

SAINT MARY

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

424 E. BROADWAY, CENTRALIA, IL 62801 618-532-6291 - stmarycentralia.org

Partnered with Saint St. Mary, Carlyle, St. Lawrence, Sandoval, and St. Teresa of Avila, Marydale



August 31, 2025 ♦ Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time



"For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Lk 14:11)

*Saturday, August 30, 2025 4:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church (vigil)

Holy Souls in Purgatory † Crucephine Pierson † Garland & Shirley Merrell Father Pat Peter

*Sunday, August 31, 2025 8:30 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church, Sandoval

Living and † Deceased members of St. Lawrence † Don Rohner † Tom & Teddy Holstlaw Father Pat Peter

Sunday, August 31, 2025

10:30 a.m. at St. Mary Church
Living and † Deceased members of St. Mary † Drew Nibert † Phil Altadonna Father Pat Peter

Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:30 a.m. at Felician Chapel

Rosary, Novena, and Exposition Deacon Dan Laquet

Wednesday, September 3, 2025 8:30 a.m. at Felician Chapel (Class Mass)

† Donald & Beverly Kelly Father Steve Pautler

Thursday, September 4, 2025 8:30 a.m. at St. Lawrence, Sandoval

† Anton Altadonna † Dolores Mabry † Fr. H. Thomas Stout † Leo Korzuszék Father Steve Pautler

Friday, September 5, 2025

12:00 p.m. at St. Mary Hospital Chapel For St. Mary Hospital Staff & Patients. Father Steve Pautler

Friday, September 5, 2025 8:30 a.m. at St. Mary Church

† Mary Darin For Students, Faculty and Alumni of SMS Father Steve Pautler

Autumnfest 2025, Welcome visitors!

*Saturday, September 6, 2025 4:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church (vigil) Holy Souls in Purgatory

† Helen & Lou Logullo † Mike Wolenhaupt Father Steve Pautler

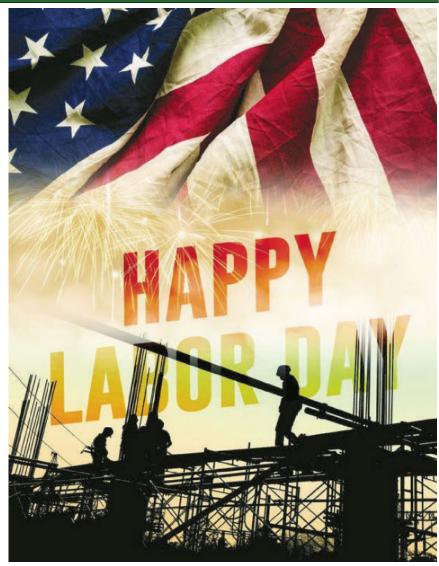
*Sunday, September 7, 2025

8:30 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church, Sandoval Living and † Deceased members of St. Lawrence

† Joseph & Agnes Thomas Family Father Steve Pautler

Sunday, September 7, 2025 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary Church

Living and † Deceased members of St. Mary † Jack Marcum † Steve Schwartz Father Steve Pautler





Donate baskets for the basket raffle

Sign up to volunteer

NEWS AND

EVENTS...

The Way of Lights & Wreaths event is seeking volunteers to create handcrafted wreaths for a silent auction benefiting The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. The event runs from November 21 to December 17, 2025, and entries are tax-deductible. Wreath designs will be seen by over 160,000 visitors and featured online at snows.org/wreaths. Beth at 618-397-6700 or email:

wreaths@snows.org.

Pre-Cana at St. Mary, Mount Vernon

Are you preparing for marriage? Join us for Pre-Cana, a special day designed for those seeking to get married. The session will take place in the Fellowship Room at St. Mary Immaculate Conception Church in Mt. Vernon on Saturday, September 13, 2025. Registration will begin at 9:00 am and the program will run from 9:30 am until the 5:00 pm Mass. The cost is \$75.00, which includes materials, lunch, and pizza to go after Mass. To register or for more information, please contact Deacon Mark Kabat at 618-316-8027 or by email:

mark.kabat@farmcreditil.com.

Canonization Mass of Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati to Air on EWTN

The Canonization Mass of Blesseds Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati, presided over by Pope Leo XIV from St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, will air live on EWTN at 2:00 AM (ET) on Sunday, September 7, with an encore presentation later that day at 5:00 PM (ET); the broadcast has a total duration of 210 minutes.



ENCORE PRESENTATION AT 4:00 P.M. (CST)
CENTRAL STANDARD TIME (EWTN)

SMS CALENDAR WINNERS

MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025 WESTON HANSON - CENTRALIA MEGAN MARCUM - CENTRALIA

MEETINGS AND INFORMATION...

HARVEST OF BLESSINGS, Sowing Seeds for Tomorrow.

Our Harvest of Blessings Capital Campaign supports vital improvements to our parish and school, including completed projects like the new school flooring, playground shade structure, and parking lot fence upgrades. Your generosity will help replenish savings used for these projects and fund future needs like HVAC systems and flooring. Every gift, no matter the size, strengthens our community and ensures a lasting legacy. Thank you for your support in making this campaign a success! To donate visit, **stmarycentralia.org**

JOIN MARY'S MERRY QUILTERS MONDAY ST. LAWRENCE PARISH - 9:00 A.M.

In the tapestry of life, it's the threads of love, faith, and fellowship that make the most beautiful patterns. We hope you'll consider weaving your unique thread into our quilting group. Com for the quilting, the community, or both, know that a warm welcome awaits you. **Contact Sally Tiemann, 618-830-7604** or visit us at St. Lawrence.

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY 6:00 P.M. - PARISH OFFICE MEETING ROOM

Whether you're new to the Bible, seeking to rekindle your relationship with the Word, or looking for a community to share in your spiritual journey, our Monday Evening Bible Study welcomes you with open arms. For additional information please contact Pete Donnelly.

DISCOVER THE CATHOLIC FAITH WITH US.

Curious about the Catholic faith? Longing to join the Church? OCIA is open to those who want to learn more, become Catholic, complete their Sacraments, or reconnect with the richness of the Church. We especially invite spouses and family members who attend Mass but are not Catholic—this is a beautiful opportunity to ask questions, grow spiritually, and share in the life of the Church with your loved ones. Sessions begin Sunday, September 14, right after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish Meeting Room (11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.). To sign up or learn more, contact the Parish Office at 618-532-6291 or Deacon Dan Laquet at daniel.laquet@yahoo.com. Come as you are—everyone is welcome!

PSR BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

Our Parish School of Religion (PSR) will begin on Sunday, September 14th at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish School. This program provides essential faith formation for our parish youth, helping them grow in their knowledge and love of God. More details about registration will be shared soon. For more information, contact Mike Klostermann at cre@stmarycentralia.org or call the Parish Office at 618-532-6291. See you in September!

Welcome to St. Mary's Ch We want to keep in contact family, or if you would like complete the information b Name:	t with you! If you are to receive the weel	kly bulletir	n in the mail, please
Address:			
City:	S	tate:	Zip:
Phone:E	mail:	0	ther:
☐ I would like to join St. Ma information on how to regi	ary Parish, please se	nd me	
I am requesting the follow ☐ Please mail the weekly b ☐ Add me to the quarterly ☐ I am homebound, I would ☐ I am interested in helping ☐ I would like Father Steve	ulletin to me. Newsletter mailing l d like to receive com g the parish financia to visit or call me.	nmunion.	

	<u>Lector</u>					011 1 1011
Date	Cantor ©	Euch Min	Servers	Ushers	Greeters	Offertory/Gifts
6-Sep	Garrett Ford	Bill Broda	Callen Williams	Gene Gettinger	Ellen Stock	Williams Family
4:00 PM		M ike Stock	Keegan Wiliams	Mike Stock		
		Jo Warren	Esperanza Villagomez			
	Rose Ross		Sofia Flores			
7-Sep	Don Litteken	GiGi Broughton	Bryden Hall	Tom Holle	Gayla O'Brist	Burris Family
10:30AM		Pete Donnelly	Reid Hall	Tom Ballagh	CeCe O'Brist	
		Paul Mocaby	Gabriella Uribe			
	Cathy Benson	Patty Williams	Carl Koger			



"Reserved Seating: Corner Booths & Collar Tales" Luke 14:1, 7-14

Head tables have never been my thing. Give me a corner booth, a cup of coffee, and a view of the action, and I'm perfectly content. At weddings, anniversaries, and big events, when everyone's scrambling to get their spot near the cake or the microphone, I'm the guy

checking out the escape route by the kitchen.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm not antisocial. I love people. But I also love watching people. And let me tell you, when Jesus starts talking about folks elbowing their way to the best seats at the banquet, I know exactly the type. Every parish has a few, bless their hearts.

One thing you learn quickly as clergy: you're always in the spotlight, whether you want to be or not. Wear a Roman collar and suddenly you're everyone's **spiritual Google**. People ask me to bless their food, their family, their football team (no promises), and once...a hamster. I didn't ask questions. I just blessed.

I had a priest friend who'd go shopping at Walmart and purposely mess up his hair so no one would recognize him. (He was young, with hair to spare. I, however, no longer have that luxury.) Some priests go "undercover" when flying, trying to avoid attention. Not me. I wear the collar when I fly, not to get bumped to first class (though that would be nice), but to let people know I'm available if they need to talk.

And talk they do. I've had 30,000-foot confessions, mid-flight tears, and more than a few people try to evangelize me. I've also made lifelong friends and heard stories that made me laugh, cry, and occasionally question my seat

Jesus isn't knocking the head table. He's reminding us it's not about where we sit, it's about why we're sitting there. Is it to be seen? Or to serve? Do we want the applause? Or the opportunity to lift someone else up?

Sure, the head table has its perks. It's usually closest to the rolls. But true honor isn't about proximity to the gravy boat, it's about being someone others can trust, talk to, and lean on.

So whether you're at the podium, in the pews, or hiding in the back hoping no one calls on you—God sees you. And better yet, He invites you to a banquet that doesn't require RSVPs, titles, or perfect seating charts. Just show up humbly. Be ready to laugh, the perfect seating charts a hamster or two.

I'll save you a seat in the corner!



STRAIGHT FROM THE COLLAR PADRE STEVE, WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH...

Got burning questions, holy curiosities, or just want to stump your parish priest? Send them to spautler@stmarycentralia.org and I'll give it my best shot—collar, coffee, and a sense of humor included!

This week's question: Do I really have to fast for an hour before receiving Communion? What about things like cough drops—and what if I forget?

Answer: Yes, the Church asks us to fast for one hour before receiving Holy Communion, not before Mass itself. This means no food or drink (except water or medicine) for 60 minutes before receiving the Eucharist, not necessarily before the Mass begins. The purpose is to help us spiritually prepare and approach the Eucharist with reverence. Cough drops or small medicinal items don't break the fast, they're considered medicine, not food. So if you're using them for a sore throat or cough, you're fine.

If you accidentally forget and eat within the hour, it's not a sin if it was a genuine mistake. In that case, it's best to refrain from receiving Communion that day out of respect for the fast, but you're not in trouble. God sees your heart and your intention. Just try to be mindful next time, it's all part of preparing well to

receive Jesus.

RECONCILIAITON

St. Mary, Centralia - Saturday: 3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. St. Mary, Carlyle - Saturday: 3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. St. Lawrence, Sandoval - Sunday: 8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

or by appointment 618-532-6291 x307

To offer a Mass for loved ones or special intention, Please contact the parish office at 618-532-6291

*Live stream: www.facebook/TimFergPhotosStm

During the month August the Sanctuary candle in our parish church burns in loving memory of:

Ethel Porter

September 2025 October 2025	Gary & Robert Kabat Dr. Charles Fischer
November 2025	Kabat & Tomaszewski Families
December 2025	Donald Kelly
January 2026	Verdeyen/Willenborg Families
February 2026	Alan & Rosalie Thomas
March 2026	Elliston & Garnier Families
April 2026	Steve Schwartz
May 2026	Ralph & Bernice Sprehe
June 2026	David Schwartz
July 2026	Donald & Beverly Kelly
August 2026	Mary Ballagh
September 2026	Gene Uhls
October 2026	Dr. Charles Fischer

During the month of August the Sanctuary candle in the Felician Chapel burns in loving memory of:

Mary Ballagh

September 2025 Gene Uhls October 2025 Joe & Louisa Marcum November 2025 Harbin & Jack Marcum December 2025 Nall-Hollern-Duty Families January 2026 February 2026 Alfredo & Carmen Coronado March 2026 Roger Morton April 2026 Open John, Elizabeth & Paul Peters May 2026 Open June 2026 July 2026 Pearl Hamilton Mary Louise & Gordon Elliston Robert & Gary Kabat August 2026 September 2026

To help cover the expenses of the candle, we offer the opportunity each month for individuals to dedicate an intention. A \$60.00 donation is requested. Please reach out to the Parish Office to make your intention.



AUTUMNFEST SIGN-UP LOCATED AT THE BACK OF CHURCH

ADMINISTRATION AND **PARISH INFORMATION**

Fr. Steven Pautler | Ext. 307 | spautler@stmarycentralia.org

Associate Pastor

Fr. LourdhuRaj Kodikala | Ext. 308 |

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Dan Laquet | Ext. 301 | daniel.laquet@yahoo.com

Parish Receptionist

Rosamaria Villagomez | Ext. 301 | parish@stmarycentralia.org

St. Mary School Principal (618-532-3473)

Maria Pryor | Ext. 303 | mariapryor@stmarycentralia.org

Treasurer/Bookkeeper

Susan Niepoetter | Ext. 305 | sniepoetter@stmarycentralia.org

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mike Klosterman | Ext. 306 | cre@stmarycentralia.org

St. Mary School Secretary (618-532-3473)

Lynn Featherling | Ext. 302 | lynn@stmarycentralia.org

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Closed for Lunch: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Closed Monday) Parish Phone: 618-532-6291

School Phone: 618-532-3473 **Fax:** 618-352-2010

Diocese of Belleville Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-640-3044

SACRAMENTS AND PREPARATION

INFANT BAPTISM

Attend a Baptismal Preparation Class. One parent must be registered as an active member of the parish.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact the Parish Office six months prior to the intended date. Please schedule a date and time with Father Steve.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Please contact Deacon Dan Laquet, or Father Steve OCIA classes are ongoing.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & HOME VISITS

Anointing of the Sick is offered the First Friday and First Saturday of each month. For Sacramental Home visits, please contact the parish office. In the event of an emergency, call 618-532-6291 x307, for Father Steve. After hours calls, automatically forward to his cell phones.

Readings for the week of August 31, 2025

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5

Next Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-

10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

Observances for the week of August 31, 2025

Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Labor Day

Tuesday

Wednesday: St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Thursday: Friday: Saturday:

Next Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents' Day

PRINTED HOMILY / HOMILIA IMPRESA

The homily for this weekend is available at the entrance of the church in both English and Spanish. Thank you for taking a moment to reflect. La homilía de este fin de semana está disponible en la entrada de la iglesia, tanto en inglés como en español. Gracias por tomarse un momento para reflexionar.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARISH SUPPORT

Give Online Today!

Online parish donations offer the ease of contributing even when you're not present. It's a convenient solution for those who've relocated, are on the move, or having discovered our parish online. Join us today. Go to our website: stmarycentralia.org

For the week of August 24, 2025

Cmyslenes	¢ 2 025 00
Envelopes	\$ 3,925.00
Online Collection	898.32
Loose Collection	454.00
School Support	320.00
Building Fund	125.00
Capital Campaign	920.00
Mass Stipend	-0-
Retired Diocesan Priests	20.00
Cemetery	-0-
Total	\$ 6,662.32

Capital Campaign, Harvest of Blessing - Update 08/25/2025

Total Campaign Pledges	\$	229,879
Total Pledges received		198,739
Pledges to be paid		31,140
Goal \$400,00 (needed)	\$:	\$171,121

Revised Mass Schedule Beginning September 1, 2025

No Mass on Monday Tuesday - Prayer Service, Felician Chapel, 8:30 a.m. Wednesday - Mass, Felician Chapel, 8:30 a.m. (Class Mass) Thursday - Mass, St. Lawrence, 8:30 a.m. Friday - Mass, St. Mary Church, 8:30 a.m. (All School) Friday - Mass, St. Mary Hospital 12:00 p.m. Saturday - (Vigil), St. Mary Church, 4:00 p.m. Sunday - St. Lawrence Church, 8:30 a.m. Sunday - St. Mary Church, 10:30 a.m.

Heavenly Father,

We come before You to lift up those who are sick; grant them healing and strength. Comfort the homebound with Your presence and peace. Ease the burdens of all who are suffering, and surround them with Your love. Guide college students in their studies and daily lives, filling them with wisdom and perseverance. Protect the brave men and women in the military; keep them safe and bring them home soon.

For those living in Care Centers

JoDene Nall Jane Greene Shirley Kabat Clarice Moran Carol Orrell Barbara Parrot Mike Kennett Mike Taylor Jerry Grasher

For those who are homebound

Helen Guinzy JoEllen Nannie David & Ida May Guthrie Barbara Francóis

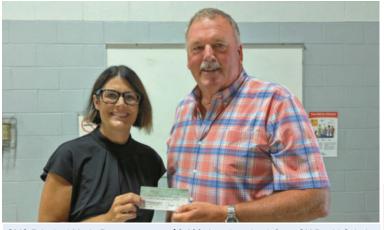
Requested prayers

Blain Loll Robin Cimera Waylon Vick Naťasha Lang Deb Steward Mark Schwartz Michael Willimzig Adam Brandt **Dorothy Jenkins** Bart Robbins Jana Martin

Those away at College Those serving in the military Dylan Huether

For those in need Throughout the World

Please call the Parish Office at 618-532-6291 to add or remove prayer requests. To be added to the prayer chain, contact Mary Miller at 618-292-1229.



SMS Principal Maria Pryor accepts a \$2,100 donation check from GK David Schulte of the Sandoval Knights of Columbus. The funds were raised during their recent tuition assistance breakfast. St. Mary School is truly grateful for their continued support! Their generosity makes a lasting impact on our students. With spatulas in hand and hearts full of generosity, our St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus turned breakfast into a blessing for St. Mary School. Your support lightens the load of tuition and fills our halls with faith, joy, and opportunity. From pancakes to purpose, you always deliver. Thank you, Knights, for feeding both body and soul. You truly are the right arm of the Church—and maybe the best cooks in Sandoval!



The St. Mary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) held its first meeting of the school year on August 20, 2025, filling the cafeteria with enthusiastic parents eager to kick off another year of involvement. While children enjoyed activities in the gym, parents gathered to review PTO finances, sign up for volunteer opportunities, and begin planning a variety of events, aimed at enriching the school community.

September 6, 2025 – Autumn Fest

September 22, 2025 - St. Mary School Cross Country Invitational

October 15, 2025 - PTO Meeting #2 5:30 P.M.

October 30, 2025 - Trunk or Treat

November 9, 2025 - Turkey Bingo

TBD (November) - Book Fair

November 2025 - Quilt Raffle Begins

November 2025 - Calendar Sales

December 1 - December 5, 2025 - Santa's Cottage

December 16, 2025 - Cookie Tray Sale: Assembly/Delivery

January 14, 2026 - PTO Meeting #3 5:30 P.M.

January 25 - January 31, 2026 - Catholic Schools Week

February 21, 2026 - Trivia Night

February 27 - March 27, 2026 - Weekly Lenten Fish Fry

April 5, 2026 – Easter Egg Hunt

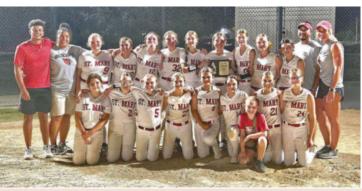
April 15, 2026 - PTO Meeting #4 5:30 P.M.

May 4 - May 8, 2026 - Teacher Appreciation Week

TBD - May 18, 2026 - Whispering Pines

Set up: May 28, 2026 – Rummage Sale Set Up

Sale: June 4 - June 6, 2026 - Rummage Sale TBD (June or July 2026) - Golf Tournament



Congratulations to the St. Mary Centralia-Willow Grove Wildcards on taking 1st place in the OBC Tournament with a 5-1 victory over Selmaville! Devyn Dodillet was outstanding in the circle with 18 strikeouts and just two hits allowed, while she and her teammates backed it up with seven hits at the plate. A fantastic team effort-well done, girls and coaches!



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION STEPS TO EARN MONEY FOR ST. MARY SCHOOL

Box Tops for Education is a simple way to earn money for St. Mary School, just by shopping!

By downloading the free Box Tops app, you can scan your grocery receipts and automatically earn cash for the school when you purchase participating products. https://www.boxtops4education.com

Scan the QR code below to download the Box Tops for Education App.

- Create an account.
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- **Enter the referral code ADHN37HL**
- Continue to the next page to link your Walmart account.
- If you do not have a Walmart account be sure to scan your Walmart receipts on the app after you check out.

Purrs from the Pew Sister Fluff of Divine Mischief

Nap Mats & Cat Chats

So the little humans have officially settled in.
They march the halls like ducklings with Velcro
shoes, while their teacher hisses "sssshhh!" like a
snake in a skirt. Naturally, I respond by meowing
louder. Respectfully, of course. (Mostly.)
My favorite part of the day? The sacred ritual of
the PreK 3 & 4 nap time. After lunch and a wild
stampede of juice boxes and giggles, they roll out
those mats like tiny monks preparing for prayer.
And me? I sneak into their classroom like the shadow of a saint, leaping up to the window sill to obow of a saint, leaping up to the window sill to observe.

Ah, peace. Finally. No screaming, no running, no snack crumbs being tragically wasted. Just soft breathing, warm sunbeams, and the occasional snore from a 4-year-old who clearly partied too hard at recess.

This is my cathedral of calm. My daily retreat. Sometimes I join them, just a quick catnap, nothing formal. And if one of them sees me? I freeze. Statues





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