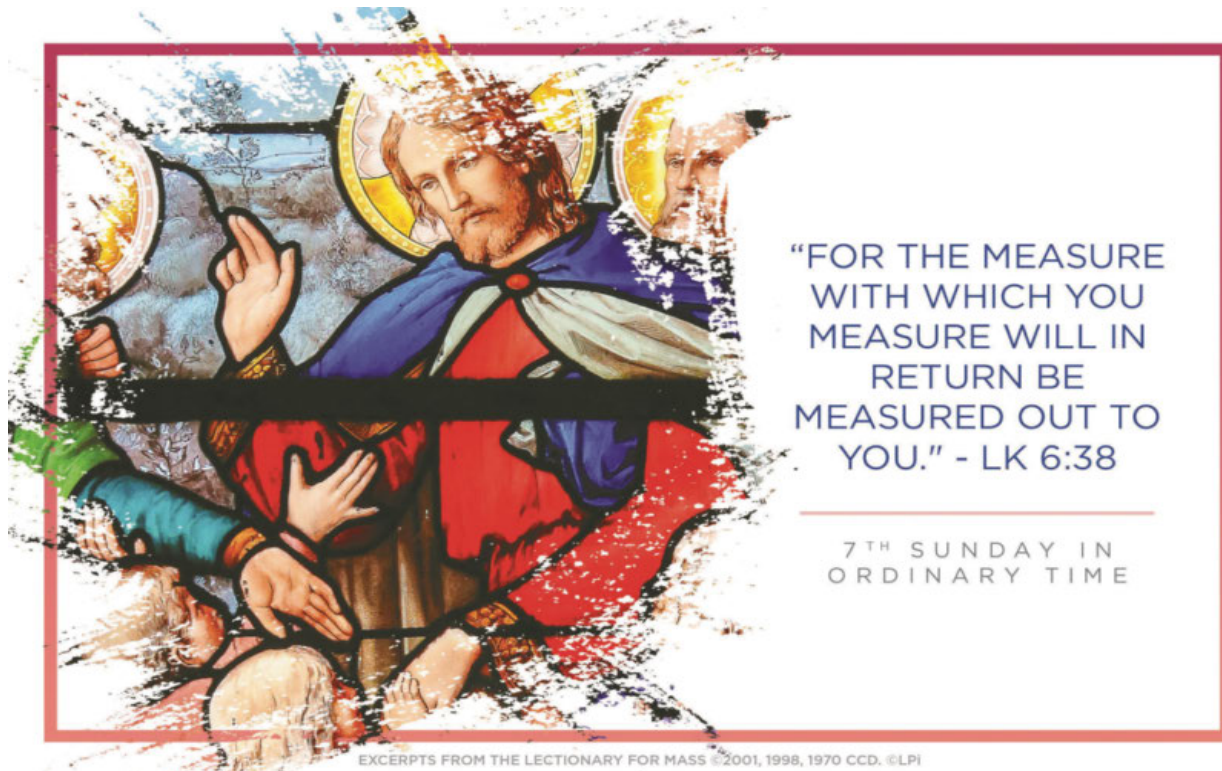




SACRED HEART CHURCH



2224 Avenue J, Sterling, IL ♦ www.sacredheartparish.net ♦ Tel. 815-625-1134 ♦ Emergency 815-625-0631



♦ LITURGY SCHEDULE ♦

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday-Wednesday & Friday: 7:00 AM
Thursday Communion Service: 7:00 AM
Saturday: 8:30 AM

CONFESSIONS

Monday-Tuesday: 7:30 AM
Friday: during Adoration
Saturday: 9:00 AM & 4:30 PM

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday anticipatory: 5:30 PM
(with livestream on YouTube)
Sunday: 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

ADORATION

Friday: following 7:00 AM Mass until 8:30 AM

Mission Statement

We are a Eucharistic Community which recognizes and values
the dignity of each person by responding to the Gospel.
We are called to
Pray, Teach and Serve.

Pray

Mass Intentions

Mon. 2/24 7:00 AM †Edward J. Grennan
Tues. 2/25 7:00 AM 2025 All Souls Intentions
Wed. 2/26 7:00 AM Living Intentions of Margaret Nickrent
Thurs. 2/27 7:00 AM Communion Service
Fri. 2/28 7:00 AM Living Intentions of Mark Song
Sat. 3/01 8:30 AM Living Intentions of Bonnie Lee
 5:30 PM †Connie Helms
Sun. 3/02 8:30 AM Sacred Heart Parishioners
 10:00 AM †Chris Borroff
Sanctuary Lamp In memory of Ben Melendrez

2025 Mass Intentions

January - December, 2025 and January, 2026 are open for mass intentions. We can begin scheduling for February 2026 on March 3, 2026. If you would like to schedule an intention, you can either stop in the parish office or call 815-625-1134. The suggested donation is \$10.

2025 Sanctuary Lamp Memorials

There is 1 Sanctuary Lamp memorial available for 2025. All of 2026 is open for Sanctuary Lamp memorials. The sanctuary lamp over the tabernacle is sponsored each week either in memory of, or for the living intentions of a loved one. If you would like to sponsor a week, please contact the parish office. The suggested donation is \$10.



Lighting a candle as a form of prayer

Do you have an intention that lies heavy on your heart? Consider lighting a votive candle in the church, asking God to grant you his comfort and peace.



Prayer before Communion

Dear Lord, may I receive you in this Communion with open arms, and a loving, contrite heart, So that I may be filled with your grace, For my good and Your glory! Amen.



Thanksgiving After Holy Communion

I thank you, Eternal Father, for giving me as the food of my soul, the Body and Blood of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. May this Divine Food preserve and increase the union of my soul with you. May it purify me by repressing every evil inclination. Grant that it may be to me a pledge of a glorious resurrection on the last day. O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I love you with all my heart. I am sorry for ever having offended you, and I desire never to offend you again. Amen.



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

Schedule of Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, March 1st & Sunday, March 2nd

Eucharistic Ministers:

5:30 PM Deacon Kevin, Karen Nestor, Gary Mosher
 8:30 AM Mary Papoccia, Alex Crump, Greg Nickrent
 10:00 AM Melinda Hutchison, Young Song, Lyndsey Weber

Lectors:

5:30 PM Dave Kavran & Peg Hoffmiller
 8:30 AM Alex Crump & John Clark
 10:00 AM Children

Servers:

5:30 PM **1 Volunteer Needed**
 8:30 AM Brantley Doty
 10:00 AM Connor Murphy & Elliott Wahl



Ushers:

5:30 PM Gary & Denise Mosher
 8:30 AM Greg & Margaret Nickrent
 10:00 AM Josh & Lyndsey Weber

Cantors:

5:30 PM Kristie Geil
 8:30 AM Kathy Schmidt
 10:00 AM Children's Choir

We are looking for more adult vocalists and ushers at all the Masses. Contact Amber or call the parish office.



Women's Wilderness Within Bible Study

Please remember to pick up your book to prepare for our first evening of fellowship and faith. Our first meeting is March 5. If you did not get a chance to register, more books are available in the office during business hours, first come, first serve. Questions? Contact Susanna Riley (815) 441-8170.

Rosary for the Unborn Child

Join us on **Sunday, March 2nd** to pray the rosary at 8:00 AM before the 8:30 AM Mass. It will be led by a Sterling KC member.

Sacred Heart Annual Raffle Tickets

336 raffle tickets are still available in the parish office Monday - Thursday 8 AM to 4 PM and closed on Fridays for \$50 each. Only 164 tickets have been sold out of 500. Each time a winner is drawn that ticket goes back into the drawing. There are 8 weekly chances left to win \$100 and 1-\$500.00 drawing for Easter 2025. **The proceeds will go to building grounds or A/C for the narthex or basement.**

February 16th winner: Tom Ausman



Thank You to our Church & Linen Cleaners!

A big thank you to Pam Reyes who was our church cleaner for the month of February and to Kim Ramirez who cleaned the church linens for the month of February. The March church cleaner is Shirley Wolford and for the church linens is Connie Royer.





Target goal: \$32,233.00

Registered families: 378

Pledged: \$30,268



We only have a few weeks and then we have to pay the DSP shortfall! Please keep praying and consider donating to DSP we are now within \$2,000 short of our goal. If we go over goal that money comes back to the parish as a refund, or a shortfall is a bill. The last day for money to count towards our goal is May 23rd up in Rockford.

To those who still owe keep that date in mind. Thank you for your continued support.


Ways to donate: There are extra envelopes located on the narthex table, use the 2024 Diocesan Appeal pledge card, donate through OSV (online giving), text DONATE to (815) 885-5806, or scan the QR code to directly access the website payable to Sacred Heart-DA.

A Mass of Thanksgiving

In appreciation of all those who supported the 2024 Diocese of Rockford Appeal in the past year, and to pray for their intentions.

Monday, March 3, 9:30 a.m.

Cathedral of St. Peter, Rockford with Bishop David J. Malloy



More information available by calling 815-399-4300
Event sponsored by the Office of Charitable Giving

Mass Intention- All Souls 2024

The 2024 All Souls Envelope Intentions will be said in 2025 on dates when we have no Mass intention. If these Masses cannot be said before November 2, 2025 they are sent up to Rockford to be said by retired priests. Those 7 Masses will be said for All Souls and especially : Mike & Eleanor Kavran, Charles & Ann Wiker, Paula Kavran Shipman, Mary Kavran Dietmeier, Lynda A. Warren, Gail J. Burdsall, Marge Burdsall, Edward Brackemeyer, Lanora Brackemeyer, John Boone, Emma Boone.

**Congratulations
Jackson & Cora
received the
Sacrament of
First Communion on
February 15, 2025**



Weekly Collection

Thank you for your weekly contributions.

We had 94 families (25%) contribute between online and envelopes.

Total contributions \$5,473.00

January YTD

Collections \$250,722.69

Expenses \$215,176.79

5% Tithe: January - Catholic Education \$1,199.00



Go to **www.sacredheartparish.net** and click on the Online Giving link, it's quick and easy. Thank you.

IN HOPE WE PRAY

The Heart to Heart Prayer Group invites you to experience peace and hope as we pray that the powers of evil are vanquished in our world. Join us on Fridays at 2:30 PM at St. Mary's Church, Sterling, as part of your Jubilee Year Pilgrimage participation.



Parish Office

Hours.....Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM

Hours.....Closed on Friday's

Phone 815-625-1134

Fax.....815-625-1138

Rectory, Emergency Only815-625-0631

Parish Staff

Pastor

Rev. Thomas J. Doyle.....ext. 3

Permanent Deacon

Kevin Nestor.....815-499-8002

Email.....sheartdeacon@gmail.com

Business Manager

Joan Cooney.....ext. 2

Email.....JCooney@rockforddiocese.org

Executive Assistant

Lupe Larson.....ext. 0

Email.....sheartoffice@gmail.com

Director of Music and Liturgy

Amber Allen.....ext. 4

Emailsheartmusicliturgy@gmail.com

Coordinator of Religious Education

Melinda Hutchison.....ext. 5

Email.....sheartreligioused@gmail.com

Coordinator of RCIA

Gonzalo Reyes

Email.....sheartRCIA@gmail.com

Prayer Chain for Special Intentions

Call.....815-625-1134

Email.....sheartoffice@gmail.com

Baptism

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for baptism at least 2 months in advance.

Matrimony

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for marriage at least 6 months to 1 year in advance.



**Happy Birthday from
Fr. Doyle and the
Sacred Heart Staff!**

Feb 24th

Jodi Dempsey
Lauren Gruber

Feb 25th

Susie LeMay

Feb 26th

Jacey Ramirez
John Rowzee

Shannon

Scroggins

Phillip Vock

Debbie Wade

Feb 28th

Vada McBride

Vitoria McDaniel

March 1st

Braidyn Lorenz

Jennifer Lorenz

Aria Selmi

Henry Sprague

March 2nd

Patrick Riley

Military Prayer List

Lucas Anguish

Ryan Arndt

Connor Brown

Dominic Burke

Jacob Burke

John M. Clark

Colin Messer

Brady Moran

Justin Morgan

Zac Muntean

Ethan Nash

Devon Parker

Zach Passini

Madison Rauenbuehler

Ryan Rauenbuehler

Joshua Sweeney

Eric Thom

Andrew Valentino

Lucas Velasquez

Gary Velasquez, Jr.



February 23rd

"The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is **cherished**."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent
usccb.org/cherished-chosen-sent-reflection

Annual Retreat St. Mary Church, Sterling February 25th, 2025

Parish Center, Bales Hall main
doors, check-in 9:15-9:20a

(\$7 fee collection at this time)

If you can, please join us for the 8:30a daily
Mass in the church

9:30a - 11:30 Guest Speaker

Father Randy Fronek

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Sublette

Lunch provided immediately after
guest speaker's closing

Hosted by Altar & Rosary Society
Sacred Heart, St. Andrew, & OLPH, please join us!
QUESTIONS: Please call Diana Healy 815-441-4563

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March 1, 2025
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Dinner served 7:30 pm

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one.bidpal.net/smsauktion2025/welcome

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St. Mary's School, Sterling

Preschool & Kindergarten Open House

& Registration for the 2025-26 school year will be Tuesday, March 4th, 5:00 - 6:30 PM. Meet the teachers, learn about the curriculum, review textbooks and teaching resources, tour the school, tuition & fee information, and registration. If you have children in other grades and you are interested in finding out more about St. Mary's School, feel free to check us out on this evening! For more information, call 815-625-2253.

Become a long term care Ombudsman Volunteer

The Long Term Care Ombudsman Program protects and improves the quality of care and quality of life in long-term care facilities. Trained and certified Ombudsmen regularly visit, monitor conditions and provide a voice for vulnerable residents who otherwise may have no one to speak for them. As a volunteer LTC Ombudsman, you will advocate for residents of long-term care facilities, and experience the rewards of helping residents resolve concerns. Catholic Charities provides this service in nine counties of northern Illinois and work in conjunction with the Illinois Department on Aging. Required certification training will be provided. Please contact April Smothermon at (779) 210-8689 or email asmothermon@rockforddiocese.org. You can also visit: <https://catholiccharities.rockforddiocese.org> for more information.

Out of Town Next Weekend?

Check out MassTimes.org to find churches and Mass times wherever you travel! The **Mass Times for Travel** app is available for iPhone at the App store and Android at Google Play. Download today!

Pizza at the Parish - February 7th, 2025

A big thank you to everyone who attended, who chaperoned that night and to the NHS cheerleaders.



February 28 - March 3
St. Patrick
Holloway Center
Dixon

Light of the World Retreat at St. Patrick, Dixon

You're invited to the Light of the World Parish Retreat at St. Patrick in Dixon. LOTW is a powerful opportunity to deepen your faith, connect with fellow community members, and experience the transformative love of Jesus Christ through inspiring talks, prayer, and fellowship.

Retreat Dates & Times

St. Patrick, Dixon - Holloway Center
Friday, February 28 -- 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Saturday, March 1 -- 8:00 am - 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 2 -- 8:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Monday, March 3 -- 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Rest assured that the benefits you'll gain from participating in the Light of the World retreat will far outweigh the time and effort you put in.

The Light of the World Retreat is an immersive weekend retreat experience where participants personally encounter Christ.

To register, scan the QR code or call the parish at 815-284-7719



Daylight Savings Starts March 9th

Don't forget to turn your clocks 1 hour forward.



Diocese Updates List of Credibly Accused Priests

Please read below about Fr. Herman Porter from the Diocesan attorney.

The Diocese of Rockford, on Feb. 18, 2025, updated its list of priests against whom a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor has been reported. The update was made to include the name of the late Father Herman Porter. Father Porter was ordained in 1947 and served the Rockford Diocese as pastor of St. Therese of Jesus Church of Aurora, 1970-1979; administrator of St. Ann Church in Warren, 1967-1968; associate pastor at St. Mary Church, Rockford, 1964, (now an oratory); assistant at Sacred Heart Church, Sterling in 1963 and as Chaplain pro-tem at St. Joseph's Hospital of Belvidere, from June to Sept., 1963, now closed. Father Porter retired from the active priesthood in July, 1979 and died April 3, 1986.

Per diocesan policy, parishioners at parishes where Father Porter served, even though briefly, were notified and his name has now been added to the Diocese of Rockford's list of priests against whom an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor has been substantiated. That list is available to the public in English and Spanish on the diocesan website at www.rockforddiocese.org under the Safe Environment banner on the left side of the web page. <https://www.rockforddiocese.org/safe-environment/>. The list has been posted and made available on the diocesan website since 2018.

The Diocese reminds readers that if you or anyone you know has been a victim of sexual abuse by a member of the diocesan clergy, religious, church employee or volunteer, please first call your local police in the county in which the abuse occurred, and then call the diocesan hotline at 815-293-7540.



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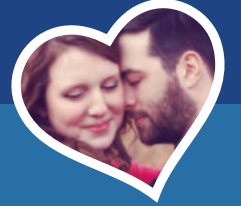
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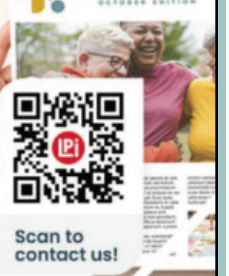
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