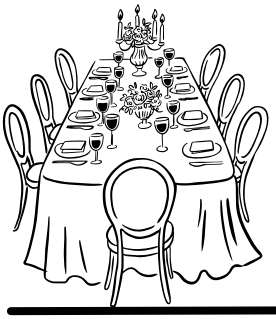

Welcome to St. Mary Church

October 11, 2026 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH INFORMATION

Administrator: Fr. Larry Lemay
frlarrylemay@gmail.com
Trustees: Jackie Beatty
sjbeatty78@gmail.com
Jim Poletti
jim.sandy1@icloud.com
Parish Council:
Jeff Agne
JoElla Basler (Vice President)
Beth Dallas
John Schmidt (President)
jschmidtcpa@hotmail.com
Rachel Kell rachelannkell@gmail.com
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

October 4, 2026

General Collection:	$4389.00
Building Fund:	$702.50
Education Fund:	$207.50
Retired Diocesan Priests:	$50.00

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

OUR PRAYER LIST

Susan Kern
Linda White

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. We will do our best to schedule your Mass on the date requested.
stmaryparish.anna@gmail.com

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES THIS WEEKEND

Enjoy your fall break!

NO DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK

Father Larry will be attending the annual diocesan priest convocation

St. Mary's Parish
Annual Halloween & All Saints Party!
Date: Sunday, October 25, 2026
Time: 5:00 PM
Location: Parish Hall

Everyone is invited to join us for an evening of fun for all ages! Our festivities will include:

- Soup & Chili Supper
- Hot Dog Roast & S'mores around the firepit
- Pumpkin Carving
- Team Trivia for all ages

Please sign up on the sheet in the church entrance to church if you plan to attend and for what you plan to bring.
Costumes are optional! Come celebrate with our parish community!

Halloween Party Candy Donations Needed!

Our Annual Parish Halloween Party is coming up, and we need your help to make it a sweet success! We are accepting donations of individually wrapped candy through **Sunday, October 25th**. Please drop off your candy donations in the basket located in the church vestibule.
Thank you for your generosity and support in making this a fun event for our parish children!

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 100th ANNIVERSARY

We will be taking up this collection next weekend. Please give generously to help further the spread of the Gospel.

WORD OF LIFE

"An old Irish proverb says, 'It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.' Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life's end, we may not know how best to 'shelter' them. Here are some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them: usccb.org/end-of-life-care." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End*

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday October 10:	Faye Eaves
Sunday October 11:	Marie Sweitzer
Saturday October 17:	Larry Lovell
Sunday October 18:	Mickey Stute Chaney

FROM FATHER LARRY'S DESK

Greetings, as some of you may have noticed in the past bulletins, the Diocese of Belleville is in the process of developing a new pastoral plan that focuses on Stewardship. If we are to be credible witnesses of Jesus our Lord, then we must each count ourselves, not merely in word, but in action, disciples of the One who calls us. If we want young people in the Church, families thriving in the Church, well-formed believers in the Church, parishes marked by vitality, strength, service, and hope, then we must begin by counting ourselves, as called to a particular way of life, who hear the cry of the poor and answer.

The Diocese of Belleville is beginning a multi-year process to strengthen parish life and better support the Church's mission throughout Southern Illinois. Guided by Bishop Godfrey, the process focuses on four priorities: Youth and Young Adults, Family Life, Faith Formation, Growing and Revitalizing Parish Life. This effort is about helping our parishes become stronger centers of prayer, discipleship, hospitality, service, and evangelization.

The process will unfold in several stages: Fall 2026: Parish representatives will attend diocesan stewardship workshops focused on discipleship, gratitude, and generosity. Advent 2026: Groups of neighboring parishes will gather to discuss how they can work together more effectively and share their strengths. Lent 2027: A diocesan-wide period of prayer, reflection, and planning will help shape practical priorities for each region of the Diocese. Easter Season 2027: Regional groups will present recommendations to the bishop for strengthening ministry in the areas of youth, families, faith formation, and parish vitality.

What Does This Mean for Our Parish? Our parish will participate in these conversations and planning efforts. A small group of parish representatives will attend diocesan meetings on behalf of the parish, but the process is intended to benefit everyone. As ideas develop, parishioners will receive updates and opportunities for input.

Please Pray! Most importantly, Bishop Mullen asks all parishioners to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout this process. Together, we seek not merely to maintain what we have, but to build a vibrant and hope-filled future for the Church in Southern Illinois.

ST MARY BELIEVERS AND ACHIEVERS

St. Mary was well represented at the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' Regional Leadership Summit held at Rend Lake College. Jenna Hoehner represented Anna Jr. High, and Logan Brumleve, Maeve Kell, and Kendall Sweitzer were there from Cobden Jr. High. We are proud of our youth for taking their faith to the playing field and representing both their schools and their church so well. Congrats to Jenna as well for a spectacular fall softball season.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday October 10:
Lector: Janna Sweitzer
Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Cairatti, Joe Wendling, Joe Bierbaum
Sunday October 11:
Lector: Mary Beth Hileman
Servers: Hoehners, Juliet Godinez
Eucharistic Ministers: Susan Belcher, Mary Ellen Ecker, Lisa Hoehner
Saturday October 17:
Lector: Cathy Belcher
Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Cairatti, Joe Bierbaum, Luke Vaughn
Sunday October 18:
Lector: Jim Poletti
Servers: Dallases
Eucharistic Ministers: Lisa Hoehner, Ben Marggraf, Ellen Quertermous

VOCATION CORNER

"Jesus, I'm done discerning." This was my prayer in the back of a quiet chapel, the summer after graduating college. The Lord's call to me as a child was strong and clear, but where and when were not. The many Holy Hours I'd spent wrestling with the mystery since had brought no clarity. My prayer continued, "I am spending all my energy discerning when all I really desire is to love you. So I am just going to love you and love you lavishly. I ask your Blessed Mother to make the rest abundantly clear." Only later did I understand that perhaps it was what the Lord had been waiting for; for me to simply rejoice to be in relationship with Him, and to simply let myself be His. The lesson the Lord taught me that day remains ever new, even now after final vows. How much more beautiful is the journey when lived in the simplicity of his Love!"
Sister Maria Lucia Stella Maris, Missionaries of the Word. Columbia Magazine Jul/Aug 2022

PRAYING FOR SEMINARIANS

Please pray for our Diocesan Seminarians.
Each week, we will feature one of our 11 seminarians.
Please consider dropping them a note of support. At the very least, a simple prayer would be helpful.
For this week:

Chris Berry
St. Meinrad Seminary
200 Hill Drive
St. Meinrad IN 47577

"One night while praying, the idea of becoming a priest popped in my head. I was living my childhood dream as a NASA engineer, so I initially pushed back against it. Over the course of the next year, the idea of being a priest kept coming back to me, almost like an intrusive thought. When I finally started to picture myself as a priest, a sense of peace came over me. That is when I knew I had to pursue it."