

Church of Saint Mary

November 27th &
December 4th 2022

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

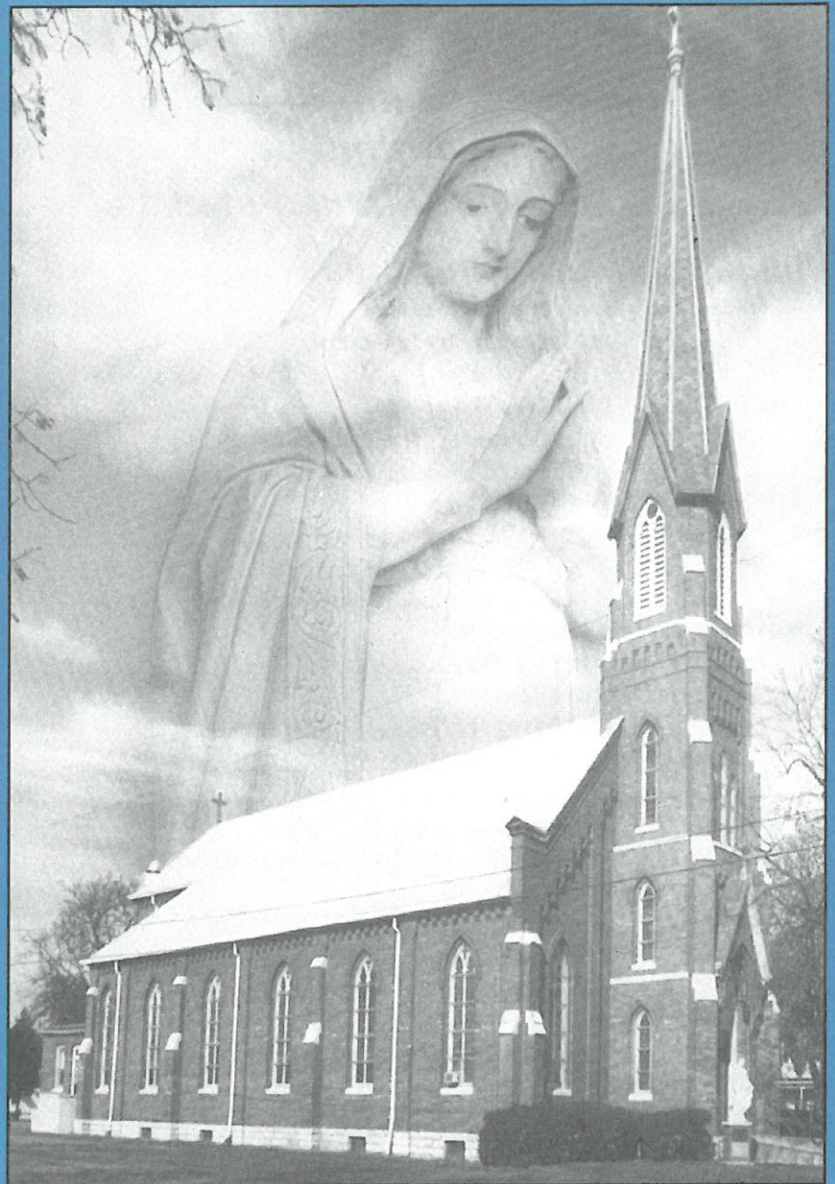
office@stmarysutica.org

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, NOVEMBER 26TH

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH - 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00am + Joe and Esther Campeggio
by Ron and Kathy Jo Lindner

10:00am + Patrick Scullans by Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Voreis

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

7:00am + Ron Carpenter (birthdate)
by Allen and Diana (McGraw) Bankson

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH

7:00am + Robert M. Francis by Joan Francis

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH - ST. ANDREW

7:00am + Louis Cole (anniv. +) by Maureen Harmon Cole

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

7:00am + Braxton Carr

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

7:00am + Msgr. Richard Soseman by Joan Francis

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS

5:00pm + Edith Koehler by Mary Jaeger

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH - 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am For the People of the Parish

10:00am + Sharon Doerr (anniv. +)
by Joe and Linda Plankenhorn

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

7:00am + Emmitt Francis Joan Francis

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH - ST. NICHOLAS

7:00am + Vickie Strever by Joan Francis

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7TH - ST. AMBROSE

7:00am + Mary Ann Newell by her family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

7:00am + Bill Francis by Joan Francis

7:00pm + Msgr. James J. Swaner by Wayne Williams

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH - ST. JUAN DIEGO

7:00am + Rudolph Pangreic



Incense Use:

5:00 p.m. Vigil = YES

8:00 a.m. Mass = NO

10:00 a.m. Mass = YES

Meditation from The Word Among Us - November 27th

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Welcome to Advent! May you be deeply blessed during this season as you prepare for the coming of Christ. And what better way to begin this season than with the invitation in today's first reading: "Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!"

At Mass today, the first candle on the Advent wreath will be lit. Then, for the next three Sundays, the light coming from that wreath will grow stronger as one more candle is lit. And that's how Advent is supposed to be for us spiritually: four whole weeks of coming more and more deeply into the light of Christ. There are lots of ways you can let that light grow stronger in you as Christmas approaches.

- ◇ Bring yourself to the light through daily prayer. Spending just a few minutes a day in Jesus' presence can open your heart to the warmth of his love. You can even use this magazine to help you.
- ◇ Enlighten your heart and mind through spiritual reading or a Bible study. Let Jesus "instruct you in his ways" so that you can "walk in his paths".
- ◇ Ask the Lord to shine a light on those parts of your life where you are content to live in the shadows. Then, take those areas to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and do as St. Paul says: turn from darkness and "put on the armor of light".
- ◇ Spread the light of Christ by joining other believers to serve those in need. Provide them with meals or Christmas gifts. Bring supplies to a homeless shelter. Pray for them.

We don't have to walk in darkness! Every time you turn to the Lord in these ways, his light in you becomes brighter and shines out more clearly. So let the Advent wreath remind you that Jesus, the light of the world, can overcome all darkness.

Come and walk in the light of the Lord!

"Lord, let your light in me grow throughout Advent."

Weekly Offering

Donations received November 10-14

Adult Envelopes	\$2,365.00
Loose Collection	\$540.00
Building Fund	\$777.00
Online Giving	\$52.68
All Saints Day	\$20.00

10:00 a.m. Altar Servers

Nov. 27th	Joey and Jake Patyk, Finn Carter
Dec. 4th	Jackson and Ava Myers, Lexi Sawin

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

Weekends of November 27th & December 4th

Readings Week of November 27th

Sunday: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44
Monday: Isaiah 4:2-6; Psalm 122; Matthew 8:5-11
Tuesday: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72; Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday: Romans 10:9-18; Psalm 19; Matthew 4:18-22
Thursday: Isaiah 26:1-6; Psalm 118; Matthew 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Isaiah 29:17-24; Psalm 27; Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Psalm 147; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Readings Week of December 4th

Sunday: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12
Monday: Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85; Luke 5:17-26
Tuesday: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 96; Matthew 18:12-14
Wednesday: Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103; Matthew 11:28-30
Thursday: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38
Friday: Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1; Matthew 11:16-19
Saturday: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Announcements

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation and refers to the special way the Blessed Virgin Mary was conceived.

**Masses at our parish will be offered
Thursday, December 8th, 2022
at 7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception was proclaimed by Pope Pius IX in 1854.

"The Most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin."



Utica Holy Hour: Each Tuesday of Advent at 7:00 p.m., St. Mary's will host a Holy Hour for Illinois Valley Catholics. Fr. Driscoll has invited several area priests to offer Advent reflections. There will also be time for silent prayer, adoration, and confession.

7:00 - 7:30 p.m. Reflection
7:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:30 - 8:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation Available
8:00 p.m. Benediction

Schedule of Visiting Priests

November 29th - Fr. Austin Bosse
December 6th - Msgr. Mark Merdian
December 13th - TBD
December 20th - Fr. Nicolas Wilson

Oglesby Holy Hour: Take some quiet time during this busy run-up to Christmas to make Christ your focus. Holy Family in Oglesby will be offering mid-week adoration each Wednesday of Advent from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., with confessions available from 5:45-6:15 p.m.

Lost in the Mail?: It appears the local post offices may have had difficulty sorting and delivering parishioner envelope packets for November and December. If you didn't receive yours, we encourage you to either write a personal check or use a blank envelope with your name or envelope number on the outside. This will allow us to credit your contribution into our system accurately. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Seminarian Collection: Bishop Tylka has asked parishes to conduct a special collection for our diocesan seminarians. Currently our diocese is blessed with 22 seminarians and there are others already applying for the coming year! Without including the expense of operating the Office of Vocations, the education alone—tuition, room and board—costs around \$270,000 per seminarian over the course of his six years of philosophical and graduate level studies in Theology. That's where your support can make a difference! There is a seminarian support envelope in your bi-monthly packets to use. Please consider making a financial gift to help these young men.

In Memory of: Susy Pennell was called home to Our Lord on November 15th. She was laid to rest this past week. Please keep Susy and her family in your prayers. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

A&R Meeting: Don't forget about the meeting this coming Monday, November 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the 308 building!

Mass Intentions: Have you scheduled intentions for 2023? If not, please use the blue forms from the back table or print online from our parish website: stmarysutica.org.

Spalding Scholarships Available: Did you know, your children can attend a Catholic School? Tuition assistance scholarship grants will be available for the 2023-2024 school year for actively practicing families. All grants will be based on financial need, and objectively assessed. Information about the grants and application materials may be obtained from any Catholic school or on the Diocesan website www.cdop.org under *Catholic Education* and then under *Financial Assistance*. Deadline date for the completed application is April 28, 2023, with notification of grant awards in June.

Ill or Homebound?: Fr. Driscoll would be happy to make regular visits and provide the sacraments (reconciliation, communion and anointing). Please call the parish office.

After hours emergencies go straight to Fr. Driscoll's cellphone ... you may call day or night.

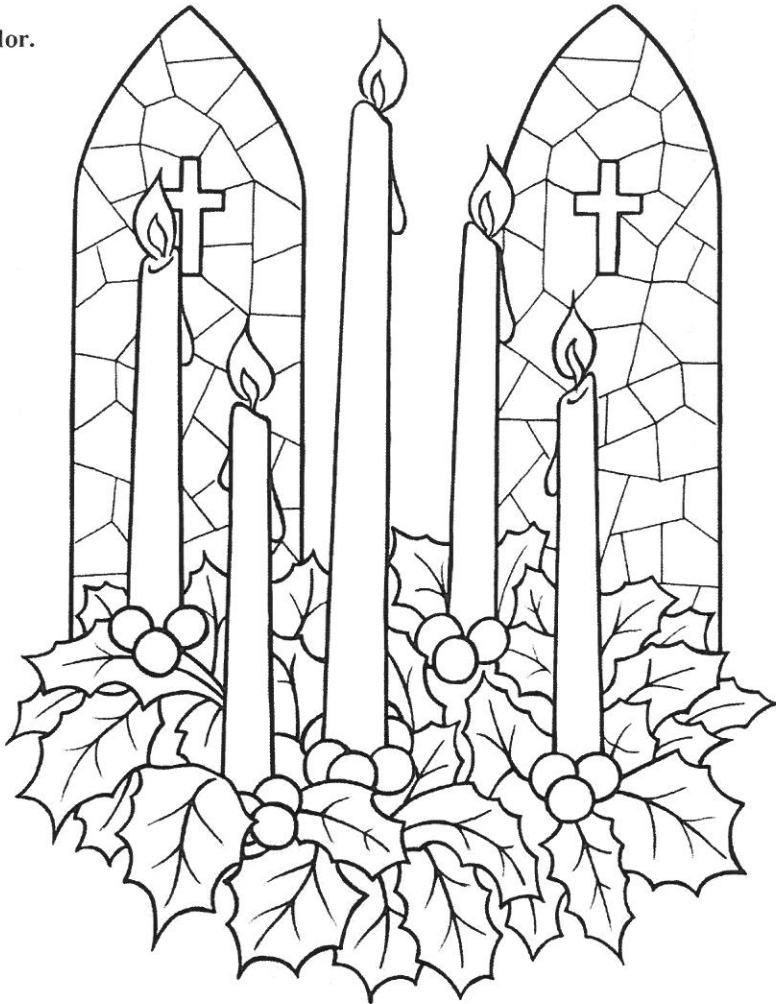
Prayer Tree: Contact the parish office if a family member would like to be added or removed from our prayer chain.

Pray for the Sick of our Parish

Michael Ball, Katie Becker, Don and Pam Edwards, Hank Farrar, Darlene Jenkins, Jill Kain, Richard Kepper, Tori Lou Klimek, Ed Liss, Judy Lock, Ava Lukacsy, Rosie Sander, Drew Shinnick, Dennise Watson

Kids Corner

Color.



Blessing of an Advent Wreath

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R: *Who made heaven and earth.*

Read Isaiah 9: 1-2, 5-6 or Isaiah 64: 2-7

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord our God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this though Christ our Lord.

R: *Amen.*

Advent is our time of waiting. During Advent, we get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The word "Advent" means "coming". Advent is the four weeks before Christmas when we prepare for Christ's coming.

The candles represent each week of the Advent season. Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance and sacrifice. The candle lit on the third week of Advent is pink/rose. That Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday. This particular week is considered a time of joy, a time of being thankful for all that has been given—the promise of the Savior who has come, who is present, and who promises a return.

Word Bank

ARK	AWAKE	COMING
FIELD	FLOOD	HOUR
HOUSE	MASTER	MILL
NIGHT	NOAH	THIEF

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



FOUNDATION 1: EMPOWERING EVANGELIZATION

SO AS TO SHARE THE SAVING NAME OF JESUS

We often hear the word “evangelization.” But what does it really mean, and how are we called to evangelize as Catholics? What does evangelization have to do with the Growing Disciples Pastoral Planning initiative?



To dig deeper into this, and into each of the five foundations upon which Growing Disciples is rooted, Bishop Louis Tyka is presenting a series of video discussions with different individuals from across the diocese. Watch the first video on evangelization at CDOP.org/pastoral-plan/five-foundations or on the Diocese of Peoria Facebook page.

In this video, **Bishop Tyka** and **Father Adam Cesarek**, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Pontiac, Ill., discuss the following, and more:

- ▶ **Evangelization means bringing the Good News of Jesus into every human situation** and seeking to convert individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel itself. (*Definition from the USCCB's National Plan for Evangelization*)
- ▶ **We are all called to evangelize.** But in order to evangelize, we need to first fully experience who Jesus is for ourselves. This involves converting our hearts daily.
- ▶ **National culture and trends regarding religion** are much different today than they were even a few decades ago, so the way that we approach evangelization must change, too.
- ▶ **Through Growing Disciples, we are evaluating how we can be better stewards of our resources** in order to follow God's call to **go and make disciples** in the way it is needed today.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PEORIA

SPALDING PASTORAL CENTER
419 NE MADISON AVENUE, PEORIA, IL 61603
PHONE (309) 671-1550 | FAX (309) 671-1579

Watch the video on
evangelization:



PASTORAL PLANNING TIMELINE

2022

2023

2024

2025

PHASE I: PREPARE

May – August

PHASE II: ASSESS
August – December

PHASE III: DISCERN
January 2023 to April 2024

PHASE IV: DECIDE AND IMPLEMENT
May 2024 to May 2026

WHERE WE ARE: PHASE II

PHASE I: PREPARE

PHASE II: ASSESS

PHASE III: DISCERN

PHASE IV: DECIDE AND IMPLEMENT

PHASE II: ASSESS

2023

OCT

NOV

DEC

JAN

FEB

- Focus groups with priests, deacons, parish and school leaders.
- Survey parishes and schools for baseline planning information.
- Share findings and answer questions at the October 2022 Priest Assembly Days gathering and December 2022 Key Parish Leader webinars.

WHAT'S NEXT: PHASE III

PHASE I: PREPARE

PHASE II: ASSESS

PHASE III: DISCERN

PHASE IV: DECIDE AND IMPLEMENT

PHASE III: DISCERN

2023

JAN

JUL

DEC

- Develop and share initial parish and school configuration proposals.
- Get feedback on the draft proposals at the March Priest Assembly Days and Spring 2023 vicariate meetings with parish leaders.
- Review feedback from the clergy and laity and draft final set of parish and school configuration proposals