

**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](mailto:parishoffice@ihmcatholic.church)  
**Secretary:** Jill Franklin

**Pastor:** Fr. Michael Pica  
309-270-1052  
[pastor@ihmcatholic.church](mailto:pastor@ihmcatholic.church)  
**Parish website:**  
[ihmcatholic.church](http://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 Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time August 16, 2026

### Mass Intentions & Liturgy Schedule

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

### Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time Aug. 15-16, 2026

|                       |                |            |                                     |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday Vigil</b> | <b>4:30pm</b>  | <b>SMC</b> | +Chester & John Geleziunas          |
| <b>Sunday</b>         | <b>8:00am</b>  | <b>ICC</b> | +Leonard & Katherine<br>Waldschmidt |
|                       | <b>10:30am</b> | <b>SMC</b> | Pro Populo                          |

### Weekday Masses

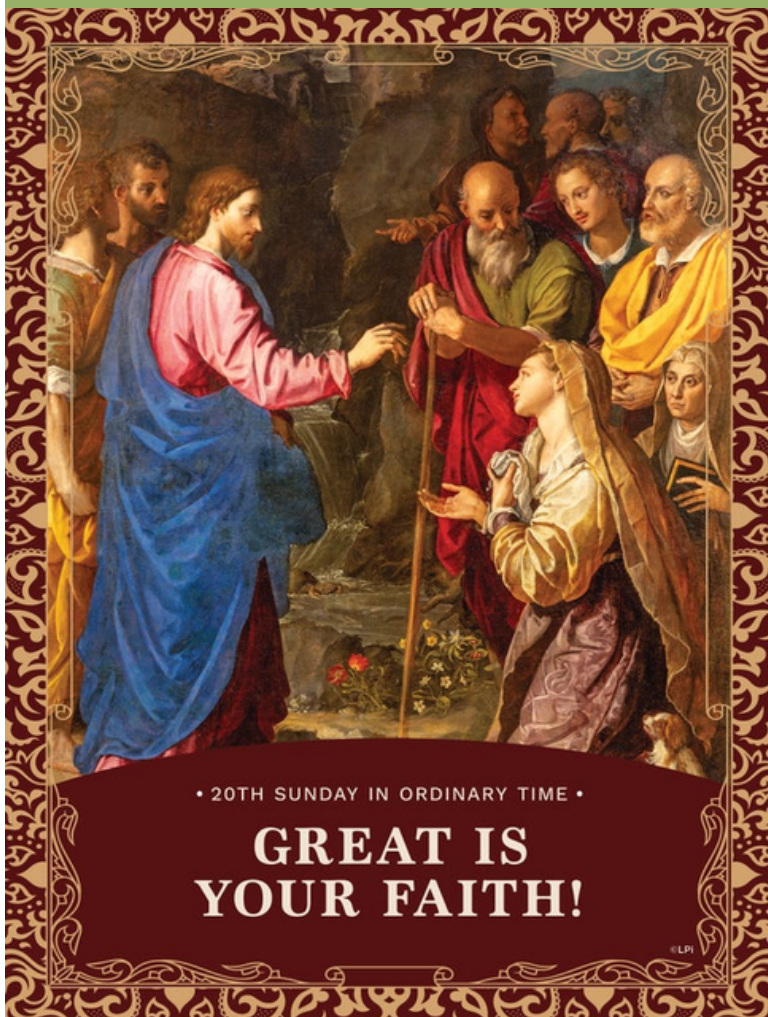
|                      |               |            |                        |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|------------------------|
| <b>Mon. Aug 17</b>   | <b>8:00am</b> | <b>SMC</b> | +Father Harold Schmidt |
| <b>Tues. Aug 18</b>  |               |            | <b>No Mass</b>         |
| <b>Wed. Aug 19</b>   | <b>5:30pm</b> | <b>ICC</b> | +Esther Balensiefen    |
| <b>Thurs. Aug 20</b> | <b>7:30am</b> | <b>SMC</b> | + Bill Real            |
| <b>Fri. Aug 21</b>   | <b>8:00am</b> | <b>ICC</b> | +Augustyn Sloan        |

### NEXT WEEKEND : Aug. 22-23

|                       |                |            |                   |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------|
| <b>Saturday Vigil</b> | <b>4:30pm</b>  | <b>SMC</b> | +Barbara Lou      |
| <b>Sunday</b>         | <b>8:00am</b>  | <b>ICC</b> | +Doreen Heilstedt |
|                       | <b>10:30am</b> | <b>SMC</b> | Pro Populo        |

### 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



• 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

**GREAT IS  
YOUR FAITH!**

**Lay Ministry Schedule for Next Weekend Aug. 22-23**

|                      |                    |                            |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <b><u>Lector</u></b> | <b><u>EMHC</u></b> | <b><u>Altar Server</u></b> |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|

**4:30 p.m. - SMC - Saturday August 22, 2026**

Dirk Nauman      Michelle Lacey-Nauman      James

**8:00 a.m. - ICC - Sunday, August 23, 2026**

Katie Bogner      Father Pica      Larry Uftring

**10:30 a.m. - SMC - Sunday, August 23, 2026**

Alicia Aguire      Bob Eckert      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.

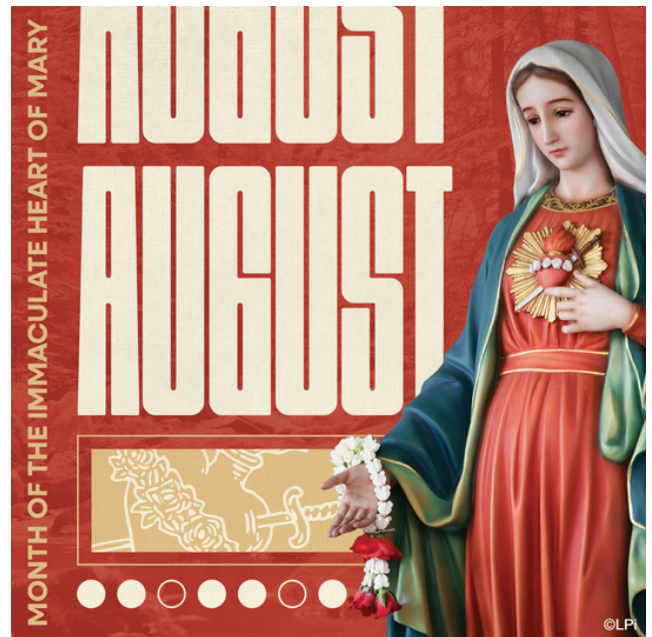
**Online bulletin:** [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)

**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. 19 | Lacon K of C @ IC Hall<br>6:30pm             |
| Aug. 20 | Henry K of C @ SM Center<br>7:00pm           |
| Aug. 22 | St. Joseph Men's Group @ SM Center<br>6:30am |
| Aug. 23 | CCD @ SM Center<br>9:15 am                   |
| Aug. 23 | IHM Youth Group @ SM Center<br>4:00pm        |

***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!***

|                             | Aug. 9, 2026 | YTD      | YTD Budget      |
|-----------------------------|--------------|----------|-----------------|
| Actual Collection           | \$3,906      | \$20,499 | \$24,231        |
| [Weekly Budget: \$4,038]    |              |          | <b>-\$3,732</b> |
| Bldgs. & Grounds            | \$720        | \$2,080  | \$1,385         |
| [Weekly Budget: \$231]      |              |          | \$695           |
| Capital Campaign            | \$500        | \$5,046  | \$11,538        |
| [Orange Env. Bdgt. \$1,923] |              |          | <b>-\$6,492</b> |

+JMJ+

Dear Parishioners,

*Praised be Jesus Christ! -Now and forever!*

Chapter III, *Dies Ecclesiae- The Day of the Church*- In the final paragraphs of Chapter III, Pope St. John Paul II reflects upon one of the universal realities of the Catholic Church, namely that there are still some areas of the world that do not have the ability to attend Sunday Mass due to the lack of priests or too large a distance for the faithful to travel in order to attend Sunday Mass. This may seem foreign to many of us westerners as we, here in Central Illinois, do not experience this reality as Mass is regularly celebrated on Sundays and Holy Days. Here Mass is rarely if ever cancelled, and that includes daily Mass, and yet throughout the Universal Church, not all Catholics have the option to attend Mass on Sundays. This is a foreign concept to many of us as we do not always consider this, however, the Mass is efficacious for all Catholics everywhere throughout the world. And so, in cases where there is no priest there is a Liturgical Celebration without the priest, but it is not the Sacrifice of the Mass, as a priest is absolutely necessary for a Mass to be offered. The Holy Pope also speaks to the reality of technology assisting those who can no longer attend Mass, and are therefore excused from the obligation to attend Mass, being able to watch or listen to the Mass on the radio or on TV. For those who are physically able to attend Mass on Sundays, we are obliged to do so, and to 'substitute' watching Mass on TV for attending Mass in person, it should be noted by all that this does not fulfill one's obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. The exception here was during COVID- when the obligation was lifted, however, the Sunday Obligation was reinstated late in the summer of 2020, and no longer applies. We are obliged to attend Mass, because we are in need of being reminded of the Father's love.

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.

### Sunday assemblies without a priest

53. There remains the problem of parishes which do not have the ministry of a priest for the celebration of the Sunday Eucharist. This is often the case in young Churches, where one priest has pastoral responsibility for faithful scattered over a vast area. However, emergency situations can also arise in countries of long-standing Christian tradition, where diminishing numbers of clergy make it impossible to guarantee the presence of a priest in every parish community. In situations where the Eucharist cannot be celebrated, the Church recommends that the Sunday assembly come together even without a priest,(95) in keeping with the indications and directives of the Holy See which have been entrusted to the Episcopal Conferences for implementation.(96) Yet the objective must always remain the celebration of the Sacrifice of the Mass, the one way in which the Passover of the Lord becomes truly present, the only full realization of the Eucharistic assembly over which the priest presides in persona Christi, breaking the bread of the word and the Eucharist. At the pastoral level, therefore, everything has to be done to ensure that the Sacrifice of the Mass is made available as often as possible to the faithful who are regularly deprived of it, either by arranging the presence of a priest from time to time, or by taking every opportunity to organize a gathering in a central location accessible to scattered groups.

### Radio and television

54. Finally, the faithful who, because of sickness, disability or some other serious cause, are prevented from taking part, should as best they can unite themselves with the celebration of Sunday Mass from afar, preferably by means of the readings and prayers for that day from the Missal, as well as through their desire for the Eucharist.(97) In many countries, radio and television make it possible to join in the Eucharistic celebration broadcast from some sacred place.(98) Clearly, this kind of broadcast does not in itself fulfil the Sunday obligation, which requires participation in the fraternal assembly gathered in one place, where Eucharistic communion can be received. But for those who cannot take part in the Eucharist and who are therefore excused from the obligation, radio and television are a precious help, especially if accompanied by the generous service of extraordinary ministers who bring the Eucharist to the sick, also bringing them the greeting and solidarity of the whole community. Sunday Mass thus produces rich fruits for these Christians too, and they are truly enabled to experience Sunday as "the Lord's Day" and "the Church's day".

*¡Viva Cristo Rey!*

*Father Pica*

### IHM 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal

June Update



| Goal     | Pledged     | Received    | To be Pledged | # of Donors |
|----------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| \$50,457 | \$43,837.50 | \$43,037.50 |               | 87          |

*IHM Parish Youth Fellowship*

**THE SEARCH**  
FROM FORMED.ORG

*What is the meaning of life?*

@ ST MARY CENTER  
AUGUST 23 @ 4-5:15 PM

*Faith Fun*



**Question:** *Why do we have a feast for the Queenship of Mary?*

**Answer:** For many of us, the language of kings and queens may seem like they belong to history or a medieval movie. Royalty have absolute authority over a kingdom and their subjects, a concept that is foreign to many of us today. While Jesus doesn't rule a political kingdom, we honor and recognize him as the King of Kings, Lord of Heaven and Earth. To God alone belongs absolute authority over all of existence.

We may think of queens as the spouse of the king, but there is another key relationship: the king's mother. In Biblical history, we see instances where the mother of the king is given due as a queen herself, complete with a throne! Mary's guiding influence over her Son is seen most notably in the Wedding Feast at Cana. Mary is not Queen on her own merit. She is "full of grace" and "blessed" in "all ages" because of the reign of her Son.

**the RESCUE project**

We live our lives according to the stories we believe... but what if there is another story?

That story is the gospel! **The Rescue Project** seeks to proclaim the gospel in a compelling and attractive way over eight weeks in a small group format. All adults and teens are invited to join us in discovering the story.

Ever ask yourself these questions?  
**We invite you to join us for The Rescue Project.**

Together we can discover The Story.

**Coming to IHM Parish**  
2nd Wednesdays of the month beginning 9/9/26

- 10:30 am- St. Mary Center in Henry
- 6:30 pm- Immaculate Conception Hall in Lacon

**MEAL | EPISODE | DISCUSSION**  
All Adults and Teens are welcome!

**Mary's Heart**

**Prayer Intentions for August**

Please pray for all students and staff of our Parish as they go back to school and also for all involved in our CCD program. May the Immaculate Heart of Mary guide them in their work and bring them closer to Jesus.

"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 Jesus' name I pray. Amen



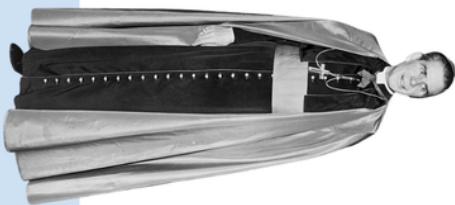
*Jan*

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

*Breakfast Club*  
WITH BLESSED FULTON SHEEN

*Sundays 9:00-10:00 am*  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HALL, LACON

Join us for breakfast, coffee, discussion, study, & prayer following 8 am Mass. Our Fall study will focus on the life of the newly-Beatified Fulton J. Sheen. Come to any session!



|            |                                 |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Sept. 13th | Servant of All, Part 1          |
| Sept. 20th | Servant of All, Part 2          |
| Sept. 27th | Pivotal Players                 |
| Oct. 4th   | Sheen Gems                      |
| Oct. 18th  | Angels                          |
| Oct. 25th  | The Divine Sense of Humor       |
| Nov. 1st   | Love is a Many Splendored Thing |
| Nov. 8th   | False Compassion                |
| Nov. 15th  | Ages of Man                     |
| Nov. 22nd  | Love is Faith                   |
| Dec. 6th   | Love is Hope                    |
| Dec. 13th  | Love is Truth                   |

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



*Jan*

FOLLOWING IN  
THE FOOTSTEPS OF  
*Fulton Sheen*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22<sup>ND</sup>  
5:30-7:00 P.M.

ST. MARY CENTER, 401 SOUTH STREET, HENRY

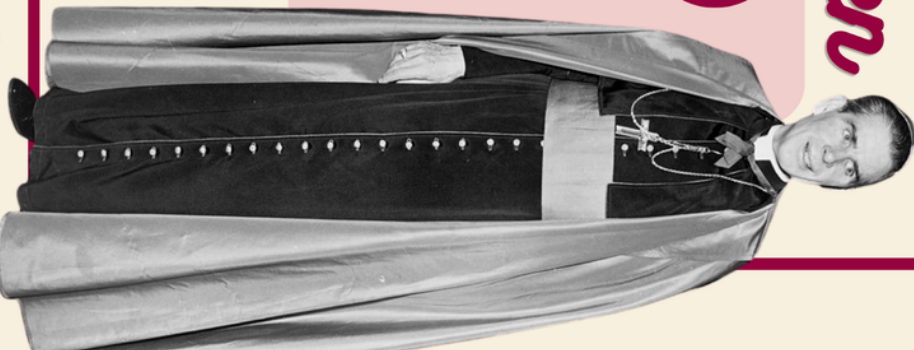
Come and learn more about the inspiring and holy life of Venerable Fulton J. Sheen, who will be Beatified on September 24, 2026. Hear stories about Sheen, including little known facts and fun trivia. Most importantly, learn about lessons from Fulton Sheen that we can emulate in our own walk with Christ.

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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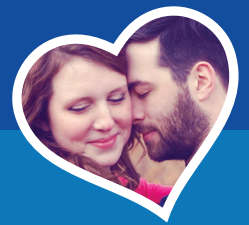


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