



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

All Are Welcome!

AUGUST 30, 2026 | 22ND 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



ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

802 Middle Street

Prairie Du Rocher, IL 62277

618-284-3314

sjospdr@htc.net

www.stjoespdr.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	Alli Petrowske
Peggy Helmers	Glenda York
Evelyn Marquardt	Jeffrey Davis
Roger Knott	Melissa Doss
Albert Deterding	Gale Frazer
David Dohack	Mark Drake
Geralyn Lanham	Robin Waltemate
Randy Valleroy	Ryan Junger
Raymond Ellner	Ronda Heck
Eric Matthews	Kevin Petrowske
Bill & Earlene Hanger	Jeff Faverty
Huckson McGee	Gary Sauerhage
Betty Bissel	Michelle Daschka
Joe Fahey	Doc Ludwig
Earlene Clements	Savannah Goodman

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please submit any information that you would like added to the weekly bulletin by:
Tuesday @4:00pm

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

OCIA

BECOMING CATHOLIC

Interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith? St. Mary's in Chester offers O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults). Please call the parish office or contact Brad for more info:
bradcolvis@gmail.com

READINGS

First Reading:

I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. (Jer 20:9)

Psalm:

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God. (Ps 63)

Second Reading:

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. (Rom 12:1)

Gospel:

"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Mt 16:25)

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

The first reading (Jeremiah 20: 7-9) reflects on the awesome nature of God. When God is at the center of our lives, everything else pales into insignificance. Even when we are tempted to substitute God with something or someone else, it's impossible to do so.

The second reading (Romans 12:1-2) is an appeal from Saint Paul for us to offer ourselves to God as a living sacrifice. This entails continued renewal, dedication and prayer.

The Gospel (Matthew 16: 21-27) brings to focus, the reality of the cross in our daily existence. Peter wanted to stand in its way but was rebuked. Following Christ, demands self denial and faith appraisal. May we be courageous to be true followers and live a life of total dedication to God. Amen.



Thank you for your generous support of our Parish Community!

3 | HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29	30	31	01	02	03	04
3:15pm-3:45pm Confession 4:00pm - Chester (L) Linda (H) Martha (C) Sarah & Kathleen (S) Cody & Caroline -Lloyd Stern by Linda Stern 6:00pm - St. Joseph (L) Langston (B) Carla (C) Nancy & Jill (S) Cort & Emmett -James Sirtak	8:00am - Ellis Grove 10:00am - Chester (L) Amy (H) Jeannie (C) Norman, Barb, Greg & Sam (S) Reed, Blake & Will -Dr. John Beck by Family 5:00pm - Chester En Espanol -Jay Wittenborn by Larry & Ginny Blechle	NO MASS 11:00am-1:00pm KC Hall Lunch	NO MASS 10:00am - R&R Marie	8:15am - Chester -Rachel Juenger by Bob Juenger 1:00pm - High Point Communion	NO MASS	NO MASS
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
3:15pm-3:45pm Confession 4:00pm - Chester Mass of Healing (L) Rob (H) Marlene (C) Rob & Larry (S) -Donnie Juengewaelter 6:00pm - Ellis Grove Mass of Healing	8:00am - St. Joseph Mass of Healing (L) James (B) Audrey (C) Marie & Nancy (S) Evan & Luke -Clara Stefani 10:00am - Chester Mass of Healing (L) Dainelle (H) Matt (C) Madi, Todd, Dave & Doris (S) -Deceased Veterans 5:00pm - Chester Mass of Healing En Espanol -Ruth Petrowske by Family	8:15am - Chester Labor Day - All Offices Closed No KC Hall Lunch 7:00pm - St. Joseph Adoration	7:15am - PSR Rosary in Church 8:00am - St. Joseph 10:00am - R&R Diane 7:00pm - Chester Adoration	8:15am - Chester 1:00pm - High Point Communion	8:00am - St. Joseph 8:30am - St. Mary's School Adoration	NO MASS



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

KAREN MATHIS 8/30, ADALYN JANY 8/30; OLIVE MAES 8/30; JEANELLE DINAN 8/31, BARB OTTEN 8/31; STEVE COLONEL III 9/2, CARL DECK 9/2, JAMES POPEJOY 9/2, ANGEL MOLLET 9/2, EMILIE JANY 9/3, JEFFERY KORANDO 9/3, SHIRLEY MATHEWS 9/3, LESLEY SAUER 9/3, DAVID SURMAN 9/3, ETHAN POWELL 9/4, ELLA DURBIN 9/4, TROY MELLIERE 9/5

HAROLD & MICHELE LINK 9/2
JOSEPH & PAMELA TRETTER 9/2
CURTIS & NANCY EGGEMEYER 9/3
RONALD & BETTY SURMAN 9/3
TONY & RACHEL STEIBEL 9/4

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

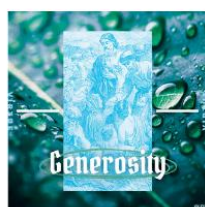
We will begin meeting every second Sunday from 5-7pm at St. Mary's EG starting Sept. 13th Welcome to new members...

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

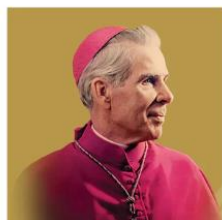


"Those who are kind to the needy honor Him" (Proverbs 14:31) The homebound, sick and seniors living in the southernmost part of the state are assured they will have food to eat thanks to Daystar Community Program's mobile food pantry, which delivers groceries on a regular basis to those not able to visit 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.



CONGRATULATIONS TO PETER & AURELIA ON THE BAPTISM OF THEIR DAUGHTER MAVIS LEIGH GOLDBERG ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 2026. MAY THIS BE THE START OF A BEAUTIFUL JOURNEY OF FAITH.

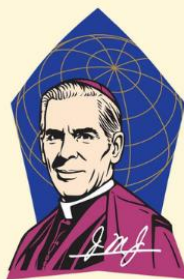


THE DIOCESE OF PEORIA IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FROM THE BELLEVILLE DIOCESE TO HELP WITH THE BEATIFICATION OF ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN EVENTS IN ST. LOUIS ON SEPTEMBER 24.

TO DATE, THE BELLEVILLE DIOCESE HAS 35 VOLUNTEERS SIGNED UP TO HELP.

IF ANYONE MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THIS EXCITING, POSSIBLY ONCE IN A LIFETIME EVENT, TO VOLUNTEER, GO TO.

[HTTPS://WWW.CELEBRATESHEEN.COM/VOLUNTEER](https://www.celebratesheen.com/volunteer)



**BEATIFICATION OF
ARCHBISHOP
FULTON J.
SHEEN**

**THURSDAY
September 24, 2026
ST. LOUIS, MO**



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



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.



WEST VICARIATE FALL MEETING

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH, 101 NORTH CENTENNIAL STREET, COBDEN

Will be held on Thursday, September 17th. Registration starts at 9 am. The morning speaker will be Tony Eaton. He helps veterans train their service dogs. In the afternoon, we will hear about the history of the church. Cost of the day is \$15.00. Everyone is welcome.

CHICKEN & PORK SAUSAGE DINNER

ST. PIUS V CATHOLIC CHURCH, WALSH

Sunday, Oct 18th 11am – 2 pm. All You Can Eat Pork Sausage, Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Sauerkraut & Dessert. Dine In or Carry Out. Adults \$16; Children (5-12) \$6; 4 & Under Free.

Country Store – Pumpkins, Gourds, Homemade Pies & Cakes, Crafts and much more! Quilt Raffle tickets are available that day.



Register Online
Using the QR Code Below





MONDAY LUNCHES
KC HALL

Monday, August 31st
Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes
& gravy, corn, green beans.

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

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With Deepest Sympathy

*St. Joseph Parish extends our
deepest sympathy and prayers to
the families and loved ones of
Larry Deterding who has recently
passed away.*

*May the Lord welcome them into
His eternal peace and comfort
their families and friends during
this time of sorrow.*

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ST. MARY'S - CHESTER EVENTS



It's not too late to sign your child up for this year's PSR program. Registration forms are available at the back of church or in the Parish Office. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.

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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. The August Quilt of the Month winner was Peggy Klipfel of Chaffee, MO. Congratulations Peggy!

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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! There are many ways you can volunteer or donate to help with the Parish Picnic. Contact the Parish Office at (618) 826-2444.

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

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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.

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ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

ST MARY'S GEAR

Friends and family can show their support with these fan club shirts! Proceeds benefit our S Athletic Dept. For more information, contact the Office. **Orders must be placed by Sept. 1st**

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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.

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FALL BIBLE STUDY
will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 15 from 2 -3 pm at St. Joseph Hall. All are Welcome!

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

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All levels welcome.

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

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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.

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Sept 13th, 8:00am at St. Joseph cemetery. Bring your lawn chairs and dress for the weather. If it is raining, we will have mass in church.

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Ann Laurent- President; Sarah Pollard- Vice President; Lisa Mueller- Secretary
Members: Doris Heller, Brad Doering, Laura Mae Deterding & Steve Mudd.
Trustees: Audrey Wiegard & Steve Stefani. Welcome to Doris Heller, her name was
accidentally omitted last week when we welcomed the new Parish Council members

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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