

Church of Saint Mary

March 2nd & 9th
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

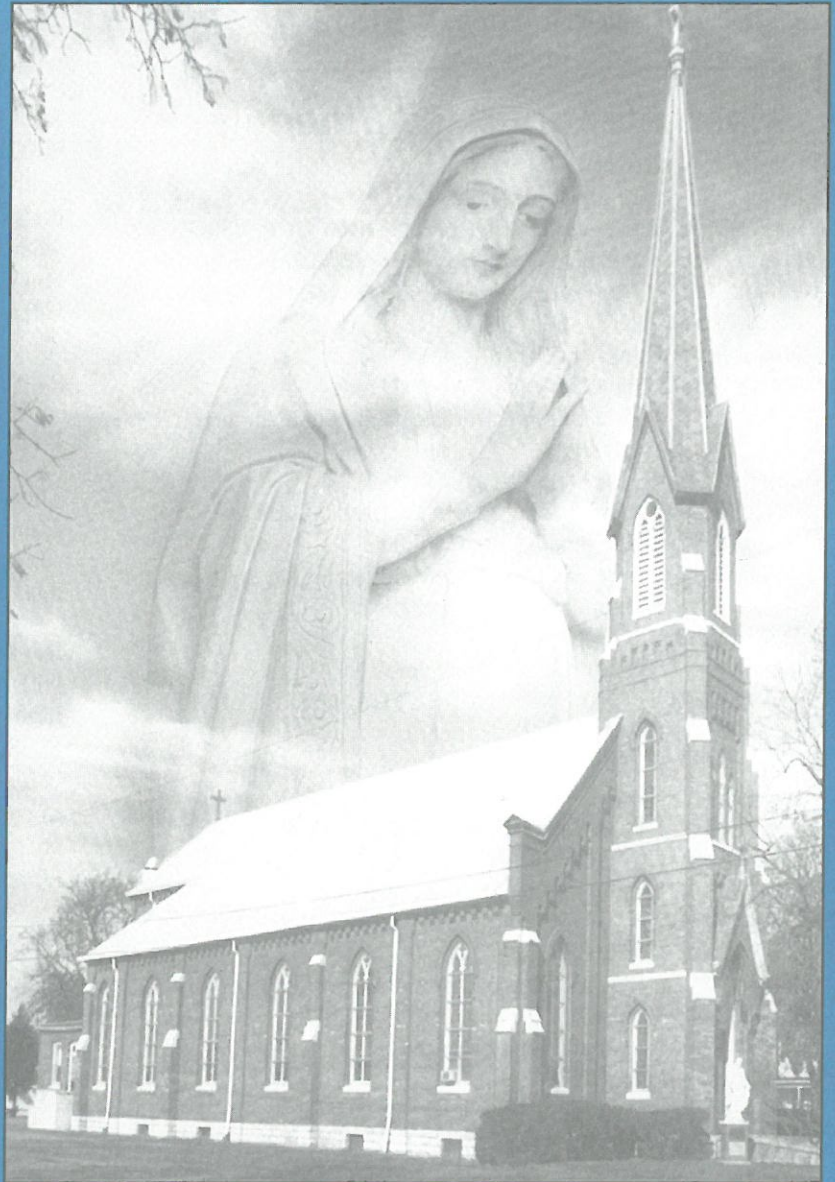
Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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, MARCH 1ST

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MARCH 2ND - 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am + Patricia Wagner by Teresa and Steven Kadelak

10:00am + Mary Ann Newell (birthdate 3/8) by family

MONDAY, MARCH 3RD - ST. KATHARINE DREXEL

7:00am Connie Lee (birthdate)

TUESDAY, MARCH 4TH - ST. CASIMIR

7:00am + Eddie Frye (birthdate) and Aidan Anderson (birthdate)

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5TH - ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00am + John Paul Rauh (birthdate)

7:00pm Living and Deceased Members of the Scullans and Fialko Families

THURSDAY, MARCH 6TH

7:00am Sunshine Wong (birthdate)

FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH - STS. PERPETUA AND FELICITY

7:00am Don and Helen Hubbard
by Tim and Alisa Hubbard

7:00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, MARCH 8TH - ST. JOHN OF GOD

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH - 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am + Patricia Wagner by Teresa and Steven Kadelak

10:00am + Gregory Devane (birthdate 3/12)
by Pat and Anne Devane

MONDAY, MARCH 10TH

7:00am Amy Puinti (birthdate)

TUESDAY, MARCH 11TH

7:00am + Irene F. Rohde (birthdate 3/7)
by family and friends

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12TH

7:00am + Peter and Carol Kadelak

THURSDAY, MARCH 13TH

7:00am + Anton and Ann Holkenbrink
by Maurice and Jane Dust

FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH

7:00am + Raymond Klimek (birthdate)
by Brad and Julie Christian

7:00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

March 2nd	Abby Brown, Joey and Jake Patyk
March 9th	Ava Myers, Nathan and Nina Leffers
March 16th	Bentley DiLuciano, Finn and Rory Carter

Gospel Meditation for March 2nd

The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had.

A tree is meant to bear fruit. But as Sirach reminds us, the quantity and quality of the fruit are determined by the way the tree has been cared for. What kinds of nutrients have fed its roots? How much light has shone down upon its leaves?

Jesus' words in today's Gospel echo Sirach's observations. Like the Old Testament sage, Jesus tells his disciples that "every tree is known by its own fruit". But he also says, "A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good". That means what you put into the "storehouse" of your heart and mind—what you take in to nourish yourself—eventually flows out from you, for better or worse.

You might ask yourself, "How can I fill the storehouse of my heart with good? How can I nourish and cultivate myself so that I can bear the good fruit I was created to bear?"

There are some obvious answers to these questions. Regular prayer can help you set down deep roots in the Lord. Committing scripture to memory can create an environment of grace and faith that will help you produce good fruit.

But there is another not-so-obvious answer: your relationships with other brothers and sisters in Christ. People who share your faith can be a great help in nourishing your heart. Sisters and brothers with whom you can pray can lift you up. People whom you can join in serving the less fortunate can help you bear the fruit of compassion. Friends who speak words of blessing and encouragement can help you steer clear of gossip, resentment, or bitterness.

Above all, never forget God's grace. It's God himself who created you to bear good fruit. He wants to fill you and enable your words to reveal his goodness and love, and he wants to use your friends to help you!

"Lord, help me bear good fruit!"



Weekly Offering

Donations received February 12th-25th

Adult Envelopes	\$3,865.00
Loose Collection	\$1,278.00
Building Fund	\$95.00
Food Pantry	\$10.00
Online Giving	\$75.00
Catholic Education	\$177.00
PADs Dinner Donations	\$10.00



Pray for the Sick of our Parish

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

Weekends of March 2nd & 9th

Readings for Week of March 2nd

Sunday: Sirach 27:4-7; Psalm 92; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45
Monday: Sirach 17:20-24; Psalm 32; Mark 10:17-27
Tuesday: Sirach 35:1-12; Psalm 50; Mark 10:28-31
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

Readings for Week of March 9th

Sunday: Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Psalm 91; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13
Monday: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Psalm 19; Matthew 25:31-46
Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 34; Matthew 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10; Psalm 51; Luke 11:29-32
Thursday: Esther C 12: 14-16, 23-25; Psalm 138; Matthew 7:7-12
Friday: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Psalm 130; Matthew 5:20-26
Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Psalm 119; Matthew 5:43-48

Announcements

Ash Wednesday - March 5th

Mass Schedule & Distribution of Ashes
7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Opportunities

Word Among Us: There are several copies of the Lenten issue for families to take off the back table. They provide daily readings and reflections that can elevate your spiritual life.

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.

Stations of the Cross: Walk with our Lord on the way to Calvary. Each station prayerfully follows his journey to the cross and is a great devotion, especially during Lent. St. Mary's will offer the stations each Friday of Lent at 7:00 p.m. beginning March 7th.

Lenten Kiosk Materials: Don't forget to look through our kiosk for great CD's to enhance your Lenten journey. One new offering is "My Beloved Son" by Bishop Robert Barron. It features five sermons on the spiritual discipline we must cultivate in the Lenten season—a discipline centered in Christ. The meditations cover topics such as finding our identity in God, how to end our alienation from God, and how to joyfully embrace the way of happiness.

Lenten Regulations: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding from age 14 onwards.

March AR Meeting: Our ladies parish organization will meet on Monday, March 24th at 6:00 p.m. in the 308 Swaner Center building. New members are always welcome!

IV Youth Group: Initial planning for the Steubenville "Consumed" Youth Conference is going on now. Highschoolers are encouraged to "save the date" (July 18-20). Financial assistance is available, with applications due March 13th. Contact Gisela Bustos at (815) 223-0641 for more information.

Catholic Schools Update: Bishop Tyka came to offer School Mass with the children from Holy Family, Peru Catholic, and Trinity Academy on Thursday, February 20th, and announced our unified school's new name...The Academy of Carlo Acutis! February has been a busy time. Currently, working committees for Mission, Finance, and Enrollment are meeting. To stay up-to-date with the process, visit: catholicschoolsconsortium.org.

IV Cursillo: Please join the IV Cursillo community for a Day of Renewal at Peterstown on Saturday, March 8th from 8:30 a.m.-Noon. Coffee and a light breakfast will be provided.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat: An upcoming retreat weekend in the Peoria area is planned for March 14-16. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat offers healing for those who struggle with the emotional and spiritual pain of a past abortion. This retreat is for anyone--single or married; mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings--who has been impacted by an abortion experience. If you are searching for peace and inner healing from a past abortion, this retreat is for you. Register by going to cdop.org/rachels-vineyard, calling (309) 264-1489 or e-mailing rvrpeoria@gmail.com.

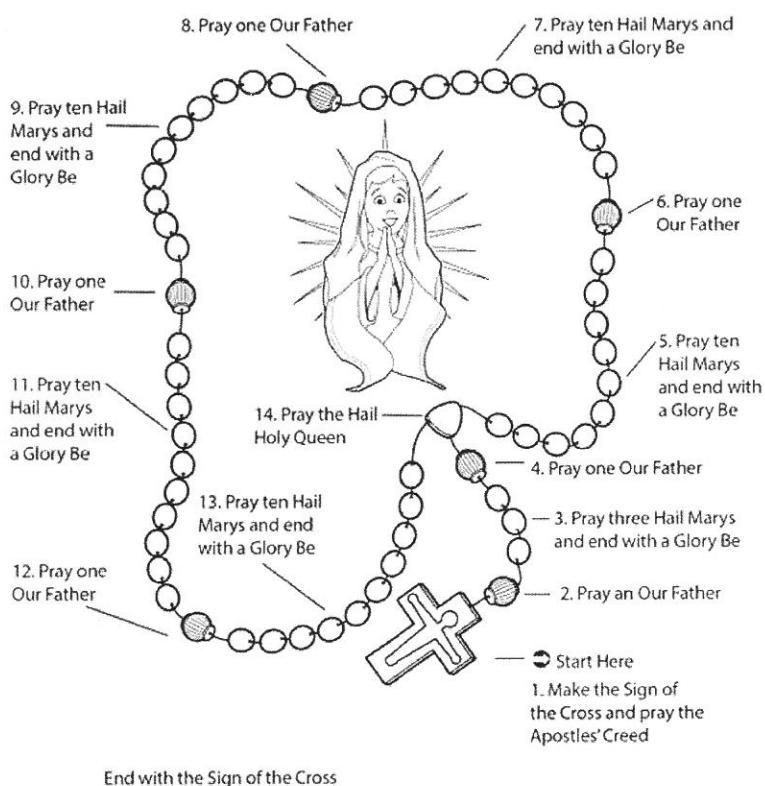
All communications are strictly confidential.

150th Anniversary Pilgrimage Sites: The Peoria diocese will be celebrating the milestone 150th anniversary through May 2027. Why two years? As the story goes, on February 12, 1875, the Holy Father established the Diocese of Peoria and sent a letter, appointing Fr. Michael J. Hurley as Bishop. Fr. Hurley wrote back to the Holy Father, saying he did not accept the appointment. However, Rome never received the reply as the ship that carried the letter sank! Finally, after being made aware that there was no Bishop to oversee the new Diocese, Bishop John L. Spalding was appointed and began leading the Diocese in 1877. During this time of celebration, six parishes throughout the diocese have been chosen as pilgrimage sites. The Catholic faithful are encouraged to make a journey to these parishes. You can learn about the parish's history, spend some quiet time with the Lord, and receive a special indulgence granted by the Holy Father. As a participant, our parish is currently working to put together some history on our church including pictures, and will be creating a small memento for visiting pilgrims to take with them as a souvenir. Other parishes chosen to participate include: Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Peoria; Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Nauvoo; St. John Newman, Champaign; St. Mary Church, Moline; and Corpus Christi, Galesburg. To learn more, visit: www.cdop150.org.

Kids Corner

Word Search.

What can you do for Lent? Sometimes, it is good to give up something like chocolate or soda. But you can also add things that help you grow in closeness to Christ. One option is to pray the rosary. Below is a guide to “How to Pray the Rosary”.



End with the Sign of the Cross

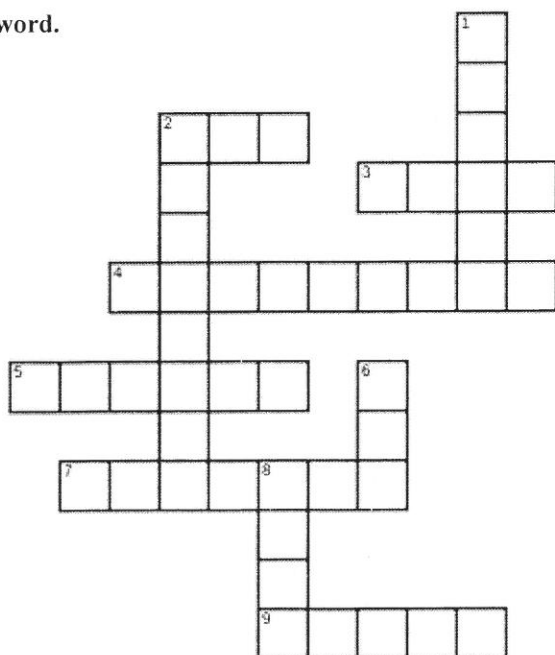
**Words chosen from 1st Sunday of Lent Gospel.*

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

Word Bank

ANGELS	BREAD	COMMAND
DAYS	DESERT	DEVIL
FORTY	GLORY	GUARD
HUNGRY	JERUSALEM	JORDAN
KINGDOMS	PARAPET	POWER
SERVE	SPIRIT	TEMPLE
TEMPTED	TEST	WORSHIP

Crossword.



ACROSS

2. An action that hurts God and others
3. The opposite of bad
4. The followers of Jesus
5. No longer good to use or eat
7. Stories Jesus told to teach people
9. We use this to speak

DOWN

1. To take away
2. A very small piece of something, like wood
6. We use these to see
8. A large, flat piece of wood

**Based on readings from 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time.*

Scan the QR code to visit CatholicMom.com for more resources for you and your family!

