Welcome to St. Mary Church

September 6, 2026 23rd 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

August 30, 2026

General Collection:	$1606.00
Education Fund:	$25.00

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
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

It's time to sign up for Faith Formation!

Classes will begin September 13th at 9:00am

Please add your child's/children's names to the list at the entrance to church so we can plan for books and supplies accordingly.

Due to rising costs, there will be a fee of $40.00 for each child up to a max of $100 for a family enrolling three or more children. *No child will be excluded based on the ability to pay.* ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sponsoring a child or donating for the Education Fund is always welcome and appreciated! See Rhonda Schmidt or Ellen in the church office for more information or to donate.

Join Us for a New Adult Bible Study: Romans: The Gospel of Salvation

Have you ever wondered what it truly means to "be saved"? St. Mary's is excited to offer Romans: The Gospel of Salvation, an engaging 8-session adult Bible study program.

St. Paul's letter to the Romans has been central to Christian reflection and conversion. In this study, we will examine one of the most important books of the New Testament to discover how Romans reveals the deep meaning of salvation—entering into Christ's life, death, and Resurrection. Guided by presenters Dr. Andrew Swafford and Jeff Cavins, this study features 30-minute video sessions that will help you uncover the true meaning of key passages about faith, works of the law, and justification, while deepening your relationship with Christ.

- **When: Starting September 13th, immediately following Mass**
- **Where: Upper Room in the Parish Hall**
- **Duration: 8 Sessions**
- Format: 30-minute video presentation followed by group discussion

All adults are welcome to attend! For more information or to register your study materials, please contact John Schmidt at 618-697-0093, or jschmidtcpa@hotmail.com.

RIDES TO MASS NEEDED

We have several parishioners who would like to be able to attend weekend Mass in person, but do not have transportation. If you can help provide a ride please contact Amy Ulrich or the church office.

From Fr. Larry's Desk

Greetings, last week I talked about the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the importance of making an Examination of Conscience before you do any Penance or Act of Charity, mainly explaining that in order to do a good confession, one needs to know exactly what sins they have committed and the only way to do that is thru a thorough Examination of Conscience. I then talked about the role the Priest plays in the Sacrament and then to follow up, I asked what another Sacrament of Healing was called?
The answer to that question is the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or as it is wrongly known as, Last Rites. The Anointing of the Sick is one of the Church's Sacraments of Healing. The Sacrament reveals Christ's tender nearness to those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Far more than a "last rite," it is a grace-filled moment in which the Church prays for strength, peace, and spiritual restoration. Through the priest's prayer and the anointing with blessed oil, the sick are united to Christ's own Paschal Mystery, receiving courage in their weakness and the assurance that they are held by the love of the Christian community. Whether physical healing occurs or not, the sacrament offers deep consolation and reminds us that God is never too far from those who are vulnerable.
With the passing of this day, our conversation moves from the Sacraments of Healing to the Sacraments most of us have already received or may be in the process of, the Sacraments of Initiation. Can you tell me what these Sacraments are?

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday September 5: Fr. Federico Higuera
Sunday September 6: For all workers and those seeking work
Saturday September 12: Larry Lovell
Sunday September 13: Robert R. Dern

WORD OF LIFE

"Mother Teresa, in all aspects of her life, was a generous dispenser of divine mercy, making herself available for everyone through her welcome and defense of human life, those unborn and those abandoned and discarded. She was committed to defending life, ceaselessly proclaiming that "the unborn are the weakest, the smallest, the most vulnerable".

Pope Francis, Homily of the Canonization of Mother Teresa, September 4, 2016

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MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday September 5:
Lector: Cathy Belcher
Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Cairatti, Joe Bierbaum
VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Sunday September 6:
Lector: Mary Beth Hileman
Servers: JJ Dallas, Juliet Godinez, Kendall Sweitzer
Eucharistic Ministers: Susan Belcher, Mary Ellen Ecker, Jordan Jansen

Saturday September 12:
Lector: JoElla Basler
Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Cairatti, Amy Ulrich, VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Sunday September 13:
Lector: Karl Sweitzer
Servers: Claire Flamm, Logan & Flynt Brumleve
Eucharistic Ministers: Susan Belcher, Mary Ellen Ecker Jordan Jansen

NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK
September 21-27

From September 21–27, 2026, Catholics throughout the United States will celebrate National Migration Week, culminating in the 112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees on Sunday, September 27. This year's theme, chosen by Pope Leo XIV, is **"Even just one of these children,"** inspired by the words of Jesus in Matthew 18:5 "*Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."*

Why Does the Church Care About Migration?

Migration is not only a social or political issue, but also a deeply human and profoundly spiritual reality. Throughout Sacred Scripture, God calls His people to welcome the stranger, care for the vulnerable, and recognize the dignity of every person created in His image. Jesus Himself experienced displacement as a child when the Holy Family fled to Egypt to escape violence (Matthew 2:13–15). Throughout His public ministry, Christ identified Himself with those on the margins, reminding us, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matthew 25:35). The Catholic Church recognizes both the responsibility of nations to regulate their borders for the common good and the God-given dignity and rights of every human person, including migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. Our response is rooted not in politics, but in the Gospel and in Catholic Social Teaching, which call us to encounter Christ in those who seek safety, hope, and a place to belong.

As we observe National Migration Week, may we open our hearts to prayer, deepen our understanding, and discern how our parishes and communities can become places of welcome, accompaniment, and hope. Because our faith calls us to prayer, understanding, welcome and accompaniment, National Migration Week gives us an opportunity to put that faith into practice.

VOCATION CORNER

As our country honors the gift of Labor this weekend, we can rejoice in the goodness of working for the Lord. Each one of us is called to spread the Word and promote our Catholic Church. This is the vocation of ALL of us. We can call upon St. Joseph the Worker to help us do this "work of the Lord". We need to encourage our family members to be attentive to their call – their life's work - maybe even to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life.

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:

CASMIR COZZI
Mundelein Seminary
1000 E. Maple Ave.
Mundelein, IL 60060

Saint John Vianney, pray for us.