Welcome to St. Mary Church

August 16, 2026 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH INFORMATION

Administrator: Fr. Larry Lemay
frlarrylemay@gmail.com
Trustees: Jackie Beatty
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Jim Poletti
jim.sandy1@icloud.com
Parish Council:
Jeff Agne
JoElla Basler (Vice President)
Beth Dallas
John Schmidt (President)
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Doug Vaughn
Faith Formation: Rhonda Schmidt
rschmidt00@hotmail.com
Weddings and Funerals: Mary Beth Hileman
Music Director: Rachel Kell
Parish Life Coordinator: Susan Belcher
Parish Secretary: Ellen Quertermous
stmaryparish.anna@gmail.com
Office hours Monday 9:30-12, Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-2

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

August 9, 2026

General Collection:	$2834.00
Building Fund:	$200.00

CSMA: Our goal for this year's campaign is $9726.00. We have reached 63% of our goal.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Susan Kern
Jeff Agne
Giovanni James Poletti

If you would like to be included in the list, please contact the office. We ask that the person being prayed for contact the office personally, as it is important to protect people's privacy.

If you would like a Mass said for a loved one, please contact the office with the name and date requested. A small donation is customary for each Mass. We will do our best to schedule your Mass on the date requested.
stmaryparish.anna@gmail.com

Catechists/Teachers Needed for Faith Formation

Our church family is growing, and we need you to help them grow in faith!
We are currently seeking dedicated catechists for three of our combined Faith Formation classes this year:

- Kindergarten & 1st Grade
- 3rd & 4th Grade
- 5th & 6th Grade

We use the Word of Life curriculum, which makes lesson planning straightforward and takes the guess work out of preparing for a class. Each lesson plan is based on Scripture and the Catechism. You do not need a degree in theology or teaching to be a catechist—just a heart that loves Jesus and a willingness to share your faith with the next generation. Classes will begin in mid-September so there is plenty of time to get prepared. We ask that you prayerfully consider becoming part of our catechist team.
Please contact Rhonda Schmidt at 618-697-0440 to learn more or volunteer.

CATECHIST MEETING

There will be a meeting of all Faith Formation leaders in the Parish Hall after 8 AM Mass **next Sunday, August 23.** If you are a Faith Formation teacher, or would like to be, please plan to attend.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY

- The Parish Council will meet at 6 PM on Wednesday, August 19 in the Parish Hall.
- Our first OCIA Inquiry session will be Thursday, August 20 at 6:30 in the Parish Hall. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, or if you are willing to share your faith with inquirers, you are welcome to attend.

FROM POPE LEO XIV

"Jesus Christ is our peace first of all because he frees us from sin, and also because he shows us the way to overcome conflicts — all conflicts, whether interpersonal or international. Without a heart freed from sin, a heart that has been forgiven, we cannot be men and women of peace or builders of peace."

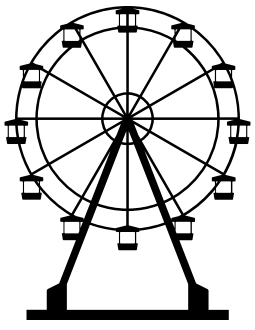
From the Desk of Father Larry…

Hello everyone. You've heard the saying "time flies when you're having fun." It's hard to believe I've already been at St. Mary's for over a month—it certainly doesn't feel that long. Your kindness and hospitality have made me feel at home from the very start. I'm still adjusting to a fuller Mass schedule, more Extraordinary Ministers, faithful servers, and a wonderfully devout congregation, but I truly feel blessed to be here.

As we continue growing together, I want to highlight a few areas where we need your help. Our Faith Formation programs—especially PSR—need Catechists for several grades. We also need volunteers for our OCIA program. If you enjoy praying the Rosary or Chaplet, doing Novenas, practicing Lectio Divina, or simply have a heart for helping others learn about Catholic spirituality, please consider joining us. If you prefer to help behind the scenes, our Hospitality Committee could use volunteers to provide simple refreshments for the end of our weekly sessions.

For those interested in PSR, we will meet immediately after Mass on August 23. Our first OCIA Inquiry Session will be Thursday, August 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, with a second session on August 27. If you know someone considering the Catholic Church—or if you'd like to deepen your own understanding of the Faith—please mark those dates and join us as we begin this journey together.

These OCIA sessions will explore foundational aspects of our faith, an example would include something we profess each Sunday, the Four Marks of the Church. Do you know what the Four Marks of the Church are that we profess each Sunday?



WE'LL SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday August 15: Jason Lovell
Sunday August 16: Ryan Haire
Saturday August 22: Mary Ann Eblen
Sunday August 23: Austin Davidson

WORD OF LIFE

"No sin, failure, humiliation or exclusion can diminish the profound value of a human life that God has willed and called into being. The fundamental dignity of each person, therefore, is neither acquired nor earned, nor does it need to be justified."

Pope Leo XIV, Magnifica Humanitas © 2026, Libreria Editrice Vaticana.
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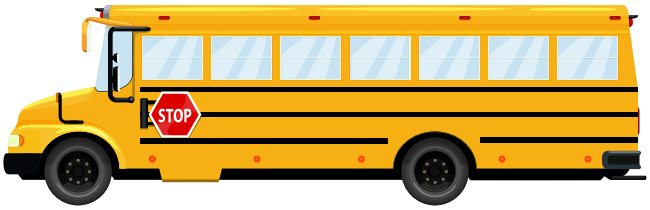


SCHOOL DAYS

Most of our elementary and high school young people started back to school this past week. Please keep them in your prayers for a safe and successful school year, and remember the teachers, administrators, and school staff who work with them daily, as well as the families who must work together to juggle work, school, sports, and extracurricular schedules.

Interested in becoming Catholic?
Discover Faith. Find Belonging.

The *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)* is your pathway to explore the beauty, truth, and community of the Catholic faith. Whether you're seeking baptism, confirmation, or simply curious about Catholicism, OCIA welcomes you with open arms. **Come and see what God has in store for you.** Join us at St. Mary's Parish, where faith becomes family. Our 1st Inquiry session for O.C.I.A. will be on the 20th of August at 6:30 in the Parish Hall, and our 2nd session will be on the 27th of August. We are also looking for team members for the various presentations to be used during the year, we also need people to serve as sponsors, and if presenting or sponsoring isn't your thing, but you still want to help out, you can be on our hospitality committee to serve refreshments at the end of our sessions. Contact the parish office or Father Larry to learn more.

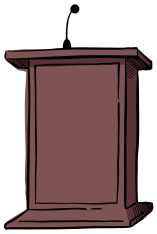
MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday August 15:
Lector: Cathy Belcher
Eucharistic Ministers: Joe Bierbaum, Paul Cairatti, Amy Ulrich
Sunday August 16:
Lector: Karl Sweitzer
Servers: Marggrafs
Eucharistic Ministers: Lisa Hoehner, Mary Ellen Ecker, Ellen Quertermous
Saturday August 22:
Lector: Jackie Beatty
Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Cairatti, Amy Ulrich
VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Sunday August 23:
Lector: Mary Beth Hileman
Servers: Kells
Eucharistic Ministers: Lisa Hoehner, Jordan Jansen, Ellen Quertermous

VOCATION CORNER

"When I was 7, my older sister joined the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity and took the name Sister Celine. This sparked in me a deep curiosity about her religious vocation, which eventually led me to spend several weeks with her community in a remote island mission in the Bicol region of the Philippines. The conditions were stark; the area lacked electricity and clean water. Yet, I discovered extraordinary richness in the lives of the people. And, undiminished by material poverty, the SOLT sisters radiated joy that stemmed from their faith and dedication to serving others.

During my stay, I felt an unprecedented sense of peace, as if enveloped by God's love. I saw Jesus in the faces of those we served, each interaction revealing the transformative beauty and power of faith. Now, as a SOLT sister, I find fulfillment in living the Gospel's message, witnessing to hope and the miracle of faith in action."
Sr. Mary Louis Granadillos; Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity; Columbia Magazine April 2025



HELP WANTED

Would you like to serve as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister? Please let the church office or Fr. Larry know – we would love to have you serve in these rewarding ministries.