

# 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 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



### 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, 'He is One and there is no other than he.'" And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." - Mk 12:32, 34ab

#### 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.

**OCTOBER 30TH AND 31ST, 2021**  
**31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

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

Christians did a great disservice to themselves when they lost touch with Israel's Shema prayer: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!" Jesus was very familiar with this prayer and references it in his teaching on the commandments. These simple yet powerful words are at the center of a devout Jew's habit of prayer, recited both in the morning and the evening, on Yom Kippur, and traditionally as one's last words before death. It is a constant reminder that God alone is God, a lesson of which we must be reminded regularly. We can easily make many other things our "gods." When we follow a different compass we can suddenly find ourselves off center, lost and feeling disconnected. Only God can be our true north. There are no substitutes. If we take a good look at ourselves, there are many things that we make unnecessarily important. We can be more devoted to serving and securing them rather than the genuine God of our lives: our Maker, Sustainer, and Redeemer. Jesus also makes a big point of intimately linking the love of neighbor with the love of God. Acts of kindness are important. Many people's lives get turned around as a result of them. We read such stories all the time: of courageous police officers doing incredible work for their community and charitable acts for those in need, a food-service employee reaching out to someone who is hurting, a classmate standing up for someone who is bullied, and the lonely, homeless, and friendless human being comforted by someone who truly cares. But is doing a few of these "random acts of kindness" every once in a while enough to fulfill Jesus' commandment? As good and effective as these gestures are, they alone are not enough. It is not sufficient to check the "random act of kindness" box on our Christian "to-do list" and then move on to other things. Does being a good Christian mean simply obeying the laws and requirements of our faith? Or, is there more to it than that? It's not about laws. Being a devout believer is about attending to our relationships. Jesus wants to make sure we have the first one straightened out so that we can properly attend to the others. This is where religion steps in. Good, healthy religion is not about simply articulating laws and demanding conformity. True religion is about relationships. A good, healthy religion inspires, cultivates, and nurtures our relationship with God so that it pervades and influences all our other relationships, including those with our neighbor. A religion that is exclusively about navel-gazing, obtaining personal merits, and securing a place in heaven is nothing close to what Jesus had in mind. What religion needs to help us with is learning how to live sacred lives. We will find ourselves fulfilling all the precepts of the law in both word and deed not because we *have* to but because we *want* to. Love, fully embraced, changes our motivation. Everything is connected. Even if good fruit is born as a result as a result of our positive actions, it is ultimately useless if our relationships with God and our neighbor are misaligned. Looking to God as the one, true God and not falling for seemingly more satisfying substitutes, is the only way to purge ourselves from the self-interest, pride, and personal agendas that easily color our loving. Jesus reminds us that life is a sacred dance featuring ourselves, our neighbors, and God. It is a dance choreographed by the Master Composer himself. We cannot risk forgetting that God is God, as God is in all things, before all things, and the end of all things. We are drawn to the heart of our neighbors because of God's sacred presence alive in their souls. It draws us out of ourselves and to them. St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross said, "As for what concerns our relations with our fellow men, the anguish in our neighbor's soul must break all precept. All that we do is a means to an end, but love is an end in itself, because God is love." God's divinity flows through the sacredness of life. This is why no human being can be allowed to experience unnecessary harm, want or neglect. Yet so many of our neighbors sob and cry because they have been cast aside or left behind. Without anyone to help, they suffer. Unless the world understands that it has a sacred heartbeat, it will never really learn how to love and live. So many things are falling apart around us. There is so much conflict. Personal agendas, differing ideologies and philosophies are at war. People seek what they want over what is best for all. All these things and the loss of a moral compass all point to the fact that we have left the Shema to pages of history and consider it an outdated tradition. We have either forgotten or never learned our lessons. Now it is time to follow the anguish and respond to it. Jesus stands before us today and eloquently details the beautiful first and second commandments. When we respond to him will he be able to affirm that we did so with understanding? More importantly, could Jesus, as he did the scribe, confidently tell us that we are not far from the Kingdom of God? We need to hear, once again, who God is and who we are so that we can fittingly and properly live with one another. Sadly, however, many of us do not want to hear that we are not at the center of God's universe or even the one we create for ourselves. Opening ourselves to the voice of truth puts a corrective into our lives that may be hard for some to swallow. It will require us to change up our opinions about things, redirect our loyalties, care less about the world's agenda, and make some difficult choices. It will not be the most popular road to travel but it's the only one that leads to life. "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!" To whom or what are we truly devoted? Our humble and honest answers to that question may shock us, especially if we consider ourselves righteous, law-abiding believers. -Fr. Mark Suslenko

## MASS INTENTIONS

October 30th and 31st, 2021

**St. Mary-Harrisburg:** *Jerry & Sue Wenzel*

**St. Mary's-Eldorado:** *Parish Family*

## WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

November 2nd-5th, 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

**October 31<sup>st</sup>** – "National Vocation Awareness Week, celebrated November 7-13, 2021 is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promote vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations." *United States Council of Catholic Bishops website*

## Holy Name Men's Society Harrisburg

The Holy Name Men's Society of St. Mary Harrisburg would like to invite all parishioners for doughnuts and coffee following the 10:30AM mass on Sunday, November 21.

## Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 31 October 2021

**What Matters the Most to God?** The answer is simple: love God and love your neighbor as yourself. The practice is harder. Recall the Good Samaritan who cares for the beaten man on the roadside (Luke 10:29-37). A neighbor is not just a friend or relative or part of the tribe. A neighbor is anyone. We are to love everyone. That kind of loving keeps us near the Kingdom of God.

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

for the weekend November 6 & 7, 2021

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

Lector: Jane Meyers

Eucharistic Minister: Clay Boulds

Ushers: Caleb Boulds, Kim Edwards

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

10:30am Sunday, St. Mary, Harrisburg

Lector: Karen West

Eucharistic Minister: Nancy Lambert

**Collections  
October 23 & 24, 2021**

St. Mary's Eldorado

Envelopes: \$1,958.00 Loose: \$42.00  
World Mission: \$140.00

**Oct. 16**

Envelopes: \$1,806 Loose: \$104.00 Alms: \$260.00

St. Mary Harrisburg

Envelopes: \$1,248.00 Loose: \$175.00  
Building: \$110.00

**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 & EVENTS:**

- Oct. 31st-**End of October Devotion** HB 5:30PM  
Nov. 1st-**All Saints** Harrisburg 8AM, Eldorado 12PM, Vienna 6PM  
Nov. 2nd-**All Souls' Day** Vienna 8AM, Eldorado 12PM, Harrisburg 6PM  
Nov. 2nd-**Pastoral Council Meeting**-after mass HB



Debbie Smith, Jeff Stunson, Mark Hastie, Christine Stalions, Sherrie Crabb, Nathan Clark, Filii Tuliao, Cheryl Thornton

**Roof Collection**

St. Mary Harrisburg has received pledges of \$79,160 of the estimated \$70,000 needed for our new roof. We have collected \$67,585 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.

**WANTED:** Men and women who like to sing! St. Mary Harrisburg is in **urgent** need of a choir in order to fully celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist. **Kindly reply ASAP** by calling 253-7408 or emailing stmaryhb@frontier.com and leaving your name and phone number. You will be contacted regarding practice dates and times.



**THANK YOU!**

A special thank you to the KC's, KCLA, St. Mary's Altar Society, St. Ann's CCW, and all parishioners who donated to the Alzheimer's Association. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated! Our Holy Family Catholic Community has raised \$2,125.50 so far.

**\*ATTENTION\***

**End of October Devotion**-Sunday, October 31, at 5:30 PM Harrisburg with Rosary & Benediction



**Birthday Greetings**

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 10/1 Abbey Elders    | 10/13 David Molinarolo |
| 10/1 Jeff Whiting    | 10/13 Pat Schmitt      |
| 10/2 Diane Kovach    | 10/15 Paula Lindsey    |
| 10/9 Donald Etienne  | 10/17 Betty Dick       |
| 10/10 Jeanette Bond  | 10/21 Savi Wood        |
| 10/10 Oliver Marks   | 10/22 Joanne Lesinski  |
| 10/11 Diane Grisham  | 10/24 Mary Helen Cook  |
| 10/11 John Schmitt   | 10/25 Carla Pritchett  |
| 10/12 Jensen Hughes  | 10/29 Joey Etienne     |
| 10/12 Nolan Milligan | 10/31 Teresa Hughes    |

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1/1 Robert Skaggs    | 11/5 Jennifer McDaniel |
| 1/4 J.D. Cooley      | 11/5 Linda Scherrer    |
| 1/4 Ben Genet        | 11/6 Robert Mason      |
| 1/4 Mary Ann Withrow | 11/8 Janice Cooley     |



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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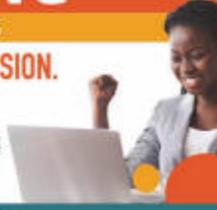
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