



ST. JOSEPH, MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS & ST. MARY OF DIVINE MATERNITY

All Are Welcome!

AUGUST 16, 2026 | 20TH LITURGICAL SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR STAFF

PARISH COMMUNITY CLERGY

Pastor

Fr. Sebastian Ukoh, C.M.

Deacon

Al Dubois

St. Mary of Divine Maternity

PARISH COMMUNITY STAFF

Secretary, Mary Help of Christians

Rose Dethrow

618-826-2444

Secretary, St. Mary of Divine Maternity

Gerry Valleroy

618-859-3541

Secretary, St. Joseph

Jill Whelan

618-284-3314



©LPi



ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

802 Middle Street

Prairie Du Rocher, IL 62277

618-284-3314

sjospd@htc.net

www.stjoespd.org



ST. MARY DIVINE MATERNITY

CATHOLIC CHURCH

7362 Shawneetown Trail

Ellis Grove, IL 62241

618-859-3541



MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

911 Swanwick Street

Chester, IL 62233

618-826-2444

stmaryschurch@stjmm.org

www.stmaryscatholicchesteril.org

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR
PARISHIONERS
THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR
HOMEBOUND, NURSING HOME
RESIDENTS, CANCER PATIENTS,
OUR MILITARY, THE LONELY,
THE HOMELESS AND THOSE
INCARCERATED**

Donna Schweizer	Shirley Dreczka
Terry Moore	Matt Vallett
Mike Vasquez	Bud Stumpe
Tom Sauer	Paul Meyer
Mary Beck	Amber Cushman
Bruce Kettmann	Carolyn Loesing
Sonny & Roseann Glenn	Linda Butler
Diane Averbeck	Tracy Colvis
Debbie Brown	Marla Cowell
Earlene Riechman	Kenny Diercks
Judy Kempfer	Ili Petrowske
Peggy Helmers	Glenda York
Evelyn Marquardt	Jeffrey Davis
Roger Knott	Melissa Doss
Albert Deterding	Gale Frazer
David Dohack	Eddie Melliere
Geralyn Lanham	Mark Drake
Randy Valleroy	Robin Waltemate
Raymond Ellner	Ryan Junger
Eric Matthews	Ronda Heck
Bill & Earlene Hanger	Kevin Petrowske
Huckson McGee	Jeff Faverty
Betty Bissel	Gary Sauerhage
Joe Fahey	Michelle Daschka
Earlene Clements	Doc Ludwig

In Deepest Sympathy

We offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Sharon Misuraca. May the Lord grant you comfort during this most difficult time. May she rest in peace.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please submit any information that you would like added to the weekly bulletin by:
Wednesday @ 12:00pm

Submissions can be made to Rose Dethrow
618-826-2444 or Jill Whelan 618-284-3314
Thank you!

READINGS

First Reading:

Thus says the LORD: Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice about to be revealed. (Is 56:1)

Psalm:

O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67)

Second Reading:

For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all. (Rom 11:32)

Gospel:

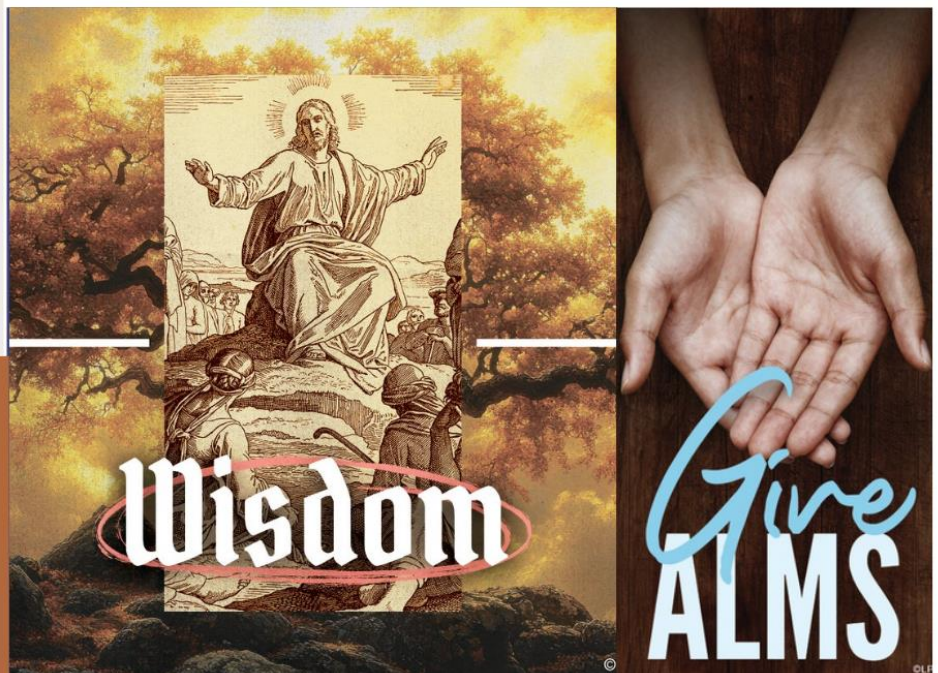
Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." (Mt 15:28)

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

The first reading (Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7) is a reminder that fairness and kindness should be extended to everyone. No one is exempt from worship at God's altar, including foreigners. The house of the Lord shall be a gathering place for prayer and unity.

In the second reading (Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32) Saint Paul, the Apostle to the gentiles, speaks about the gifts that God has given to all of humanity. The blessings we received from God cannot be withdrawn or revoked. We can only cooperate with them to grow in grace.

The Gospel (Matthew 15: 21-28) presents the encounter between Jesus and the Canaanite woman in the region of Tyre and Sidon. Her daughter was sick and the plight drove her to the feet of Jesus. The persistence she showed in the face of negligence, rejection and talk down, earned her reprieve. Her faith became a testimony. She continues to inspire us till today. Our faith has to rise above our situation. Amen.



Thank you for your generous support of our Parish Community!

3 | HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
3:15pm-3:45pm Confession 4:00pm - Chester (L) Paula (H) Paula (C) Kathy & Larry (S) Cody & Caroline -Thomas & Ella (Shields) Korando family by Susan Siegfried 6:00pm - St. Joseph (L) Mary (B) Nancy (C) Marie & Audrey (S) Madison & Mackenzie -Joyce Wirth	8:00am - Ellis Grove 10:00am - Chester (L) Danny (H) Aaron (C) Kevin, Sam, Madi & Matt (S) Jackson, Jon & Parker -Brenda Prost 5:00pm - Chester En Espanol -Carol Jeremiah by Delbert Doeding	8:15am - Chester -Jay Wittenborn by Lisa Wittenborn 11:00am-1:00pm KC Hall Lunch 6:00pm - St. Joseph Parish Council	8:00am - St. Joseph -Lawrence & Nora Bise 10:00am - R&R Diane 6:00pm - St. Joseph Finance Council Meeting	8:15am - Chester -For all students, teachers & staff 10:00am - R&R Carol 6:00pm - St. Joseph Cemetery Meeting	8:00am - St. Joseph -For all the retired priests of our Diocese 6:00pm - Chester KC Meeting	NO MASS
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
3:15pm-3:45pm Confession 4:00pm - Chester (L) Rob (H) Larry (C) Rob & Marlene (S) Addie & Gavin -Linda Hoffman by Gina Cushman 6:00pm - St. Joseph (L) Leonard (B) Marie (C) Mary & Carol (S) Evan & Luke -Joyce Wirth	8:00am - Ellis Grove 10:00am - Chester (L) Jocelyn (H) Greg (C) Sue, Doris, Aaron & Diana (S) Reed, Blake & Will -Gene Korando by Susan Siegfried 5:00pm - Chester En Espanol -Dale Grott by Don & Gerry Wingerter	8:15am - Chester 11:00am-1:00pm KC Hall Lunch	8:00am - St. Joseph 10:00am - R&R Leonard	8:15am - Chester 1:00pm - High Point Communion	8:00am - St. Joseph	NO MASS



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

MITCH EGGEMEYER 8/15, TIM WIEGARD 8/15, TAMARA JUENGER 8/16, MARILYN KEMP 8/16, DOUG MCDONALD 8/16, DANIEL HAYDEN 8/18, JEANNIE GRAU 8/19, DONNA TINSMAN 8/19, JAMES LEONARD 8/20, IDA GAERTNER 8/20, AJ TRETTER 8/20, LINDA ROY 8/21, JILL WHELAN 8/21

JAMES LISA LEONARD 8/16
ANDREW & AMANDA MUDD 8/16
DON & ARLENE 8/17

THE HEART OF STEWARDSHIP

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS



COMMUNION

If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive communion, contact: Diane Mudd 284-7150 (Ruma), Marie Henry 282-2897 (Prairie du Rocher), Rosemary Bert 615-6135, Paula Platt 615-5545, Martha McDonald 615-6624 or Barb Otten 615-2442 (Chester).

PRAYER CHAIN

If you need the emergency power of prayer or want to belong to the prayer chain, please call Marie Henry 618-282-2876 or 618-559-6511 (Prairie du Rocher).

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Meets every third Monday of the month at 10:00am at Linda Stern's home, 106 Hillcrest Dr., Chester. Everyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one is welcome. If you have any questions, call Linda (618-201-2957).



YOUTH GROUP

Anyone in grades 7-12 is welcome to sign up

We will begin meeting every second Sunday from 5-7pm at St. Mary's EG starting Sept. 13th Welcome to new members...

Youth group members will be attending the Paul Kim concert on Thursday, Sept. 10th at Gibault. Please let me know if you need a ride. Please wear your Fr. Sebastian shirts or youth group T-shirts.



If you or your family would like to join our facebook page, please let Jill Whelan (618-719-9344) or Dawn Walker (618-317-5104) know so we can send you an invite.

CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL



"Those who are kind to the needy honor Him" (Proverbs 14:31) The homebound, sick and seniors living in the southernmost part of the state are assured they will have food to eat thanks to Daystar Community Program's mobile food pantry, which delivers groceries on a regular basis to those not able to visit Daystar's on-site food pantry. YOUR GIFT to the Catholic service and Ministry Appeal makes Daystar's truly life saving ministry possible. If you haven't already done so, please donate today and help Daystar to serve truly the poorest of the poor, they are counting on YOU!

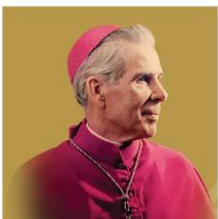
CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY, INC.

Items needed: Peanut butter, cereal, children's snack items and Lunchables. Monetary donations are always welcome. 290 households/560 individuals, which includes 187 children served at the Pantry in June. 111 households/280 individuals, which includes 87 children served at the Mobile Market in June. Volunteers are always needed to speed up the distribution! Please call Bob at 618.615.2646 to help with the distribution of food. Thank you for your continued support of the Pantry!



FAITHFUL TRAVELERS

Tickets are limited to **10 spots per parish** for the beatification celebration so please register early. **Deadline is Sept. 1st** or until all spots are filled.





Picnic Information

Total Dinners Sold: 931 (adults) 874 (kids) 57

Bingo Games Played: 84 games (21 sets) 18 quilts were won and \$1980.00 of cash was won.

Raffle Winners: Christine Hartmann-\$500, Pam Gregson- Quilt, Lisa Manion- Fire pit, Gerald Whelan-baby quilt, LeAnn Walker- swing, Pauline Eichenseer- 1st Cardinal tickets, Laura Glenn- 2nd Cardinal tickets, Tom Steibel- wine basket, Brenda Williamson- IGA gift card.

All totals were down because of weather conditions.

Overall, the picnic committee is extremely grateful to those who braved the weather and what money we were able to raise. God is good. All numbers will be posted when the last few bills come in.



ACTS RETREAT

An ACTS (Adoration, Community, Theology, Service) retreat is a three-day, three-night Catholic lay retreat designed to foster a deeper relationship with God and fellow parishioners through prayer, community building, theological reflection, and service. Next Retreat: September 9/24-9/27, 2026 @ Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows



FRIED CHICKEN & PORK SAUSAGE DINNER

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY - HECKER, IL

Saturday August 15th. Old-Fashioned Fried Chicken & Pork Sausage Dinner beginning at 3:00pm. 18th Annual Tiki Trot – 5K Competitive & Fun Run – Sign up online. Quilt & Cash Bingo starts at 6:30 pm

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER - BELLEVILLE, IL

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser - Sunday, August 16th 11:15am - 6:30pm Notre Dame Cafe, 200 South 2nd Street, Belleville, IL. Carry out only - \$10 per meal. Proceeds to benefit St. Vincent de Paul Cathedral Council, Knights of Columbus Council #15746 and the Cathedral Building and Roof Campaign. Questions: Contact Ron Lassman at 618-550-3883



FALL RUMMAGE SALE

ST. JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL - RED BUD, IL

Friday, August 21st, 3:30pm - 9:00pm: Saturday, August 22nd, 8:00am - 8:00pm \$5 BAG; Sunday, August 23rd, 8:00am - 2:00pm - \$4 BAG No entrance fee, Only accepting cash or local checks with ID.



QUILT PICNIC BINGO

ST. MICHAELS - PADERBORN, IL

Sunday, August 30th Lunch starts at 11:00am - hamburgers, cheeseburgers, fries, brats and desserts. Carry outs available. Bingo starting at 1:00pm in air-conditioned hall



PAUL J KIM, CATHOLIC SPEAKER

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGHSCHOOL

Thursday, September 10th. Festivities, Music, Food and Drinks starts at 5:00pm. "Life is Short, Eternity is Forever" starts at 7:00pm. No RSVP needed. Free and Open to the Public.





MONDAY LUNCHES

KC HALL

Monday, August 17th
Turkey & dressing, roasted
potatoes, peas & carrots,
cranberry sauce

Served from 11AM ~ 1PM
\$12/person



ST. MARY'S - CHESTER EVENTS



PSR

Remember we need your 2026 – 2027 Registration forms. They are available at the back of church or in the Parish Office. The first PSR class will be **NEXT WEEKEND** at 9:00am. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.

ST. MARY'S COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN QUILT OF THE MONTH

If you would like to donate a new, hand-quilted quilt for this project, we would very much appreciate it. The 2026 Quilt of the Month tickets are currently being sold.

PARISH PICNIC

St. Mary's Parish Picnic will be Saturday September 19th from 4:00-10:00pm. Mass at 4:00pm followed by food, music, basket raffles and games! More information to come. Volunteer and donation forms can be found at the back of church.

MASS STREAMING

Search Mary Help of Christians Chester on YouTube to find streamed Masses.

BOXES OF JOY

Shoe boxes are in the back of church. Papers explaining what goes in the boxes. The Sodality will pay the \$9.00 shipping charge for each box. Must be returned by September 15th. Last year our parish did 20 boxes. Let's do that again this year.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

ST MARY'S GEAR

You can now access our online store using the link on our Facebook page, website, or by scanning the QR Code. A large selection of T-shirts and sweatshirts are available. **ALL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY THURSDAY, AUGUST 27th**. Merchandise will be sent to SMS and distributed in mid-September. Thank you for showing your HAWK pride and supporting the SMS Athletic Fund.

UPCOMING SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Aug 17th – After School Care Begins

Aug 19th – School Mass in Rectory Yard with Blessing of Backpacks~Bring your own lawn chair.

ST MARYS PTO MUM FUNDRAISER

. Yellow, Bronze, Red, Pink/Purple, White mums. They are \$11.00 each. **ALL ORDERS ARE DUE BY MONDAY, AUGUST 31ST**. Order forms can be found in the back of church..



ST. JOSEPH EVENTS

PSR

PSR teachers: there will be welcome back breakfast on Tuesday Aug. 18th after Mass at Country Kitchen. From there we will meet at the office to complete some new child protections forms and refresher courses

CALLING ALL QUILTERS

Quilting will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 26th @ 9:00am. Come for an hour or stay for the day. All levels welcome.

SERVERS NEEDED

Any student who has received their 1st Communion is welcome begin serving. Please talk to Jill if you want to begin serving

SPECIAL MINISTERS AND LECTORS

We are still looking for volunteers to participate in the Mass as either a Special Minister or a Lector. Let Jill know if you would like to be part of the Mass in a unique way.

AL'S PLACE MCBRIDE, MO 63776 573-547-5656 <i>Serving home cooked meals & pies since 1947</i> 233 MAIN ST 233 PCR 216	 COLVIS Investment Services Buena Vista National Bank  <i>Community Banking at its Best!</i> www.bvnb.com Member FDIC	 Chester FAMILY DENTAL Philip A. Miller D.M.D. with orthodontic services provided by Renee E. Doyle D.M.D., M.S.
Knight Hawk Knight Hawk Coal, LLC		 CHESTER NATIONAL BANK 618-826-5038 1112 State St. Chester, IL 62233 www.chesternationalbank.com Member FDIC
 GILSTER Mary Lee CORPORATION <i>Specializing in Private Brand Food Manufacturing</i> CHESTER • ILLINOIS 62233 P. O. BOX 227 PHONE (618) 826-2361		BLACKTOP MAINTENANCE SEAL COATING & CRACK FILL 3X OPTIONS FOR CRACK FILL <i>Call William Smith</i> 618-615-1503

Ads can be purchased by contacting either Rose Dethrow or Jill Whelan at one of the parish offices. Thank you for your continued contributions!

**SUPPORT
OUR
SPONSORS!**

PRICES	1" X 2"	1" X 4"	2" X 3"	2" X 2"	2" X 4"
WEEKLY	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$40.00
MONTHLY	\$20.00	\$40.00	\$60.00	\$40.00	\$80.00
QUARTERLY	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
YEARLY	\$175.00	\$350.00	\$500.00	\$350.00	\$700.00