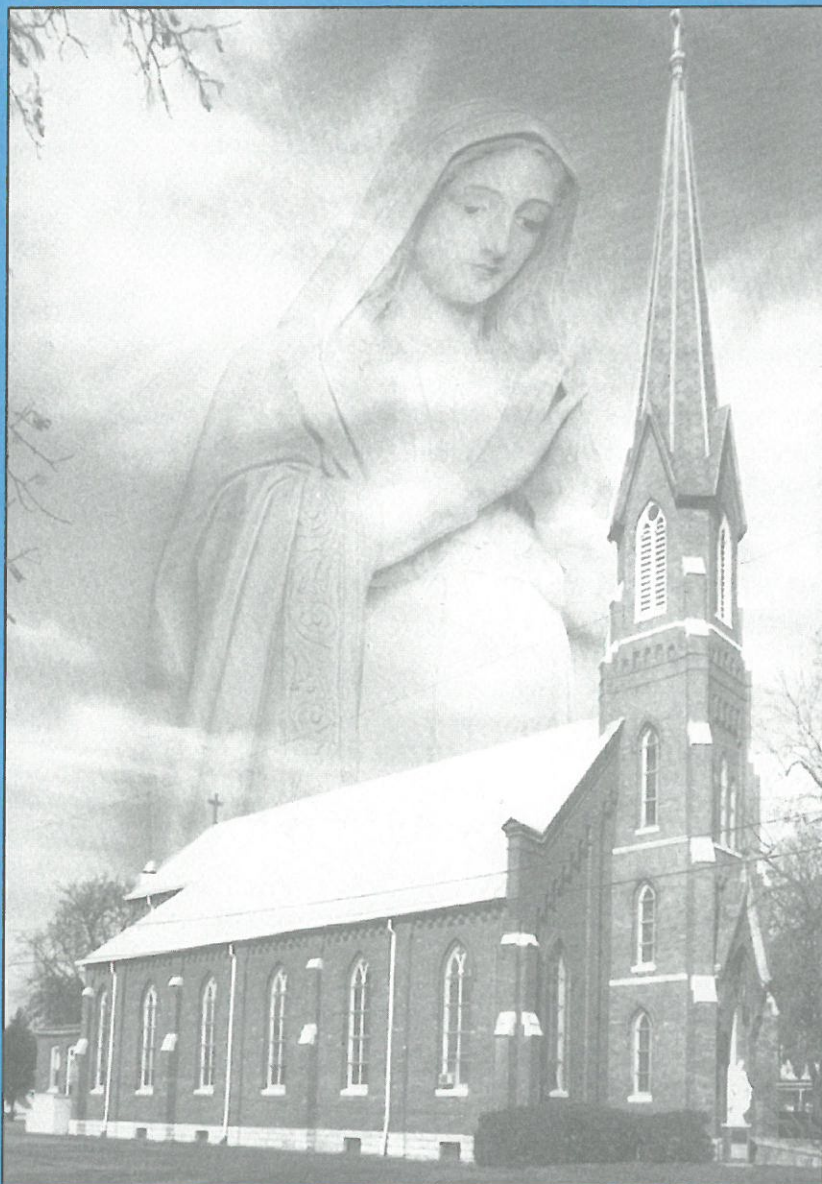
Please call the Church anytime
day or night.

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, FEBRUARY 15TH

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH - 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am + Pat Byczynski (anniv. + 2/20)

by Megan Byczynski

10:00am + Gloria Steichen (birthdate 2/22)

by Tim Burgess Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

7:00am Samson Wong (birthdate 2/16)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

7:00am + Loretta Story (anniv. + 2/19)

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

7:00am + Robert Lee

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

7:00am + Jim Christman (anniv. + 2/20)

by Nancy Harwood

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST - ST. PETER DAMIAN

7:00am Judy Lee (birthdate)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND - CHAIR OF ST. PETER

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS

5:00pm + Jim Doherty (birthdate 2/26) by Barb Doherty

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD - 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am For the People of the Parish

10:00am + Mary Cadegiani (birthdate 2/25)

by Darlene Piecha

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

7:00am + David Allen Nave by Dalia Nave

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

7:00am + Mary Cadegiani (birthdate) by her family

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

7:00am + Lois Schott

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH - ST. GREGORY OF NAREK

7:00am In thanksgiving for Dr. Terry Smith

by Maurice and Jane Dust

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

7:00am Living and Deceased Members of the Oligier

Family

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

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|---------------|--|
| February 16th | Jake and Joey Patyk, Ava Myers |
| February 23rd | Peter and Olivia Villareal, Nathan Leffers |
| March 2nd | Abby Brown, Joey and Jake Patyk |

Gospel Meditation for February 16th

Blessed are you who are poor.

Can you imagine telling someone without a job or a place to live, "Look at how much God has blessed you!" That's not something anyone should do, and it's not what Jesus is doing in today's Gospel. He is doing two things: he is proclaiming God's care and concern for those who are materially poor, and he is announcing blessings on "his disciples," who have "left everything and followed him". He is blessing all those who have accepted the poverty, the hardship, and the rejection they are experiencing as followers of Jesus.

The Greek word that is translated as "blessed" in today's Gospel carries a number of meanings, including "happy", "fortunate", or "enjoying divine favor". So Jesus is reinforcing for his disciples that the life they have chosen is ultimately a life of happiness. He promises them "the kingdom of God". He promises them that the day is coming when they, along with all those trapped in poverty, will "laugh" and "leap for joy". He makes the same promises to you.

Jesus knows how challenging it can be to live out the call to discipleship. He knows there are days when you feel as if you're always swimming against the current of the world. He sees the sacrifices you make to be generous with your resources. He sees your humility as you strive to forgive those who have hurt you.

If this describes you in any way, then know that Jesus calls you blessed. Know that he is promising you all the joys in his kingdom. And know that he is blessing you right now. As Jeremiah proclaimed in today's first reading, he is making you as strong as a "tree planted beside the waters". Even if you don't feel particularly blessed today, you can still take heart because Jesus is faithful to all his promises.

"Lord, help me to trust in your blessings when the call to discipleship feels hard."

Weekly Offering

Donations received January 29th-February 11th

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| Adult Envelopes | \$4,356.00 |
| Loose Collection | \$1,416.00 |
| Building Fund | \$938.00 |
| Food Pantry | \$10.00 |
| Christmas Collection | \$10.00 |
| Cemetery Upkeep | \$15.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary | \$5.00 |

Pray for the Sick of our Parish

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

Weekends of February 16th & 23rd

Readings for Week of February 16th

Sunday: Jeremiah 17:5-8; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26
Monday: Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Psalm 50; Mark 8:11-13
Tuesday: Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Psalm 20; Mark 8:14-21
Wednesday: Genesis 8:6-13, 2-22; Psalm 116; Mark 8:22-26
Thursday: Genesis 9:1-13; Psalm 102; Mark 8:27-33
Friday: Genesis 11:1-9; Psalm 33; Mark 8:34-9:1
Saturday: 1 Peter 5:1-4; Psalm 23; Matthew 16:13-19

Readings for Week of February 23rd

Sunday: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Psalm 103; 1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38
Monday: Sirach 1:1-10; Psalm 93; Mark 9:14-29
Tuesday: Sirach 2:1-11; Psalm 37; Mark 9:30-37
Wednesday: Sirach 4:11-19; Psalm 119; Mark 9:38-40
Thursday: Sirach 5:1-8; Psalm 1; Mark 9:41-50
Friday: Sirach 6:5-17; Psalm 119; Mark 10:1-12
Saturday: Sirach 17:1-15; Psalm 103; Mark 10:13-16

Announcements

Altar Server Schedule: The new schedule for our 10:00 a.m. Mass is available on the back of this weekend's bulletin. **Additionally, ALL SERVERS are asked to volunteer for upcoming holy days. Dates and times are listed below. Please let Fr. Driscoll or Jennifer in the parish office know which Masses you would like to serve.

Ash Wednesday, March 5th @ 7:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday, April 17th @ 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service, April 18th @ 3:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 19th @ 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20th @ 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Mobile Food Pantry: Hosted by The Community Food Basket of Ottawa, there will be a mobile pantry at OSF Healthcare (1050 Building Parking Structure) on Saturday, March 8th. Registration is from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m., with distribution beginning at 10:00 a.m. This event is open to anyone in need of food assistance, regardless of residency.

1st Saturday Rosary: Join us for the recitation of the rosary at St. Mary's on March 1st at 4:30 p.m. Special thanks to those that have volunteered to lead this prayerful devotion.

Weekly Adoration: Come sit in silence and allow for God's presence to wash over you during our weekly holy hour. Stop in any Tuesday from 7:00-8:00 p.m. to spend some time with our Lord! *Fr. Driscoll also offers confession time each week.*

In Remembrance: Please pray for the soul of Edward Schmitz, brother of Carol Henneberry, who passed away on January 31st in the VA Hospital in Portland, Oregon. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

1st Friday Mass: Fr. Driscoll offers a Latin Mass at the OSF Hospital Chapel each month on the 1st Friday at 11:30 a.m. The public is welcome. We hope to see you March 7th!

150th Diocesan Anniversary: On February 12th, a special Mass was offered at St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria. On this date in 1875 Pope Blessed Pius IX erected the Diocese of Peoria, thus beginning the storied history of our sharing the Gospel. Many efforts and events to celebrate this milestone are being planned. As part of the celebration, a few parishes around the diocese have been asked to serve as pilgrim sites for visitors. Our parish has been asked to participate! More details will be coming.



Join us on a 10-day pilgrimage to Sicily & Malta

Your trip includes:

- * Round-trip airfare from your desired Airport
- * Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- * Hotel accommodations: (or similar) in double occupancy
 - ~ 3 nights: Oct 2 - 5: Plaza Hotel Catania or NH Catania Centro, Catania, Italy
 - ~ 2 nights: Oct 5 - 7: Hotel Principe di Villafranca, Palermo, Italy
 - ~ 3 nights: Oct 7 - 10: AX Odycey Hotel, St Paul's Bay, Malta
- * Transfers as per itinerary
- * Breakfast and Dinner daily
- * Wine and mineral water with dinners
- * One wine tasting
- * One Sicilian cooking class with Chef Massimo in Taormina
- * Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
- * Local guides in Catania, Taormina, Siracusa, Agrigento, Menfi, Palermo and Malta
- * Whispers
- * Assistance of a professional local Guide
- * Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- * Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- * Flight bag & PDF digital confirmation of all travel documents

\$5,864 per person from Chicago—O'Hare
\$500 deposit due at time of registration

www.206tours.com/frpaulcarlson

Kids Corner

Word Search.

Altar Server Schedule @ 10:00 a.m. March & April

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|------------|---|
| March 2nd | Joey and Jake Patyk, Abby Brown |
| March 9th | Ava Myers, Nathan and Nina Leffers |
| March 16th | Bentley DiLuciano, Finn and Rory Carter |
| March 23rd | Abby Brown, Peter and Olivia Villareal |
| March 30th | Joey and Jake Patyk, Ava Myers |
| April 6th | Nathan and Nina Leffers, Bentley DiLuciano |
| April 13th | Peter and Olivia Villareal, Ava Myers |
| April 20th | Request for all servers to serve one of our Easter Masses. Please let Fr. Driscoll or Jennifer know which you will be attending. April 19th @ 8:00 p.m., April 20th @ 8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. |
| April 27th | Finn and Rory Carter, Nathan Leffers |

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| INSULT | KINGDOM | LAUGH | POOR | PROPHETS |
| REJOICE | REWARD | SATISFIED | WEEP | WOE |

Scramble: Unscramble each word and then put the numbered letters in the box below to find a special passage from the Gospel (2/16/25).

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