

# PRO-LIFE ST. MARY

SEE HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

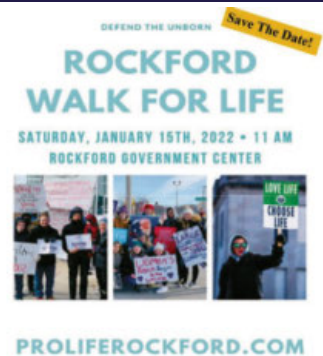


## Rockford Walk for Life-January 15, 2022

Please join the Rockford Family Initiative for the Rockford Walk for Life on Saturday, January 15th, at 11:00 am outside the Rockford Federal Courthouse at 327 S. Church St. in Rockford.

The event will include prayer and short presentations by inspiring speakers who will share their vision and plan to turn back to a culture of life and Christ.

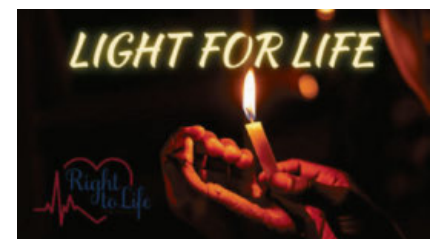
It will be cold, but it's crucial that we join together for the love of God, neighbor, and the children facing death by abortion.



## Light for Life (Woodstock)- January 22, 2022

On Saturday, January 22, we will take a moment to pray and call to mind the 62,000,000 human lives lost to abortion since the decision of Roe v. Wade.

Right to Life McHenry County will host "Light for Life" on the Woodstock Square - all are welcome! Please see the flyer below for details.



**The St. Mary Respect Life Ministry will gather before the event at the St. Michael statue at the rear of the church at 7:00 pm for a special prayer. Please bring a light of some sort (battery-operated candle, flashlight, etc.) After a brief bilingual prayer, the ministry leaders and whoever wishes to join will do a silent walk to the Woodstock Square, gathering by the war memorial, to partake in the Light for Life event.**

JANUARY 9, 2022 | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD  
ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH, WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Church holds Christmas as the second most sacred celebration after Easter. Liturgically, Christmas refers to the memorial of Christ's Nativity and His early manifestations which include His baptism as an adult. Thus, today's feast, **the Baptism of the Lord**, is still part of the Christmas celebration and concludes it. We are so used to thinking of Jesus only as an infant during the Season, that an image of Him as adult doesn't often come to mind as part of the Christmas story. In fact, all the daily Gospel readings, from last Sunday's Feast of Epiphany to this Sunday, are adult images of Jesus portraying different qualities of His person in order to reveal what kind of God who became man He is in relation to us. Those portrayed images of Jesus are called His *Epiphanies* or His manifestations in order to answer the question asked in the famous carol: "*What Child is this?*" The ultimate answer to the same question is now given in today's feast; given not by prophets or sages but by God the Father Himself: "This is my beloved Son...Listen to Him." On that note, Christmas is concluded and we are now to listen to the beloved Son of the Father and to follow Him.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is an opportune time to reflect on our own baptism. Most of us were baptized as babies and don't have the privilege of recollecting this momentous event of faith journey like those in the RCIA program. However, our baptism is not an event of the past. Rather it is an ever-present reality, a constant and on-going sharing in the life of the Risen Christ. We can, and we must, reflect on our Baptism as a daily spiritual exercise. Turning to the very words used for the rite of Baptism is an excellent source of help for a most fruitful reflection:

*God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into His holy people.*

At Baptism, God, through Christ, has set us free from the bondage of original sin, made us into a new creation through the Holy Spirit by transforming us to become His sons and daughters and brought us into His family, the Church.

*He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation as Christ was anointed priest, prophet, and king.*

At Baptism we were configured into Christ in His three-fold function as priest, prophet, and king so that as we strive daily to come closer to God in worship and prayer, we also fulfill our roles as helpers in Christ's work of salvation.

As we renew our baptismal vows during this most solemn feast, let us be led by the Spirit to seek the Glory of God in everything that we do. For one last time this year: Merry Christmas to you! And may God bless you.

Sincerely Yours In Christ,

Fr. Burt Absalon, Pastor

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

12:30 pm †Joseph L. McCormack

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

7:30 am †Sanford Sweet

12:30 pm †Special Intention

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

7:30 am †Denise Froemke

8:40 am †William Loy

12:30 pm *Call to Request*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

7:30 am *Call to Request*

12:30 pm *Call to Request*

6:00 pm Spec. Int. for Nohemi Cisneros

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

7:30 am *Call to Request*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

7:30 am *Call to Request*

5:00 pm †Deceased Family & Friends of Jim & MaryAlice Howe

6:30 pm *Call to Request*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

7:30 am †Alice Howell

9:00 am †Josephine Smith

10:30 am †James Hallisy, Spec. Int. for the People Of the Parish

12:30 pm †Cesario Villafuerte

5:00 pm *Call to Request*

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

<i>Report as of 1/3/22</i>	Actual	Budget	Difference	%
Weekend Offering	\$20,105	\$14,142	\$5,963	42.2%
Year to Date	\$448,922	\$395,976	\$52,946	13.4%

## WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Sue Anderson	Don Grafton	Cindy Krzywy	Marianne Schapendonk	Kathy Weber
Rolley Bateman	Diane Graske	Richard Legge	Peter Schommer	Mary Lou Wett
Jane Bolger	Dennis Gray	Ian McDonald	Baby Blaire Spivey	Rich Worzala
Danial Bonilla	AJ Harrison	Diane O'Donnell	Mary Statter	Brophy Family
Art Colvin	Mari Beth Harvey	Cody O'Neill	Virginia Stoerman	Misner Family
Tyler Creath	Dolores (Dee) Hooker	Linda Parker	Charlene Stier	<i>If you would like to add or remove a name from our Prayers for the Sick below, please email bulletin@stmary-woodstock.org or call the parish office.</i>
Denis Demko	Dorothy Kilgore	Milvi Peljo Garcia	Jim & Della Taylor	
Lainie Fifer	Mary Klocek Gillis	Peter Potje	Bill & Betty Tomasik	
Donna Frankowski	Gordon Knapp	Mikela Riano	Carol Uzumecki	
John Frankowski	Marylou Knapp	Dave Ring	Warren Walters	
Daniel Gomez	Richard Krzywy	Cha Won Sattler	Anthony Weber	

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Readings for the week of January 09, 2022

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/ Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/ Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/ Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/ Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

### Observances for the week of January 09, 2022

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Thursday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Sunday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



LOVE GOD. LOVE NEIGHBOR. GO MAKE DISCIPLES.



# Support the 2022 National Appeal

You can donate online at <https://www.rockforddiocese.org/donate/>, drop your envelope into the Sunday offertory basket, or mail in your donation.

## RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS (RFR)

This annual appeal benefits over 26,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church.

For most of their lives, religious men and women worked for small stipends and room and board. There were no 401(k) plans or pensions. Many religious communities struggle to provide for aging members. Rising health-care costs and decreased

income compound the struggle to provide adequate care. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations implement long-range retirement strategies, even as they continue to serve the People of God. With your help, the Diocese distributed \$165,918 last year.

[retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org)

## CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (CCC)

Through Internet, television, radio or newspapers, the Catholic Church embraces technologies, old and new, to spread the Gospel message. The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) supports Catholic media projects in our Diocese and all over the United States. With your help, the Diocese distributed \$90,066 last year.

[usccb.org](http://usccb.org)



## CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CCHD)

The collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) works to interrupt the root causes of poverty across the United States through grants to community-based groups who create jobs, improve education, and strengthen neighborhoods. Twenty-five percent of the CCHD collection stays in the Diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. With your help, the Diocese distributed \$21,981 last year.

[usccb.org/cchd](http://usccb.org/cchd)

## CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA (CUA)

The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. has served the Church, its students and the nation since its establishment in 1887. CUA offers over 6,000 students per year an exceptional Catholic education that is grounded in the Catholic intellectual tradition. Every dollar given directly supports financial assistance for students from dioceses across the country. There are over 40 students from Illinois including 7 from our own diocese attending the undergraduate, Law or Graduate programs. With your help, the Diocese distributed \$6,424 last year.

[engage.catholic.edu/giving/how-give/national-collection](http://engage.catholic.edu/giving/how-give/national-collection)



## CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD

This part of the appeal provides a special way for you to assist the Diocese of Rockford to support schools that have operating deficits and need your help to become and remain financially viable. Your support through prayer and donations will help our underprivileged schools to continue to provide quality academic education along with religious and moral formation. Thanks to your generous gifts, \$286,833 was distributed last year to needy schools in our Diocese.

LOVE GOD. LOVE NEIGHBOR. GO MAKE DISCIPLES.



Let's Live 2022 With Joy and Peace!

Please Join Us For An Evening of Recollection for Women

Monday, January 17 from 7:00 -8:45 pm

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

\*451 W Terra Cotta Avenue in Crystal Lake\*

Confessions begin at 6:45 pm.

It is not always easy to find time to pray, but it is always worthwhile. A monthly Day or Evening of Recollection is a time set aside specifically for a Christian to seriously go deeper into his or her relationship with God. It is an opportunity to spend a couple of hours in prayer and conversation with God guided by meditations of a priest of Opus Dei, a short talk, and an examination of conscience before the Blessed Sacrament. It is a chance to step back from the whirlwind of daily tasks for a few hours spent looking at God, the world, and ourselves.



JANUARY 19-27, 2022

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life.

Join today at [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com)!



3 WAYS TO JOIN



9DaysforLife.com



Dear Fellow St. Mary Parishioners,

Thank you for responding so generously to our appeal for gift cards for the Giving Tree project. Because of your unwavering support for those in need, St. Vincent de Paul was able to help 153 children in 53 families. You donated \$6800 in gift cards to our appeal.

Because of you, those children and families are having a merrier Christmas and I know they feel the love and concern for their happiness that you all exhibited this year. May God bless each of you for your generosity. May He continue to shower blessings onto you as the New Year begins. What you have done for the least among us, you have done for Him. - St. Vincent de Paul

**"A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer."**

*Evangelium vitae, 100*



LOVE GOD. LOVE NEIGHBOR. GO MAKE DISCIPLES.

**Come and join us for**

THE  
*Parent  
project*

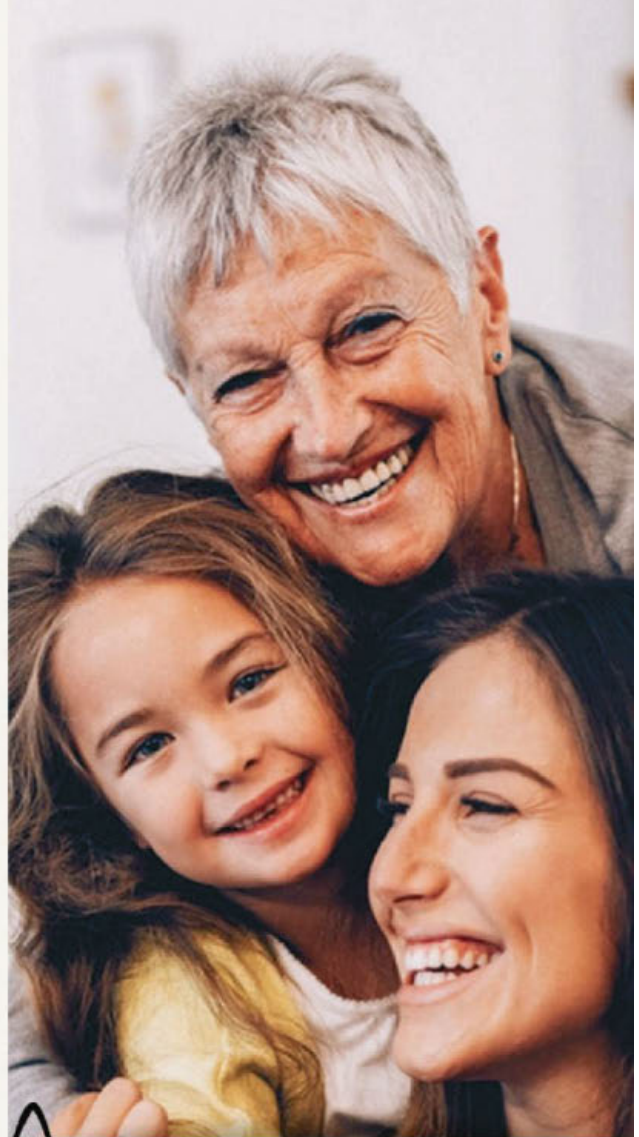
a mother's adventure in parenting

**Reflecting Beauty  
from the Inside Out:**

Harmonizing your beauty,  
dignity, and style

*Based on the book, Worthy of Wearing*

Presentation of Topic  
Work Session & Discussion  
Virtue-based Goals & Resolutions



*"A mother is like a flower,  
each one is beautiful and unique."*

**January 20, 2021**

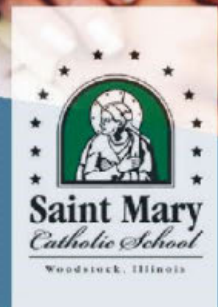
**7:00 - 8:15 PM**

**927 Laurel Ave.**

**Woodstock, IL**



For more information contact Gina, Sue, or Mindy  
[ginakranenburg@comcast.net](mailto:ginakranenburg@comcast.net)  
[swmurray1@gmail.com](mailto:swmurray1@gmail.com)  
[melinda.strange@gmail.com](mailto:melinda.strange@gmail.com)



# a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools

The infographic features a central circular logo with a cross and rays, and five stylized figures holding a banner that reads "Catholic Schools Faith. Excellence. Service." The logo is surrounded by 12 numbered segments, each with a reason. The background is a dark blue gradient.

**1** We offer an education that combines Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence.

**2** We partner with parents in the faith formation of their children.

**3** We set high standards for student achievement and help them succeed.

**4** We provide a balanced academic curriculum that integrates faith, culture and life.

**5** We use technology effectively to enhance education.

**6** We instill in students the value of service to others.

**7** We teach children respect of self and others.

**8** We emphasize moral development and self-discipline.

**9** We prepare students to be productive citizens and future leaders.

**10** We have a 99 percent high school graduation rate. 85 percent of our graduates go to college.

**11** We cultivate a faculty and staff of people who are dedicated, caring and effective.

**12** We provide a safe and welcoming environment for all.

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
[NCEA.org/csw](http://NCEA.org/csw)

***Celebrate with us January 30 - February 4, 2022!  
More information coming soon!***



# PAGINA DE ESPANOL - BIENVENIDOS A SANTA MARIA

## Para Ti Del Párroco

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

La Iglesia considera la Navidad como la segunda celebración más sagrada después de la Pascua. Litúrgicamente, la Navidad se refiere al memorial de la Natividad de Cristo y Sus primeras manifestaciones, que incluyen Su bautismo como adulto. Por lo tanto, la fiesta de hoy, **El Bautismo del Señor**, todavía es parte de la celebración de Navidad, aunque la concluye. Estamos tan acostumbrados a pensar en Jesús sólo como un infante durante la temporada, que no nos viene a la mente muy a menudo Su imagen adulta como parte de la Navidad. De hecho, todas las lecturas diarias del Evangelio, desde la Fiesta de la Epifanía del pasado domingo hasta este domingo, son imágenes adultas de Jesús que retratan diferentes cualidades de Su persona para revelar qué tipo de Dios hecho hombre es Él en relación a nosotros. Esas imágenes retratadas de Jesús se llaman *Sus Epifanías* o Sus manifestaciones para responder a la pregunta formulada en el famoso villancico "*¿Quién es este niño?*". La respuesta definitiva a la misma pregunta se da en la fiesta de hoy; dada no por profetas o sabios, sino por el mismo Dios Padre: "Este es mi Hijo amado... Escúchenlo". En ese sentido, la Navidad concluye y ahora debemos escuchar al amado Hijo del Padre y seguirlo.

La Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor es un momento oportuno para reflexionar sobre nuestro propio bautismo. La mayoría de nosotros fuimos bautizados cuando éramos bebés y no tenemos el privilegio de recordar este acontecimiento trascendental del viaje de la fe, como los del programa RICA. Sin embargo, nuestro bautismo no es un acontecimiento del pasado. Más bien, es una realidad siempre presente, una participación constante y continua en la vida de Cristo Resucitado. Podemos y debemos reflexionar sobre nuestro bautismo como un ejercicio espiritual continuo y diario. Volver a las palabras utilizadas en el rito del bautismo, es una excelente fuente de ayuda para una reflexión más fructífera:

*Dios, el Padre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, te ha liberado del pecado, te ha dado un nuevo nacimiento por agua y el Espíritu Santo, y te ha recibido en su pueblo santo.*

En el bautismo, Dios a través de Cristo nos ha liberado de la esclavitud del pecado original, nos ha convertido en una nueva creación a través del Espíritu Santo al transformarnos en Sus hijos e hijas y nos ha traído a Su familia, la Iglesia.

*Ahora te unge con el crisma de la salvación como Cristo fue ungido sacerdote, profeta y rey.*

En el bautismo nos configuramos en Cristo en su triple función como sacerdote, profeta y rey, de modo que a medida que nos esforzamos diariamente para acercarnos más a Dios en la adoración y la oración, también hacemos nuestro papel de ayudantes en la obra de salvación de Cristo. Al renovar nuestros votos bautismales durante esta fiesta solemne, seamos guiados por el Espíritu para buscar la Gloria de Dios en todo lo que hacemos. Por última vez este año: ¡Feliz Navidad para ustedes! Y que Dios los bendiga.

En Cristo, Padre Burt Absalon, Párroco

### El Bautismo de Santa Maria

Las Pláticas de bautismo ahora son en persona. Por favor llama a la oficina por lo menos una semana antes para registrarte a la plática. Estas pláticas serán en el sótano de la Iglesia a las 2:00 p.m.

**Próximas Pláticas - a las 2:00 pm, 23 de Enero**

**Próximas Bautismos - a las 10:00 am**

Los bautismos serán celebrados el primero y tercero sábado de cada mes a las 10:00 am (con la excepción del mes de diciembre). No hay bautismos en el mes de diciembre. Los bautismos son celebrados fuera de la misa y debido a esto, no realiza la obligación a asistir a la misa del domingo.





**9 DÍAS POR LA VIDA**  
¡REZA POR LA PROTECCIÓN DE LA VIDA HUMANA!

**19 al 27 de enero de 2022**

9 Días por la Vida es una novena por la protección de la vida humana. La intención de cada día va acompañada de una breve reflexión y una sugerencia para la acción que ayuden a construir la cultura de la vida.



Únete hoy en [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com)!

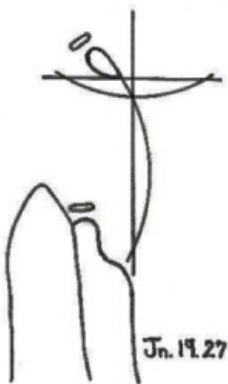


3 MODOS DE UNIRTE 9DaysforLife.com\*

\*Esta página digital está en inglés, pero puede inscribirse para recibir la novena en español.

Imagen: Un mosaico de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe decora un altar lateral de la Iglesia Santa María Regina della Famiglia en Ciudad del Vaticano, 13 de diciembre (Foto: CNS/Paul Haring).

### Ministerio de Duelo San Juan



Extiende la invitación a formar parte del equipo que ayudara a quienes han pasado o estan pasando por la dolorosa perdida de un ser querido. Interesados comunicarse con Mel Gaytan 312-719-9560 o [melygjpc@gmail.com](mailto:melygjpc@gmail.com)



"La Biblia en un año." ¡El nuevo podcast de Ascension inicia en enero de 2022!

**LA BIBLIA EN UN AÑO**

El podcast de Ascension, "La Biblia en un año," te lleva por toda la Biblia con un episodio diario durante 365 días. Empieza el 1 de enero del 2022.

En cada episodio de 25 minutos:

- Dos o tres lecturas de la Biblia
- Una reflexión breve que te ayudará a entender la Palabra de Dios
- Concluye con una oración guiada

¡Disponible en tu plataforma favorita!



2022 | COLECTA COMBINADA DIÓCESIS DE ROCKFORD PARA LA IGLESIA CATOLICA UNIVERSAL

**UNO EN CRISTO**

15 Y 16 DE ENERO

COLECTA NACIONAL

[rockforddiocese.org/donar](http://rockforddiocese.org/donar)

Tu apoyo a la Campaña Nacional 2022 en la Diócesis de Rockford empodera a las comunidades locales, comparte el mensaje del Evangelio con nuestro prójimo y se preocupa por los religiosos ancianos. A través de este llamamiento de colectas combinadas del 15 y 16 de enero, continuamos el trabajo de construir el Reino de Dios aquí mismo en nuestro propio país y dentro de nuestra propia Diócesis.

### Como dar?

1. Visita a <https://www.rockforddiocese.org/donar/>
2. Entrega el sobre para la Campaña Nacional 2022 en la canasta de oferta de Santa Maria.

## CURRENT CHURCH SCHEDULE

**Adoration Chapel:** Open 24/7 with access code.

**Church:** Open for personal prayer M-Sat. 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Wednesdays 10:00 am to 4:00 pm (Aug-May)

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday at 5:00 pm (English) and 6:30 pm (Spanish), Sunday at 7:30 am (English), 9:00 am (English), 10:30 am (English), 12:30 pm (Spanish), and 5:00 pm (Youth)

**Office & Store Hours:** Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Daily Mass:** Monday 12:30 pm

Tuesday 7:30 am, 12:30 pm

Wednesday 7:30 am, 12:30 pm

Thursday 7:30 am, 12:30 pm, 6:00 pm (S)

Friday 7:30 am

Saturday 7:30 am

**Confession:** Wednesdays at 4:00 pm

Thursdays 5:15 pm - 5:45 pm

Saturdays 8:00 am - 8:30 am

4:00 pm - 4:55 pm

6:00 pm - 6:25 pm

Pastor, Fr. Burt Absalon

Parochial Vicar, Fr. Adalberto Sanchez

Deacon Hans Rokus

Deacon Tom Murray

Deacon William Johnston

Deacon David Auld

Deacon Policarpo Jimenez

Deacon Bill Kearley

Business Manager, Ms. Libby Oleferchik

Bookkeeper, Mrs. JoAnn Lenart

Liturgy Coordinator, Mrs. Theresa Emricson

Communications, Mrs. Kate Pollack

Administrative Support, Mrs. Debbie O'Leary

Director of Faith Formation, Mr. Vince Sossong

Secretary for Hispanic Min., Mrs. Maricela Dueñas

School Principal, Ms. Hillary Russell

School Secretary, Mrs. Kathy Stanger

Building & Grounds, Mr. Humberto Cervantes

Mr. John Leonard

Custodian, Mrs. Imelda Salgado

Music Director, Mrs. Stacey Bassetti

312 Lincoln Avenue, Woodstock, IL | 815-338-3377 | [www.stmary-woodstock.org](http://www.stmary-woodstock.org)

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