

READINGS

First Reading: (Dt 26:7)
‘We cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and he heard our cry.’

Psalm: (Ps 91)
Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading: (Rom 10:9)
For, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Gospel: (Lk 4:1-2)
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil.

MASS INTENTIONS

C = CHESTER * EG = ELLIS GROVE * J = PR DU ROCHER

Saturday, March 8
4:00PM (C) Dorothy Korando by Connie Holley & Family
6:00PM (EG) Harry Montroy

Sunday, March 9
8:00AM (J) Ralph Marquardt
10:00AM (C) Ruth Surman by the Parish
5:00PM (C) Ruth Petrowske by Family

Monday, March 10
8:15AM (C) Fr. Gene Wojcik by Pat Bohnert & Family

Tuesday, March 11
8:30AM (J) For those struggling with natural disasters

Wednesday, March 12
8:15AM (C) John & Jewell Cheslick by Ruby Stratmann & Randall Scheltgen

Thursday, March 13
8:00AM (J) For our home bound

Friday, March 14
NO MASS

Saturday, March 15
4:00PM (C) Patrick Kickham by Kathy Albrecht
6:00PM (EG)

Sunday, March 16
8:00AM (J) For our new trustees
10:00AM (C) Donald Bova by Jeff Korando Family
5:00PM (C) Dorothy Korando by Joe & Diane Tindall

MASS SCHEDULE~ March

Saturday: 4pm: Chester **Sunday:** 8am Prairie du Rocher
6pm: Ellis Grove 10am: Chester

REFLECTIONS

In the first reading (Deuteronomy 26: 4-10) Moses recounted how God had been protective and faithful to the Israelites. From the oppression in Egypt to the terrifying experiences in the wilderness, God never abandoned his people. So, for all that God has done, we will bow down and pay homage before our Lord.

The second reading (Romans 10:8-13) extols our testimony as followers of Christ. Saint Paul clearly echoes that if we confess with our mouths and believe in our hearts that Jesus is Lord, then salvation is near. He goes further to remind us that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

In the Gospel (Luke 4:1-13) we see Jesus facing the temptations and coming out victorious. The tests covered his needs, power and glory but Christ held on. During this Holy season, we are equally going to face some tests. We Ask God to give us the grace to overcome them like Christ did. Amen.

PARTNERSHIP EVENTS

CONFESSIONS

St. Joseph: Tuesday & Thursday mornings & Sat. evenings after Mass or by appt.

St. Mary’s (C): Sat. evenings before Mass 3:15pm-3:45pm
Any other confessions can be made by appointment.

ADORATION

St. Joseph: First Monday of every month **Mar. 3 @ 7PM**

St. Mary’s (C): First Tuesday of every month **Mar. 4 @ 7PM**

St. Mary’s School: First Friday of every month at 8:30 AM
All Are Welcome

MASS OF HEALING

Will be after Mass at all three parishes Saturday evening & Sunday morning the weekend of March 1&2



Youth group met last Sunday in Chester. Some of the summer plans were discussed. We will be traveling tour St. Meinrad, attend The Steubenville Conference in July at Missouri State and Cairo for cooking lunch and donating the supplies to make it. Fundraising will begin shortly to lessen the cost for the travels to Steubenville conference and NCYC trip in November.

We have a Facebook Page: If you or your family would like to join, please let Jill Whelan (618-719-9344) or Dawn Walker (618-317-5104) know so we can send you an invite.

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

COMMUNION

If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive communion contact: Diane Mudd 284-7150 (Ruma), Leonard DeRousse 284-6655 before 7pm (Prairie du Rocher), Rosemary Bert 615-6135, Paula Platt 615-5545, Martha McDonald 615-6624 or Barb Otten 615-2442 (Chester).

HOLY THURSDAY

St. Mary’s Ellis Grove will have a soup supper from 5:30p – 6:30p with Mass following at 7:00p. 12 Volunteers are needed to get their feet washed during Mass. Please contact

Ann Petrowske at 618-615-2413 or Maxine Mathis at 618-615-5529 to sign up. Volunteers are appreciated!

PRAYER CHAIN

If you need the emergency power of prayer or want to belong to the prayer chain, please call Marie Henry 618-282-2876 or 618-559-6511 (Prairie du Rocher) or Rosemary Bert 618-615-6135 or Martha McDonald 618-615-6624 (Chester).

WOMEN’S SUPPORT GROUP

Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at 10am at Linda Stern’s home, 106 Hillcrest Dr., Chester. Come and connect with others who are making their way since losing their spouses. If you have any questions, call Linda (618-201-2957) or Martha McDonald (618-615-6624).

PRAYER REQUEST

The homebound, nursing home residents, cancer patients, our military, the lonely, the homeless, those incarcerated. Donna Schweizer, Cathy Shemonic, Fr. Allen, Terry Moore, Mike Vasquez, Don Wingerter Jr, Tom Sauer, Jan Crow, Bruce Kettmann, Joe & Bev O’Toole, Mary Beck, Lily & Lydia Smith, Earlene Reichman, Albert Deterding, Fr. Carl Schrage, Bill & Earlene Hanger, Tiffany Surman

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY’S

Lisa Durbin-Leonard 3/8, James Bohnert 3/8, Yvonne Tretter 3/8, Mallary Vasquez 3/8, Shirley Straight 3/9, Morris Jany 3/10, Marlene Jany 3/10, Todd Moeller 3/11, Lauryn Vasquez 3/11, Isaac Jany 3/11, Nikki Malley 3/12, Trisha Bicket 3/12, Nathan Jany 3/12, Marla Cowell 3/13, Nick Heffernan 3/13, Tom Sauer 3/14, Sandy Otten 3/14, Deb Bauer 3/15, Bette Susan Goetting 3/15

Jim & Joni Chandler 3/12
Tom & Cathy Sauer 3/15

ST. JOSEPH, PRAIRIE DU ROCHER EVENTS

Weekly Tithes & Offerings

Online Giving ~ www.stjoespdr.org

St. Joseph’s: Weekly Goal: \$1700 Beginning 7/1/2024
Envelopes: (32) \$1347 Loose \$51 Easter Flowers (4) \$205
Candles:(Feb) \$56
YTD: goal: \$54,911 collected: \$51,099

Liturgical Calendar ~ St. Joseph

March 9 (S) Madison & Mackenzie, (L) Langston, (B) Carla, (C) Nancy & Audrey

March 16 (S) Langston, Cort & Emmett, (L) Chad, (B) Jill, (C) Carol & Marie



Parents, please remember that Class starts at 7:15am.

Please encourage your children to come to the Thursday morning Masses @ 8am.

CEMETERY REMINDER

March 15th is the last day for any Grave blankets, Christmas flower arrangements or any flowers not on the base or tombstone to be removed by families.

March 22nd there will be a work day beginning at 9am. At that time all remaining grave blankets Christmas flower arrangements or any flowers not on the base or top of the tombstone will be removed and thrown away.

If you want your arrangements please come get them prior to March 22nd as we prepare for the spring and summer mowing season.

ST. MARY’S CHESTER EVENTS

Weekly Tithes & Offerings

Online Giving ~ osvhub.com/maryhoc/funds

Weekly Goal: \$8901 ~ Week #9:
Weekly Total: \$4,376 (73); \$327 Loose; Holy Days \$10; Cemetery \$180 (13); Improve \$491 (37); ~YTD Actual Giving \$57,065, YTD Budget Diff (\$14,135);

Mass Streaming: Masses are being streamed on YouTube. Search *Mary Help of Christians Chester* to find the streamed Masses.

Servers Schedule

Sat. Mar 8 ~ Lucas, Addie
Sun. Mar 9 ~ Reed, Blake & Will
Sat. Mar 15 ~ Ty, Addie
Sun. Mar 16 ~ Kevin, Ezra, Rhett

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers Schedule

Sat. Mar 8 ~ L: Kelley **Host:** Kathleen **Chalice:** Megan, Larry, Paula, Marlene
Sun. Mar 9 ~ L: Jocelyn **Host:** Bill **Chalice:** Aaron, Kevin, Todd, Greg
Sat. Mar 15 ~ L: Linda **Host:** Candy **Chalice:** Ron, Rob, Martha, Kathleen
Sun. Mar 16 ~ L: Grant **Host:** Cindy **Chalice:** Diana, Barb, Dave, Sam

Stations of the Cross: Stations of the Cross will be held before Saturday evening Mass beginning at 3:15pm during Lent. Volunteers are needed to lead. Please contact the Parish Office at 826-2444 if you can help.

How to Lent

You are invited to a series of sessions on how to do more for Lent aiming to equip us with the tools to understand and practice the pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Sessions will be held on March 16, 23, 30, and April 6 before the 10am Mass on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00am in the School Cafeteria. Refreshments will provided at starting 8:45am. Enter through the Library door of the School by the playground on Swanwick Street.

St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women Quilt of the Month – 2025: We still have tickets available for purchase while still having 9 chances to win in 2025. If you would like to donate a new, hand-quilted quilt for this project, we would very much appreciate it. Thank You! St. Mary's CCW

KC Hall Monday Lunches: Monday, March 10 – BBQ Pork Steak, Baked Beans, Potato Salad or Cole Slaw. Served from 11 am - 1 pm. \$11 per plate.

KC Monthly Meeting: 3rd Thurs. of every month at 6PM.

Fish Fry: The KC and St. Mary's school is hosting Fish Fry's on Friday evenings from 5pm until 7:30pm. \$15.00 for buffet or carry out (618) 826-3316 with cod squares, regular or Cajun fish plus choice of sides.

Tables/Chairs for Sale: There are still tables available at school for sale for \$10 each (or larger donations are appreciated!). Limit of 5 tables per family. The wooden chairs are also for sale for \$1 each. Contact the school office at (618) 826-3120 if you are interested.

Chester Christian Food Pantry: The next Mobile Market will be held on March 26 at 8:30am. There is currently a need for paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, and feminine products. In addition, items such as cereal, canned meats, tuna, canned fruits, canned vegetables, and box dinners are always welcomed. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and can be placed in the collection marked for the pantry (make checks payable to the Chester Christian Food Pantry). Your gifts directly assist the local community in times of need. In December 2024, 133 households were served (325 individuals and 99 children), in January 2025, 187 households (455 individuals and 122 children), and in February 2025, 157 households (370 individuals and 118 children). Thank you for your continued support!

Fat Saturday: All you can eat Chicken and Fish dinners on Saturday, March 8, 2025 from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Ellis Grove. Includes four sides and dessert and drinks. Mass will be at 4:00 p.m. Under 6 eat free; Ages 6 to 12 - \$10; Over 12 - \$15. Sponsored by St. Mary's Holy Name Society.

Annual Health Fair: Buena Vista National Bank and Chester Memorial Hospital are sponsoring their Annual Health Fair on Friday, March 14, 2025 at BV Bank from 7:30am – 11:30am for \$2.00/person. Services include BMP with glucose & lipid panels, blood counts, BMI calculation, blood pressure reading, and information on additional screenings and services. Men's PSA testing also available for \$10.

Daddy – Daughter Dance: The PTO is sponsoring a Daddy – Daughter dance on Saturday, March 29, 2025 from 6:30pm – 8:00 pm. Check flyer for more details.

Weekend Get Away to Paducah KY: Buena Vista National Bank in conjunction with USA Tours is taking reservations for a bus trip to Paducah KY with stops at Kentucky Oaks Mall, The Shed, and Clemens Fine Arts Center for a comedy show on July 12 & 13, 2025. Contact Amber Cushman at (618) 826-2331, ext. 108 for more information.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Suffered Under Pontius Pilate: Lenten Reflections on the Gospel Accounts of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ: *His Excellency, The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D. Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 2:00 PM, The Cathedral of St. Peter (In the Blessed Sacrament Chapel)* Bishop Braxton's lecture will examine the very different accounts of the suffering and death of Jesus as found in the Gospel according to Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John. He will examine the similarities and the differences between these Gospel texts and provide explanations for the reasons why they are different. He will discuss: "Was it necessary for Jesus to die?" "In what way does meditation on the suffering of Jesus help Christians accept pain, sickness, and suffering in their personal lives?" "Were the Jewish people responsible for the death of Jesus?" "Has the Gospel of John been used to defend antisemitism?" "Why was Jesus's death necessary for the forgiveness of sins?" **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal - Serve the Lord with gladness -Psalm 100. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul truly serves the poorest of the poor through its Cosgrove's Soup Kitchen, SVDP Thrift Store, Help Center and Night Drop-In Center. Men, women and children are provided the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter – and the hope and the tools they need for a better tomorrow. Help St. Vincent de Paul serve those who have no place else to turn. Please make your gift to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal today.

Bibles and Brews: For young adults, ages 21 – 35; March 12th at Bennie's Pizza Pub, 113 East Main St., Belleville. Topic – Put on the Mind of Christ: Saint Paul and Sanctification of the Mind 6:30–7:00 PM Social; 7:00–8:30 Event

Covenant Network Catholic Radio: Covenant Network Catholic Radio offers an opportunity to shut off the noise and listen to Catholic teaching, prayers and call-in programs. It's a great way to make this Lenten season even more meaningful. Tune in to 90.3 FM, online at OurCatholicRadio.org, or download the Covenant Network app.

American Legion Prairie du Rocher Fish Fry's:

March 14, 21, 28 & Apr. 4th
Serving Fish & Fixins from 4:30-8
Dine in or Carry out



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

The devil said to him, "All this will be yours, if you worship me."
Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written:
You shall worship the Lord, your God,
and him alone shall you serve."
- Lk 4:6a, 7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



PASTOR: FR. SEBASTIAN
Parish Partnership Website: www.stjoespdr.org

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Parish Secretary: Rose Dethrow
Parish Phone: 618-826-2444
School Phone: 618-826-3120
Email: stmaryschester@yahoo.com

St. Mary of Divine Maternity
7362 Shawneetown Trail, Ellis Grove, IL 62241
Parish Secretary: Gerry Valleroy
Deacon Al Dubois
Parish Phone: 618-859-3541

St. Joseph
802 Middle St, Prairie du Rocher, IL 62277
Parish Secretary: Jill Whelan
Parish Phone: 618-284-3314
Email: sjospdr@htc.net
Website: www.stjoespdr.org

*We extend a very warm welcome
to all those who are new to our parishes.
We would love for you to become
permanent members of our
Parish Partnership Family!
Please contact the Parish Secretary
at the office number listed above.*