

**Saint Mary
Church**
401 South Street
Henry, IL 61537



**Immaculate Conception
Church**
412 N. Center Street
Lacon, IL 61540

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

Parish Office: *Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm*
415 N. High Street, Lacon, IL 61540
309-246-5145
parishoffice@ihmcatholic.church
Secretary: Jill Franklin

Pastor: Fr. Michael Pica
309-270-1052
pastor@ihmcatholic.church
Parish website:
ihmcatholic.church

Parish Staff Directory:
Director of Religious Education: Christy Beall
309-238-3394 CCD (Sept-Apr) *Sundays 9:15-10:15am*
St. Mary Center Manager (Henry)
Dawn Glenn: 309-364-2011

The Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time August 2, 2026

Mass Intentions & Liturgy Schedule

SMC = St. Mary Church, Henry
ICC = Immaculate Conception, Lacon
(ProPopulo—Mass for the People of the Parish)

The Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time Aug. 2, 2026

Saturday Vigil	4:30pm	SMC	+Terese Keller
Sunday	8:00am	ICC	+Marlene Gauwitz
	10:30am	SMC	Pro Populo

Weekday Masses

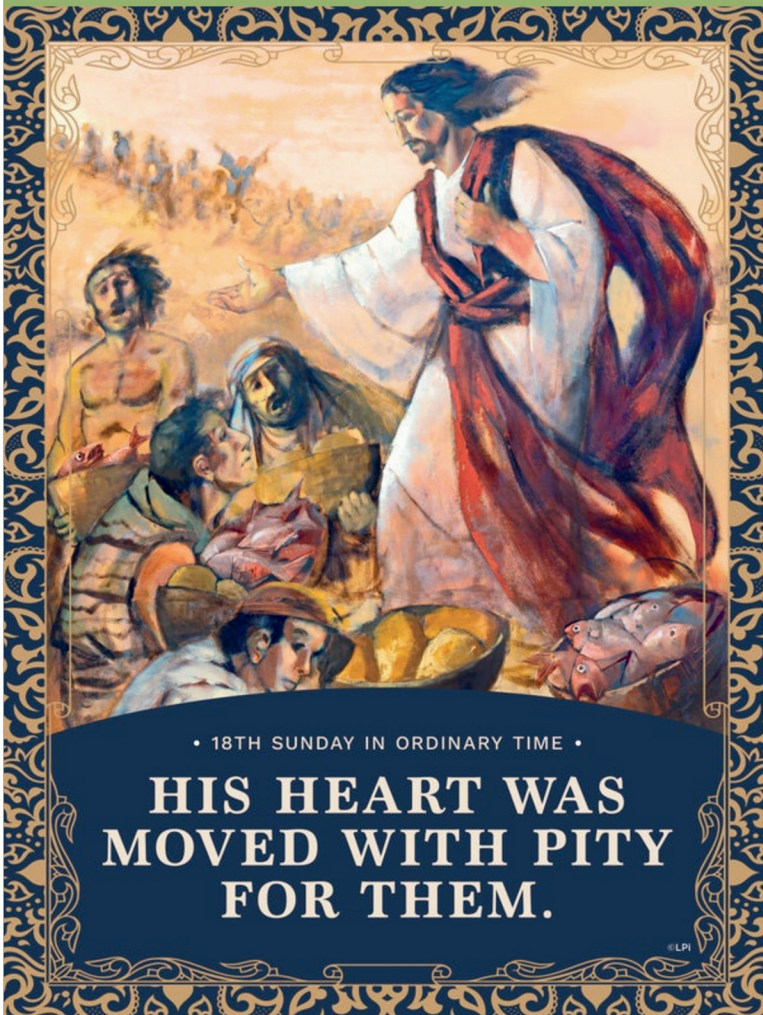
Mon. Aug 3	8:00am	SMC	+Chick McCrosky
Tues. Aug 4			No Mass
Wed. Aug 5	5:30pm	ICC	+Judy Murphy
Thurs. Aug 6	7:30am	SMC	+Mike Wallace
Fri. Aug 7	8:00am	ICC	+Rowena Vincent

NEXT WEEKEND : Aug. 8-9

Saturday Vigil	4:30pm	SMC	+Jim Molinero
Sunday	8:00am	ICC	Pro Populo
	10:30am	SMC	Kevin & Anna Toohill

NEED A SUNDAY EVENING MASS?

5:00pm at St. Thomas, 904 E. Lake Ave, Peoria Heights
5:30pm at Queen of the Holy Rosary, 529 4th St, LaSalle
7:30pm at St. Philomena, 1000 W. Albany, Peoria



• 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •
**HIS HEART WAS
MOVED WITH PITY
FOR THEM.**

Lay Ministry Schedule for Next Weekend Aug. 8-9

Lector	EMHC	Altar Server
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4:30 p.m. - SMC - Saturday August 8, 2026

Betty Shearer Father Pica Smiths

8:00 a.m. - ICC - Sunday, August 9, 2026

Myra Uftring Steve Martinek Larry

10:30 a.m. - SMC - Sunday, August 9, 2026

Nick Mattern Margy Mattern Volunteer

Daily Mass: 6:30am at the Convent in Lacon (Monday-Friday)

7:00am at the Convent in Lacon (Saturday)

11:00am at the Lacon Nursing/Rehab (Sunday)

Sacraments**Baptism:**

Please contact the Parish Office at least one month in advance to schedule the Baptism preparation. Both parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism class prior to the Baptism.

Matrimony:

Please contact the Parish Office at least eight months in advance to schedule the wedding and begin the marriage preparation program.

Confessions:

Wednesdays: ICC Lacon 4:15pm-5:15pm

Saturdays: SMC Henry 3:15pm-4:15pm

Thursday before First Friday:

SMC Henry 6:00pm-8:00pm

First Friday: ICC Lacon 7:15am-7:45am

Other times by appointment with a priest.

Anointing of the Sick:

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule. If admitted to the hospital, please be sure at check-in to register your faith and your parish. In case of medical emergency, please call Fr. Pica at any time and follow automated directions for emergency calls.

Christian Stewardship

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish is a family of families. And as a Parish Family we are asked to be faithful stewards of the gifts God has given each of us. Please share your faith and prayers, your time, your talents, and your treasures as we seek to faithfully live the Gospel; to Go and Make Disciples of All Nations.

Are you new or Just Visiting? Welcome to Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish! We are glad you are here with us. I hope to personally welcome you after Mass if you are able to say hi! May God reward you! ~ Father Pica

Bulletin Deadline: Submit items in writing or email by noon Monday at the Parish Office in Lacon, IL.

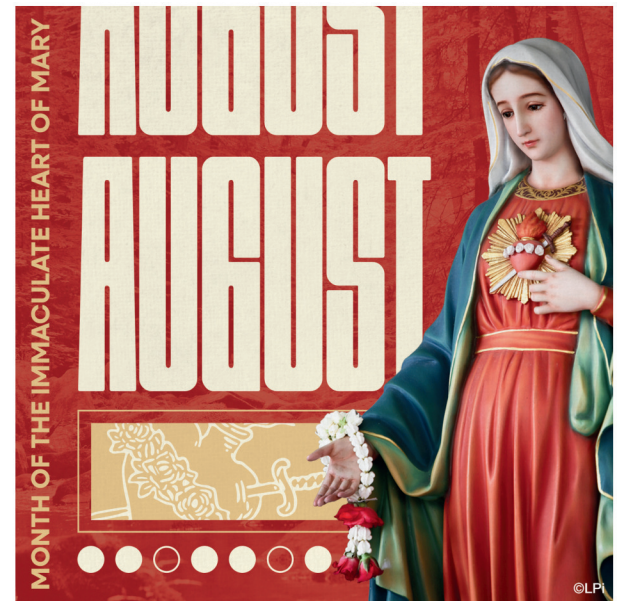
Online bulletin: www.parishesonline.com

If hospitalized or homebound, please notify our Parish office
309-246-5145 or Fr. Pica 309-270-1052.

Prayer line: If you have a need for special prayer, please contact the office at 309-246-5145

Looking Ahead at IHM Parish

Aug. 5	Mary's Heart Women's Group @ IC Hall 6:00pm
Aug. 6	1 st Friday Preparation: Confessions & Adoration @ SMC 6:00pm
Aug. 7	1 st Friday Confession @ ICC 7:15-7:45am Adoration 8:30-10:00am
Aug. 10	Parish Council @ IC Hall 6:00 pm
Aug. 14	Family Game Night @ SM Center 6:00 pm
Aug. 15	Holy Day (not a Holy Day of Obligation): Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Online Giving!****Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish!**

Give Online now, or set up weekly or monthly online giving. Use the QR Code with your phone!

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Support
Thank you for your generosity!

	July 26, 2026	YTD	YTD Budget
Actual Collection	\$3,906	\$14,455	\$16,154
[Weekly Budget: \$4,038]			-\$1,699
Bldgs. & Grounds	\$75	\$1,230	\$923
[Weekly Budget: \$231]			\$307
Capital Campaign	\$1,500	\$3,915	\$7,692
[Orange Env. Bdgt. \$1,923]			-\$3,777

+MM+

Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! -Now and forever!

Below Pope St. John Paul II, in Chapter III, *Dies Ecclesiae- The Day of the Church-* advises the Bishops and Pastors of souls that Sunday Mass ought to have a 'festive character' as it is the day we commemorate the Resurrection of the Lord. He notes that it is in song that we 'express a joyful heart.' As St. Augustine writes: "For he who sings praise, does not only praise, but also praises joyfully." And so it is fitting that we sing, chant praise, of God at Mass as it is a means by which we express our joy. The Holy Pontiff also distinguishes how the people of God actively participate in the Mass, namely by offering oneself to God and receiving holy communion- I might add- receiving holy communion worthily. Receiving Holy Communion worthily means that one is in the state of grace as opposed to the state of sin or even grave sin. Being in the state of grave sin, means that in examining one's conscience one is aware of grave sin and is in need of returning to the Sacrament of Confession and receiving the merciful love of God; and in doing so would return to the State of Grace.

From *Dies Domini* (1998)- an Apostolic Letter to the Bishops, Clergy, and Faithful of the Catholic Church on Keeping the Lord's Day Holy- Pope St. John Paul II.

A joyful celebration in song

50. Given the nature of Sunday Mass and its importance in the lives of the faithful, it must be prepared with special care. In ways dictated by pastoral experience and local custom in keeping with liturgical norms, efforts must be made to ensure that the celebration has the festive character appropriate to the day commemorating the Lord's Resurrection. To this end, it is important to devote attention to the songs used by the assembly, since singing is a particularly apt way to express a joyful heart, accentuating the solemnity of the celebration and fostering the sense of a common faith and a shared love. Care must be taken to ensure the quality, both of the texts and of the melodies, so that what is proposed today as new and creative will conform to liturgical requirements and be worthy of the Church's tradition which, in the field of sacred music, boasts a priceless heritage.

A celebration involving all

51. There is a need too to ensure that all those present, children and adults, take an active interest, by encouraging their involvement at those points where the liturgy suggests and recommends it.(90) Of course, it falls only to those who exercise the priestly ministry to effect the Eucharistic Sacrifice and to offer it to God in the name of the whole people.(91) This is the basis of the distinction, which is much more than a matter of discipline, between the task proper to the celebrant and that which belongs to deacons and the non-ordained faithful.(92) Yet the faithful must realize that, because of the common priesthood received in Baptism, "they participate in the offering of the Eucharist".(93) Although there is a distinction of roles, they still "offer to God the divine victim and themselves with him. Offering the sacrifice and receiving holy communion, they take part actively in the liturgy", (94) finding in it light and strength to live their baptismal priesthood and the witness of a holy life.

*¡Viva Cristo Rey!**Father Pica*


ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Saturday, August 15

HOLY DAY MASSES
*NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

ST. MARY CHURCH
8:00AM*

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
12:00PM*

*Social after each Mass
in SM Center & IC Hall
respectively



IHM 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal

June Update

Goal	Pledged	Received	To be Pledged	# of Donors
\$50,457	\$42,837.50	\$41,552.50	\$7,619.50	87

First Friday Preparation



Adoration + Confession

Thurs., Aug. 6

6:00-8:00pm at SMC
(Adoration & Conf.)

Friday, Aug. 7

7:15-7:45am at ICC
(Confession)
8:30-10:00am at ICC
(Adoration)



IDEAS FOR CATHOLIC HOMES AND CLASSROOMS
FROM LOOKTOHIMANDBERADIANT.COM

Mary's Heart Women's Group

All women of the Parish are invited to our monthly gathering, **Wednesday, Aug 5th at 6:00pm at IC Hall** (after the 5:30 Mass). Gatherings consist of prayer, fellowship and refreshments.

August is the Month of our Parish Patroness, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, so our own Katie Bogner will be with us to introduce us to all the wonderful resources on this subject on her beautiful and informative website:

www.LookToHimAndBeRadiant.com

Invite a friend to join you!

"The most important person on earth is a mother... She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral a dwelling place for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby's body." ~ Joseph Cardinal Mindzenty

Prayer For Life: Dear Heavenly Father, I thank my Mom and Dad for my birth. I love life, I love living. In your name I pray. Amen



A Trip to the Ballpark

The IHM Hospitality Committee organized an outing to watch the Peoria Chiefs take on the West Michigan Whitecaps on Faith & Family Night at Dozer Park on July 24, 2026. Eighteen parishioners were treated to a Chiefs' victory—powered by the long-ball-- and a dazzling post-game firework show. An attendee, who declined to be named for this piece, allegedly heard Fr. Pica exclaim, "This is better than the World Cup!" The Hospitality Committee thanks all who attended the game and hopes more parishioners will make the trek south next year. In addition to being a fun night, the event helps parishioners develop authentic friendships and allows us to imitate the care and love for others that Jesus modeled with his disciples.



The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

This beautiful devotion was originally promulgated by Venerable Pope Pius XII in 1944, to be celebrated on August 22 as the Octave of the Assumption. Although the feast day of the Immaculate Heart of Mary was later moved to the Saturday after the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in June, there are still three big Marian feast days in August. These are the Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major on August 5, the Assumption of the Blessed Mother on August 15, and the Queenship of Mary on August 22. It's a big month, Marianly speaking!

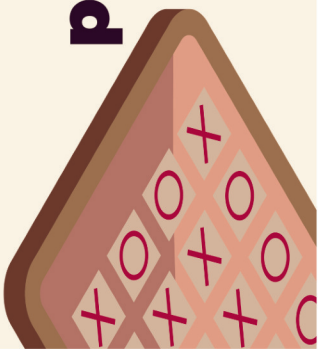


St. Joseph Men's Group*

Saturday, Aug. 8
7:00-8:00am

at St. Mary Center

*2nd & 4th Saturdays
of the Month



You are invited to a family game night!

Fun • Laughter • Community

Friday, August 14th @ 6pm at the St. Mary Center

What will it be like?

- Assorted board games
- Card games
- Bags/Cornhole
- Pizza, snacks, and refreshments

Great for people of all ages--invite your friends and family, and join us for a fun night of fellowship and friendly competition!



FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF *Fulton Sheen*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND 5:30-7:00 P.M.

ST. MARY CENTER, 401 SOUTH STREET, HENRY

Come and learn more about the inspiring and holy life of Venerable Fulton J. Sheen, who will be Beatified on September 24, 2026. Hear stories about Sheen, including little known facts and fun trivia. Most importantly, learn about lessons from Fulton Sheen that we can emulate in our own walk with Christ.

**PIZZA WILL BE SERVED FOLLOWING 4:30 MASS
TALK WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 P.M.**

SPEAKER:
Katie Bogner

Katie is the creator of the Teaching with Fulton Sheen Curriculum as well as a regular volunteer at Fulton Sheen's tomb and the Sheen Museum.



QUESTIONS? CONTACT: KATHERINE.BOGNER@GMAIL.COM OR 309-238-3587

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