

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 Burriss 618-926-8232

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)

Delia Podoriski 618-926-1385

MAINTENANCE

St. Mary Harrisburg & St. Mary's Eldorado

Greg Price 618-841-0899

MUSIC

St. Mary Harrisburg & St. Mary's Eldorado

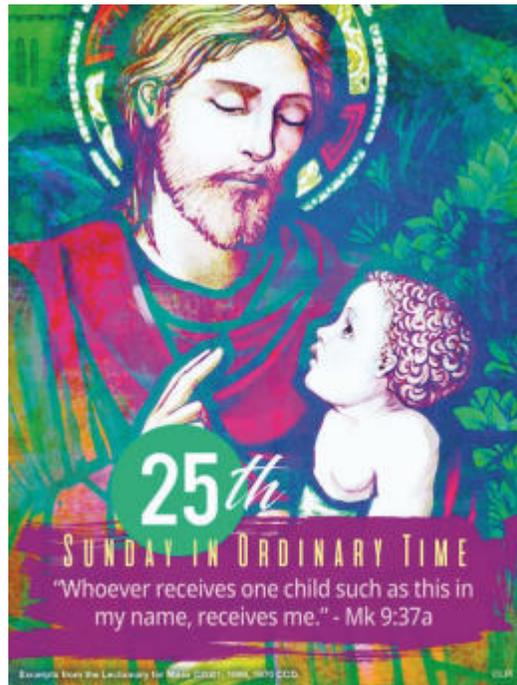
Melinda Tolley 618-926-4776

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pres. Nancy Lambert 618-518-8483

V.Pres. Karen Boulds 618-926-2487

Sec. Steve Pobst 573-620-5437



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 Sunday of each month following 10:30 Mass.

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.

SEPTEMBER 18TH & 19TH, 2021
25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

How we define the word "success" matters. Success is associated with the attainment of some goal or purpose. Taken on face value, this definition is not incompatible with what Jesus teaches. Being people of mercy and peace, for example, are certainly worthy goals in our Lord's eyes. However, we run into trouble when the goals and purpose associated with our understanding of success are self-serving rather than in service of the Kingdom of God. We are so conditioned to put our efforts into obtaining privilege and status that we forget about matters of the soul and the heart. These often get pushed aside in our pursuit of more tangible, measurable, secular gains. What about the essence of our being: our soul? Our world does a great job convincing us of the illusion that being first is best. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, getting into our first choice for college, first to finish their work or first in my social group to earn the most money, great satisfaction is supposedly achieved. Our egos can easily become our gods and we live this strangely attached yet sadly detached life where we are both connected and disengaged. Life becomes "something we do," a series of predestined roles we play on the road to success. Our stages are set with all of the pieces we think we need to get us where we think we need to go. We dance from one to the next, barely taking time to breathe, as we touch each component making certain everything is where it needs to be. Yet in doing so, we tire of playing the puppeteer of our life's characters and pieces, leaving our souls parched, lifeless and arid. It is no wonder that St. Oscar Romero wisely said to, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." It is better to have our life stage set with less so that we can be more fully present, rather than set with multiple things in competition for our time. Quality, not quantity, matters most in the Kingdom of God. Jesus wants nothing to do with our secularly success driven lives. He sees no more value in those pursuits than he did with the money changers in the temple. In being consumed with our own personal advancement over a true investment of ourselves in life, we become no better than those money changers. The illusions are the same: me before you, the top is better than the bottom, us versus them, personal security and safety over universal harmony and peace, making more and more money versus time-honored principles and virtues such as honesty, kindness, and love. The world and its people are in crisis. As a result, faith and family are suffering. We are often so confused trying to figure out "what's" important that it's not even funny. Our young families, especially, suffer. Running from one thing to another: dance recitals, hockey games, baseball games, karate, swimming, music lessons, and other extracurricular activities leaves everyone exhausted. One after another of these "necessities" for success take time away from "simply being" together as a family, properly worshipping God, and savoring life. We convince ourselves that all of these steps are necessary in order for our children to become successful. While each is fine to pursue in its own right, the way the package often comes together is destructive. Yet, we are overlooking what we really need to work on: our souls. What we don't realize is that human beings have lost something very important along the way in life: innocence. We also don't realize that we really want and need it back. We get confused thinking that the "hole" we are feeling deep within is meant to be filled with something else. Only Jesus restores our lost innocence. There is wisdom to God's wonderful commandment to "keep holy the Sabbath day." We need a day of intentional worship and playful rest. When we can connect with the truth of God in Word and Eucharist, it makes all the difference in the world. We realize that the stages of our lives are not things that require the management of a skilled puppeteer but instead require the embrace and investment of a loving, engaged servant. In keeping the Sabbath holy, we also can find time in life's business to celebrate and play! When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. Relationships are things to be celebrated and enjoyed. That's why Jesus loved the image of a child. There is a playful innocence about children. They don't manage life, they live it! They also want to do things for you, especially if you are someone they respect, admire, or idolize. There is no selfish ambition present in the innocent child, only the desire to please. Thus we have here the makings of a good servant, one who is detached from a preoccupation with self so that they can be used by God in service of others. We cannot be useful instruments to God unless we begin to perfect the "ministry of being." And we cannot begin to do that until we rid ourselves of the world's illusions and invest ourselves in the Kingdom of God. When we make that challenging choice, the tables begin to turn. We may find ourselves moving to a lesser place in the world's eyes but to a more prominent place in God's eyes. Sadly, however, many find all of this too challenging. St. Oscar Romero continues with words of wisdom when he says, "Beautiful is the moment in which we understand that we are no more than an instrument of God; we live only as long as God wants us to live; we can only do as much as God makes us able to do; we are only as intelligent as God would have us be." Now there is a recipe for success! Imagine what the world would look like if we all really believed this and taught this as a firm and necessary lesson to our children! We could actually stop worrying about being first and experience the joy of life. And when we experience joy, we experience God; who is life for our souls.

Fr. Mark Suslenko

MASS INTENTIONS September 18th & 19th, 2021

St. Mary-Harrisburg: *Jack Simmons*

St. Mary's-Eldorado: *Kenneth "Bud" Schimp,
Bob Younger*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES September 21st-24th, 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

UPDATED GUIDANCE ON MASKS DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

Based on the new State of Illinois mask mandate taking effect Monday, August 30, 2021, all individuals, regardless of their vaccinations status, age two and older, are required to wear a mask while indoors. This includes weekday and weekend Masses, Eucharistic adoration, children's liturgy of the Word, PSR, nursery, etc. Masking is also required at all indoor parish social events.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

My heart is full of joy for the opportunity given to me to celebrate the 25 years of my vocation to the priesthood. I give all thanks to God and to you, our parishioners, for identifying with me in spite of me. Thank you for all your prayerful wishes, gifts, and compliments. The Ladies who worked tirelessly in various ways, I thank you. My family and I remain grateful to you all. May God bless you abundantly.

Fr. Christian

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES for the weekend September 25 & 26, 2021

5:00pm Saturday, St. Mary's, Eldorado
Lector: Kay Barrow
Eucharistic Minister: Helen Goldman
Ushers: Mike Scoffice, Eric Stricklin

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

10:30am Sunday, St. Mary, Harrisburg
Lector: Karen West
Eucharistic Minister: Pat Watson

Collections
September 11 & 12, 2021

St. Mary's Eldorado

Envelopes: \$2,999.00 Loose: \$121.00

St. Mary Harrisburg

Envelopes: \$1,319.00 Loose: \$480.00
Building/Roof Repair: \$270.00

Note on September 18 & 19, 2021 a second collection will be taken for the people of Haiti

Roof Collection

St. Mary Harrisburg has received pledges of \$77,560 of the estimated \$70,000 needed for our new roof. We have collected \$64,440 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.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Sept. 19th - New Meeting Date & Time for Holy Name Men's Society of St. Mary Harrisburg after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Parish Center.

Sept. 19th-Eucharistic Minister meeting after 10:30 AM mass

Sept. 19th - Youth Picnic at Jones Lake from 3-6 PM

Sept. 20th - Council meeting 6PM Harrisburg

Sept. 20th - Altar Sister's Meeting-Eldorado

Sept. 23rd- Finance Council Meeting, 6pm Harrisburg

Finance Council Meeting

There will be a Finance Council Meeting of all the members of the finance committee of the three family churches on Thursday the 23rd of September 2021 at 6pm, St. Mary Harrisburg Church Hall.

Celebrate Youth

You are invited: As we transition out of Pandemic Mode & back into gathered Youth Ministry events, we would like to kick off the school year with a multi-parish event at **Jones Lake on Sunday, September 19** from **3:00-6:00 PM**. All youth of grade 6 and older are invited with their families to gather for games, food, and planning activities for the coming year. You do not need to bring any food, but please let us know how many are coming from your family so that we can prepare the right amount. Come celebrate with other Catholic youth.

Please call or text Delia 618-926-1385.

Eucharistic Ministers

Sunday, September, 19 after 10:30 Mass

Orientation meeting with Fr. Christian for **all** current Eucharistic Ministers (St. Mary Harrisburg) and for any parishioners who would like to join this ministry.



9/1 Pam Karns	9/9 Jane Meyers
9/2 Carole Sandusky	9/12 Conner Cunningham
9/4 Emma Wargel	9/13 Roby Podoriscki
9/5 Ada Kelam	9/17 Clara Sisky Jones
9/7 Walter Upton	9/22 Trudy Stricklin
9/8 Phillip Karns	9/23 Michelle Bradley



Debbie Smith



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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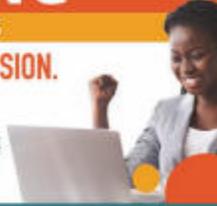
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