



Holy Cross Catholic Church

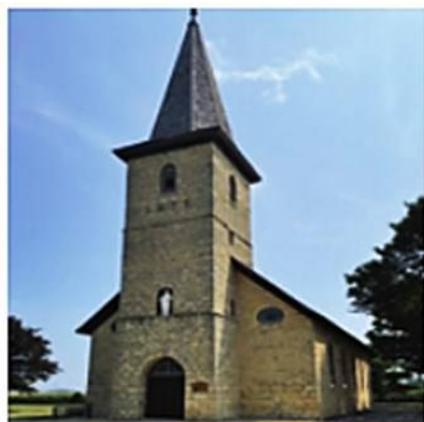
1010 Jefferson Street
Mendota, IL 61342
Phone: 815-538-6151
Fax: 815-539-5014
www.mendotacatholic.org

Mailing Address
1010 Jefferson Street
Mendota, IL 61342

Mass Schedule - Check inside cover

Confessions - Wednesdays 12pm - 1pm, Thursdays 5pm - 6pm
and Saturdays 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Adoration Chapel - Monday-Friday 9am - 10pm



Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

3888 First Road
Mendota, IL 60342
Phone: 815-538-6151
Fax: 815-539-5014
www.mendotacatholic.org

Mailing Address
1010 Jefferson Street
Mendota, IL 61342

Mass Schedule - Check inside cover

Confessions - Sunday 8:20am - 8:50am



St. Theresa Catholic Church

221 W. Union Street
Earlville, IL 60518
Phone: 815-538-6151
Fax: 815-539-5014
www.mendotacatholic.org

Mailing Address
1010 Jefferson Street
Mendota, IL 61342

Mass Schedule - Check inside cover

Confessions - Saturday 4:00pm - 4:45pm

Adoration - 1st Friday of each month

Homebound and Hospital Visits:

Please call the office and visits will be arranged.

Cemetery lot purchase:

Please call

Steve Schmitt at
Mendota Monument Company 815-538-5276

Our Parish Mission Statement: *To help all persons live out and understand the relevance and priority of Jesus Christ and His Gospel in the Catholic Faith.*

Pastor: Fr. Peter A. Pilon

Parochial

Vicar: Fr. Jeff Windy

Deacons: Deacon Ray Fischer
Deacon Jose Lopez
Deacon Hector Diaz

Music Director: Roy VanOpdorp

Director of Religious Education
Brian R. Corrigan

Business Manager

Lorraine Walter

Administrative Assistant

Mary Lou Flahive

Ready, Set, Grow Extended Care

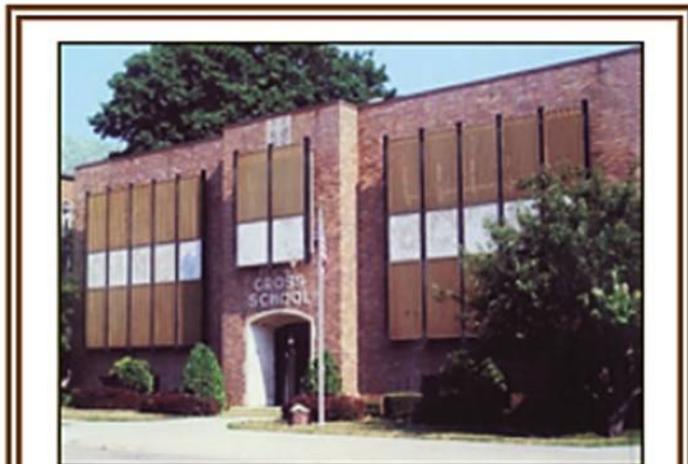
✠ Julie Winner - 815-538-7604

✠ Offers Day Care for 3 year old to 12 year old.

Learning Lambs Pre-School

✠ 815-539-7003

✠ 3 yr old and 4 yr old sessions



Holy Cross School

1008 Jefferson St. Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-7003

Principal - Michael Struna

Baptisms: Pre-Baptismal instruction is required.

Call the Parish office for information and scheduling.

Weddings: Before any other arrangements are made, contact the parish priest 6 to 8 months in advance.



PARTICIPATE VIA ZOOM!



The weekend Mass schedule:
At Holy Cross Saturday Vigil—4 p.m.
At St. Theresa Saturday Vigil—5 p.m.
At Holy Cross—6:30 a.m.
At St. Theresa—8 a.m.
At Ss. Peter & Paul—9 a.m.
At Holy Cross—10:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass in Spanish—12 p.m.

Fr. Pilon's Masses will continue to be live streamed via the Zoom connection we have been using.

Here is the link for the Zoom site:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjltNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09>

Meeting ID: 913 805 0856

Password: 811195

Please help spread the word so all of our parishioners are aware of this new development. The link, ID, and Password are the same for all of the Masses. If there are any questions, Fr. Pilon may be reached by email at: frppilon@holycrossmendota.com

Sunday, Jan 8th The Epiphany of the Lord

- 6:30 a.m. +James Hessenberger by Robert & Deb Stachlewitz
- 8:00 a.m. **@St. Theresa:** +Virginia McLachlan by Deb Rose and Rose Rose
- 9:00 a.m. **@Ss. Peter & Paul:** +Mary Catherine Sondgeroth by Family
- 10:30 a.m. +Ashley Heiting by David Stremiau & Nancy
- 12:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish - Las Almas del Purgatorio por Raúl Díaz

Monday, Jan 9th The Baptism of the Lord

- 8:00 a.m. **@St. Theresa:** Special Intentions of the Kuczek Family
- 7:00 p.m. +Don Full by Bruce & Lorraine Walter

Tuesday, Jan 10th

- 7:00 a.m. +Sandy Leonard by Tom & Mary Heitmann
- 8:00 a.m. **@St. Theresa:** +In Loving Memory of Linda Bouche by Mike & Andrea Moore

11:30 a.m. Mass at OSF St. Paul: Special Intention

Wednesday, Jan 11th

- 7:00 a.m. **@St. Theresa:** +Fr. Ted Hochstatter by Susanna Stremiau Prushinski
- 8:00 a.m. +Evelyn Michel by Mahaffey & Setchell Families
- 12 p.m.—1 p.m. — Confessions

Thursday, Jan 12th

- 7:00 a.m. +Don Norton by Barb Lane
- 8:00 a.m. **@St. Theresa:** +Danny Arredondo by Tia, Yaya, Alex & Brandy
- 5 p.m.—6 p.m. — Confessions

Friday, Jan 13th Saint Hilary of Poitiers

- 7:00 a.m. **@St. Theresa:** +Rich Milazzo by Rita Laskey
- 8:10 a.m. +Captain Thomas Heitmann by Tom & Mary Heitmann

Saturday, Jan 14th Blessed Virgin Mary

- 2:30 p.m. Confessions
- 4:00 p.m. +Scott Thompson by Roger Weitzel Family
- 5:00 p.m. **@St. Theresa:** +

Sunday, Jan 15th 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 6:30 a.m. Parishioners
- 8:00 a.m. **@St. Theresa:** +Ted & Margaret Seed in Thanksgiving
- 9:00 a.m. **@Ss. Peter & Paul:** +Rita Happ by Family
- 10:30 a.m. +Ben Bokus by Family
- 12:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish - +Luis Castañeda por Familia



LECTOR'S SCHEDULE

- 4:00 p.m. Saturday, Jan 14..... N. Goble
- 6:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan 15..... R. Bergmark
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan 15..... C. Fischer
- 4:00 p.m. Saturday, January 21..... T. Leffelman
- 6:30 a.m. Sunday, January 22..... R. Arteaga
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday, January 22..... M. Heitmann

If you would like to be a Lector for our weekend Masses, please contact the parish office, or email:

briancorriganhcdre@gmail.com or mlflahive53@comcast.net

SOWING SEEDS OF FAITH...
FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH
IN YOUR ESTATE PLANNING.
MAY THE LORD BLESS
YOUR GENEROSITY!

SEEDS *-of-* FAITH



**STS. PETER AND PAUL PARISH, PETERSTOWN
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PEORIA
JANUARY 8, 2023**

**Fr. Peter Pilon,
Pastor
Fr. Jeff Windy,
Parochial Vicar**

**SUNDAY MASS AT STS. PETER & PAUL:
Sunday 9:00 a.m.**

**CONFESSIONS AT STS. PETER & PAUL:
8:30 a.m. Sunday**



Mass Intentions

**Sun. Jan 8 9:00 a.m. The Epiphany of the Lord
+Mary Catherine Sondgeroth
by Family**

**Sun. Jan 15 9:00 a.m. Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
+Rita Happ by Family**

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

**Lector
Sun. Jan 15 Dar Wujek**

\$\$\$ DAILY DOLLAR WINNERS \$\$\$

Sat. Dec 31	2968	50.00	Donna Clinton
Sun. Jan 01	1832	1000.00	William Sondgeroth
Mon. Jan 02	1413	100.00	Sheila Wojciechowski
Tue. Jan 03	1089	50.00	Liz Zimmerman
Wed. Jan 04	0265	50.00	Joe & Diane Spanier
Thur. Jan 05	0406	50.00	Julie Malach
Fri. Jan 06	0433	50.00	Dennis Henkel

Collection for January 1st, 2023

Sunday Collection:	\$999.00
Christmas:	165.00
First Offering:	75.00
Total:	\$1,239.00



2023 Holy Cross Daily Dollars are here! If you need more, they are available in the church's vestibule, or in the parish office. Please return your sold (and any unsold) tickets. Thank you for supporting Holy Cross School!

*A Prayer for Trust and Confidence in God's Mercy
by St. Pio of Pietrelcina*

 Lord, we ask for a boundless confidence and trust in Your divine mercy, and the courage to accept the crosses and sufferings which bring immense goodness to our souls and that of Your Church. Help us to love You with a pure and contrite heart, and to humble ourselves beneath Your cross, as we climb the mountain of holiness, carrying our cross that leads to heavenly glory. May we receive You with great faith and love in Holy Communion, and allow You to act in us as You desire for your greater glory. O Jesus, most adorable heart and eternal fountain of Divine Love, may our prayer find favor before the Divine Majesty of Your heavenly Father.

DISCIPLESHIP CORNER:

“Evangelization is about the opportunity to “enlighten all people with the brightness of Christ, which gleams over the face of the Church, by preaching the Gospel to every creature.”

~Lumen Gentium

faith

ST THERESA, EARLVILLE
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PEORIA
JANUARY 8, 2023



Fr. Peter Pilon,
Pastor

Fr. Jeff Windy,
Parochial Vicar

Masses at St Theresa
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am
Weekday Masses
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday : 8:00 am
Wednesday & Friday: 7:00 am
Confessions: 4:00 to 4:45 on Saturday



Mass Intentions

- Sun. Jan 8** **The Epiphany of the Lord**
8:00 a.m. +Virginia McLachlan by Roger & Deb Lane
- Mon. Jan 9** **The Baptism of the Lord**
8:00 a.m. Special Intentions of the Kuczek Family
- Tues. Jan 3**
8:00 a.m. +In Loving Memory of Linda Bouche
by Mike & Andrea Moore
- Wed. Jan 4**
7:00 a.m. +Fr. Ted Hochstatter
by Susanna Stremlau Prushinski
- Thur. Jan 5**
8:00 a.m. +Don Norton by Barb Lane
- Fri. Jan 6** **Saint Hilary of Poitiers**
7:00 a.m. +Rich Milazzo by Rita Laskey
- Sat. Jan 7** **Blessed Virgin Mary**
4:00 p.m. +Robert Burns by the Powell Family
- Sun. Jan 8** **The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:00 a.m. Ted & Margaret Seed in Thanksgiving

Collection for January 1st

Sunday Collection:	\$642.00
Food Pantry:	70.00
Candles:	12.00
Total:	\$724.00

Cemetery: \$5.00

Lector & Extraordinary Minister
of Holy Communion Schedule

Saturday, Jan. 14th **Sunday, Jan 15th**
Lector: **NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE**
EMHC: EMHC:



January 8th there will be a Potluck supper and Bingo party. Come and join us. A sure cure for the post holiday let

down and the cold weather. Bring a dish to pass (sign up in vestibule). Bingo with prizes, will be played after supper. The last game of the night will be a \$100.00 gift card from Casey's. No use staying home, counting snowflakes. Join us in the hall for some good food and fun.



We will be taking down the Christmas decorations on Tues. Jan. 10 after the 8am Mass. Anyone that can spend a few minutes helping pack up the decorations would be greatly appreciated. Thank You!

May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

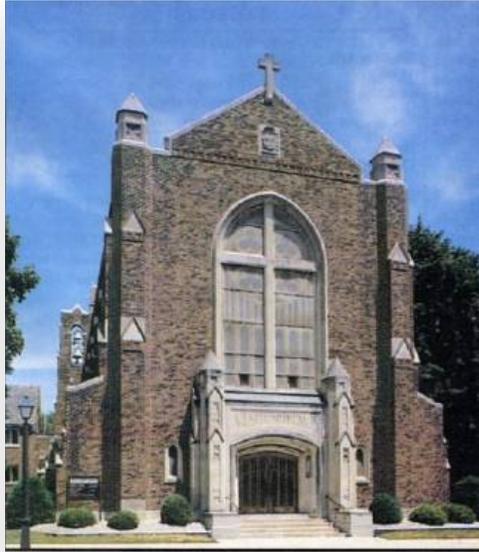


St. Theresa of Avila

Iglesia de la Santa Cruz

Diócesis Católica de Peoria
1010 Jefferson Street
Mendota, Il. 61342
Tel. 815 538-6151 Fax: 815 539-5014

Párroco: Padre Pedro Pilon Diáconos: José López y Héctor Díaz
8 de Enero 2023
La Epifanía del Señor



Bautismos, Bodas, o Quinceañeras

Llamar a la Oficina

Bodas antes de hacer preparaciones para una boda

Llame a la oficina 6 a 8 meses antes de la boda

Obligado a estar en casa si necesita que le llevemos la comunión porque este enfermo por favor llame a la oficina

Grupos de Oración:

+Renovación Carismática: jueves a las 6- 8 pm

Confesiones

Sábado - 2:30 pm—3:45 pm

Jueves de 5 pm a 6 pm confesiones en español

Dios habita entre su pueblo en la carne de Jesucristo, nacido en Belén de antaño, presente en la Eucaristía de nuestros días.

Como los reyes magos, traigamos los dones de nuestra adoración ante el en alabanza, adoración, y acción de gracias

Horario de las misas

Domingo: 6:30 a.m. Holy Cross. /8am St. Teresa/
9am Ss. Peter and Paul. /10:30 a.m. Holy Cross/(inglés)

12 p.m. (español)

Lunes: 8 a.m. Earlville 7 p.m. Holy Cross

Martes: 7 a.m. Holy Cross/ 8 a.m. St. Teresa 8 a.m.

Miércoles 7 a.m. Earlville/ 8 a.m. Holy Cross

Jueves 7 a.m. Holy Cross / 8 a.m. St. Teresa

Viernes 7 a.m. Earlville /8 a.m. Holy Cross

Sábado 4 p.m. Holy Cross / 5 p.m. St. Teresa

Intenciones para Misa

01/15: 12 p.m. +Luis Castañeda por Familia

01/22: 12 p.m. +José Barajas por su Esposa

Lectores

01/15 Carlos Moreno y Ramona Escatel

01/22 Carolina Martínez y Susana Correa

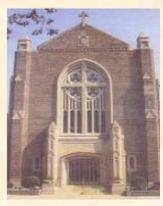
Ministros de Eucaristía

01/15: 12 p.m. Enedina Magallanes y Jesús Díaz

01/22: 12 p.m. Carolina Martínez y Carlos Moreno

‘... abrieron sus tesoros y le ofreció regalos de oro, incienso y mirra. Y habiendo sido advertido en sueños que no volviérais a Herodes, partieron para sus país por otro camino.
~Mateo 2.12





La Epifanía del Señor



HOY, CELEBRAMOS LA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR, y observamos como una profecía se convierte en realidad. ¿Qué significa "epifanía"? Se define como una aparición o manifestación, especialmente de una deidad. Y así hoy tenemos magos que viajan desde el este para preguntar: '¿Dónde está el rey recién nacido de los judíos?'

Nuestra lectura del Evangelio de este fin de semana está repleta de significado, tanto oculto como abierto. Tenga en cuenta que no se da el número de magos. Nuestra tradición es tal que decimos que fueron tres, y esto se basa en gran medida en la cantidad de regalos que se dan, de modo que cada regalo se atribuye a un dador. Tampoco se mencionan nombres en relación con estos magos. De nuevo, nuestra tradición les ha dado los nombres de Gaspar, Melchor y Baltasar. ¿Y qué es exactamente 'magos' de todos modos?

El término magos proviene de la forma plural del latín "magus" y del griego "magoi". La enciclopedia católica en línea www.newadvent.org nos dice que "Podemos formar una conjetura por evidencia no bíblica de un significado probable de la palabra magoi. Herodoto (I, ci) es nuestra autoridad para suponer que los magos eran la casta sagrada de los medos. Proporcionaron sacerdotes para Persia y, a pesar de las vicisitudes dinásticas, siempre mantuvieron su influencia religiosa dominante". El texto continúa: "La palabra magoi a menudo tiene el significado de "mago", tanto en el Antiguo como en el Nuevo Testamento (ver Hechos 8:9, 13:6, 8; también la Septuaginta de Daniel 1:20, 2:2, 2:10, 2:27, 4:4, 5:7, 5:11, 5:15). San Justino (Tryph. Ixxviii), Orígenes (Cels., I, ix), San Agustín (Serm. Xx, De epiphania) y San Jerónimo (en Isa., xix, 1) encuentran el mismo significado en el segundo capítulo de Mateo, aunque esta no es la interpretación común."

¿Hero eran reyes?

El sitio web continúa diciendo: 'Ningún padre de la Iglesia sostiene que los magos hayan sido reyes'. Tertuliano dice que casi eran reyes (fere reges), y por eso está de acuerdo con lo que hemos concluido de la evidencia no bíblica. La Iglesia, en efecto, en su liturgia, aplica a los magos las palabras: los reyes de Tarsis y de las islas ofrecerán presentes; los reyes de Arabia y de Seba le traerán presentes, y todos los reyes de la tierra le adorarán" (Salmo 72:10). Pero este uso del texto en referencia a ellos

no prueba más que eran reyes de lo que traza su viaje desde Tarsis, Arabia y Seba. Como sucede a veces, una adaptación litúrgica de un texto ha llegado a ser considerada por algunos como una interpretación auténtica del mismo. Tampoco eran magos: el buen significado de magoi, aunque no se encuentra en ningún otro lugar de la Biblia, lo exige el contexto del segundo capítulo de San Mateo. Estos Magos no pueden haber sido otros que miembros de la casta sacerdotal ya referida. La religión de los Magos era fundamentalmente la de Zoroastro y prohibía la hechicería; su astrología y su habilidad para interpretar los sueños fueron ocasiones para que encontraran a Cristo.

Otro punto a notar sobre nuestra lectura del evangelio de hoy es que la visita de los magos tiene lugar después de la Presentación del niño en el Templo (ver Lc 2:38). Hay muchas buenas razones para considerar que los magos finalmente habrían encontrado y visitado al niño Jesús un año o un poco más después de su nacimiento.

El 28 de diciembre, cuando la Iglesia honró y celebró la Fiesta de los Santos Inocentes, escuchamos que Herodes ordenó la destrucción de todos los niños varones menores de dos años.

Tenga en cuenta también que fue en un sueño que se advirtió a los magos que no regresaran a Herodes, como también se le advirtió a José en un sueño: **"Levántate, toma al niño y a su madre, huye a Egipto y quédate allí hasta que yo te diga"**.

Y mientras me pregunto acerca de estos misteriosos viajeros del este, no puedo evitar preguntarme por el título 'magos' y su conexión con muchas de las palabras que usamos hoy en día... mago, maestro, maestro, doctor, incluso el de la Iglesia. la autoridad docente se denomina magisterio, lo que coincide con la definición latina de un grupo de tales individuos.

Los obsequios de los magos estaban destinados no solo a rendir homenaje al niño Jesús, sino también a reconocer su verdadero destino. Le trajeron regalos de oro, incienso y mirra. El oro recordaría el reinado de Jesús; después de todo, preguntaron dónde se encontraba el rey recién nacido. El incienso era una especie de profecía de Jesús como Sumo Sacerdote y su misión sacerdotal de volver a reunir a todos los hijos de Dios. La mirra fue traída en preparación para su vida y muerte sacrificiales; la mirra tenía un uso como unguento para ungir, y también se usaba como preparación para el entierro de un cuerpo. En vida, Jesús nos marcó el camino como Sacerdote, Profeta y Rey, y así es con esta idea en mente que podemos contemplar estos dones; Oro para el Rey, Incienso para el Sacerdote y Mirra para el Profeta.

Nosotros también estamos destinados, en virtud de nuestro bautismo, a ser sacerdotes, profetas y reyes bajo Cristo. ¿Qué regalos pondremos a sus pies? El Señor nos ha bendecido a cada uno de nosotros con dones particulares, y la mejor manera en que podemos pagarle es usando esos dones para añadirlos a Su reino. Suena contradictorio, pero en realidad debemos devolver los regalos que nos han dado. No a la luz de decir 'no, gracias'. Piense más en términos de esos sirvientes a quienes su amo les dio talentos y se esperaba que aumentaran su tesorería en su ausencia. ¡Perfecciona y afila esos dones y devuélvelos al Señor!



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



BEST. LOVE STORY. EVER.

Our Lady of the Cenacle Chapel

"To converse with You, O King of glory, no third person is needed. You are always ready in the Sacrament of the Altar to give audience to all. All who desire You always find You there, and converse with You face to face."

~ St. Teresa of Avila

Please call Karen Brandner, Chapel Coordinator, at 815.915.6635 to sign up for *your* Holy Hour.

\$\$\$ DAILY DOLLAR WINNERS \$\$\$

Sat. Dec 31	2968	50.00	Donna Clinton
Sun. Jan 01	1832	1000.00	William Sondgeroth
Mon. Jan 02	1413	100.00	Sheila Wojciechowski
Tue. Jan 03	1089	50.00	Liz Zimmerman
Wed. Jan 04	0265	50.00	Joe & Diane Spanier
Thur. Jan 05	0406	50.00	Julie Malach
Fri. Jan 06	0433	50.00	Dennis Henkel

SUPPORT YOUR GENEROUS ADVERTISERS!!!
They make our bulletin possible.



S. J. Dullard, DVM ABVP
1205 6th Ave.
Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-3844
www.ancarevet.com

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION		For the Week of	
Sunday		1/1/23	\$7,518.30
School			285.00
Food Pantry			227.00
Youth Ministry			35.00
Solemnity of Mary			732.00
Christmas			82.00
Total			\$8,879.30

Give God what is just, not just what is left!

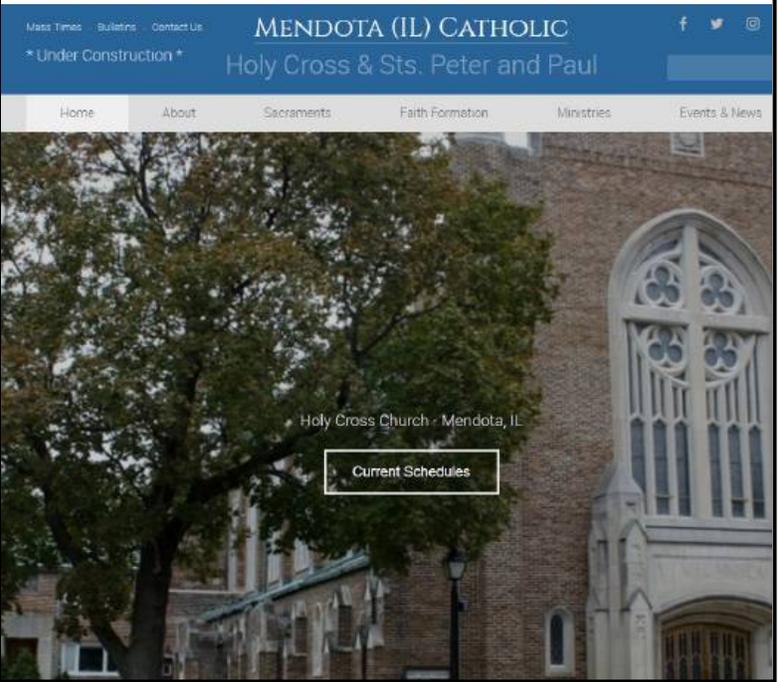
"Charity is to be measured, not by what one has given away, but by what one has left."



Venerable Servant of God
Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Check out our website!

We are now at: <https://mendotacatholic.org/>





The Epiphany of the Lord

TODAY, WE CELEBRATE THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, and watch as a prophecy becomes a reality. What does “epiphany” mean? It’s defined as an appearance or manifestation, especially of a *deity*. And so today we have magi traveling from the east to ask, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews?”

Our Gospel reading this weekend is chock-full of meaning—both, hidden and overt. Notice that the number of magi is not given. Our tradition is such that we say there were three, and this is based largely on the number of gifts given, so that each gift is credited with a giver. There are also no names mentioned in connection with these magi. Again, our tradition has given them the names of Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. And what exactly is “*magi*” anyway?

The term magi comes from the plural form of the Latin “magus” and the Greek “magoi.” The online Catholic encyclopedia www.newadvent.org tells us that “*We may form a conjecture by non-Biblical evidence of a probable meaning to the word magoi. Herodotus (I, ci) is our authority for supposing that the Magi were the sacred caste of the Medes. They provided priests for Persia, and regardless of dynastic vicissitudes, ever kept up their dominating religious influence.*” The text continues, “*The word magoi often has the meaning of “magician,” in both the Old and New Testaments (see Acts 8:9, 13:6, 8; also the Septuagint of Daniel 1:20, 2:2, 2:10, 2:27, 4:4, 5:7, 5:11, 5:15). St. Justin (Tryph. Ixxviii), Origen (Cels., I, Ix), St. Augustine (Serm. Xx, De epiphania) and St. Jerome (in Isa., xix, 1) find the same meaning in the second chapter of Matthew, though this is not the common interpretation.*”

But were they kings?

The website goes on to say, “No Father of the Church holds the Magi to have been kings.” Tertullian says that they were well-nigh kings (*fere reges*), and so agrees with what we have concluded from non-Biblical evidence. The Church, indeed, in her liturgy, applies to the magi the words: the kings of Tarshish and the islands shall offer presents; the kings of the Arabia and of Seba shall bring him gifts: and all the kings of the earth shall adore him” (Psalm 72:10). But this use of the text in reference to them

no more proves that they were kings than it traces their journey from Tarshish, Arabia, and Seba. As sometimes happens, a liturgical accommodation of a text has in time come to be looked upon by some as authentic interpretation thereof. Neither were they magicians: the good meaning of *magoi*, though found nowhere else in the Bible, is demanded by the context of the second chapter of St. Matthew. These Magicians can have been none other than members of the priestly caste already referred to. The religion of the Magi was fundamentally that of Zoroaster and forbade sorcery; their astrology and skill in interpreting dreams were occasions of their finding Christ.

Another point to notice about our gospel reading today is that the visit of the magi took place after the Presentation of the child in the Temple (*see Lk 2:38*). There is much good reason to consider that the magi would have finally found and visited the Christ-child a year, or a little more after his birth.

On December 28th, when the Church honored and celebrated the Feast of the Holy Innocents, we hear that Herod ordered the destruction of all male children who were two years of age and under.

Note also that it was in a dream that the magi were warned not to return to Herod, as Joseph was also warned in a dream to “**Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt and stay there until I tell you.**”

And so as I wonder about these mysterious travelers from the east, I can’t help but wonder at the title “magi” and its connection to so many of the words we use today... magician, master, teacher, doctor, even the Church’s teaching authority is called the *magisterium*, which falls right in line with the Latin definition for a group of such individuals.

The gifts of the magi were meant to not only pay homage to the child Jesus, but to recognize his true destiny as well. They brought him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gold would call to mind the kingship of Jesus; they did, after all, ask where the newborn king was to be found. The frankincense was a sort of prophecy of Jesus as High Priest and his priestly mission to call all of God’s children together again. The myrrh was brought in preparation for his sacrificial life and death; myrrh had a use as an ointment for anointing, and was also used as a preparation for burial of a body. In life, Jesus set the path for us as Priest, Prophet and King, and so it is with this idea in mind that we can contemplate these gifts; Gold for the King, Frankincense for the Priest, and Myrrh for the Prophet.

We too are meant, by virtue of our baptism, to be priests, prophets, and kings under Christ. What gifts will we place at his feet? The Lord has blessed each one of us with particular gifts, and the best way we can repay him is by using those gifts to add to His kingdom. It sounds counterintuitive, but we are really to give back the gifts we’ve been given. Not in a light of saying “no thanks.” Think more in terms of those servants who were given talents by their master and were expected to increase his treasury in his absence. Hone and sharpen those gifts and return them to the Lord!

In-Person Grief Groups

The grief groups will be held at two OSF Hospitals:

OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center, in Ottawa, IL, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month.

OSF Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota, IL, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of every month.



We will continue to maintain a safe 6' distance and masks will be required to enter the hospital.

Anyone is allowed to come to any or all meetings they would like to.

If you have questions, contact Kathy Steinz, OSF HealthCare, Bereavement Coordinator/Grief Group Support, (815) 343-5891

Kathleen.Steinz@osfhealthcare.org

If you are interested in Serving for Mass, Reading at Mass, or volunteering as an Usher or Greeter for Mass, please drop a note in the collection with your name, telephone number, the ministry in which you would like to take part, and your Mass time preference(s). Even if you volunteered before, please let us know if you wish to continue.

Thank you and God bless.

Fr. Peter Pilon

THE HUMBLE WONDERS OF GOD'S LOVE

Kimberly Shankman

I think the most striking thing about the baptism of the Lord is what a quiet, humble gesture it was: far from the power and glory that Satan would soon promise him in the desert, Jesus blends in with the crowds around John seeking baptism. In fact, in Saint Luke's version of this story, the crowds were asking John if he was the Christ, while Jesus was standing right in their midst.

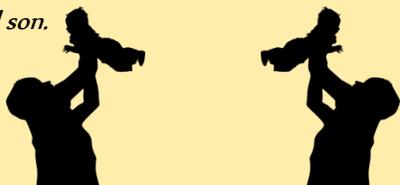
That reminded me of all the ways I look for big, spectacular signs of God's presence, while all along Christ is with me, just silently waiting for me to recognize him.

Now, God the Father helped the people to make it easier to recognize Jesus by sending the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove and speaking with his own voice from heaven.

But he makes it easy for me too. My son John has been totally disabled since a car accident ten years ago. In all that time, friends old and new have surrounded him (and us) with love; they visit him, help all of us, and fill our lives with joy.

This is more than just goodhearted neighbors. This is Christ in the midst of our life—and the love that is poured out on John is a reflection of the Father's love for his beloved son. By celebrating the humility of Jesus' baptism, the Church reminds us to look for his presence in the quiet, everyday gifts that surround us.

Kimberly Shankman is the academic Dean of Benedictine College. She lives in Atchison, Kan., where she and her husband care for their disabled son.



SAINT WHO?

Saints Who Teach Us to Pray with the Scriptures

Saint John Eudes

Priest and Founder († 1680)

Feast Day: August 19

"When you desire to advance in the perfection of some virtue, adore in Christ the virtue you have chosen. Reflect on how excelling he was in it, and how perfectly he practiced it throughout his whole life." The son of French peasants, John was born in Normandy in 1601. His parents had prayed for a child for three years, and when John was conceived, they offered him to our Lady and our Lord. Six more children followed.

John grew up in a France that was suffering from the ravages of wars between Catholics and Protestants. He joined the Oratorians in Paris in his early twenties and was ordained a priest at twenty-four. He preached many missions aimed at conversion. As he said, "Preachers beat the bushes. Confessors catch the birds!"

In his mid-thirties, John published *The Life and Kingdom of Jesus in Christian Souls*. It provided practical and pastoral teaching on the Christian life, and also focused on the life and mysteries of Christ, as presented in the liturgical year, as profound sources of grace. Later, John left the Oratorians and established a society of priests known today as the Eudists. He suffered very much throughout the process, including much opposition and enmity from within the Church. He bore it with patience, imitating the Sacred Heart of Jesus, of which he was a tremendous devotee and apostle. He died in 1680, and was canonized in 1925.

MAGNIFICAT MAGAZINE, January 2023 p. 106

SAINT WHO?

Saints Who Teach Us to Pray with the Scriptures

Saint Teresa of Ávila

Doctor of the Church († 1582)

Feast Day: July 19

Teresa was born in 1515. As a small child, she had a love for eternal things, but became more worldly in her adolescence. Her father sent her to a convent school, which helped to revitalize her spiritual life, and she joined the Carmelites.

For several years in her twenties, Teresa suffered from a serious illness, which provided an occasion for a deepening practice of contemplation. But with returning health, she lapsed into a more routine prayer life. Perseverance in mental prayer would remain a struggle until she was about forty.

A vigorous proponent of spiritual reading, she was also adamant about the need for attention and recollection. Teresa came to be deeply impressed by the need to focus in prayer on the person of Christ. "I have definitely seen that we must enter by this gate if we wish his Sovereign Majesty to reveal to us great and hidden mysteries. A person should desire no other path, even if he is at the summit of contemplation; on this road he walks safely. All blessings come to us through our Lord. He will teach us, for in beholding his life we find that he is the best example." Teresa was named a Doctor of the Church in 1970.

MAGNIFICAT MAGAZINE, January 2023 p. 148

January 8, 2023

Holy Cross News of Note



THIS WEEK ON
FORMED

Week of January 08, 2023



A Bible Study on the Luminous Mysteries: The Baptism of Jesus (Part 1)
Why was Jesus baptized by John the Baptist and what does this mean for the Sacrament of Baptism? Sit down with Taylor Kemp and Dr. Michael Barber as they unpack the first Luminous Mystery of the Rosary.



Reborn - Episode 1: A New Creation
This week, as we contemplate Jesus' Baptism, dive into the mystery of the Sacrament of Baptism! Through our Reborn series, you will come to understand the deeper meaning behind your Baptism!



The Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist
The Bible and Baptism Episode 3
Dr. John Sehorn joins Fr. Isaac Morales, OP, a Dominican friar of the Province of Saint Joseph and Associate Professor of Theology at Providence College. This episode highlights the significance of Jesus' baptism at the hands of his cousin, John the Baptist.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and OPUS DEI PARISH

Our parish has a FORMED subscription! To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

Catechism Corner

» How did God prepare the world for the mystery of Christ? «

† *What does the Gospel teach about the mysteries of the birth and infancy of Jesus?*

At *Christmas* the glory of heaven is shown forth in the weakness of a baby; the *circumcision* of Jesus is a sign of his belonging to the Hebrew people and is prefiguration of our Baptism; the *Epiphany* is the manifestation of the Messiah King of Israel to all the nations; at the *presentation in the temple*, Simeon and Anna symbolize all the anticipation of Israel awaiting its encounter with its Savior; the *flight into Egypt* and the massacre of the innocents proclaim that the entire life of Christ will be under the sign of persecution; the *departure from Egypt* recalls the exodus and presents Jesus as the new Moses and the true and definitive liberator.

Dig Deeper: CCC section ([525-530](#), [563-564](#))



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
JOHN F. KENNEDY
COUNCIL 2090

Not a member yet?

Scan the QR Code and become a member of the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!



January 8, 2023

Holy Cross News of Note



SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The Magi reveal that our search for meaning, our search for eternal life, leads to worship. Our response to the Father's offer of salvation must be that of the Magi: "To offer gold is to proclaim Christ's Kingship, to offer incense is to adore his Godhead, and to offer myrrh is to acknowledge his mortality" (Saint Odilo of Cluny). Creation responds as well: "When the king of heaven was born, the heavens knew that he was God because they immediately sent forth a star; the sea knew him because it allowed him to walk upon it; the earth knew him because it trembled when he died; the sun knew him because it hid the rays of its light" (Saint Gregory the Great). Coming to know the Son of God changes our lives: "Copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel," we are led home by another way.

MAGNIFICAT MAGAZINE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

Pro-Life Prayer Event 2023

Date: Saturday Jan. 7, 2023

Where: Holy Cross Church
1010 Jefferson St.
Mendota, IL 61342

**THIS EVENT
IS TODAY!**

Time: 8 AM First Saturday Holy Mass

- 8:30 a.m. - Pro-Life Rosary Intentions
- 9:15 a.m. - Pro-Life Activity Information
Hope Life Center
Abigail Women's Center
- 9:45 a.m. - Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 10:00 a.m. - Event Closing

Andy Wujek
Knights of Columbus
Council 2090

You formed my inmost being;
you knit me in my mother's womb.
Psalm 139:13



PARISH SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE!

Zoom web address:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjJtNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09>

Zoom Meeting ID 913 805 0856

Password 811195

Sun: 6:30 a.m. Mass

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Theresa

9:00 a.m. Mass @ Ss. Peter & Paul

10:30 a.m. Mass

12:00 noon Mass in Spanish

Mon: 8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Theresa

7:00 p.m. Mass

Tues: 7:00 a.m. Mass

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Theresa

11:30 a.m. Mass @ OSF St. Paul

Wed: 7:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Theresa

8:00 a.m. Mass

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Confession

Thur: 7:00 a.m. Mass

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Theresa

5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Confession

Fri: 7:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Theresa

8:00 a.m. Mass (8:15 when school is in session)

Sat: 8:00 a.m. (First Saturday ONLY)

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Confession

4:00 p.m. Mass

4:00 p.m. Confession @ St. Theresa

5:00 p.m. Mass @ St. Theresa

Alleluia, alleluia We saw his star at its rising/ and
have come to do him homage. Alleluia, alleluia



Holy Cross News of Note



WILL YOU PRAY FOR VOCATIONS FROM OUR PARISH?



Our Church desperately needs more priests. Join thousands of Catholics who are pledging to pray daily or weekly for vocations. www.invisiblemonastery.com Remember, each Thursday the Adoration Chapel is dedicated to prayer for vocations and we will continue to pray the litany for vocations after Thursday Mass.

MEDITATION ON THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The Love Revealed in the Lord's Baptism

[The Baptist said:] "Why have you come to these streams? What do you wish to wash away, or what sins, you who, without sin, were conceived and born? You come to me, but heaven and earth are watching to see if I shall dare.... Therefore, as Moses said, choose another, for what you ask of me, Savior, is greater than I, and I am afraid. I beg you. For how shall I baptize *the unapproachable Light?*"

He who foresees all, seeing the fear of the Forerunner, answers him, "It is good, John, it is good that you were afraid of me. Nonetheless, let be for now—for thus it is fitting—to fulfill what I have decided. Let be for now and shake off this cowardly fear; you owe me this ministry, and you must now perform it. Once before I sent out Gabriel, and he performed his task well at your birth. You too then, send me your palm as an angel, that you may baptize *the unapproachable Light.*"

"Now you are frightened, Baptist, and tremble at this action as great. And so it is. But your cousin saw one that was greater. Look at Mary and consider how she carried me.... Do not hesitate, baptize me. Just lend me your right hand. I dwell in your spirit and I possess you wholly. Why then do you not stretch out your palm to me? I am within you and outside you. Why do you flee from me? Stand your ground and grasp *the unapproachable Light....*"

"Let the people be taught from heaven who I am and whose Offspring I am, what I am going to bestow on those I love. I shall open the heavens, I shall send down the Spirit, which I shall give them as a pledge. So come now, draw near to learn from where I blaze out, *the unapproachable Light.*"

SAINT ROMANOS THE MELODIST

Saint Romanos the Melodist († c. 565) was a deacon in Constantinople who composed several chanted sermons.

SAINT WHO?

Saints Who Teach Us to Pray with the Scriptures

Saint Josémaría Escrivá

Priest and founder († 1975)

Feast Day: June 26

"Don't neglect your spiritual reading. Reading has made many saints." Josémaría Escrivá was raised by loving parents in a devout home. By the time he was twelve he had suffered the loss of three younger siblings. Then the family finances went downhill and the Escrivás relocated to find work.

Young Josémaría was profoundly moved when he saw the frozen footprints of the discalced Carmelites in the snow around his new town. "I began to have an inkling of what love is, to realize that my heart was yearning for something great." He became a priest and founded Opus Dei, with a goal to bring God's grace in a special way to the sphere of the laity. His little works *The Way, The Furrow, and The Forge* provide insight into his direct, practical, and Christ-centered spirituality.

He was a well-read man, versed in Spanish literature, spiritual writings, and the Fathers of the Church. "But the Holy Bible," a Scripture scholar has noted, "especially the Gospel, was, in his hands, not only a book filled with useful instruction, but a place to encounter Christ." He read the Scriptures in Latin, and built up a rich supply of verses with which he would carry on the conversation of prayer throughout the day. Father Escrivá died in 1975. He was canonized in 2002.

Loving Father, through the prayers of Saint Josémaría may those who encounter us recognize immediately that we read the life of Christ.

MAGNIFICAT MAGAZINE, January 2023 p. 160

A Little (*more*) Weekend Humor...

- Knock, Knock.
Who's there?
Dishes.
Dishes who?
Dishes Sean Connery
- It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally...



Learn Natural Family Planning NFP is the healthy, effective, and morally acceptable family planning method. Initial classes for each series are scheduled for the following dates and locations: To register for regional CCL Sympto-Thermal Method classes taught throughout the diocese, go to <http://register.ccli.org>.

LaSalle By Appointment – Creighton Method Alyssa Zukowski – St Patrick Church, 725 Fourth Street (815) 848-7997

Ottawa By Appointment – Creighton Method Sara Durdan, RN, BSN, FCPI sara.e.durdan@osfhealthcare.org OSF FertilityCare 1614 E Norris Dr, Ottawa, IL (815)431-3271

For a complete Diocesan class schedule call the Office of Evangelization and Faith Formation @ 309-671-1550 or visit <http://cdop.org/evangelization-and-faith-formation/family-life/>



THE TENTATIVE DATE FOR REMOVAL OF ALL INSIDE AND OUTSIDE DECORATIONS IS SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH AT 1 P.M.

Efficacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

(This novena prayer was recited every day by St. Padre Pio for all those who asked for his prayers)

- I. O my Jesus, You have said, 'Truly I say to you, ask and it will be given you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you.' Behold, I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of...
Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.
- II. O my Jesus, You have said, 'Truly I say to you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, He will give it to you.' Behold, in Your name, I ask the Father for the grace of...
Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.
- III. O my Jesus, You have said, 'Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away.' Encouraged by Your infallible words, I now ask for the grace of...
Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.
- O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us poor sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of You, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate heart of Mary,
Your tender mother and ours.
Hail, Holy Queen... St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for us



!Ultreya!

Illinois Valley Cursillo will host an **Ultreya**,
Saturday, January. 14th, 2023 at Peterstown.

Potluck at 6pm followed Mass at 7:30pm. in
the church. Ultreyas are open to all Cursillistas and welcome all
guests. Come and see!



The 2023 Daily Dollars are here!
~ A great gift-giving idea ~
A chance to win money and help our school!



OSF® Medical Group - Family Medicine

1405 E 12th St. | Suite 600
Mendota, IL | (815) 538-7200

1404 Washington Street
Mendota, IL | (815) 538-1825



Robert W. Merritt
Brett W. Merritt

MERRITT
FUNERAL HOME

800 MONROE ST.
815-539-7211

KURT BRUNO



Agent, Parishioner
1103 Main St
Bus: 815-539-3878
Fax: 815-538-5878
www.kurtbruno.com



"The Greatest Compliment You Can Give is a Referral"

Eureka Savings
BANK

1300 13th Ave. Mendota, IL 61342 815-539-5656
Since 1885... Best Place to Borrow,
Best Place to Save.
www.eurekasavings.com

The Cantlin Law Firm

John L. Cantlin
Christina M. Cantlin
Timothy B. Cantlin
Joseph H. Cantlin
Megan K. Cantlin



Let Our Family Help
Your Family
www.cantlinlaw.com
(815) 433-4712

The Mendota Reporter

"Mendota's hometown newspaper!"
703 Illinois Ave., Mendota
815-539-9396



S.J. Dullard,
DVM ABVP

1205 6th Ave.
Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-3844

www.anacarevet.com

**LEARNING
LAMBS
PRESCHOOL**

The best place to
begin your child's
education!!!

815-539-7003



Jerry's Flower Barn

701 Illinois Avenue
Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-6274

First State Bank Member FDIC

706 Washington St. 815-538-2865 Fax 815-539-5426
www.firststatebank.biz



Dr. Tara N. VanDeWyngaerde
Optometrist

Eye Exams - Laser Co-Management - Diagnosis and Management of
Eye Disease - Removal of Foreign Body Material - Bifocal Contact Lenses

700 14th Ave., Mendota IL
tvandeod@gmail.com

Tel: 815/539-6291
Fax: 815/539-3035



Neal O'Brien



Lucas O'Brien



Clint O'Brien

Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

609 Main St., Suites A & B | Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-3471 or 815-539-2309
www.edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Becker Chiropractic
Committed to providing individualized
quality health care to patients of all ages.

Dr. Cindy Becker

1403 E. Main St. 815-538-2182

First State INSURANCE
INSURANCE - ALL LINES
713 Washington St. 815-539-9551 Fax 815-538-2614
E-mail: fsj@mtco.com

MENDOTA FORD

Route 251 South
Mendota, IL

Phone 815-539-9314

GUILFOYLE & STEVENSON LLP

Attorneys at Law
Michael S. Guilfoyle • Kathleen Stevenson
1916 Meridian Street • Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-6711
General Practice Including:
Real Estate • Wills/Trusts/Probate • Estate Planning • Elder Law • Personal Injury

PRAIRIE STATE TRACTOR
Rooted in the Past. Focused on the Future.
Route 251 South • Mendota
815.538.8809
www.prairiestattractor.com

AUGUST HILL WINERY
Hand-Crafted Wines, Artisan Cheeses, Gourmet Chocolates
Wine Gifts & Accessories, Gallery of Fine Art, Outdoor Patio
AUGUST HILL WINERY TASTING ROOM
Downtown Utica - AugustHillWinery.com - (815) 667-5211



St. Margaret's Health
Family Orthopedic Center
SMP Health System

Paul Perona, MD

Board Certified & Fellowship - Trained

St. Margaret's Family Orthopedic Center
St. Margaret's Hospital - 4th Floor
600 East First St. Spring Valley, IL.
(815) 664-5311 www.aboutsmh.org
(815) 663-8009

Mendota Monument Company
606 S. Main St. Mendota, IL 61342
815.539.7276 800.845.5809

Do it Best **STEPHENITCH**
DO IT BEST HARDWARE, INC.
13th Ave. & Memorial Dr.
815-539-9394
World's Largest Hardware Store®

"Ready, Set, Grow"
Extended Child Care:
Monday thru Friday year round
Ages: 3-12
7 am - 5:30 pm
Phone: (815) 538-7604

Schumme, inc.
PONTIAC • BUICK • CHEVROLET
MENDOTA
Serving the Area Since 1945

DOORS UNLIMITED
Commercial & Residential Garage Doors
Retractable Awnings • Electric Door Openers
Lifestyle Garage Door Screens
Spring Replacement • Telescopic Flag Poles
Phone: 815-539-9048
Dan Hochstatter - Brett Hochstatter

walter BROS PLUMBING
HEATING
COOLING
909 WASHINGTON, MENDOTA, IL 61342
BRUCE WALTER 815-538-6516

Bokus Professional Group
Legal, Accounting, Tax & Investment Professionals
Michael G. Bokus, JD/CPA
Sarah E. (Bokus) Coss, MBA
Kaola N. Bokus, CPA
Securities offered through Cetera Financial Specialists LLC
member FINRA/SIPC
609 8th Avenue 539-5002

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
JOHN F. KENNEDY COUNCIL 2090
CATHOLIC MEN WELCOME TO JOIN
MEETINGS: 1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH @ 7:00PM
1010 JEFFERSON ST. MENDOTA
815-538-6151

Cathy J. Wolf, D.V.M.
1701 13th Avenue
Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-6601
www.mendotavet.com

J.H. CONSTRUCTION
General Building
Roofing The Right
Way The Right
Time
Garage Services
Parking Lots
New Construction
Remodeling
Kitchen Cabinet
Millwork Custom



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL "DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION" 815-539-7003