

Church of Saint Mary

March 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

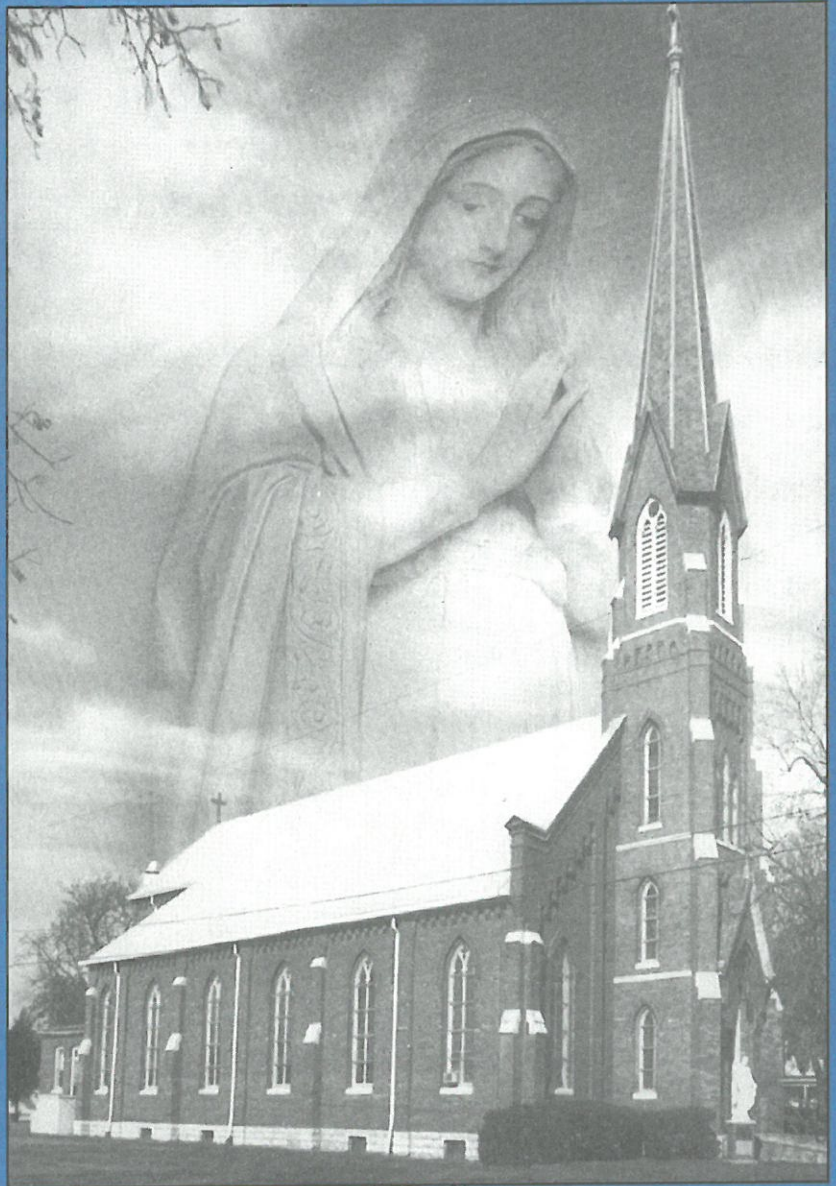
parishoffice@stmarysutica.org

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

Gospel Meditation for March 16th
They saw his glory.

Picture a split screen of two images of Jesus. On the left is Jesus on Mount Tabor as the three disciples saw him, shining in all his glory. On the right is Jesus hanging on the cross in agony, his face and body covered in blood.

Such a contrast can be jarring. How could the Holy One of God, transfigured and radiating his divinity, be the same One who was nailed to a cross, at the mercy of his persecutors, and completely stripped of any semblance of heavenly glory?

We know the answer: Jesus willingly accepted "death, even death on a cross" to save us. He willingly let go of any outward show of his divinity and power out of love for each of us.

Today's Gospel describing the Transfiguration is a revelation of who Jesus truly is. As Luke describes it, "His face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white". It's an other-worldly glimpse of Jesus, one that was hidden while he walked the earth, but a sign of how he may appear to us one day in heaven.

When we think of Jesus as he was transfigured, it can make us even more grateful for what he was willing to endure for our sake. As the divine Son of God, he could have called on his angels in heaven at any moment and liberated himself from the agony of the cross. At any moment, he could have rained down fire on all those who were trying to kill him. But he didn't. He loved us so much that he let himself be tortured and crucified. He did it even for the people that had accused and sentenced him!

Today, imagine yourself on Mount Tabor with Peter, John, and James. What does Jesus' face look like? How bright is his clothing? Think about what you might say to him. Above all, be sure to thank him from the bottom of your heart for being willing to die so that you might live!

"Jesus, let me see your glory today."

Weekly Offering

Donations received February 26th - March 11th

Adult Envelopes	\$3,611.00
Loose Collection	\$1,622.75
Building Fund	\$813.15
Food Pantry	\$30.00
Aid to Eastern Europe	\$207.00
Ash Wednesday	\$593.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$50.00
PADs Dinner Donations	\$100.00
Online Giving	\$100.00

Mass Intentions and Schedule

SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH - 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00am + Pat Byczynski (birthdate 3/17)

by Megan Byczynski

10:00am + Deceased Members of KC Council #1775 and their families

MONDAY, MARCH 17TH - ST. PATRICK

7:00am Kathy Bentel (birthdate)

TUESDAY, MARCH 18TH - ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM

7:00am James Ryan by Sherry Powley

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19TH - ST. JOSEPH

7:00am + Gloria Steichen (anniv. +)

by Tim Burgess Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 20TH

7:00am + Peter and Carol Kadelak

FRIDAY, MARCH 21ST

7:00am + Dan Pryde and Carol Krzyaniak

7:00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS

5:00pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MARCH 23RD - 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS

8:00am + Ron Lindner by Tom and Nancy Kneer

10:00am + Margaret A. Schmoeger by Mary Holland

MONDAY, MARCH 24TH

7:00am + Frank Assalley

TUESDAY, MARCH 25TH - ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

7:00am + Msgr. James J. Swaner (birthdate)

by George and Joanne Pavlick

7:00pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26TH

7:00am + Larry Peterson by Maurice and Jane Dust

THURSDAY, MARCH 27TH

7:00am + Lois Schott

FRIDAY, MARCH 28TH

7:00am Kyle Smith (birthdate 3/29) and + Kathryn Lee (birthdate)

7:00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

March 16th	Bentley DiLuciano, Finn and Rory Carter
March 23rd	Abby Brown, Peter and Olivia Villareal
March 30th	Joey and Jake Patyk, Ava Myers

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 16th & 23rd

Readings for Week of March 16th

Sunday: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28b-36
Monday: Daniel 9:4b-10; Psalm 79; Luke 6:36-38
Tuesday: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Psalm 50; Matthew 23:1-12
Wednesday: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Psalm 89; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 19-21, 24a
Thursday: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; Luke 16:19-31
Friday: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Psalm 105; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Psalm 103; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Readings for Week of March 23rd

Sunday: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; Psalm 103; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9
Monday: 2 Kings 5:1-15b; Psalm 42; Luke 4:24-30
Tuesday: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Psalm 40; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38
Wednesday: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Psalm 147; Matthew 5:17-19
Thursday: Jeremiah 7:23-28; Psalm 95; Luke 11:14-23
Friday: Hosea 14:2-10; Psalm 81; Mark 12:28-34
Saturday: Hosea 6:1-6; Psalm 51; Luke 18:9-14

Announcements

Eucharistic Adoration: Spend an hour in the presence of Jesus! Join us at our weekly Holy Hour (Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.) for prayer, adoration, and renewal.

“Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth!” ~ St. Teresa of Calcutta

Stations of the Cross: Join us on the Fridays of Lent (March 21st & 28th; April 4th, 11th, and 18th) at 7:00 p.m. for Stations of the Cross as we recall and meditate on Christ’s journey to the cross.

IV Youth Group: There will be a Teen Life “Issue Night” on Sunday, March 16th. The evening’s topic is entitled, “Under the Influence”. We will be discussing the issue of drugs and alcohol. For many of the teens, this subject will be very sensitive. During the Life Night we will be looking at what our Church teaches regarding the issue of drugs and alcohol and how they destroy our human dignity and goodness. Parents are encouraged to read the relevant sections in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (#2290-2291), and in their discussions with their teens, if it is decided to seek counseling, please contact your Parish Office where you can be put in touch with local Christian counselors. Lastly, we ask that all spend time praying for teens and our Life Night. It is our desire to proclaim the truth to the teens and ultimately lead them away from sin and into the Father’s loving arms.

The IV Youth Group is open to highschoolers from our area.

Academy of St. Carlo Acutis Elementary Facility Tour

📅 Thursday, March 20th 🕒 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a tour of our LaSalle (650 4th St.) and Oglesby (336 Alice Ave.) buildings if you have a child entering preschool through 4th grade.

- ✓ Explore the learning spaces
- ✓ Meet the principals
- ✓ Learn more about what we have to offer

We look forward to welcoming you!

👉 **Coming Soon:** A separate tour for our Peru middle school building (grades 5-8) will be scheduled at a later date—stay tuned!

Emmaus Days 2025

College & Adult Men **Session I** **June 6th – 8th**
Junior & Senior Men **Session II** **June 20th – 23rd**

Sessions I & II located at St. John Catholic Newman Center

9th & 10th Grade Men **Session III** **July 13th – 16th**
7th & 8th Grade Men **Session IV** **July 16th – 18th**

Sessions III & IV located at Great Oaks Camp (Lacon, IL)

Emmaus Days is a vocations experience sponsored by the Diocese of Peoria and Office of Priestly Vocations. By providing a spiritual, fun environment for young men, we help make them more aware of God’s presence in their lives and get them excited about living their faith.

Registration is now open. Scan the QR code to sign-up!



Blood Drive: Did you know that a single blood donation could save up to three lives? There will be a community drive held at the Tonica United Methodist Church on Monday, March 31st. Please consider setting up an appointment to donate (1-800-733-2767). Blood donations help people who need blood transfusions for a variety of reasons, including trauma, surgery, and illness.

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner: Trinity Catholic Academy will be holding their annual dinner on Sunday, March 16th. Serving is from 4:00-7:00 p.m. (drive-thru only). For ease of pickup, please enter eastbound on 4th Street, in front of the school. For \$15 the menu features corned beef, cabbage, and baby red potatoes.

Easter Flower Offering: Envelopes are available in your packets. Donations are used to decorate the sanctuary with spring flowers for Easter. Additionally, all names submitted will appear in our Palm Sunday/Easter bulletin. Deadline to return is April 8th.

AR Meeting: Come to the next Altar & Rosary meeting! It will be held in the 308 Swaner Center building on Monday, March 24th, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

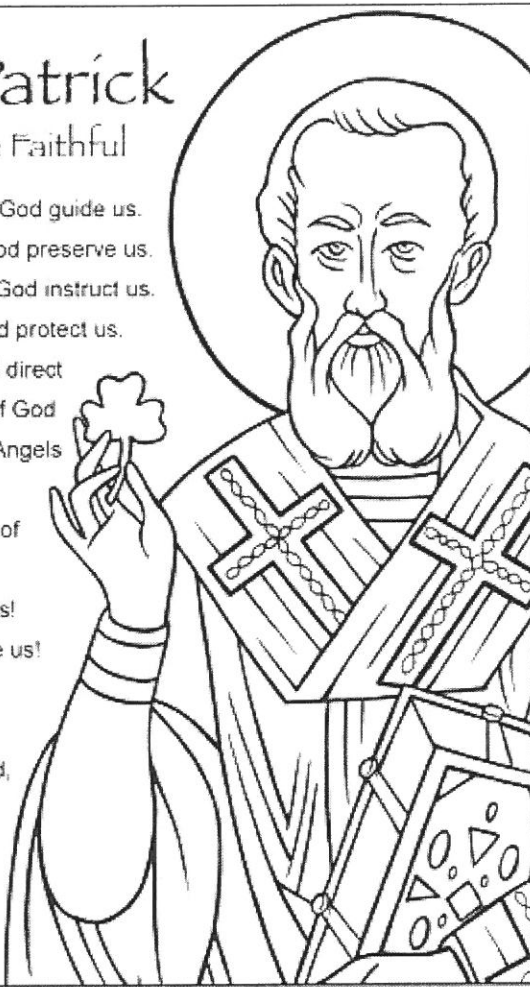
1st Friday Latin Mass: Fr. Driscoll will offer Mass at the hospital chapel on April 4th at noon. All are welcome!

Color.

Saint Patrick

Prayer for the Faithful

May the Strength of God guide us.
 May the Power of God preserve us.
 May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
 May the Hand of God protect us.
 May the Way of God direct us.
 May the Shield of God defend us.
 May the Angels of God guard us.
 - Against the snares of the evil one.
 May Christ be with us!
 May Christ be before us!
 May Christ be in us.
 Christ be over all!
 May Thy Grace, Lord, Always be ours.
 This day, O Lord, and forevermore.
 Amen.

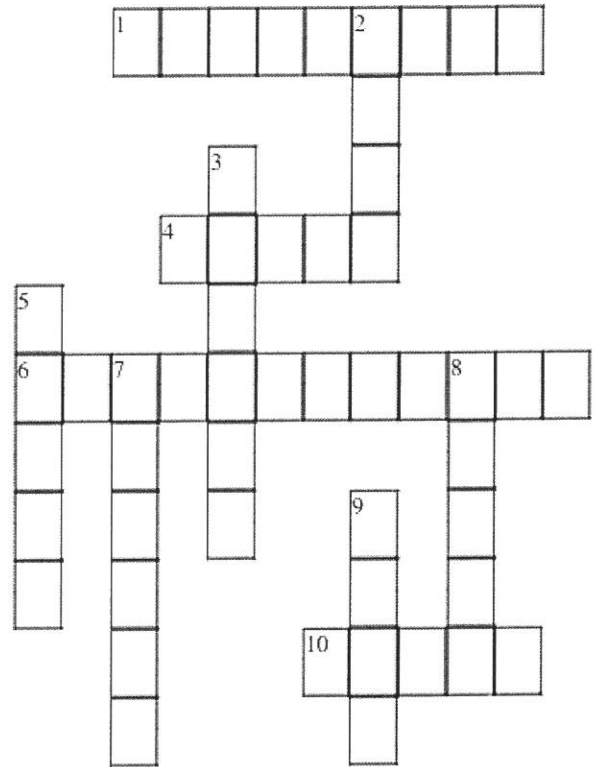


Word Search.

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

Crossword.

*Use the 2nd Sunday of Lent Gospel for help.



Across

- 1. Reaction of the apostles.
- 4. Number of dwellings to build.
- 6. What the cloud did to them.
- 10. One of the apostles.

Down

- 2. The appearance of his ____ changed.
- 3. "This is my son, my ____; listen to him!"
- 5. What they heard from the cloud.
- 7. Prophet on the hill.
- 8. Color of Jesus' clothes.

Word Bank

ABRAHAM	AFRAID	ANGEL
BUSH	DESERT	EGYPT
FIRE	FLOCK	HID
HOLY	HONEY	HOREB
ISAAC	ISRAELITES	JACOB
LAND	LEAD	MIDIAN
MILK	MOSES	MOUNTAIN
PEOPLE	PRIEST	REMEMBERED
RESCUE	SANDALS	SLAVE

*Based on the 1st reading from the 3rd Sunday of Lent.