Welcome to St. Mary Church

August 9, 2026 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH INFORMATION

Administrator: Fr. Larry Lemay
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Trustees: Jackie Beatty
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Jim Poletti
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Parish Council:
Jeff Agne
JoElla Basler (Vice President)
Beth Dallas
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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

July 26, 2026

General Collection:	$3367.00
Building Fund:	$342.50
Education Fund:	$217.50

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

OUR PRAYER LIST

Susan Kern

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

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 ministries.

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.

OFFICE PHONE OUTAGE CONTINUES

The office phone is still out of commission. To get a message to the office, please email stmaryparish.anna@gmail.com or call Ellen's cell at 618-697-5161. For **emergency pastoral care needs only** you can call 618-525-4468.

CALENDAR CORRECTION
LADIES' NIGHT OUT

Our next Ladies' Night dinner will be **August 20th at 6 PM** at Katy O'Ferrell's Publick House in Cape Girardeau.

THANK YOU !!

Thank you to everyone who donated food and personal care items to help District 37 children through the summer. May of our children depend on school lunches for a big part of their nutritional needs, and struggling families are grateful for the extra boost during school break.

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 8:
Lector: JoElla Basler
Eucharistic Ministers: Jeff Agne, Paul Cairatti, Amy Ulrich

Sunday August 9:
Lector: Mary Beth Hileman
Servers: Dallases
Eucharistic Ministers: Lisa Hoehner, Jordan Jansen, Luke Vaughn

Saturday August 15:
Lector: Cathy Belcher
Eucharistic Ministers: Jeff Agne, Paul Cairatti, Joe Bierbaum

Sunday August 16:
Lector: Karl Sweitzer
Servers: Marggrafs
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ellen Ecker, Lisa Hoehner, Ellen Quertermous

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday August 8:	Norbert Stadelbacher
Sunday August 9:	Mickey Stute Chaney
Saturday August 15:	Jason Lovell
Sunday August 16:	Ryan Haire

WORD OF LIFE

"Although we may feel unsure how best to comfort those who mourn, we must stand with them in their time of suffering. Miscarriage touches the lives of many people, yet all too often this tragedy remains unaddressed. This lack of response not only often leads to unresolved grief but also fails to clearly manifest our belief that each person, from conception onward, is precious and unique."
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Solace and Strength in the Sorrow of Miscarriage

POPE LEO XIV
PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST

For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Trust in the Lord

This Sunday we will hear the wonderful story of Jesus walking on water. This miraculous event is mainly what we will remember, together with Peter sinking into the water when he tried the same thing. What do you think was going on in Jesus' own heart and soul during these events?

Jesus finally sends the crowd away. But besides that, he does one other thing that is very telling: he "made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side" (Matthew 14:22). He still wants to be alone. He wants to process the death of John the Baptist. He goes up on the mountainside to pray.

It is by now evening, Matthew tells us, and Jesus prays into the night, even with gusty wind coming up. I wonder what his prayer was like?

He had studied the scriptures since his youth. Is it too fanciful to think that the story in our First Reading came into his mind? There the prophet Elijah too was up on a mountainside, and there too, a heavy wind came up. The Lord was not in the wind, we are told in the reading. Nor in the earthquake that followed. Nor in the fire that came next. The Lord God was in the "tiny whispering sound" that followed. A better translation is "a still, small voice." This is how God speaks most often. In the quiet moment of grace, in the gentle assurance that we are not alone even in the face of tragedy, in the joy of knowing that love lives. Sometimes the voice of God whispers so softly that you or I do not hear it.

But Jesus on the mountaintop heard. His great trust in his Abba (= daddy, much loved parent) opened his ears. Perhaps Abba assured him that a human being has to rely on God even against the evidence, even when it seems that tragedy has the upper hand. This is not a blind trust, but a quiet memory of God's faithful love even when events like death seem to contradict it. It appears to be counter-intuitive. Does death support belief in God any more than water supports human footsteps?

But Jesus does walk on water. Peter loses hope and starts to sink. Let this lesson be ours as we worship this Sunday. We only start to sink when we lose our trust in the source of hope and love and promise. Listen. Remember.

~John Foley S.J. www.slu.edu (Excerpted)

VOCATION CORNER

Whenever there's a mountain involved in Scripture, it is a moment to pay close attention to. The Lord has brought Elijah here for a "close encounter." Leaving the shelter of the cave, Elijah stands outside waiting because "the Lord is passing by." A strong wind that crushes rocks and then an earthquake, followed by fire, all do not contain the Lord's voice. The Lord revealed himself to Elijah in a "tiny whispering sound". This story tells us that to hear God's call, we must find time for silence in our lives; a quiet, peaceful time to hear what our call in life is to be – maybe a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate, or religious life.

REPRESENT!

The Diocesan apparel store is open once again! Browse the selection at http://stores.gatewayshirts.com/dob The store closes on August 31st. Orders will be processed then and can be shipped directly to you. Items featuring the Diocesan crest include short- and long-sleeved polo shirts, vests, jackets, and pullovers.

If you would like to receive your order sooner or would like to request a different item, please reach out to the store directly at gatewayshirtsinfo@gmail.com