

**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 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sept. 20, 2026

Mass Intentions & Liturgy Schedule

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

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time Sept. 20, 2026

Saturday Vigil	4:30pm	SMC	+Deborah Forbes
Sunday	8:00am	ICC	+Sharon Benz
	10:30am	SMC	Pro Populo

Weekday Masses

Mon. Sept. 21	8:00am	SMC	+Dave Shonoski
Tues. Sept. 22			No Mass
Wed. Sept. 23			No Mass
Thurs. Sept. 24			No Mass
Fri. Sept. 25	8:00am	ICC	+Becky Bogner

NEXT WEEKEND : Sept. 26-27

Saturday Vigil	4:30pm	SMC	+JM Vizgirda
Sunday	8:00am	ICC	+Sam Maupin

NEED A SUNDAY EVENING MASS? Pro Populo

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



Lay Ministry Schedule for Next Weekend Sept. 26-27**Lector EMHC Altar Server****4:30 p.m. - SMC - Saturday Sept. 26, 2026**

Dirk Nauman Michelle Lacey-Nauman Rory

8:00 a.m. - ICC - Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026

Myra Uftring Stephen Martinek Cooper

10:30 a.m. - SMC - Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026

Nick Mattern Bob Eckert James

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

Sept. 20	CCD Family Day SM Center 9:15am
Sept. 24	Beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen Watch Party IC Hall 1:30pm
Sept 26	St. Joseph Men's Group SM Center 6:30am
Oct. 1	1 st Friday Preparation: Adoration & Confession SMC 6:00-8:00pm
Oct. 2	1 st Friday Preparation: Confessions 7:15am Adoration 8:30-10:00am
Oct. 3	1 st Saturday Mass SMC 8:00am

***Online Giving!***

New to 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!

	Sept. 13, 2026	YTD	YTD Budget
Actual Collection	\$3,143	\$36,983	\$44,423
[Weekly Budget: \$4,038]			-\$7,440
Bldgs. & Grounds	\$35	\$2,765	\$2,538
[Weekly Budget: \$231]			\$127
Capital Campaign	\$25	\$8,617	\$21,154
[Orange Env. Bdgt. \$1,923]			-\$12,438

+MJ+

Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! -Now and forever!

Chapter IV. *Dies Hominis- Sunday: Day of Joy, Rest and Solidarity- Remember to keep Holy the Sabbath.*-the third Commandment of the Decalogue (the 10 Commandments). The Sabbath rest began at the beginning of time as it was modeled by God, for we hear that after creating the world in 6 days, on the 7th day He rested. Our older brothers and sisters, the Jewish people, throughout the Old Testament kept the Sabbath holy and rested as they were able, however, during the periods of captivity they were not able to keep the Sabbath as they had in their own nation. This is not unlike the early Christians, who for centuries were the minority in the Roman Empire, and yet they kept the Sabbath- the Lord's Day (Sunday) holy by gathering for worship of God in the Sacrifice of the Mass, but because they were the minority they gathered early in the morning and then would work. As Pope St. John Paul II mentions below it was not until the 4th Century- via the Edict of Milan, that Christians were able to publicly worship and then rest on the Sabbath. In our times, once again the pressures of culture and productivity can distract and prevent us from truly resting as God has intended us to do. Remember: *the Sabbath was made for man, not, not man for the sabbath.* This means that the Sabbath was intended by God as a day on which we would rest and enter into the sacred- time set aside for union with God.

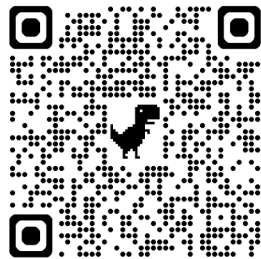
From *Dies Domini (1998)*- an Apostolic Letter to the Bishops, Clergy, and Faithful of the Catholic Church on Keeping the Lord's Day Holy- Pope St. John Paul II.

The day of rest

64. For several centuries, Christians observed Sunday simply as a day of worship, without being able to give it the specific meaning of Sabbath rest. Only in the fourth century did the civil law of the Roman Empire recognize the weekly recurrence, determining that on "the day of the sun" the judges, the people of the cities and the various trade corporations would not work. (107) Christians rejoiced to see thus removed the obstacles which until then had sometimes made observance of the Lord's Day heroic. They could now devote themselves to prayer in common without hindrance. (108)

It would therefore be wrong to see in this legislation of the rhythm of the week a mere historical circumstance with no special significance for the Church and which she could simply set aside. Even after the fall of the Empire, the Councils did not cease to insist upon the arrangements regarding Sunday rest. In countries where Christians are in the minority and where the festive days of the calendar do not coincide with Sunday, it is still Sunday which remains the Lord's Day, the day on which the faithful come together for the Eucharistic assembly. But this involves real sacrifices. For Christians it is not normal that Sunday, the day of joyful celebration, should not also be a day of rest, and it is difficult for them to keep Sunday holy if they do not have enough free time.

65. By contrast, the link between the Lord's Day and the day of rest in civil society has a meaning and importance which go beyond the distinctly Christian point of view. The alternation between work and rest, built into human nature, is willed by God himself, as appears in the creation story in the Book of Genesis (cf. 2:2-3; Ex 20:8-11): rest is something "sacred", because it is man's way of withdrawing from the sometimes excessively demanding cycle of earthly tasks in order to renew his awareness that everything is the work of God. There is a risk that the prodigious power over creation which God gives to man can lead him to forget that God is the Creator upon whom everything depends. It is all the more urgent to recognize this dependence in our own time, when science and technology have so incredibly increased the power which man exercises through his work.

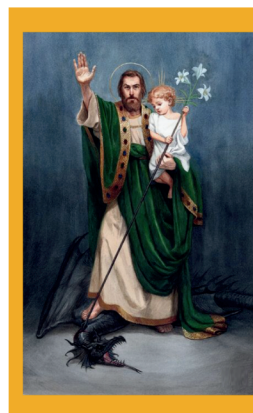


Did you miss the 1st Rescue Project Session?

Scan the QR Code above and watch the first session for free, or search the Rescue Project on Formed.org!

Next Session: Wednesday, October 14

*¡Viva Cristo Rey!
Father Pica*



**St. Joseph
Men's Group***

**Saturday, Sept. 26
6:30 am**

at St. Mary Center

***Every Saturday in
September**

Mother's Retreat: *Becoming the Gift***Saturday, September 26****9:00am-3:00pm****Corpus Christi Priory, Springfield IL****Registration Fee: \$50**

Join Father Anselm (Retreat Master and Norbertine Canon) & Moira Lawless (teacher and mother of 10) on a Mother's Retreat to rejuvenate your soul and reflect on how God makes your gift of self fruitful.

mothers-retreat.eventbrite.com

**St. Joseph's Church Update**

Last Sunday after the 10:30am Mass I met with those that gathered to hear an update regarding St. Joseph Church, thank you to all those who gathered for this meeting.

At that meeting, those gathered expressed their unanimous desire for the demolition of St. Joseph Church. I realize that this is no easy decision and this may be difficult for some, and I understand these sentiments. At this time the the Parish Finance Council will be heeding the desire of those gathered and collect bids for the demolition of the Church. As we pursue this endeavor I will continue to update you, the Parishioners, through the bulletin.

****Please note that before the demolition, IHM Parishioners will have an opportunity to retrieve keepsakes from St. Joseph Church.**

IHM**2025 ADA****Final Update****Goal: \$50,457****Received:****\$56,875.50****Reimbursement****Check received****from the Diocese****and deposited in****our account:****\$6,418.50****Thank you****for your****generosity!****2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal****IHM Parish 2026 ADA Goal:****\$49,053***

**To watch the 2026 ADA Video use the
QR Code to the right!**

***Our goal this year is down 2.8% from last year's ADA.**



PARISH TALKS

Friday, September 25

No tickets are required for these talks but we ask that you RSVP to help us with planning.



Join us for an inspiring series of parish talks exploring the life, wisdom, and enduring legacy of Fulton Sheen. Led by knowledgeable speakers and Sheen experts, these presentations will help you deepen your faith and discover why his message continues to resonate with Catholics today.

ST. JUDE
10811 Knoxville Ave, Peoria, IL

+ 9:30 AM
Fulton Sheen on Scripture and Spiritual Warfare
– Dr. John Bergsma

+ 12:30 PM
Fulton Sheen on Scripture and Spiritual Warfare
– Dr. John Bergsma

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
904 E Lake Ave, Peoria Heights, IL

+ 12:30 PM
Fulton Sheen and the American Century: Fully Catholic and Fully American – Dr. Seth Smith

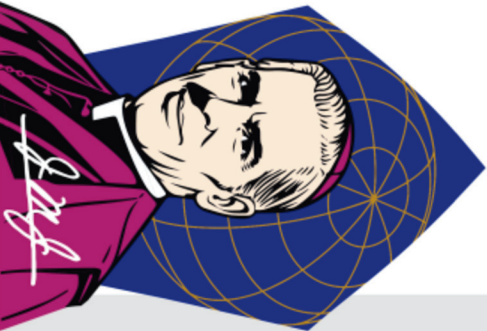
+ 2:30 PM
The Legacy of Fulton Sheen in the American Catholic Community in the Age of AI – Dr. Richard Howick

ST. PHILOMENA
1000 W Albany Ave, Peoria, IL

+ 11:00 AM
61 Minutes to a Miracle: The Story Behind Fulton Sheen's Miracle – Bonnie Engstrom

Fulton Sheen, Spiritual Warfare, and the Demonic
– Fr. Dave Tomaszycski

Fulton Sheen, Spiritual Warfare, and the Demonic
– Fr. Dave Tomaszycski



BEATIFICATION OF ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN



DR. JOHN BERGSMA



FR. DAVE TOMASZYCKI



BONNIE ENGSTROM



DR. SETH SMITH



DR. RICHARD HOWICK

LEARN MORE & RSVP AT CelebrateSheen.com/parish-talks

OFFICIAL ROSTER OF EVENTS

ALL EVENTS BELOW REQUIRE TICKETS

PEORIA

Tuesday, September 15
9-Day Novena Begins
Novena of Holy Hours
Cathedral of St. Mary | 7 PM

Tuesday, September 15 – Wednesday, September 23
9-Day Novena of Holy Hours
Cathedral of St. Mary | 7 PM

Saturday, September 19
Family Holy Hour & Tours
Cathedral of St. Mary | 10 AM - 12 PM

Sunday, September 20
Anniversary Mass of Sheen's Ordination
Cathedral of St. Mary | 3 PM

ST. LOUIS

Wednesday, September 23
Vespers at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis | 5 PM
Private event. Live stream available.

Thursday, September 24
The Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen
The Dome of America's Center
Live stream and broadcast available.

Doors Open | 8 AM

Expo, Adoration & Confession

Celebrate Sheen Pre-Mass Show | 10 AM

Beatification Mass | 2 PM

Veneration of Relic | 4 - 6 PM

PEORIA

Friday, September 25
Masses of Thanksgiving | 9 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM
Parish Talks | **ST. JUDE, ST. PHILOMENA, ST. THOMAS**
Sheen Awards gala, Peoria Civic Center | 6 PM

Saturday, September 26
Masses of Thanksgiving
Byzantine Divine Liturgy
Cathedral of St. Mary

Don't just attend—make it a pilgrimage. Come early. Stay longer. Enter into prayer, community, and celebration as we mark this historic moment in the life of the Church. Learn more and get tickets for events at celebratesheen.com. Plan your pilgrimage today!

Visit CelebrateSheen.com for the latest updates and announcements!

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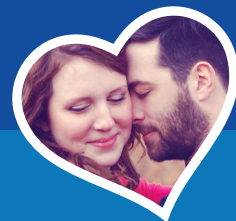


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