



Saint Mary's Catholic Church

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



PARISH COMMUNITY

Pastor

FR. CHRISTOPHER UHL, OMV
Bridge...College...Earthquake
cuhlomv@msn.com

FR. BENJAMIN UNACHUKWU, OMV

FR. LELAND THORPE, OMV

FR. DAVID BEAUREGARD, OMV

DEACON JIM SCHWARTZKOPF

PARISH OFFICE

Mon-Fri 8:30am to Noon & 1pm to 3:30pm

618-465-4284

Fax: 618-463-4637

VOICEMAIL & DROPBOX

SCHOOL OFFICE

618-465-8523

Middle School 618-465-9719

www.smsalton.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays & Saturdays:
6:30 am & 8:00 am

Saturdays: 5:15 pm
(for Sunday Obligation)

Sundays: 6:30 am, 8:00 am*, 9:30 am,
11:00 am & 5:15 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 am, 8:00 am

12:00 noon and 5:15 pm
(if announced)

First Friday of the Month: 5:15 pm

CONFESSIONS

First Friday Of The Month: 4:00-5:00pm

Saturday: 4:00-5:00pm & 7:00-8:00pm

Sunday: 4:45-5:15pm

AND BY APPOINTMENT

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK

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

BAPTISMS

On Sundays after the 11:00 a.m. Mass

Please contact the Parish Office to
make an appointment.

MARRIAGES

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

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

519 East fourth  Alton, Illinois

OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY

WWW.STMARYSALTON.COM

St. Mary's Catholic Church

ALTON, ILLINOIS

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 27, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 28

6:30 am Barbara Moehn†
8:00 am For the Special Int of
Fr. Ben

Tuesday, August 29

6:30 am Int of Rachel & Dale
Smith Family
8:00 am Theona "Spiv" Woelfelt

Wednesday, August 30

6:30 am Int of the Dan Hurley Family
8:00 am Martha Hartnett†
Father Chris – The People of
St. Mary's

Thursday, August 31

6:30 am Kyle Rill†
8:00 am Int of Mark & Mary Bohart

Friday, September 1

6:30 am Donna Greenwell†
8:00 am Zack Hunter†
5:15 pm OMV Vocations

Saturday, September 2

6:30 am Marcella Lanet†
8:00 am David Keasler†
5:15 pm Carol Cannella†

Sunday, September 3

6:30 am Everett Loy†
8:00 am Sarah Jane Karlast†
9:30 am Int of Mike Meyers
11:00 am Int of Terri McRae Downs
5:15 pm Fran Chappell†

Learning and Living Our Catholic Faith

The Song of the Church

The collection of psalms found in Scripture, composed as it was under divine inspiration, has, from the very beginnings of the Church, shown a wonderful power of fostering devotion among Christians as they offer to God a *continuous sacrifice of praise, the harvest of lips blessing his name*. Following a custom already established in the Old Law, the psalms have played a conspicuous part in the sacred liturgy itself, and in the divine office. Thus was born what Basil calls the voice of the Church, that singing of psalms, which is the daughter of that hymn of praise (to use the words of our predecessor, Urban VIII) which goes up unceasingly before the throne of God and of the Lamb, and which teaches those especially charged with the duty of divine worship, as Athanasius says, the way to praise God, and the fitting words in which to bless him. Augustine expresses this well when he says: *God praised himself so that man might give him fitting praise; because God chose to praise himself man found the way in which to bless God*.

The psalms have also a wonderful power to awaken in our hearts the desire for every virtue. Athanasius says: *Though all Scripture, both old and new, is divinely inspired and has its use in teaching, as we read in Scripture itself, yet the Book of Psalms, like a garden enclosing the fruits of all the other books, produces its fruits in song, and in the process of singing brings forth its own special fruits to take their place beside them*. In the same place Athanasius rightly adds: *The psalms seem to me to be like a mirror, in which the person using them can see himself, and the stirrings of his own heart; he can recite them against the background of his own emotions*. Augustine says in his *Confessions*: *How I wept when I heard your hymns and canticles, being deeply moved by the sweet singing of your Church. Those voices flowed into my ears, truth filtered into my heart, and from my heart surged waves of devotion. Tears ran down, and I was happy in my tears*.

Indeed, who could fail to be moved by those many passages in the psalms which set forth so profoundly the infinite majesty of God, his omnipotence, his justice and goodness and clemency, too deep for words, and all the other infinite qualities of his that deserve our praise? Who could fail to be roused to the same emotions by the prayers of thanksgiving to God for blessings received, by the petitions, so humble and confident, for blessings still awaited, by the cries of a soul in sorrow for sin committed? Who would not be fired with love as he looks on the likeness of Christ, the redeemer, here so lovingly foretold? His was the voice Augustine heard in every psalm, the voice of praise, of suffering, of joyful expectation, of present distress.

From the apostolic constitution Divino afflatu of Pope Saint Pius X

**THE 2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND WILL BE FOR THE
MADISON COUNTY ST. SERRA VOCATIONS CLUB.**

**THE 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND WILL BE FOR
OUR ST. MARY'S CAPITAL FUND.**

Please contact the parish office if you need prayers or want to have prayers said for a relative or friend. Several times a year when the list gets long, we will begin again with a new list after a notice in the bulletin; at that time simply let the parish office know if you still require prayers. Our new office emails are: carolyn@stmarysalton.com and marci@stmarysalton.com

Requests for Prayers

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

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

Chuck Hughes, Kay Barnett, Laura Wright, Kay Ansell, Don Williams, Richard Hudanick, Celeste Frasier, Sylvia Manns, Katie Butler Simpson, Nancy Gonzales, Madison Krankel, Mary Miles, Joseph Fischer, Carol Henkhaus, Cheryl Whitten, Sarah Stirton, Chuck Pohlman, JoAnn Acheson, Roy Geisen, Toni Messinger, Sophie H., Mary Thompson, Ava Holt, Doug Manns, Joseph Gleason, Ann Reilly, Richard DuPatz, Jeff Vaughn, Levi McDonald, Allison Brakeville, Sydney Hosford, Darrell Dugger, Christopher Taul, Ted Holt, Jana Howell, Michael Raymond, Mary Featherstone, Phil Pohlman, Randy Ledbetter, Margaret Schwegel, Joe Bayer, Sean Michael Donahue, Ellen Saville, Bob & Phyllis Rill, Mike Hanahan, Leah Grace & Family, Linda Schafer, Mackenzie Haegle, Walter Gregory, Jenny Breden, Florence Sabaj, Terry Westfall, Rosemary Ruedin, Rollan (Jerry) Jouett, Stephen Jouett, Dolores Hill, Barbara Hill, James Eberhardt, Nancy Erickson, Kathleen Anderson, Matthew Cleland, Roy Kubicek, Amy Terhaar, Olga Korniyukhova, Julie Huch, Jim Wicklund, Nina Greenwell, Rick Faccin, Meredith Ragsdale, Vince Walter, Joan Conrad, Kathleen Eddy

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 unfailing protection. Amen.

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 Haegle, Kyle Ontis, Kaleb Denney, Caleb Rench, Danny Geringer, 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, Ellanour Brass, Austen Goheen, Matthew Bazzell, J.C. Wuellner, Grant Haegle

THE 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 ~ Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 ~ Matthew 15:21-28

Focus: Rely on God for wisdom.

Simon Peter didn't "figure out" Jesus' identity on his own. Rather, God Himself revealed to Peter that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Rather than relying only on our own intellect, we must be open to what the Lord is trying to tell us – or else we may miss something crucial.

In the first reading, Eliakim is given the tokens of the master of the palace and the Lord gives him authority over the palace to be a father to all Jerusalem. Saint Paul writes to the Romans that God's knowledge and wisdom are unfathomable. In the Gospel, when Jesus asks who the crowds say He is, the disciples give varied answers. Peter answers correctly and Jesus gives him the keys of the kingdom.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PART ONE - THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

SECTION TWO – THE CREEDS

THE WORLD WAS CREATED FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

HEAVEN AND EARTH

THE VISIBLE WORLD

343 Man is the summit of the Creator's work, as the inspired account expresses by clearly distinguishing the creation of man from that of the other creatures.²¹¹

COMING SOON AT ST. MARY'S

Lanteri Guild Meeting - August 28

St. Mary's Golf Tournament – Sept. 9

Register w/Parish Office for
Eucharistic Congress by Sept. 15

Coffee & Doughnut Sunday – Sept. 17

Life Chain Sunday – October 1

Oktoberfest – October 6, 7, 8

Recent Baptisms

Tripp Michael Dodson

Son of Corey and Samantha (Chappell) Dodson

We welcome him as the newest member baptized into our Catholic Faith. May God bless him as he grows in His love.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

2nd announcement between

Michael Lis-Planells and Maria Wendle

FIRST FRIDAY

This week is the First Friday and Saturday of the month of September, days on which we traditionally honor Our Lord and His mother through the Sacraments of Confession and Communion.

Masses: Fri & Sat: 6:30am and 8am, and

Fri: 5:15pm

Confessions: Fri: 4:00-5:00 pm and Adoration in the Church

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

St. Mary's School admits students of any race, color, sex or national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and school administered programs.

MASS INTENTIONS

Would you like to have a Mass said for a living or deceased loved one, for your own intentions, or for your family's intentions? We have quite a few "open Mass times", especially 6:30am Daily Masses and 5:15pm Sunday Masses. Just contact or stop by the parish office to ask for a date and time. The normal Mass stipend is \$10.



The 24th Annual St. Mary's Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, September 9, 2023, at Woodlands Golf Club. There will be 2 tee times, 7:45am and 1:30pm. Registration is now open and sponsors are needed.

All information can be found here: <https://stmarysalton.com/golf-tournament>

SCRIP Back-to-School Orders

We are offering the opportunity to get a head start on your Scrip goals by placing orders for families through the school at no convenience fee or shipping costs. The deadline for ordering is September 1st.

Every school family is required to purchase \$1000 in Scrip for the 2023-2024 School year.

Order forms must be sent to the parish office or school office no later than September 1st.

The forms being sent home include local vendors plus other common participating vendors. There are many other vendors available online at www.RaiseRight.com

Orders will be sent home with children from school. Please provide the teacher and grade for convenience when organizing the orders.

Visa gift cards have been added to the list with NO activation fees!

If there are any questions, please email Kim at thenugens@sbcglobal.net

JOIN US! RUN, WALK, & FELLOWSHIP

St Mary's is currently forming a group for runners (and walkers) to promote fitness and fellowship among our parish family. The group meets for group runs at least twice a month for a run/or walk followed by snacks and drinks after the run.

For more information and to see the latest events or schedule changes, follow the St. Mary's Running Group Facebook page (you don't need an account to view the info) or Instagram @ [st.marys.running.group](https://www.instagram.com/st.marys.running.group).



PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)

PSR began August 23. If you did not get the opportunity to register your children, you may still stop by the parish office and do so. St. Mary's PSR is for children who attend public school, grades 1 – 8. We meet every Wednesday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. You can find PSR Registration Packets in the parish office. Please read carefully, fill out the forms, and return to the parish office as soon as possible. You may also use the parish office drop box if you come by after hours or on the weekend.

Invitation to Participate? Curious about Catholicism?

Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home? Have you been sitting in the pew next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what you have to do to become Catholic? Have you been listening in to our Facebook Live services? Statistics show that most people respond to a personal invitation: So this is that personal invitation! Join us for refreshments, conversation, questions and answers about Jesus and the Catholic Church beginning Thursday, Sept. 7. Please leave your contact information: name, email address, and phone number at this email address, rcia@stmarysalton.com; or call the parish office at 618-465-4284. Come and see!

NEW NUMBER? NEW ADDRESS?

In trying to reach some of our parishioners, we notice that often people who are registered with St. Mary's did so with a landline phone number; now many people have done away with their landlines and only have cell phone numbers. If you have a new phone number, you've changed your address, you have never registered your email address or have a new email address, please drop a line to the parish office! We'd love to have your registry updated. Contact us at carolyn@stmarysalton.com or marci@stmarysalton.com. You can even drop a note in the collection basket for us! *Thank you!*

St. Mary's School has the following openings for the 2023-2024 school year:

Part-time Bus Driver – St. Mary's School is seeking a part-time bus driver for the 2023-2024 school year. Applicants must have or be willing to obtain the following: Class B CDL License, Passenger Endorsement and School Bus Endorsement. St. Mary's will pay for the licenses and endorsements.

To apply, please contact Beth Hogg at bhogg@smsalton.com. Interested candidates should send a resume that includes references as well as a cover letter.



POCKET CHANGE FOR SERRA COLLECTION

This weekend in the 2nd Collection we will have the opportunity to support our area's own St. Serra Vocations Club of Madison County through a special 2nd collection. The St. Serra Vocations Club fosters and supports vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Please consider giving just a little of what you have, or your "pocket change!" to help us in our mission. Your money will be used wisely within the confines of Madison/Jersey/Calhoun Counties to support current and future Church vocations. Thank you and God bless you!

The Madison County Serrans were chartered September 2010. If you would like to know more about us or join us, please contact Dorothy Droste, Vice President of Membership at 618-466-7746, for information.

AN AFFAIR OF THE ART

Sponsor the Alton Catholic Children's Home's popular art auction. There are 5 levels, corporate or individual: Platinum (\$5000); Gold (\$2500), Silver (\$1000); Bronze (\$500); Friends of CCH (\$25 and up). In addition, there are four advertisement sponsorships available for this event: full pg (\$250); 1/2-pg (\$100); 1/4-pg (\$50); business card (\$25). Please return your information with payment to Catholic Children's Home, Attn: Michael Shelton-Montez/DeAnn Gleason, 1400 State Street, Alton, IL 62002. You can email your approved ad to masmontez@yahoo.com. For more information call 618-465-3594.

New! SCRIP UPDATE!!

In addition to all our other great gift cards, we are trying a few new cards! --Jimmy Johns (\$25 cards), Papa Johns, Sonic & Krispy Kreme (all \$10 cards). Also, the Alton Golden Corral has recently reopened and we have gift cards for them!

Many gift cards are available in the parish office or purchases can be made online www.RaiseRight.com or on the Raise Right App. We have Visa gift cards with NO activation fees!! Questions? Need help? Ask Kim at: thenugens@sbcglobal.net Thank you for helping support St. Mary's School!

MARQUETTE MEGA RAFFLE

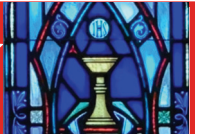
Tickets go on sale Monday 8/14 for the MCHS annual \$50,000 Mega Raffle! Tickets can be purchased online by going to www.marquettecatholic.org/megaraffle or contact the Development office at 618-463-0585 ext. 1. Don't miss your chance at winning \$62,000 total in cash prizes! Six early bird drawings for \$1,000 each will be drawn on the following dates: 8/19, 8/25, 9/1, 9/8, 9/15, & 9/22. Thank you to Carrollton Bank and Liberty Bank for your support of our early bird drawings! Buy early for more chances to win!

FORMED NEWS!

Know your Faith better!! FORMED offers many wonderful programs for both children and adults. During the summer families might try to commit to watching one FORMED program together a week, ending with a little conversation about what you watched afterward. What a great way to grow together in your faith and family life! To learn more, visit our FORMED page at www.stmarysalton.com/formed. If you don't have a FORMED account, you can create one through the FORMED link.



ST. MARY'S Adoration Chapel



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

Adorers Needed:

Thursdays: 7:00pm

Saturdays: 4:00pm, 5:00pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm

Additional Adorers Needed:

Mondays: 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 6:00pm

Tuesdays: 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm

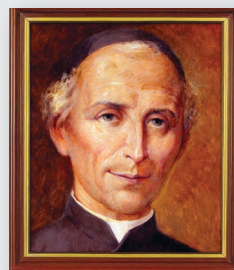
Wednesdays: 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm

Thursdays: 3:00pm, 4:00pm

Fridays: 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:00pm

Saturdays: 3:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm

Venerable Bruno Lanteri



"We must learn to fall, yes, but to rise immediately, and to seek forgiveness without being surprised or burdened by regret. We must not give up, no matter how many or how great the failings may be, but rather humble ourselves, repent, and rise from them the more distanced from them."

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

LANTERI GUILD

(last Monday of each month)

Are you interested in knowing more about the founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary and growing in your Catholic Faith? Join Fr. Ben and the Lanteri Guild as members will be meeting on Monday, August 28, beginning with Mass at 7:00pm to discuss more about Venerable Bruno Lanteri and growing deeper in our faith. All are welcome!

Marquette Catholic High School Open House

Sunday, September 10, 2023, 1 -3 pm

Middle school students and parents - stop by, take a tour, and meet some of our faculty and students! Questions - contact Karen Coles, kcoles@mymchs.org or (618) 463-0585 x2



The poster is titled "The Holiest Adventure" in a large, elegant script font, with "Vocation Adventure Days" in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. Two QR codes are positioned on either side of the title. Below the title, there are two columns of information. The left column is for "Mother & Daughter" and the right column is for "Father & Son". Each column lists a date, time, location, and a brief description of the event. The background of the poster features silhouettes of people.

Mother & Daughter	Father & Son
September 16, 2023 10:00 AM-6:00 PM	October 14, 2023 10:00 AM-6:00 PM
St. Francis Convent 1 Franciscan Way Alton, IL 62002	Evermode Institute 4875 Laverna Road Springfield, IL 62707
Any girls in grades 4-9 and their mothers	Any boys in grades 4-9 and their fathers

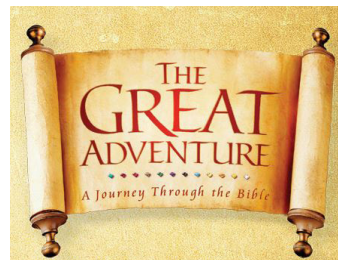
VALMEYER 2023 CHURCH PICNIC

September 17, 11am to 6pm. Sponsored by St. Mary Catholic Church and St. John UCC. Live music, Fried Chicken, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Homemade sides, Country Store, Silent Auction, Raffle Tickets, Kids' Games. Carry-outs available.

PRAYER CORNER

Trust in Jesus

O Christ Jesus,
when all is darkness
and we feel our weakness and helplessness,
give us the sense of Your presence,
Your love, and Your strength.
Help us to have perfect trust
in Your protecting love
and strengthening power,
so that nothing may frighten or worry us,
for, living close to You,
we shall see Your hand,
Your purpose, Your will through all things. Amen.
~St Ignatius of Loyola



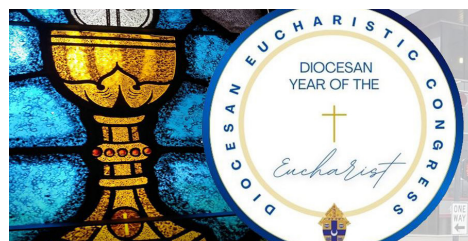
THE GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE STUDY!

Join Fr. Chris this fall for The Great Adventure Bible Study!

Where: St. Mary's Parish Center, 1015 Milton Rd.

When: Beginning, Tuesday, October 24

This *Bible Timeline*® study program takes you on a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins will show you how fourteen of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and will give you the keys to understanding the amazing story woven throughout Scripture. It will transform how you read the Bible and how you hear it proclaimed at Mass!



EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

You are invited to a historical diocesan-wide celebration at the BOS Center in Springfield – To celebrate the Diocesan Year of the Eucharist and the 100th anniversary of the transfer of the See city from Alton to Springfield, the Eucharistic Congress is taking place Saturday, October 28 at the BOS Center in Springfield. This dynamic experience **will include nationally recognized Catholic speakers such as Scott Hahn and, locally, our very own Sr. M. Karolyn, FSGM; Catholic vendors; adoration; confession; Mass; and more.** The arena will be packed with thousands of Catholics from across the diocese. To attend, call or email the parish office before Sept 15 as each parish in the diocese is given a specific number of available seats. If you email the office (carolyn@stmarysalton.com), please include the name of each attendee, their emails, cell phone #s, and if anyone has a disability. For more information on the event, the schedule, or financially supporting/sponsoring the event, visit dio.org.

Project Rachel – Help for women and men to heal from the pain of abortion. For assistance call 1-877-RACHEL-5.

NEWS ON HOME MASSES

We have celebrated many special "home Masses". At your summer family gatherings, please consider this unique and beautiful way to bless your family and/or bless a special celebration in your family. If you are interested in a home Mass, please contact one of the priests here at St. Mary's and we will arrange it.

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: Carolyn Simansky at carolyn@stmarysalton.com



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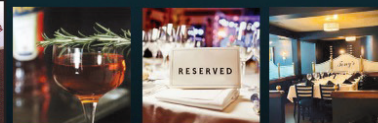
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