

Events for St. Mary

Dec. 9, 2025, Holy Name 7:00 pm
Dec. 17, 2025, PSR class 6:00 to 7:30pm
Dec. 21, 2025, Food Pantry Collection
Dec. 25, 2025, Christmas Mass 8:00 am
Jan.1st New Years Day Mass 8:15 Chester
Jan.3rd Mass 6:00pm Ellis Grove

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Please remember those of our families and friends who have asked for our prayers.

Diane Averbeck, Debbie Brown, David Dohack
Geraldyn Lanham, Randy Valleroy, Glenda York,
Donna Schwizer, Jeffery Davis, Mark Drake,
Robin Waltemate Ryan Junger, Ronda Heck,
Kevin Petrowske, Jeff Faverty Shirley Dreczka
Matt Vallett, Bud Stumpe, Paul Meyer,
Amer Cushman, Carolyn Loesing, Linda Butler

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Our Parish Members in Care centers
Wilma Junger, Bud Stumpe

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Religious Education:
Tammy Bert, A. Antonacci – Brenda Gross
Maxine Mathis

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Altar Sodality: Joan Derringer
Holy Name Society: Tony Meyer

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To Rent Sense Hall: please contact Tammy Bert
618-774-2415

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

If any members of our parish family are feeling the (so-called financial pinch) and are having difficulty paying for their prescriptions please let Fr. Sabastian or Deacon Al, know that we will be able to help. This will be (TOTALLY CONFIDENTIAL) if you know of any members who are unable to attend Mass, we would also like to be informed so we can send them our weekly bulletin. And please remember to mail in your weekly contributions it is much appreciated.

December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent - A



St. Mary Divine Maternity
7362 Shawneetown Trail
Ellis Grove, IL 62241

Pastor
Rev. Sebastian Ukoh C.M

Weekend Mass Schedule

St. Mary Chester
Saturday, Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday, 10:00am

St. Mary's Ellis Grove
Saturday 6:00pm Odd Month's
Sunday 8:00 am Even Month's

St. Joseph Rocher
Saturday, 6:00pm Even Months
Sunday 8:00am Odd Month's

Reconciliation: 15 min. prior
For all Masses

Trustees: Bernard Colvis & Ann Petrowske

Parish Council: Pres. Tammy Bert,
Sec. Joyce Hrabusicky, Chris Gross
Maxine Mathis, Scott Gross, Shane Quandt
Larry Mitchell, Jeremy Blechle

Sacrament Preparation Contact:

St. Mary's Ellis Grove – 618-859-3541
St. Mary's Chester, 618-826-2444
St. Joseph Rocher 618-284-3314

For the Following

For Baptism. For the Sacrament of Marriage: Please contact the parish office at least 6 Months prior to the intended date so that the required preparations can be completed. And for the Sacrament of the sick, whenever necessary. We welcome all guests and those wishing to become a member of our Parish Family, Please contact St. Mary Ellis Grove – St. Joseph Rocher – St. Mary's Chester, Also, you may contact the Parish Office's for information on The Rite of Christian Initiation



Hope - Peace

St. Mary Divine Maternity
Holy Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sunday, December 7, 2025, 8:00am
+ Harlen & Rose Wesbecher

Sunday, December 14, 2025, 8:00am
+ Logan & Elizabeth Roche

Liturgical Ministers for next week

For December 14, 2025, 8:00am

Altar Server: Adalynn

Lector: J. Hrabusicky

Gifts: Volunteers

E. Minister: C. Gross & A. Antonacci

Usher: Scott & Clinton Gross

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St. Mary's Offering
Thank you for your support.



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This Week

Isaiah 30: 1-10
Psalms 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Romans 15: 4-9
Matthew 3: 1-12

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Next Week

Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10
-Psalms 146: 6-7, 8-9, 6-10
James 5: 7-10
Matthew 11: 2-11

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Please submit items for the bulletin by Tuesday 5:00pm 618-920-7324, if there is no answer, please leave a message. Thank You, Deacon Al

Neighboring Churches Mass Times

St. Mary’s, Chester 4:00 pm Saturday
10:00 am Sunday
St. John’s, Red Bud 4:00 pm. Saturday
10:00 am Sunday
Lady of Lourdes, Sparta 5:30pm Sat.
_8:00 am Sunday
St. Patrick’s, Ruma 8:00 a.m. Sunday
St. Pius V, Walsh, 4:00 pm Saturday
St. Boniface, Evansville, 10:00am Sunday



A Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus Christ,
You are the true King of peace.
In You alone is found freedom.
Please free our world from conflict
Bring unity to troubled nations.
Let Your glorious peace reign in every heart.
Dispel all darkness and evil.
Protect the dignity of every human life.
Replace hatred with Your love.
Give wisdom to world leaders.
Free them from selfish ambition.
Eliminate all violence and war.
Glorious Virgin Mary,
Saint Michael the Archangel,
Every angel and saint:
Please pray for peace.
Pray for unity amongst nations.
Pray for unity amongst all people.
Pray for the most vulnerable.
Pray for those suffering.
Pray for the fearful.
Pray for those most in need.
Pray for us all.
Jesus, Son of the Living God.
Have mercy on us.
Jesus, hear our prayers.
Jesus, I trust in You Amen

Ladies Sodality Christmas Party-The Ladies Altar Sodality will have their annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 8th in Sense Hall at 6 p.m. We welcome all the ladies of our parish family to come and enjoy a delicious (free) dinner and of course as always great fellowship. We bring a \$5.00 bingo prize if you wish to join in the fun and games. Please send RSVP by text by Sunday, December 7 to Joan Derringer at 534-6697.

Weeks of December 7 and December 14
Christmas Poinsettias -The Ladies Sodality will be collecting donations for poinsettias for our Christmas altar decorations. The envelopes are in the vestibule of the church. The contribution is \$15.00 per plant. Please make sure you mark on the envelope your name and also the name of the person that the poinsettia is for and either in memory of or in honor of. Your envelope must be returned via the collection basket by December 14.



2025
HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE
Mon, Dec.8th Imm Conception Mass 8:15am Chester
Imm Conception Mass 7:00pm Rocher


Tues. Dec. 9th Penance Service St. John’s Red Bud

Thurs. Dec. 11th Christmas Church Tour 2 - 8:00pm Chester
Fri. Dec. 12th Christmas Church Tour2 – 8:00pm Chester

Sun. Dec. 14 Penance Service 7:00pm Chester

Tues. Dec. 16 Penance Service 7:00pm O. L. Lourdes Sparta

Wed. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Vigil 4:00pm Chester
Thurs. Christmas Day Mass 8:00am Ellis Grove
Christmas Day Mass 10:00am Chester
Tues. Dec. 30th Fr. Sebastian Leaves for Nigeria
Thurs. Jan. 1st New Day Mass 8:15am Chester
Sat. Jan 3rd 6:00pm Mass Ellis Grove
Epiphany Party 12:00 Noon Rocher Sun. Jan.4th Mass 8am Chester – 10am Mass Rocher Epiphany Party 12:00 Noon Rocher




Topic:


Spiritual Sonship & Fatherhood


Discernment

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Join us for a day of prayer, reflection, and fraternity to explore what it means to live as beloved sons of the Father and how that relationship shapes our understanding of spiritual fatherhood. The day will include conferences, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, time for discussion & lunch. For single Catholic men ages 15–35. Email mskorch@diobelle.org for more information.

 Sat, Dec. 20, 2025
9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

 St. Nicholas Parish
O’Fallon, IL

 Scan here to register

Winter Coat Drive

Sponsor a Coat for \$25



Send a check to: Molly King, Life, Marriage and Family
222 South Third St., Belleville IL 62220
or click the QR code to pay on-line

St. Anne Cradle of Hope

Carbondale, Illinois

Sponsor a new coat for \$25 or drop off a used coat (sizes NB-5T) at your local Pregnancy Resource Center!

More information:
<https://stannecradleofhope.org/stanne-coh>



Respect Life - Advent

“One of the inescapable facts of life is that every life comes to an end, and the end of life lends urgency and significance to each new day. For those who have no faith and no knowledge of God, death stands as the final denial of life; it is not that way for us. Those whose lives are lived under Jesus’ Lordship can live expectantly; filling each day with activity that is meaningful because of this divine mandate and this contribution to the fulfillment of God’s purposes for human life.

Similarly, the end of time or the end of life holds not terror for those who know God’s love because they know the one who determines the reality that lies beyond what we can know here and now. Thus, those who know Christ as the Son of God can approach the end with heads raised high, knowing their redemption is near.” - attributed to Pope Benedict XVI

Prayer

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

