

Church of Saint Mary

January 19th & 26th
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

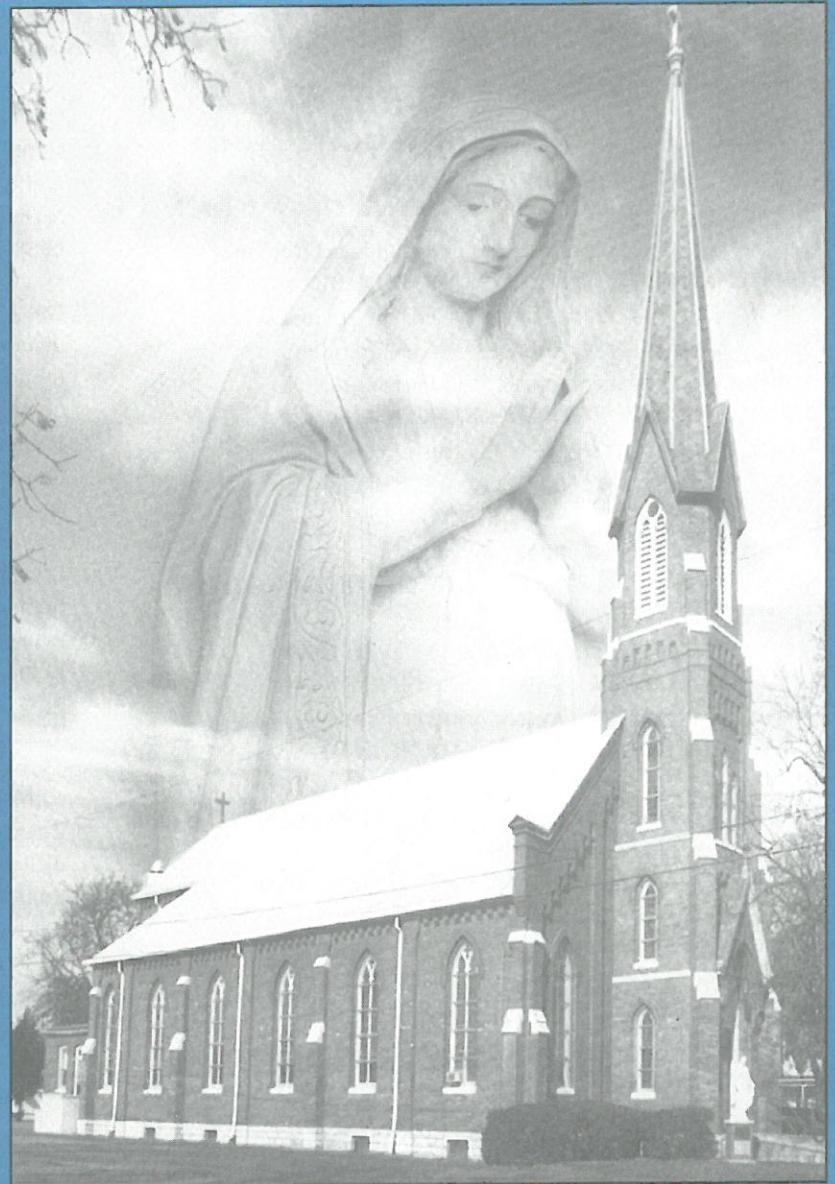
Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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 January 19th

His disciples began to believe in him.

In today's Gospel, John tells how Jesus rescued a wedding reception by changing water into wine. This was Jesus' first miracle, and John tells us that when the disciples saw Jesus do it, they "began to believe in him".

Of course they began to believe in him! Jesus had just done something that seemed impossible. How could they not be moved? Not only did Jesus reveal his ability to perform miracles, but he revealed his concern for the father of the bride, who was about to be humiliated before all his guests.

But John also makes it clear that this was the *beginning* of the disciples' journey of faith, not the end. That journey would include times when they trusted in Jesus' power and his compassion—like when they decided to stay with him after everyone else walked away. And it would include times when fear, pride, or sin caused them to doubt him—as Peter did when he denied knowing the Lord.

Like the disciples, we too, are on a journey of faith marked by highs and lows. We all have times when we trust that Jesus can do what seems impossible—and we have times when we fail to trust in his power and compassion.

Take this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, for instance. Throughout the week, believers from all Christian traditions will come together to pray for an end to divisions in the body of Christ. It takes faith to join with people whose traditions and worship look different from ours and pray that God will make us one. We may think that unity is impossible, even for God. Or we may personally not want to extend Jesus' compassion and care to those who are divided from us.

Jesus can do the impossible! So let's believe his promises. Let's take a step of faith and join with our brothers and sisters this week in praying,

"Lord, make us one!"

Weekly Offering

Donations received January 1st—14th

Adult Envelopes	\$3,165.00
Loose Collection	\$1,615.25
Building Fund	\$996.00
Food Pantry	\$20.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$50.00
Christmas Collection	\$50.00
PADs Meal Donations	\$50.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$115.00

Thank you for your generous support of our parish!

Mass Intentions and Schedule

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH

5:00pm + Luke Penfield
by the son of Adam Penfield and Debbie

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19TH - 2ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

8:00am + Robert (anniv. + 10/4) and Elaine Weiden
by Dr. Colleen A. Weiden and Tom

10:00am For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH - STS. FABIAN AND SEBASTIAN

7:00am + Daniel H. Snell (anniv. +)
by Joe and Darlene Woodshank

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21ST - ST. AGNES

7:00am + Peter and Carol Kadelak
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CANCELLED

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22ND

Private + Virgil Leroy Nave by Dalia Nave

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23RD - ST. VINCENT

7:00am + James Ryan by Sherry Powley

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24TH - ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

7:00am + Ann Jansen (anniv. +) by Julie Toellen

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25TH - CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL

4:00-4:45pm CONFESSIONS
5:00pm + Dick Johnson (wedding anniv. 1/24)
by Mary Holland

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26TH - 3RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

7:15-7:45am CONFESSIONS
8:00am For the People of the Parish
10:00am Special Intention by the Tim Burgess Family

MONDAY, JANUARY 27TH - ST. ANGELA MERICI

7:00am + Robert Pohar (birthdate) by Christine Pohar

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28TH - ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

7:00am + Bill Mix (birthdate 1/27)
7:00pm EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29TH

7:00am + Irene F. Rohde (anniv. + 1/30)
by family and friends

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30TH

7:00am + Don and Charlotte Gahan by Joe Plankenhorn

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31ST - ST. JOHN BOSCO

7:00am + Amy Lynn Frye (birthdate)

Altar Servers - 10:00 a.m.

January 19th	Jake and Joey Patyk, Bentley DiLuciano
January 26th	Peter and Olivia Villareal, Nathan Leffers
February 2nd	Ava Myers, Abby Brown, Nina Leffers

Weekends of January 19th & 26th

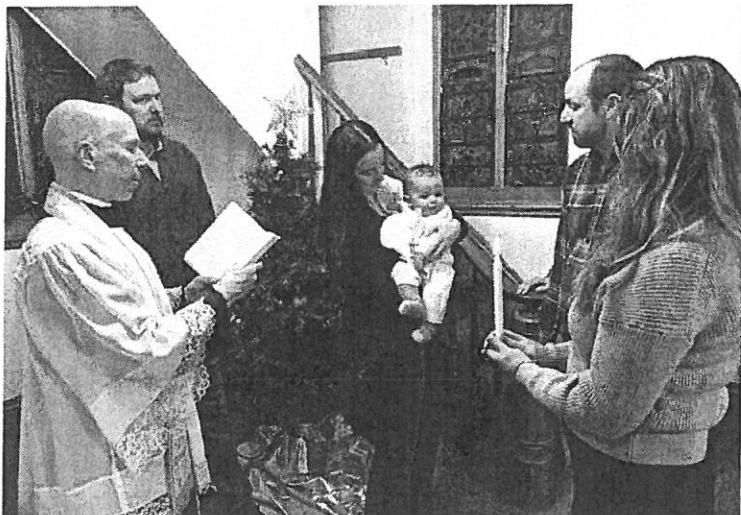
Readings for Week of January 19th

Sunday: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 96; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-11
Monday: Hebrews 5:1-10; Psalm 110; Mark 2:18-22
Tuesday: Hebrews 6:10-20; Psalm 111; Mark 2:23-28
Wednesday: Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17; Psalm 110; Mark 3:1-6
Thursday: Hebrews 7:25-8:6; Psalm 40; Mark 3:7-12
Friday: Hebrews 8:6-13; Psalm 85; Mark 3:13-19
Saturday: Acts 22:3-16; Psalm 117; Mark 16:15-18

Readings for Week of January 26th

Sunday: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30; Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21
Monday: Hebrews 9:15, 24-28; Psalm 98; Mark 3:22-30
Tuesday: Hebrews 10:1-10; Psalm 40; Mark 3:31-35
Wednesday: Hebrews 10:11-18; Psalm 110; Mark 4:1-20
Thursday: Hebrews 10:19-25; Psalm 24; Mark 4:21-25
Friday: Hebrews 10:32-39; Psalm 37; Mark 4:26-34
Saturday: Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Luke 1:69-75; Mark 4:35-41

Announcements



Bountiful Blessings: What a joyful weekend as Fr. Driscoll baptized two children! On January 11th, Stetson James Skolek (*pictured above left*) was welcomed into our parish family through the waters of Baptism. He is the son of Justin and Carley (Taylor) Skolek. Then on Sunday the 12th, Ainsley Dee Brown (*pictured above right*) received the first sacrament of initiation. She is the daughter of Benjamin and Jessica (Adams) Brown. May Jesus, who loves all children, bless these precious little ones with His love and grace on this special day and always. Congratulations!

In Remembrance: Our parish family mourns the passing of Kate Schwarz on January 14th. Please keep her family in your prayers. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Help Needed: Lend a helping hand! Join us after the 10:00 a.m. Mass, Sunday, January 19th, to help take down the Christmas decorations in church. It would be great to have lots of volunteers! Some men/older boys are particularly useful in taking the trees down and carrying them to the basement for storage.

Meeting Information: Our Altar & Rosary Society will hold its first meeting of the New Year on January 27th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Consider joining this wonderful women's organization!

IV Cursillo: The area February Ultreya will be held on Saturday, February 8th at St. Valentine's Church in Peru (1109 Pulaski St.). Mass begins at 4:00 p.m., with a potluck and program to follow. Guests are welcome!

** And mark your calendar... there will be a Day of Renewal at Peterstown on March 8th. More information will be coming.

Mass Intentions: Use the blue forms on the back table to submit your Mass requests for 2025. The Mass stipend per date is \$10 and should be included with your request.

Schedule Changes: Fr. Driscoll will be on retreat for a couple days this week which will affect our daily schedule. Please note that the Holy Hour on Tuesday, January 21st is cancelled, and the morning Mass on Wednesday the 22nd will be offered privately. We appreciate your understanding.

Magi Gala: Take your valentine out on Saturday, February 15th! Join us at The Barn at Hornbaker Gardens for dinner and dancing. Proceeds benefit The Magi Baby Chest of Princeton. The Magi Baby Chest is a social outreach program through St. Louis Catholic Parish designed to assist families with young children. They provide baby and toddler supplies (bottles, formula, clothing, medicine, etc.) to children ages newborn to 4 years. A flyer with additional details may be found in the entryway.

2024 Giving: Contact Jennifer at the parish office via phone or e-mail to request a copy of your giving statement for the calendar year.

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

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in its companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives, and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion.

On June 24, 2022, the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision overturned *Roe v. Wade*, and we praise God for the great opportunity state and federal legislators now have to protect pre-born children. While God, in His mercy, ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide regime of abortion on demand, right now state and federal laws, in many instances, are still hostile to pre-born children. So, great prayer and advocacy is very needed.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children":

*In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, **January 22** (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.*

How to Participate

Not sure how to observe this day of prayer and penance? Pick from the ideas below or offer some other prayer or sacrifice that you feel called to do.

- Go to Mass
- Abstain from meat
- Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Fast
- Pray a decade of the Rosary
- Give up TV and movies for the day
- Offer A Prayer for Life to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament
- Sacrifice some of your free time to do a small act of service for someone else

Pro-Life Word Search.

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

A PRAYER FOR LIFE

to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

O Jesus, you came that we might have *life*—and have it in abundance. Together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you form us in our mothers' wombs and call us to love you for all eternity.

As your most precious gift of human life is attacked, draw us ever closer to your Real Presence in the Eucharist. Dispel the darkness of the culture of death, for you are the light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

By the power of your Eucharistic Presence, help us to defend the life of every human person at every stage. Transform our hearts to protect and cherish all whose lives are most vulnerable.

For you are God, forever and ever.

— AMEN.

Word Bank

BABY	CHERISH
COMPASSION	FETUS
GIFT	HEARTBEAT
LIFE	LOVE
MOTHER	PRAY
PROTECT	WOMB

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart". ~ Jeremiah 1:5

