

ST. MARY CHURCH of ELGIN



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Generations of Giving

www.stmaryelgin.org

May 2, 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Clergy

Rev. Chris Kuhn, Pastor frkuhn@stmaryelgin.org
.....(After 4pm & Weekends)....847-888-0502
Rev. Lisandro Cristancho, Parochial Vicar
.....847-888-2819
Deacon Loc Nguyen
Deacon Dave Mattoon.....deacondave16@gmail.com

Parish Administrative Offices

397 Fulton Street
Mrs. Chris Mattoon, Receptionist/Secretary
847-888-2828 cmattoon@stmaryelgin.org
Mrs. Mary LaRiviere, Business Manager
847-888-2828mlariviere@stmaryelgin.org
Office Fax.....847-888-2883

Office Hours

8:30 am – 3:30 pm Monday - Friday

Ministero de Espanol

114 S. Gifford St.....847-888-2819
12:00pm - 5:00pm (Lunes - Viernes)
Mrs. Maria Rivas, Secretary.....mivas@stmaryelgin.org

Religious Education Office

Mrs. Nidia Delgado, Coordinator of Religious Education
ndelgado@stmaryelgin.org.....847-888-2718
Mrs. Mary-Ann Shepherd, REP Administrative Assistant
mshepherd@stmaryelgin.org.....847-888-2718

St. Mary School

103 S. Gifford St847-695-6609
Mr. Jason Hunt, Principal.....jhunt@stmaryelgin.org
Mrs. Melissa Lock, Administrative Assistant
schoolsec@stmaryelgin.org.....847-695-6609

St. Edward Central Catholic High School

335 Locust Street
847-741-7535 www.stedhs.org

Liturgical Music

Mrs. Vilma Dydas, Coordinator of Music & Liturgy
847-791-2817 vdydas@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

.....847-888-2718

St. Vincent DePaul Society

.....847-289-2222



SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

Mass Intentions for the Week

May 3	7:00am	†Peter & Rose Chiodo †Sr. Patricia Ostidick
May 4	7:30am	Luke LaPonte
May 5	7:30am	†Marcisa Saliente
May 6	7:30am	†Robert & Thomas Kriz
May 7	7:30am	Rev. James Parker
May 8	8:00am	†Living & Deceased members of the Mary Lou Mutter Family
	5:00pm	†Sophie Nowacki †Deceased members of the Gallik Family
May 9	7:30am	†Nancy LaPonte †Peter P. Chiodo †Mary Ellen Smego
	11:15am	†David Fagen Sr. †Mary Pat Mahoney

Generations of Giving

Contributions for the Week of April 25, 2021

Sunday Envelopes.....	\$6,944.11
Online Giving.....	\$4,292.51
Easter to date.....	\$22,843.19

MASS SCHEDULE

- Mass is livestreamed & in person. Daily Mass: **Monday at 7:00am**, Tuesday - Friday at 7:30am & Saturday at 8:00am. Weekend Mass will be celebrated on Saturday at 5:00pm, Sunday at 7:30am & 11:15am.
- **Due to the limited capacity for our weekend Masses, we are asking you to sign up online for a Mass time.** To register visit our website: stmaryelgin.org, scroll down to the "signup.com button." **Please sign up before Noon on Saturday.** If you are not able to register online, please call the Parish Office.

Weekday Mass (Live streamed)

Monday: 7:00am Tuesday - Friday: 7:30am
Saturday: 8:00am,
En Espanol: 9:00am Martes & Miercoles

Sunday Masses

† 5:00 pm SAT. - Sunday Obligation
† 7:00 pm SAT. - Sunday Obligation
(Espanol)

† 7:30 am
† 11:15 am
† 1:00 pm & 3:00pm (Espanol)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

† Tuesday: 6:00 pm
† Saturday: 4:00 pm

Other Times By Appointment: Please call the Rectory.

Holy Day Masses

Times will be posted in the bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Tuesday from 5:45—7:00pm

Sacrament of the Sick

If you or a loved one are going to have major surgery or are seriously ill and would like to receive the grace and healing of the Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office.

Parish Registration

New parishioners are most welcome. Please call the Parish Office during regular office hours.

Baptisms

Please call the Parish Office for information and registration.

Wedding Dates

Must be reserved at least six months ahead.

RCIA (Adult Initiation)

If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please contact the RE Office at 847-888-2718.

Bulletin Notices

Must be submitted by Monday noon, one week prior to event.

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:00am - 4:00pm
Friday: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Casa Roja (114 Gifford St.)

12:00pm - 5:00pm (Lunes - Viernes)

Masses Are Live Streamed Daily!

St. Mary Mass will continue to be livestreamed.

There are a couple of ways to watch;

Saint Mary Church Elgin IL

https://youtube.com/channel/UCkG_JNvMUEIE26zgF9kfA

Facebook

www.facebook.com/stmarychurchelginil

Website: www.stmaryelgin.org

St. Vincent DePaul

Lord Jesus, may the example of St. Vincent de Paul inspire us to be generous of heart and hand to the needy. May our generosity flow from humble gratitude for your many gifts to us rather than from a false pride in our own abilities. We are all needy in our own ways - and so are dependent on your generosity and that of others. Help us to respond willingly to the Gospel call to self-giving love, to look for ways to serve rather than expecting to be served. Amen.

Clothing Drive - Saturday & Sunday, June 5 & 6

For all those who plan ahead:

- Help us help others with your donations.
- Help yourselves by getting rid of things you no longer need.
- Volunteer to help stack our truck on that weekend.

2020 Diocesan Stewardship Appeal

We would like to thank everyone who pledged to the 2020 Diocesan Stewardship Appeal.

Unfortunately, due to the financial hardships during 2020 we did not meet our goal. There is a shortfall of \$6,000 which will need to be paid to the Diocese.

Readings for the Week

Sunday:	Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
Monday:	1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/ Jn 14:6-14
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/ Jn 15:18-2
Next Sunday:	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/ Jn 15:9-17

Gospel Mediation

"Spiraling out of control," is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that "feelings" have become a "new god" and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checkered past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God's life.

Giving up our will to God's can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God's commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be "human freedom." They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.



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THE RIGHT AGENT
 EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

The St. Mary School Home and School Association would like to thank all of our parishioners, school families, donors, bidders and winners for a successful 2021 Titan Tribute. With the support of the St. Mary Parish and School community, the fundraiser made a profit over \$13,000 this year! These funds will help the school purchase updated technology devices and catch up on various building repairs. We'd like to especially thank our sponsors who helped make our raffle prizes and livestream Price is Right show possible. Please patronize these businesses and let them know you heard about them from St. Mary Parish and School!

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Last 10 years our council has

- Donated over \$150,000 to local Intellectual Disabilities organizations
- Donated over \$100,000 to local Catholic schools
- Donated over \$28,000 to local parishes Needy Families funds
- Donated over \$ 5,000 to local St Vincent de Paul societies
- Assisted local Catholic schools in reopening this past fall with painting and safety installations
- Supported local priests and parishes in reopening churches
- In the last year our founder Rev Michael McGivney was beatified[1 step closer to Sainthood]
- PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING OUR ORGANIZATION, FREE 1 YEAR MEMBERSHIP IF YOU JOIN BEFORE JUNE 30, 2021. GO TO kofc.org/joinus PROMO CODE MCGIVNEY2020

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Parish Family,

It is that time of the year again, Diocesan Stewardship time! Thank you to all who participated in last year's Stewardship Appeal. Even as of last week, we were sending in money to the Diocese that was still coming in. Again, thank you.

For 2021, the Stewardship Appeal has the theme: "Bear Much Fruit". The idea comes from Jesus in the Gospels: *"I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit"* (John 15:5). I have asked that the 2021 Stewardship video be posted on our website home page for you to watch and perhaps it will also be sent via Flock Note. I ask that you please take a moment and watch this important video from the Bishop.

This year, our goal is \$90,304 and is roughly 10% of our yearly ordinary income (there is also a number of registered households component). Think of it as an income tax, if you will, only this is "appealed" to the Parish in the hope that you and I will tithe a portion of our income toward this to help raise the money and prevent us having to take it from the Sunday collections. This goal is actually trending lower the last few years. This indicates that the Diocese of Rockford is trying to control costs and not burden us too much. My hope is that all of us will pitch in and give at least something, especially if you have not previously done so. We are also assessed 10% of our ordinary income to support St. Edward Central Catholic High School – so we pay them about the same amount every year.

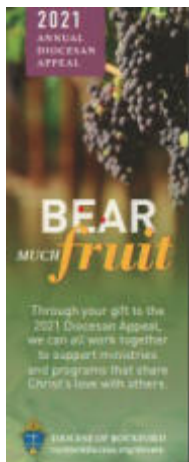
With so much Covid-19 chaos still impacting many of our lives – whether with health or finances, I understand that some may not be able to afford much. Yet many of us could be in a position to participate and do our portion if we disciplined ourselves to do so – perhaps like Operation Rice bowl in Lent; we could give up one Starbucks' Coffee a week for the Bishop, or eat in as a family one night a month instead of ordering takeout, for the Bishop.

The demographics of our Parish boundaries here on the East Side of Elgin, collected by the Diocese from public sources, states that our median household income is around \$74,000 a year. One percent would thus be \$740. Most of could not afford to give that all at once, but we could do it in monthly installments of \$74. Perhaps this would be a good idea to consider, a 1% donation from what you earned on your W-2 which most of us recently submitted. Last year, we had somewhere in the neighborhood of 12.5% of our registered households participating in Diocesan Stewardship. However, we did fall short of our goal. As I write this, we are about \$6,000 short. If we could just convince a larger percentage of the Parish to participate, we would easily reach this goal and have money paid beyond it returned to us for projects and needs here at St. Mary Church and at St. Mary School.

If families are unhappy with supporting the Diocesan Stewardship Appeal, another place where you may donate that is not counted as part of ordinary income and would not increase next year's stewardship assessment are donations to St. Mary School. This still helps us by lowering our subsidy to St. Mary School. Most of us love avoiding taxes, Pastors too. Speaking of avoiding taxes, some who have mandatory withdraws from things like IRA's or have valuable stocks that have appreciated since they were purchased – may wish to donate from these directly to St. Mary Church, St. Mary School, Diocesan Stewardship or St. Edward Central Catholic High School. For those who have achieved a comfortable retirement, sometimes those mandatory withdraws can push you into a higher tax bracket, or so I am told.

In any case, I thank you for reading all of this and I hope for your participation, as you are able, in our 2021 "Bear Much Fruit" Diocesan Stewardship Appeal.

Fr. Chris Kuhn



**2021
Diocesan Appeal**

**Parish Goal
\$90,304**



The Vatican recently announced a rosary initiative dedicating the month of May to prayer for an end to the coronavirus pandemic. Pope Francis will open the month of prayer on May 1, asking for Mary's intercession.

If you aren't familiar with the rosary, there are many great app's to help you.

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