



SAINT MARY

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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

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



January 25, 2026 ♦ Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Season of
ORDINARY TIME

Mass & Liturgy Schedule

Saturday, January 24, 2026 (Vigil)

4:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church
† Roger Norstrom † Ruth Holloway
Father Steven Pautler

Sunday, January 25, 2026

8:30 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church, Sandoval
The living and † Deceased members of St. Lawrence
† Linda DeKalb
Father Steven Pautler

10:30 a.m. at St. Mary Church
The living and † Deceased members of St. Mary
† Dr. Jerry Beguelin † Helen Guinzy
Father Steven Pautler

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

8:30 a.m. at Felician Chapel
Rosary, Novena, and Exposition
Deacon Dan Laquet

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

8:30 a.m. at Felician Chapel (Class Mass)
† Harold "Bud" Miller † Lawrence & Agnes Goebel
Father Steve Pautler

Thursday, January 29, 2026

8:30 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church, Sandoval
† Danny & Mary Burns † Frances Nalewaja
† Mary Kay Gunther † Victor Warren
Father Steve Pautler

Friday, January 30, 2026

Blessing of Candles and Throats
8:30 a.m. at St. Mary Church (All School Mass)
Living and † Deceased Alumni of St. Mary School
Father Steve Pautler

Friday, January 30, 2026

2:00 p.m. at St. Mary Hospital
For the sick and suffering
Father Steve Pautler

Saturday, January 31, 2026 (Vigil)

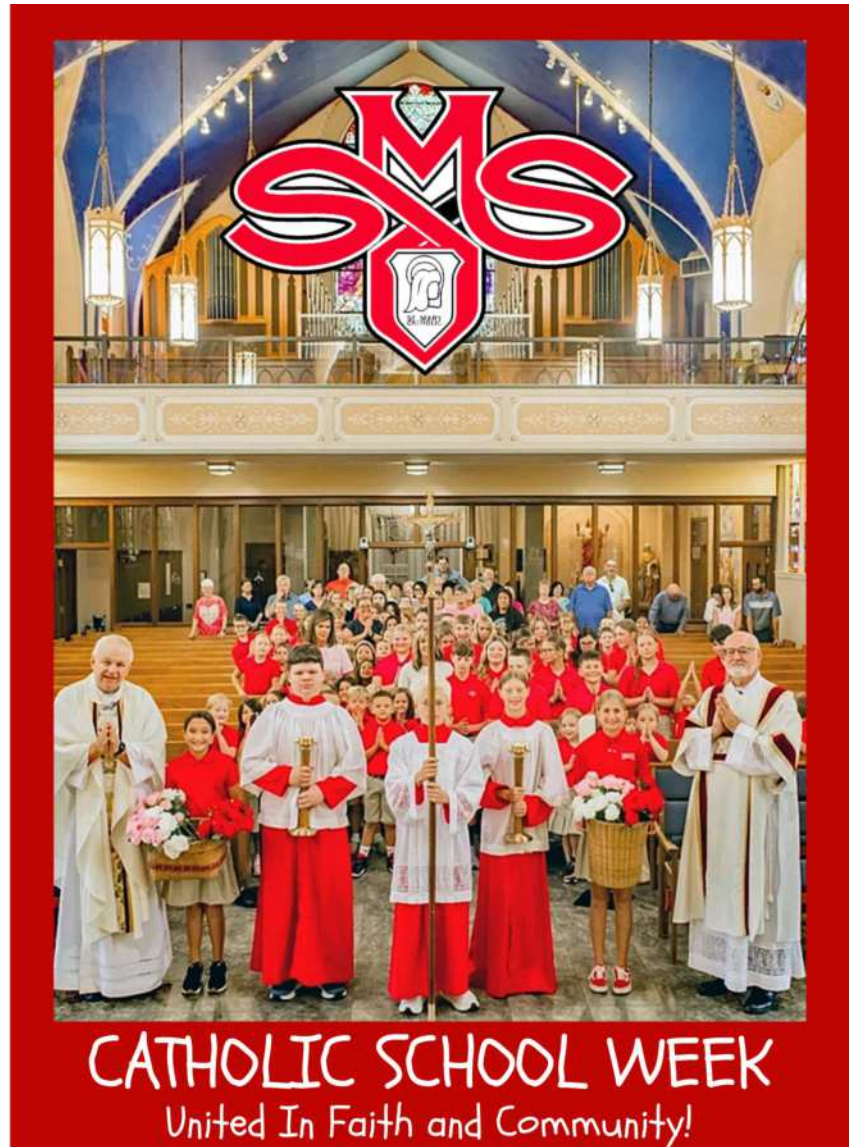
Blessing of Candles and Throats
4:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church
† Crucephine Pierson † Tina Suarez
Father. Devarajulu Ubbarapu

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Blessing of Candles and Throats
8:30 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church, Sandoval
The living and † Deceased members of St. Lawrence
† Linda DeKalb
Father Steven Pautler

10:30 a.m. at St. Mary Church

Blessing of Candles and Throats
The living and † Deceased members of St. Mary
† Jack Marcum & Hope Harbin † Joe & Louisa Marcum
Father. Devarajulu Ubbarapu



CELEBRATING CANDLEMAS DAY AND THE MEMORIAL OF ST. BLAISE

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Tuesday, February 2, 2026
Memorial of St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr, February 3, 2026

BLESSING OF CANDLES & THROATS

Friday, January 30, 2026 - 8:30 a.m. (All School Mass)
Saturday, January 31, 2026 - 4:00 p.m. (St. Mary)
Sunday, February 1, 2026 - 8:30 a.m. (St. Lawrence)
Sunday, February 1, 2026 - 10:30 a.m. (St. Mary)

*Blessed Candles will be
available to take home, or bring
your own to be blessed.*



"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to
your word: for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have
prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the
Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel!" (Lk 2:29-32).



King's House at the Shrine - Retreat Schedule

The Spring Quiet Retreat season at King's House Retreat Center, Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, runs from November 1, 2025, to May 1, 2026. Women's retreats are scheduled for March and April. For details, contact 618-397-0584 or visit kh.snows.org.

2026 Women's Quiet Retreat

Friday, March 6, to Sunday, March 8, 2026
Friday, March 13, to Sunday, March 15, 2026
Friday, March 20, to Sunday, March 22, 2026
Friday, March 27, to Sunday, March 29, 2026

2026 SMS Calendars now available!

If you thought Santa delivered excitement only once a year, our 2026 SMS Calendar is here to prove him wrong. Every page brings a fresh splash of color from our students and a chance to win a little something that keeps the year moving. Contact the School Office 618-532-3473. Donation for the calendar is \$25.00.

Steubenville HS Retreat July 17th - July 19th

High school youth are invited to join the Mt. Vernon group for the Steubenville Youth Conference this summer, July 17 to 19 at Missouri State University. Thanks to youth ministry funds, many students will attend with most costs covered. This weekend offers prayer, strong Catholic community, and time away to grow in faith. Please send names by January 24 to frthomaslugge@gmail.com

MADE BY KIDS CRAFT FAIR

Get ready for something brand new and full of energy. St. Mary School hosts its first ever Made by Kids Craft Fair on Saturday, March 21, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the St. Mary School Gym, open to all kids in our area ages 3 to 18 at no cost. The gym fills with color, imagination, and proud young creators sharing crafts made by kids for the community to enjoy. Click the QR code to sign up and save a spot. For questions, contact Caitlin Harting at: charting@stmarycentralia.org.



SMS CALENDAR WINNERS

MONDAY JANUARY 19, 2026

Ann Dunn - Belleville
Sonya Gettinger - Centralia

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026

Dan & Vicki Laquet - Centralia
Becky Marcum - Centralia

JOIN MARY'S MERRY QUILTERS

MONDAY AT 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. Come 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 hearts often start with a quiet nudge or a lingering question. OCIA is already underway, welcoming those who are exploring faith, preparing for Sacraments, or simply listening for where God is leading them. To learn more or to join the journey, contact the Parish Office at 618-532-6291 or Deacon Dan Laquet at daniel.laquet@yahoo.com.

PSR, SUNDAY FROM 9:00 A.M. - 10:15 A.M.

Our Parish School of Religion (PSR) is held on Sunday, starting at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish School. This program provides essential faith formation for our parish youth. 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**.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Sunday, February 8, 2026 at 1:00 p.m., St. Mary Parish, Mount Vernon, IL.



BAPTISM PREPARATION

Second Tuesday of Each Month

St. Mary Parish will offer Baptism Preparation classes for new parents on the second Tuesday of each month in the Parish Office Meeting Room from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. These sessions are intended for first-time parents. To register, please contact Rosa at the Parish Office.

618-532-6291

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Tuesday, December 8, 2026

Welcome to St. Mary's Church

We want to keep in contact with you! If you are not a member of our parish family, or if you would like to receive the weekly bulletin in the mail, please complete the information below and return it to the parish office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Other: _____

☐ I would like to join St. Mary Parish, please send me information on how to register.

I am requesting the following:

- ☐ Please mail the weekly bulletin to me.
- ☐ Add me to the quarterly Newsletter mailing list.
- ☐ I am homebound, I would like to receive communion.
- ☐ I am interested in helping the parish financially.
- ☐ I would like Father Steve to visit or call me.

Please return to the Parish Office

Date	Lector Cantor ©	Euch Min	Servers	Ushers	Greeters	Offertory/Gifts
31-Jan	Sharon Pierjok	Bill Broda	Elizabeth Hanson	Gene Gettinger	Florence Peters	Knowles Family
4:00 PM		Jo Warren	Griffin Knowles	Jim Opolony		
		Diane Uhls	Nolan Wolfe			
	Rose Ross		Esperanza Villagomez			
1-Feb	Doug Pahnke	Paul Mocaby	Blaise Schwartz	Tom Holle	Todd Davis	Schwartz Family
10:30AM		GiGi Broughton	Luke Schwartz		Kim Davis	
		Carson Pigg	Michael Davis			
	Don Litteken	Manuela Maco	Angela Smith			

THE MINISTRY SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE: stmarycentralia.org



MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Father Steve Pautler

The Question Everyone Asks and Jesus Answers.

Every family gathering has a moment. Dessert plates sit half full. Then, someone finally leans back in their chair, clears their throat like it is a formal interview, and asks the senior in high school the question. It lands somewhere between a pop quiz and a background check, and everyone suddenly stops chewing. **Where are you going to college next year?** The answers roll in fast. KC. SIU. SEMO. **Harvard if Uncle Bob is listening!** Others answer with honesty. I do not know yet. Still deciding. A few brave souls say it out loud. I am not going to college. The room nods. Conversation moves on. The pressure lingers.

Planning a future shows up early in life. People talk careers before graduation. Dreams form. Expectations stack up. Some adults smile and feel content with where life landed. Others replay choices during quiet moments. A few avoid the whole topic and keep moving. Life keeps asking the question anyway. **What are you going to do with your life?**

The Gospel of Matthew tells a simpler story. Jesus walks along the Sea of Galilee. No career fair. No five year plan. He sees Simon and Andrew working. Nets in hand. Boats ready. James and John sit nearby with their father. This family business paid the bills. Fishing brought food to the table. Their future looked predictable. Then Jesus speaks. Follow me. I will make you fishers of people.

No resume review happened. No interview followed. No guarantee came with benefits listed. They dropped the nets. They left the boat. James and John even left their father behind. It sounds bold. It sounds risky. It also sounds honest. Jesus did not promise comfort. He offered purpose.

Vocation does not always arrive with fireworks. Many follow family trades. Some work jobs chosen out of necessity. Others stumble into roles they never imagined. God works through all of it. The call shows up in ordinary places. A classroom. A kitchen. A job site. A hospital room. A parish hall. The question shifts. Who am I following.

Jesus still walks past busy lives. He still sees people working hard. He still calls without shouting. The invitation remains simple. Follow me. Some answer quickly. Others need time. A few feel unsure for years. God stays patient.

High school seniors feel the pressure first. Adults feel it too. The Gospel reminds us vocation involves listening more than planning. It grows through faithfulness in daily work. James and John did not stop being fishermen. Their nets changed shape. Their purpose deepened. The real question at Christmas tables deserves an update. Who are you following next year. The answer shapes every path worth taking.

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

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
November 2026	Kabat & Tomaszewski Families
December 2026	Nall, Hollern & Duty Families
January 2027	Decker & Wilson Families
February 2027	Open
March 2027	Will, Loretta Pedtke, Rob, Lorene Langenfeld

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

Corinno & Anna Leeta Darin

February 2026	Alfredo & Carmen Coronado
March 2026	Roger Morton
April 2026	Anthony & Margaret Pautler
May 2026	John, Elizabeth & Paul Peters
June 2026	Will, Loretta Pedtke, Rob, Lorene Langenfeld
July 2026	Pearl Hamilton
August 2026	Mary Louise & Gordon Elliston
September 2026	Robert & Gary Kabat
October 2026	Becker & Rensing Families
November 2026	Open
December 2026	Open
January 2027	Open
February 2027	Open

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.

RECONCILIATION

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.com/TimFergPhotosStm**

The Made by Kids Craft Fair will take place at the St. Mary School Gym on Saturday, March 21, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event welcomes all children from the surrounding area, not only students of St. Mary School. Young creators will have the chance to share their handmade crafts in a fun, lively setting designed especially for them. Mark the calendar and plan to stop by for a great afternoon of creativity and community. Children ages 3 to 18 are invited to participate as vendors at no cost. The crafts should be primarily created by the kids themselves. Registration is required and is available through the Google form. For questions, please contact Caitlin Harting at charting@stmarycentralia.org. The registration form is also available by scanning the QR code.



This week's question:

I get this question all the time. Father Steve, why did you wait so long to become a priest?

Answer:

Because God took the long road with me. I lived a full life first. I worked hard. I paid bills. I fixed copy machines. I loved my family. I learned patience the slow way. I learned humility through mistakes. I learned how ordinary people carry faith into long days and tired nights. Priesthood did not arrive late. It arrived on time. God was forming me while I thought I was simply living. When the call came, it came with clarity and peace. I knew who I was. I knew what I was leaving. I knew what I was giving my life to. Waiting was not wasted time. It was preparation. God does not rush souls. And at the right moment, He said, now.

Ralph and Bernice Sprehe

St. Mary Parish/Kaskaskia College Scholarship Trust

Sprehe Scholarship applications are available for registered members of St. Mary Parish for the 2026-2028 Kaskaskia College Scholarships and the 2026-2027 Baccalaureate Scholarships. Baccalaureate applicants must be Kaskaskia College graduates who are attending or will be attending a four-year university. You may contact Nikki Burmester by phone: 618-367-4565 or by e-mail: sprehescholarship@gmail.com to make arrangements for receiving an application. All signed applications must be completed via Google Form and submitted no later than Tuesday, March 4, 2025. Applicants must also submit school transcripts to the above email or by mail to 1937 Dogwood Lane, Centralia, IL 62801.

ADMINISTRATION AND PARISH INFORMATION

Pastor

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

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Devarajulu Ubbarapu

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 Klostermann | Ext. 306 | cre@stmarycentralia.org

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

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

Office Hours:

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

SACRAMENTS AND PREPARATION

INFANT BAPTISM

Baptism preparation classes are held the second Tuesday of each month in the Parish Office Meeting room. Contact the Parish Office 618-532-6291 to sign up.

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 phone.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARISH SUPPORT

Give online today: stmarycentralia.org

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.

JANUARY 18TH. COLLECTION AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK!

— — — *Capital Campaign* — — —
Harvest of Blessings: Sowing Seeds for Tomorrow
To give: stmarycentralia.org or contact Father Steve

Total Campaign Pledges	\$341,309
Total pledges received	318,989
Pledges to be received over time	22,320
Donations need to reach goal	\$ 58,691

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Readings for the week of January 25, 2026

Sunday: Is 8:23-9:3/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Monday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 (520)/ Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12

Observances for the week of January 25, 2026

Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Celebrate Catholic Schools Week

Monday: Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops

Tuesday: St. Angela Merici, Virgin

Wednesday: St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday: St. John Bosco, Priest

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday in Ordinary TimeWeek

PRINTED HOMILY / HOMILÍA 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.

**Your Prayers are needed
and requested for healing
and strength.**

For those living in Care Centers

Jane Greene
Shirley Kabat
Carol Orrell
Barbara Parrot
Mike Kennett
Mike Taylor
Jerry Grasher

For those who are homebound

JoEllen Nannie
David & Ida Guthrie
Barbara Francois

Requested prayers

Tom Ballagh
Blain Loll
Robin Cimeria
Waylon Vick
Natasha Lang
Deb Steward
Mark Schwartz
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.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

JANUARY 25TH – JANUARY 30TH

WEEK!

SUNDAY

Kick off Mass @ 10:30
student readers
student singing

All are encouraged
to attend!

MONDAY

Celebrating Students!
ODDWALK
ASSEMBLY
student treat
out of Uniform



TUESDAY

Celebrating
Faculty, Staff and
Volunteers

presented with a
token of our
appreciation



WEDNESDAY

Celebrating
Vocations
students will
create cards and
letters for retired
priests
pray a novena



THURSDAY

In Our Community
students create
birthday cake
baskets and gift
baskets



FRIDAY

Celebrating
Families
Talent Show
1:00 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOMED
TO ATTEND



Join us at St. Mary Parish
and School as we pray for
Catholic education.
Catholic Schools Week
gives us a chance to
celebrate a place where
faith, strong learning, and
service walk side by side.
We give thanks for our
students, families, teachers,
and staff who live the
Gospel each day in our
classrooms and hallways.
Come pray with us and
share in the joy of a school
rooted in faith and hope.

TRIVIA NIGHT

ST. MARY SCHOOL PTO, KNOWLEDGE WANTED!

...BUT NOT REQUIRED... YOU CAN COME FOR THE FUN AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 P.M. + TRIVIA BEGINS AT 7:00 P.M.

\$120 per table (8 play max) - EXTRAS: Mulligans 50/50 Raffle

What's in Store for You: 10 Rounds General Trivia

Coolers and Food Welcome - Advanced Reservations Recommended!

Bring your own snacks and drinks. For registration and further information, call or text
Nicole Garren at 618 204 1490 or email saintmarycentralia@stmarycentralia.org. To
prepay using Venmo, send payment to [@stmarycentralia](https://venmo.com/stmarycentralia) under charities and specify trivia.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT ST. MARY SCHOOL STUDENTS



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Purrs from the Pew, Sister Fluff of Divine Mischief

Whiskers Ready, Sweater On, Catholic Schools Week Has Been Notified!

Breaking news from the shortest desk in the building where chairs tower, pencils roll like logs, and I run quality control with whiskers and wisdom. This week I caught Father Steve in his office studying a paper with bold letters saying Catholic Schools Week and he looked thoughtful while I looked ready. No one asked if I wanted a special day which felt like a missed opportunity so I took charge of my own celebration with a red SMS hat and red sweater for full school spirit in deluxe fluff edition. The schedule looks packed for the little humans and I approve of busy halls and loud joy. I also spotted ODDWALK coming to sing and bounce and my Aunt Sister Gracie once told stories about them and sang a tune called Matilda the Gorilla which is fine but Fluff the Cute Kitty deserves a verse and a dance break. Seventh and eighth grade invited me to the talent show which was a wise decision on their part and I am planning a dramatic walk a graceful sit a quick stretch and a standing ovation followed by a snack. Between planning and supervising I stayed on patrol with backpacks checked crumbs collected and prayer time observed from a chair with eyes closed and paws folded very holy. Catholic Schools Week looks lively faithful and loud and I will attend in proper attire and full authority. This concludes the report. Sister Fluff dressed to impress and still in charge! **Sister Fluff, F.D.M. Feline of Divine Mischief**

Mememe (Sister Fluff)... practicing for the Talent Show





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Contact: Paige Lauder
1705 State Route 161, Centralia, IL 62801
Tel: 618-533-0758 | Fax: 618-533-0784

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