

Holy Family

Catholic Community



St. Mary's

1158 North Second Street
Eldorado, IL 62930

Mass: Saturday - 5 pm



St. Mary

2000 West Poplar Street
Harrisburg, IL 62946

Mass: Sunday - 10:30 am

Confessions: 30 minutes before weekend Masses or by appointment.
The Rosary is recited at each Mass 20 minutes before the Mass time scheduled.

PRIEST:

FR. CHRISTIAN IWUAGWU

PARISH OFFICE

2000 West Poplar Street

Harrisburg, IL 62946

618-253-7408

Fr. Christian Iwuagwu 618-303-4997

Secretary: Angelia South

Office Hrs: Tues. Wed. Thurs.

8AM—Noon

Email.....stmaryhb@frontier.com

Website address:

<http://www.holyfamilycatholics.com>

OFFICES OF EDUCATION

St. Mary Harrisburg & St. Mary's Eldorado

Megan Burris 618-926-8232

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)

Delia Podoriscki 618-926-1385

MAINTENANCE

St. Mary Harrisburg & St. Mary's Eldorado

Greg Price 618-841-0899

MUSIC

St. Mary Harrisburg & St. Mary's Eldorado

Melinda Tolley 618-926-4776

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pres. Nancy Lambert 618-518-8483

V.Pres. Karen Boulds 618-926-2487

Sec. Steve Pobst 573-620-5437



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?"
Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You
have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and
are convinced that you are the Holy One of God!" - Jn 6:67-69

FUNERAL POLICY

Please contact our parish priests
before any arrangements are made with
the funeral home involving the priest and
the church.

OUR HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Rosary Guild meets 1st Sunday of each
month at 3:00 pm at St. Mary's Eldorado
Parish Center.

**Holy Name Men's Society of St. Mary's
Eldorado**, meet 2nd Monday of each month
in the St. Mary's Parish Center in Eldorado at
7:00 pm from March thru October
6:00 pm from November thru February.

**St. Mary's Altar Society of St. Mary's
Eldorado**, Meet the 4th Monday of the
months March, April, May, September, October
& December at 6:00 pm in the St. Mary's
Parish Center in Eldorado.

Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary meet
3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm in
the St. Mary Parish Center in Harrisburg.

Knights of Columbus meet 2nd Wednesday of
each month at 6:00 pm in the St. Mary Parish
Center in Harrisburg.

**Holy Name Men's Society of St. Mary
Harrisburg**, 3rd Thursday of each month at
7:00 pm.

Gift Shop

St. Mary's gift shop is open before and after
Mass at the main entrance of St. Mary's
Eldorado Church.

Contact Mona Edwards at 618-926-0390.

AUGUST 21ST AND 22ND, 2021
21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Website address: <http://www.holyfamilycatholics.com>

THE GOD OF CHOICES

If you have ever read a book on parenting, you know the power inherent in presenting choices to a child. No matter the method or style, most childrearing gurus worth their salt will tell you that raising kids is all about helping them handle choices. Their life, after all, will surely be full of important ones, large and small, and the parent who seeks to shelter a child from making his own choices is living in denial of that inevitable future. Our God is no different. He is the ultimate father — which is precisely what sets Him apart from false deities. God lets us choose Him. He does not trick us. He does not lie in wait. He does not blackmail or entrap us. He has all the strength in the universe, but He does not use an ounce of it to force us to do anything. His authority over us is the kind that never chafes, because it is entirely divorced from the concept of power. The choice to obey is ours. In fact, at the single most important moment of salvation history — the Incarnation — He even gave the Blessed Mother a choice. The salvation of humanity hung upon the decision of a teenage girl to obey the will of God, but still, He did not force it upon her. He gave her a choice. Ironically, it is the devil who doesn't seem to want to give us a choice — probably because he knows that if we had a choice, a real and fair choice, we would never decide to be separated from the love of our Creator, the only One in whom our restless hearts can ever find rest. It is the devil who wins souls through deceit and coercion, who preys on feelings of desperation, isolation, and confusion. In today's Gospel, we see many of Jesus' disciples reject him because they could neither understand nor accept the teaching about eating his flesh and drinking his blood. Instead of mocking, chastising, or berating them, Jesus instead shows gentleness, and asks his remaining disciples if they, too, wish to leave. There was a time in my life when I thought that perhaps I would be happier without religion. I was plagued by doubts. I was tired of fighting them, and tired of this idea that because I submitted to religion, I was not "making my own choices." I wanted to be the one in charge. I wanted to be the head of my own destiny. I didn't want to rely on this God I wasn't sure I could trust. I wasn't sure I liked or understood the rules He had and thought I might be the first human in history to figure out some better ones. But in the end, I realized that by believing in God and following His laws, I had indeed been making my own choices. I had never been enslaved — quite the opposite, I had been exercising my free will. Christ had been asking me all along, the same as he did with Simon Peter: "Do you also want to leave?" And the message I heard coming from deep within myself was the same one that sprang from the lips of Simon Peter in response to Christ: "Master, to whom shall I go? Only you have the words of eternal life."

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mass Intentions

August 21,22, 25, 2021

St. Mary-Harrisburg: *Duane Rathbun*

St. Mary's-Eldorado: *Carolyn McDonald, Lucille Mosby, 8-25 Kenneth "Bud" Schimp*

Weekday Mass Times

August 17-20, 2021

Tuesday 6:00 PM St. Mary Harrisburg
Wednesday 8:00 AM St. Mary's, Eldorado
Thursday 7:00 AM St. Mary Harrisburg-
Adoration 6:30 AM
Friday 8:00 AM St. Mary's Eldorado - Adoration 7:30

Want to know what is going on in the parish? St. Mary Harrisburg parish council meets monthly. The minutes of the meeting will be posted on the bulletin boards at the entrances to the church.

Fr. Beatty has been appointed the Vicar General of the Diocese of Belleville. May we remember him in our prayers.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

for the weekend August 28-29, 2021

5:00pm Saturday, St. Mary's, Eldorado

Lector: Delores Grisham

Eucharistic Minister: Clay Boulds

Ushers: Caleb Boulds, Kim Edwards

8:00am Sunday, St. Paul's Vienna

10:30am Sunday, St. Mary, Harrisburg

Lector: Roby Podoriscki

Eucharistic Minister: Delia Podoriscki

Collections
August 14-15, 2021

St. Mary's Eldorado

Envelopes: \$1,522.00 Loose: \$101.00
Alms: \$135.00

St. Mary Harrisburg

Envelopes: \$1,213.00 Loose: \$322.00
Building Fund: \$100.00 Alms: \$100.00
Building/Roof Repair: \$0.00

Roof Collection

St. Mary Harrisburg has received pledges of \$77,310 of the estimated \$70,000 needed for our new roof. We have collected \$62,875 of the pledged amount. Thank you to all who have donated so far!

Those who still want to contribute to this capital campaign can place donations or pledge cards in the collection basket or bring/mail them to the parish office. We appreciate you.

RCIA PERIOD OF INQUIRY

How someone comes to consider joining the Catholic Church is unique to each individual. Years of marriage to a Catholic spouse, conversations with a Catholic friend or co-worker, or even something written or viewed in the media can move adults toward membership in the Catholic Church. The inquiry period is a time to seek, to ask questions, to begin to learn about the Catholic Church. There are no commitments made or asked during this time. Inquiry is designed for attendees' questions and to begin to feel comfortable with the Catholic community. If you know of anyone outside our Catholic community that has strayed away from the faith or has questions about the faith, please share this information. Let's grow our numbers. Classes will start September 7th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary parish hall.

PSR KICKOFF PARTY POSTPONED

I regret to inform everyone that the PSR Party has been postponed. Hopefully, we can have our celebration late May or early June of 2022. Due to rising Covid-19 numbers in our area, we feel that this is the best move for the safety of our parishioners. PSR classes will still be held starting August 22nd at 9am in the Harrisburg Parish Hall. Doughnuts will be served for breakfast. We do ask that you have your child bring a mask to wear during class. Social distancing and extra sanitizing protocols will be put into place for the safety of your children. If you have any questions you can contact me (Megan) at 618-926-8232.



Sunday, September 12, 2021
Fr. Christian's 25th Jubilee Anniversary of Ordination

A catered meal will follow mass at 12:00 noon at the Harrisburg, St. Mary Parish Hall.

RSVP no later than Sunday, September 5, 2021.
Harrisburg parishioners contact
JoAnne Lesinski @ (989) 928-7737. Call, text, or email joannelesinski@yahoo.com.
Eldorado parishioners contact
Janet Bayless @ (618) 841-2283 or
Delores Grisham @ (618) 499-2120



Private Intentions

Birthday Greetings

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8/2 Kim Edwards | 8/18 Connor Henshaw |
| 8/3 Bryan Elders | 8/19 Megan Burris |
| 8/6 Hayley Marks | 8/19 Ranessa Cunningham |
| 8/7 Brandon Henshaw | 8/20 Austin Bradley |
| 8/8 Rita Etienne | 8/20 Kenneth Etienne |
| 8/10 Ann Marie Podoriski | 8/23 Patricia Whyte |
| 8/11 David Nudo | 8/24 E.T. Seely |
| 8/12 Amy Elders | 8/25 Wayne Horstmann |
| 8/13 Steve Lindsey | 8/28 David Etienne |
| 8/17 Andrea Goebel | 8/28 Katie Unthank |
| | 8/30 Diane Mason |

Please notify the office of any names that need added to the prayer list.



Knights of Columbus
LADIES AUXILIARY

All ladies of the parishes
age 18 or older are invited
Meetings 3rd Wednesday
6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

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