

PARISH COMMUNITY

Parochial Administrator
FR. PAUL NGUYEN, OMV
FR. BENJAMIN UNACHUKWU, OMV
FR. PAUL KALLAL, OMV
FR. DAVID BEAUREGARD, OMV
DEACON JIM SCHWARTZKOPF
BR. JORGE SANCHEZ, OMV

PARISH OFFICE

618-465-4284
Fax: 618-463-4637
VOICEMAIL & DROPBOX

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays & Saturdays:
6:30 am & 8:00 am
Saturdays: 5:15 pm
(for Sunday Obligation)
Sundays: 6:30, 8:00*, 9:30,
11:00 am & 6:00 pm
*8:00 am on Facebook Live Daily
Rosary: 7:30 am daily in the Church
Day before Holy Day: 5:15 pm
Holy Days: 6:30, 8:00 am
12:00 noon and 5:15 pm
(if announced)
First Fridays: 5:15 pm

CONFESSIONS

First Fridays: 4:00-5:00 pm
Saturday: 4:00-5:00 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm
AND BY APPOINTMENT

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office if you or
a loved one needs to be anointed.
618-465-4284, and press 1

BAPTISMS

Please call the office to arrange
a baptism at this time.

MARRIAGES

To be arranged at least six months
before marriage. Call the Parish Office.

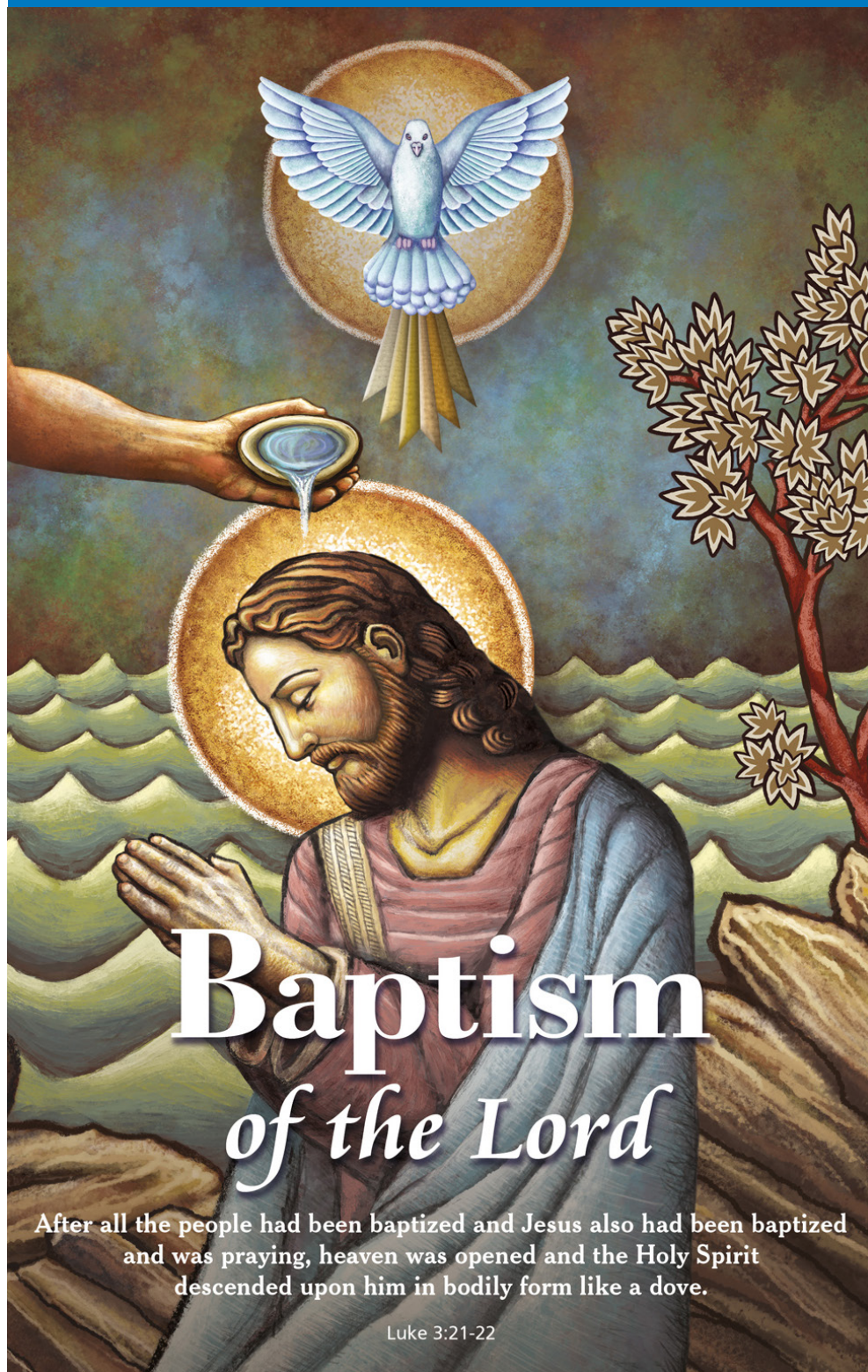
SCHOOL OFFICE

618-465-8523
Middle School 618-465-9719
www.smsalton.com

Check out our Facebook page...
St. Mary's Catholic Church

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



Baptism of the Lord

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized
and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit
descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

Luke 3:21-22

519 East fourth  Alton, Illinois
OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY
WWW.STMARYSALTON.COM

St. Mary's Catholic Church

ALTON, ILLINOIS

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 9, 2022

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 10

6:30 am Ramon Pedroza†

8:00 am John Surwald†

Tuesday, January 11

6:30 am Gladys Huebenert†

8:00 am Felicia Goekent†

Wednesday, January 12

6:30 am David Kindert†

8:00 am Felicia Goekent†

Thursday, January 13

6:30 am Mary Ramirez†

8:00 am Barb, Mike, Mikey
Molloy†

Friday, January 14

6:30 am Bill Webbert†

8:00 am Victor Huebenert†

Saturday, January 15

6:30 am John Hernandez†

8:00 am Our St. Mary's
Homebound
Eucharistic Ministers

5:15 pm Lois Grossheim†

Sunday, January 16

6:30 am Angela Hausmant†

8:00 am Darlene Huebenert†

9:30 am Int of Mason Meyers

11:00 am Int of the Family of the
late Tom Grossheim &
the repose of his soul

6:00 pm The People of St.
Mary's

Learning and Living Our Catholic Faith

BAPTISM: COMMUNION WITH THE SAINTS IS UNIVERSAL

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, and close the Christmas season. Tomorrow, Ordinary Time begins. In Baptism, all human persons are adopted into God's family and given new life by water and the Holy Spirit. This can be easy to say, but our experience can sometimes challenge us to recognize its truth in all people. Sometimes we see other cultural traditions as being more foreign to what we recognize as a life of faith based on our own culture. The challenge is to accept that God has reached out to people of every cultural background to proclaim His Good News, and they have each grasped it differently, with different musical expressions, different rhythms of life, and different customs, which are all equally capable of finding their place in God's family, and in the Communion of the Saints.

A Catholic who is being considered for this recognition is first proclaimed Servant of God, then Venerable, then Blessed, and finally, Saint. We have, right here in our diocese, a candidate for universal recognition as a saint (by a process called "canonization"): Venerable Father Augustus Tolton. Venerable Tolton lived from 1854 to 1897 and became the first African American priest, in a time in which churchmen found it difficult to recognize his vocation. At this time, he is one of six African American Catholics whose causes for sainthood are open.

In November, three more causes for sainthood were introduced for American laypeople: Auguste Pelafieue, Charlene Richard, and Joseph Dutton. And, don't forget that the founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary is also Venerable, on the way to recognition as a saint (brunolanterio.org).

Pray for their intercession and assistance along your own journey of faith. If you receive a miracle or an answered prayer, contact the organization sponsoring that person's cause for canonization to share your good news. Together, may we attain the holiness God desires from each of us

-FR. PAUL NGUYEN, OMV



DIocese of SPRINGFIELD in ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

January 2022

My dear friends in Christ,

Over the past couple of years, the pandemic has magnified the importance of communication. Whether it was announcing the obligation to return to Mass, reporting on our first March for Life in Springfield, updating people on life issues at the Statehouse, highlighting the gifts and talents of our clergy and lay faithful, and sharing incredible stories about people in our diocese, *Catholic Times* has consistently been in people's mailboxes and inboxes to provide the hope, inspiration, and education they need during these uncertain times.

Over the past year, *Catholic Times* has continued its emphasis on catechesis of the Catholic faith such as their Hey, Father! series, a special edition dedicated to the sacrament of confession, and a comprehensive look at what eternity looks like and why we must strive for sainthood. Feature reporting is also a major part of the magazine highlighting the stories of people, parishes, and schools that are building up the Kingdom of God in our diocese. The magazine's commitment to local coverage means when it is opened, readers will see stories that are important to their lives.

In the past year, the magazine refreshed its look, which included increasing the font size slightly. Father Dominic Rankin also launched a new series that promotes and inspires people about the vocation of marriage.

My column, "Lex Cordis Caritas," is on page 4 of each issue. It is one of the best ways that I can speak about the issues that we face as Catholics in Central Illinois and update readers on important decisions I make that impact the faithful. As bishop of this diocese, it is important for me to be an active participant in Catholic media.

It is all these reasons why I believe that *Catholic Times* should be available to every household in our diocese, either online (ct.dio.org), by email, or by mail. I invite you to support this important communication tool in our diocese. During the weekend of Jan. 8-9, you will have the opportunity to respond gratefully and ensure the *Catholic Times* remains an inexpensive source of information on the vital issues I have noted.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

† Thomas John Paprocki

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois
Publisher, *Catholic Times*



Venerable Augustus Tolton,
Pray for us!

If you have submitted a name for prayers in the bulletin they will remain for one month. If you would like to ask the parish to continue praying, please let the parish office know by calling (618) 465-4284. Thank you for your prayers!

Requests for Prayers

Please remember our brothers and sisters, who are in need of prayer.

The Carey Keay Family, The Almeter Family, The Ringering Family, The Grossheim Family, Mark Crammond & Family, Lucy Rose Lucas, Naomi Fader, Barb Cronn, Everett O'Connor, Jack Droste, Greg Weirich, Sean Michael Donahue, Veronica Murray, Keith Houghton, Debra Houghton, Baby Olivia, Mary Jenniches, Phyllis Milford-Rill, Larry Greenwell, Emilee Tate, Pat Gorman, Liam Maher, G. Terry Westfall, Ellen Saville, Margarita Pulido, Bob Rill, Chris Henkhaus, Mike Mihalich, Kathleen Engdale, Martha Kraehmer, Michael Jennings, Jr., Francis Gonzales, Henry Leady, Matthew Paulda, Mary Wuellner, Stephen Turvey, Rollan "Jerry" Jouett, Samuel Madrey, John Wittman, Mary Ann Raymond, Trisha Middleton, Denny Meehan, Sarah Huber, Bill Cox, Joan Cox, Florence Sabaj, Bonnie Haegele, Carolyn Holt, Eric Holt, Joe Certa, Sr., Jenny Breden, Barbara Hill, Jim Budde, Carolyn McDey, Christie Lane, Ron Eaton, Donna Scheffel-Null, Vera Gray, Dolores Hill, Sharon McCoy, Ted Holt, Amy Terhaar, Cindy Klunk, Catharine Williams, Jerome Carrigan, Jeannette Krug, Pam Boutin, Toni, Donna Lavite, Toni Eichorn, Louis Ferraro, Nathan Robbins, Nicole Purcell, Our Friend Kathy, Robert Carter, Ayden Latham, Jack Hartmann, Jerome Baumann, Molly E., Jeff L., Mary Gillett, Dana Fallon, Mistina Holt, Douglas Richardson, Lexie Smith, Denny Hansen, baby Kendall Madrey, Rhonda Clark, Richard Davis, Larry Moylan, Gerald Yungling, Jan Nolan, Sharon McRoy, Jessica Boyd, Sara Ursprung, Mandy Buck O'Connor, Joe Mercurio, Steven G., Gary Harder, Angie Wiegand, Mark Riley, DeAnna Gleason, Mary Featherstone, Kelsey Thaxton, Judy Eckart, Stephen Adams, Susan Bowen, Kimmie Poisson, Rosemary Ruedin, Edie Ventimiglia, Michael Vitali, Anna Hartmann, John & Christine Mazzocchio, Tanner Critchfield, Chrissy Flanigan, Charlene Carpenter, Allison Brakeville, Jeremy Madison, Michael McNamee, Sr., Bill Greenwell, Beckett Krieg, Tyler Hamby, Mary Buckley, Faith McKaig, Julie Henkhaus, Thelma Kochan, Mike Oldershaw, Bryce C., Genarose Gearing, Kara S., Bill Fitzgerald, Tom Barrett, Emert Wyss, Ron Abraham, Mary Wicklund, Tom Boerner, Gerald Wilson, Bonnie Stemm, Patricia Meyer

Holy Mary, help those in need, give strength to the weak, comfort the sorrowful, pray for God's people, assist the clergy, and intercede for religious. May all who seek your help experience your unflinching protection. Amen.

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Focus: *The grace of God has appeared, saving all.*

All grace we receive – actual and sanctifying – comes through God's kindness, generous love, and mercy. Nothing we do merits this gift, or the salvation it provides. Through the sacraments, first among them baptism, we are infused with the Holy Spirit and made heirs in hope of eternal life.

In the first reading, Isaiah speaks the Lord's words for Jerusalem to take comfort because their service is at an end. In the second reading, Paul writes that {Christ} saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel, after Jesus is baptized, the Spirit descends upon him, and a voice speaks from heaven.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE Congratulations to

Dakota Parish & Alexa Keiser

Who will be married during the month of January.

We offer our best wishes and prayers that the peace of Christ may live always in their hearts and in their home!

PART ONE - THE PROFESSION OF FAITH SECTION TWO – THE CREEDS I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER

THE HOLY TRINITY IN THE TEACHING OF THE FAITH THE DIVINE WORKS AND THE TRINITARIAN MISSIONS

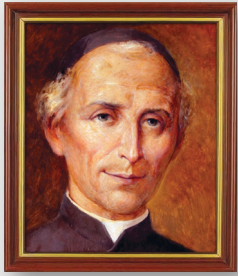
257. "O blessed light, O Trinity and first Unity!"⁹³ God is eternal blessedness, undying life, unfading light. God is love: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God freely wills to communicate the glory of his blessed life. Such is the "plan of his loving kindness", conceived by the Father before the foundation of the world, in his beloved Son: "He destined us in love to be his sons" and "to be conformed to the image of his Son", through "the spirit of sonship".⁹⁴ This plan is a "grace [which] was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began", stemming immediately from Trinitarian love.⁹⁵ It unfolds in the work of creation, the whole history of salvation after the fall, and the missions of the Son and the Spirit, which are continued in the mission of the Church.⁹⁶

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Jordan Cook, Kris Drake, Kyle Gray, Brian Gehm, Alaina Gehm, Johnny Braun, Grant Wanamaker, Trenton Brown, Michael Lucas, Drew Hargus, Steven Layne Blair, Jr., Joseph Brakeville, Keith Johnson, Joseph Buehlman, Teresa Buehlman, Austin Knebel, Megan Schuette, Daniel Chartrand, Morgun Yogore, William Kerr, Alex Geisen, Matthew Gonzales, Jacob Allen, Matt Jouett, Tamara Cardenas, Emily Keith, Lisa Haegele, Kyle Ontis, Kaleb Denney, Caleb Rench, Danny Geringer, Zach Meyer, Samantha Gorman, Lane Oliver, Alexander Jaworski, Lance Perkey, Jonathan McCullough, Samantha Hoehn, Grace Gerhart, Trent Ward, Michael Cooke, Ed Maag, Luke Plunkett, Abby Linscott, Eddie Frieling, Avery Geisen



Venerable Bruno Lanteri



"I urge you to begin each day leaving the past to the mercy of the Lord, and the future to his Divine Providence. Do not let yourself be troubled

by anything, not even by your own failings, taking care to overcome them immediately by an act of love of God. "

Learn more and request prayers online:
www.omvusa.org/bruno-lanteri/



DAILY ROSARY

Please join us each morning at 7:30am in the Church for our daily Rosary.
All are welcome to come and pray along!

PARISH OFFICE NEWS

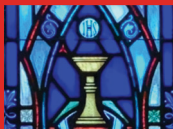
The Parish Office hours are
Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

In order to keep everyone safe and healthy, we do ask that when entering the Parish Office, please wear a mask and remember to social distance. While the Covid cases remain high in our area, we ask that if you can conduct business over the phone or via e-mail, please do so. Our after-hours drop box is also available if you wish to drop off something for the Parish Office or the school. We appreciate your understanding and patience!

Parish Office: (618) 465-4284

Laurie Horn ~ Laurie@stmarysalton.com
Tricia Conrad ~ Trish@stmarysalton.com

ST. MARY'S Adoration Chapel



<http://www.adorationpro.org/maryalton>

Additional Adorers Needed:

Mondays: 6:00pm
Tuesdays: 3:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm
Wednesdays: 8:00pm
Saturdays: 3:00pm, 4:00pm, 5:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:00pm
Sundays: 6:00pm

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE

The Alton Council 460 Knights of Columbus will be holding a Red Cross Blood Drive on January 28th from 12:00pm-5:00pm at the Saints Peter and Paul School Gym. There is an urgent need for Blood Donors due to the critical low level of available Blood at our hospitals.

Please sign up at:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/>
or use the direct link to the Knights Blood Drive:
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=KofC460Alton>



Rest in Peace



Your prayers are requested for the souls of

Tim Holt
(Son of Gene & Carolyn Holt)

Terry & Kathy Stromske

"May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace."

TRAVELING MARY IS BACK!!

What is it??

The traveling Mary, Our Lady of Grace statue is a tool to encourage families to come together to pray for vocations and to encourage young people to be open to the priesthood or religious life. The aim of the traveling Mary statue is to help the parish families become more aware of the need for vocations and of the possibility that God may be calling a member of their family to serve the Church in this way. Vocations become a normal conversation topic in the household, and individuals are able to learn more about the beauty of vocations.



How it Works

Families sign up to host Mary, Our Lady of Grace statue for one week (Sunday – Friday), gathering around the statue daily and using the Lanterian Prayer booklet to pray for vocations along with any other prayers of their choosing. The family will be invited forward to pick up the statue after the announcements, just before the final blessing. They will then return the statue to the parish office on the following wFriday so it can be passed along to another family within the Sunday masses. If the parish office is closed, please drop the statue off at the rectory.

Families who hosted the statue do not have to be present at the mass where the statue is passed on to another family. Please call the parish office at (618) 465-4284 to schedule a time for your family to spend with Mary.

FOSTER CARE SUPPORT

There is an urgent need for loving and supportive families to foster children in our region. If you have ever considered becoming foster parent or have the desire to support children in foster care by providing assistance to their foster parents, please join Caritas Family Solutions for an open house foster parent recruitment event on January 29th at 10:00am at Post Commons in Alton.

We also have a Zoom option available for those who wish to attend the event online: Meeting ID: 868 8918 4334 Passcode: 875989

Thank You!!

We would like to extend a huge thank you to our advertisers. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary's! We encourage our parishioners to patronize our supporting advertisers. If you would be interested in advertising in the St. Mary's bulletin, please contact the Parish office (465-4284) for price and size availability.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

We are happy to announce that Br. Nate Marzonie, Br. Leland Thorpe, and Br. Jonas Verdeflor will make their solemn profession of religious vows and they will be ordained to the diaconate! They will make their vows on Friday, January 28, 2022, and they will be ordained on Saturday, January 29, 2022. This will all take place at St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine in Boston, MA. We are grateful to God for calling these men to follow Him more closely in the religious life and in holy orders. Please pray for our brothers as they prepare for these important events!

Congratulations to
Br. Nate, Br. Leland and Br. Jonas!



Final Vows: January 28, 2022
Diaconate Ordination: January 29, 2022



Save The Date!!

Fr. Tim Gallagher Seminar:
Saturday, March 19, 2022.
Details coming soon!



IS GOD CALLING YOU??

The Oblates of the Virgin Mary want prospective candidates to grow in interior freedom as they seek God's plan for their lives. To assist in the discernment process, we are happy to provide discernment retreats and priestly spiritual direction for men aged 18 to 40. We invite you to visit Our Lady of Grace Seminary in Boston, where you will experience seminary life, accompanying the seminarians through the various activities of the day. The ideal time for visits is during the academic year, outside of the seminary's scheduled vacations. The rector and the formation staff will look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have. A visit will also give you the opportunity to witness the Oblates in action. Your experience should help you determine if you're ready to leave your current life and career and if you'll feel at home among our brothers. Most of all, we hope that your visit will afford plenty of time for you to pray and reflect on the call of Christ.

Here are some signs you are called to religious life and Oblate vocation:

1. A serious desire to become a saint.
2. A sincere devotion to the Holy Eucharist.
3. A loving relationship with the Virgin Mary.
4. Fidelity to the Pope and the Magisterium.
5. A humble spirit of service and sacrifice.
6. A desire for contemplative prayer and silence.
7. Capacity for friendship and community life.
8. A confident masculine identity and integrity.
9. Zeal for the salvation of souls.



Fr. Paul Nguyen, OMV
Ordained:
August 4, 2018



Fr. Rafael Solorio, OMV
Ordained:
July 3, 2019



Fr. Paul Kallal, OMV
Ordained:
August 15, 2020

Maybe one of these resonates with you...or maybe you are drawn to us in some other way. Everyone's path is unique. Trust! If you sense that you are being called to be an Oblate brother or priest, please contact Fr. John Luong at vocations@omvusa.org or 617-869-2429. You could also reach out to any of our current OMV's here at St. Mary's!

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR STAFF

MEET MRS. FOERSTERLING:

Hello from 5th grade! This will be my 22nd year teaching at St. Mary's School. I have taught kindergarten, 1st grade and currently 5th grade. I live in the area with my husband, daughter, son, and two dogs. My hobbies include crafting, shopping, and watching my kids play sports.



MY FAVORITE THINGS

Color: Lime green

Hobby: Crafting, watching my kids play sports

Food: Salmon

Candy: Raspberry mocha latte

Drink: Fountain Diet Pepsi

Sports Team: Anything Chicago or Bluff City baseball and softball

Book: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Animal: Dog

Season: Fall

2022 ST. MARY'S CALENDARS

The 2022 St. Mary's Church Calendars are now available! You can find them in the back of the Church. A free-will donation is being accepted. All funds raised will go towards the yearly dinner for our Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.

We would like to thank Schwartzkopf Printing for the beautiful printing and Elias, Kallal & Schaaf Funeral home for their generous contribution towards our 2022 calendars!

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
2022

**519 EAST FOURTH STREET
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Office FAX: 618-463-4637
Email: office@stmarysalton.com
Parish Website: www.stmarysalton.com
Parish Office Hours: M-F 8:00am to 3:30pm

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE
Weekday Masses 6:30am | 8:00am
During School Year Friday at 8:15am
First Friday of Month
6:30am | 8:00am | 5:15pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil 5:15pm
Sundays 6:30am | 8:00am | 9:30am | 11:00am | 6:00pm
Holy Day Vigil 5:15pm
Holy Days 6:30am | 8:00am | Noon | 5:15pm

CONFESSIONS
Saturdays 4:00pm to 5:00pm &
7:00pm to 8:00pm
First Fridays 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Project Rachel

The pain and sorrow of a past abortion need not endure for a lifetime. Call Project Rachel for a confidential, non-judgmental referral to those who can help: 1-877-RACHEL-5



PRAYER CORNER

A Prayer For Oblate Vocations

Loving Father, as Jesus taught us to beg the harvests master to send laborers into his vineyard, so we now ask you to bless the Oblates of the Virgin Mary with new vocations. May your Spirit draw men of integrity to love you intensely and to serve you courageously in poverty, chastity, and obedience. Reveal your mercy to them, and remove the distractions and fears that keep them from echoing Mary's joyful Yes. Guide them in discerning the mission for which you created them, so that they will become wise and gentle shepherds of souls. We ask this through the intercession of Venerable Bruno Lanteri, and in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.



MARCH FOR LIFE

Because...Life is Beautiful

The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois invites you to join us for a diocesan-wide pro-life Mass and march event on **Friday, January 21**, in Springfield at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

We will begin with Mass at 10:00am followed by an 11:00am march to the Illinois Capital. Like last year, the diocese has decided to forego a trip to Washington, D.C., and focus on a local march.

The Mass and march are intended for 7th-12th graders, college students, and adults.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL JOB OPPORTUNITY

AFTERCARE POSITION

St. Mary's School is seeking someone to work in our Aftercare program.

This position is Monday-Friday after school. Applicants must be at least 18 years old.

Interested applicants should email Sandy Meehan at smeehan@smsalton.com.

LITURGICAL ROLES

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES:

New schedules have gone out by email and through MSP.

If you are offline and need your schedule, contact the parish office.

If you would like to discontinue or change ministries, also contact us and we will get you set up.

If you have lost access to your account, contact msp@stmarysalton.com for assistance.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Servers and Lectors are welcome to resume all roles.

LIVE STREAMING SCHEDULE

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysalton>

No account or login is required to watch **Mass** at 8:00 am Daily

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ENTRIES:

On or before Tuesday at 3:30pm.

Please submit any bulletin requests (pending approval) to: trish@stmarysalton.com



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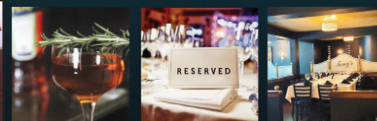
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