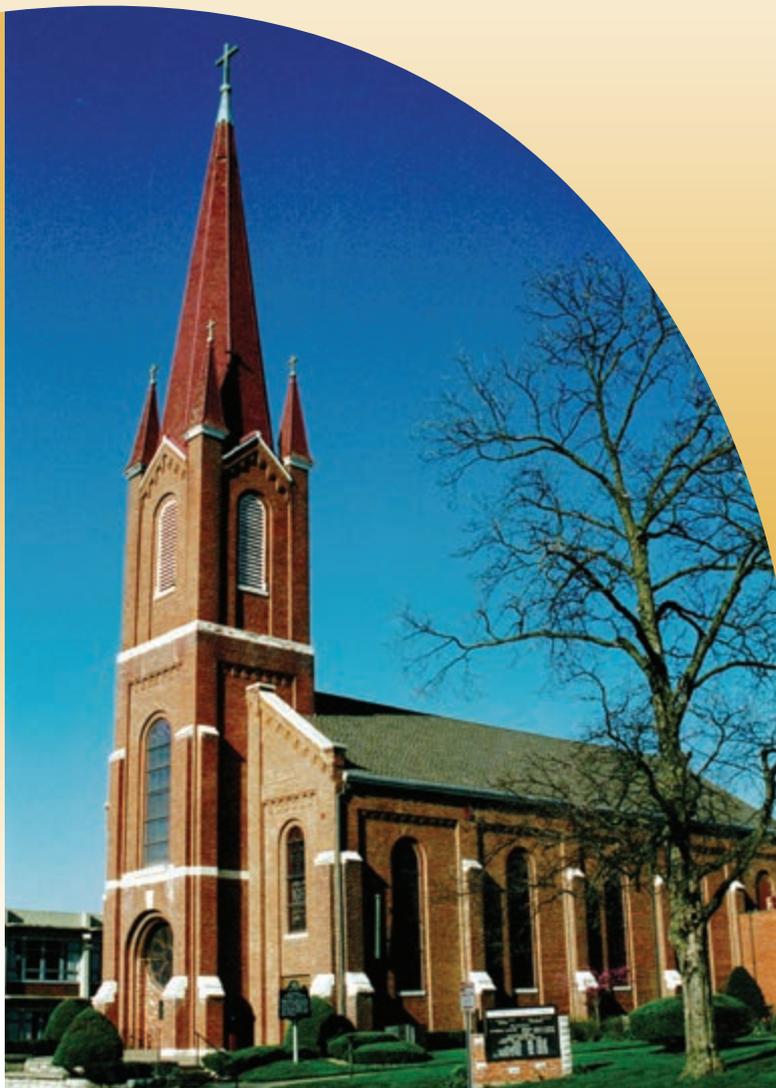


ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

2014 GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY



611 N. LIBERTY ST. • INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI 64050
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ST. MARY'S PARISH

Website: www.saintmarysparish.org

600 N Liberty Street • Independence, MO 64050

Phone: 816-252-0121 • FAX: 816-461-8153

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Father Matthew Bartulica ... Ext. 104..... mbartulica@hotmail.com

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Mike Elsey..... m58jj@yahoo.com

Children's Religious Ed & Secretary

Debbie Gilbert Ext. 110..... debbie@stmaryparish.us

Grounds & Facilities

Brad Davis Ext. 106..... brad@stmaryparish.us

RCIA & Adult Religious Ed

Tony Douglas..... Ext. 101..... tony@stmaryparish.us

Music Ministry / Maidens of the Miraculous Medal

Angelina Gearke Ext. 107..... musicministry@stmaryparish.us

MASS SCHEDULE, ADORATION, RECONCILIATION

Weekend Masses:	Saturday 5:00 PM Sunday 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM
Weekday Masses:	Monday thru Friday at 12:00 Noon (Friday Mass will be the Latin Rite Mass)
Holy Days of Obligation:	Please check parish bulletin for Mass times
Reconciliation (Confession):	45 minutes before every Mass
Rosary:	Monday thru Friday at 11:30 AM Saturday afternoon at 4:30 PM

HISTORY OF ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH

From the diocesan history book, "The Diocese of Kansas City-Saint Joseph", author Kevin Kelly writes about St. Mary Parish:

"Perhaps a man more experienced in reading the signs of a fickle climate would have seen the warnings written in the sky on that mid-winter Saturday morning in 1850. But the young Irish-born priest began his ride to Independence on horseback not expecting an unseasonably mild February to turn into a raging blizzard on Saturday.

He had Sunday Mass to celebrate the next day at St. Mary Parish. The rain quickly soaked him to the skin as his horse plodded through mud, then rain turned to ice, then to a hard, blowing snow as the temperature plummeted.

He passed just three houses on his way, but seeing no light, he pressed on. Drowsiness set in. The priest knew that giving in to sleep would mean certain death. He talked loudly to his only companion, his horse. He prayed, he sang, he slapped his cheeks and pulled at his hair—anything to stay awake and alive.

Finally, as the priest neared the brink of unconsciousness, he felt his horse quicken his pace, perhaps recognizing a familiar landmark. He had made it to the edge of Independence. Hearing faint hoof beats, neighbors peered from their cabins to wonder that anyone would be out in such a storm. They recognized the priest, and pulled him inside to a fire.

The next day, he was at the altar of St. Mary Parish, celebrating Mass. Such was the steel of the pioneer Catholics of western Missouri. One can only imagine how the history of Catholicism here, and even the history of Kansas City, might be different had Father Bernard Donnelly, the 'Pioneer Priest,' perished that day."

Founded in 1823, Saint Mary Parish is the oldest in the Diocese of Kansas City-Saint Joseph. Settled by Catholic pioneers and missionaries, Saint Mary has a long and interesting history. The church has survived uprisings among settlers of different faiths, raids by outlaws, and the Civil War. Though faced with many trials and tribulations, our founding settlers remained steadfast in their faith. The cornerstone of the existing building was laid in 1864 with the building completed in 1865. The cornerstone laying marked the departure of the first train from Kansas City which went to Independence for the purpose of carrying Fr. Bernard Donnelly, our first pastor, and five carloads of people to the celebration.

After more than 180 years, St. Mary Catholic Church still stands at the corner of College and Liberty Streets, calling to the community around to join in the glory of God that abounds from within its walls. We welcome new members every year and have an active, growing parish. In the tradition of Fr. Donnelly, today's shepherd, Fr. Matthew Bartulica, leads this community in building a future for all. Come be a part of history! Come visit historic Saint Mary Parish in Independence, Missouri.

PARISH OPERATIONS

Business Office 252-0121
Debbie Gilbert Ext. 110 debbie@stmaryparish.us

The Business office maintains all financial, sacramental and membership records of the parish. All activities and rentals are scheduled through the business office.

Office Hours 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Monday-Thursday

Bulletin email bulletin articles to debbie@stmaryparish.us
Our parish bulletin is published weekly. All articles for the bulletin need to be received by 4:00 PM the Tuesday before the Sunday the article is to appear in the bulletin. Certain holidays require an adjustment of this schedule. Questions concerning the bulletin should be directed to Debbie Gilbert at 252-0121, Ext. 110.

Fitzgerald Hall Rental Policy

To rent Fitzgerald Hall, we ask you to do the following:

- 1) Fill out the form (Fitzgerald Hall Rental Policy and Application).
Copies are available in the parish office, or you may print a copy from our website link.
- 2) Meet with one of our parish staff to submit your request (approval may only be given by Fr. Bartulica, and will only be scheduled when all fees are paid).
- 3) Meet with Brad Davis (buildings and grounds) approximately one week before your event to do the following:
 - A) walk through the hall to make sure you know where everything is
 - B) obtain a key for the doors

If you have any questions, call our parish office (252-0121)

DIOCESAN RESOURCES

Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph

Phone 816-756-1850
Email www.diocese-kcsj.org

Chancery Office

20 West Ninth Street, Kansas City, MO 64105

The Most Reverend Robert W. Finn, DD

Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph

Diocesan Victims Advocate:

Mary Bultmann..... 816-714-2387

Diocesan Ombudsman:

Jennifer Valenti 816-252-2500



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SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Contact persons:

Father Matthew Bartulica	252-0121, ext. 104
Debbie Gilbert	252-0121, ext. 110
Tony Douglas	252-0121, ext. 101

Infants and children under the age of 7 of families registered in St. Mary Parish may be baptized following any Sunday Mass. Parents are required to attend a Baptism Prep session with Fr. Bartulica or Debbie Gilbert if for their first child. Contact Fr. Bartulica or Debbie to sign up.

Children from ages 7-14 of registered families who need baptism are prepared through our Parish School of Religion. Contact Debbie for more information, or to sign up.

Adults (considered at 14 and up) who need baptism are prepared in our parish RCIA program. Contact Tony Douglas for more information, or to sign up.

EUCCHARIST

Contact Persons:

Debbie Gilbert	252-0121, ext. 110
Tony Douglas	252-0121, ext. 101

The celebration of First Eucharist with children in our diocese is usually done in the second grade. Contact Debbie for more information.

Adults who have been baptized Catholic, but have not yet received the Eucharist are prepared through our parish RCIA program. Contact Tony Douglas for more information.

Nursing Home Ministry. Father Bartulica celebrates Mass on the 2nd Saturday at the Groves and the 3rd Saturday at Carmel Hills. Lay ministers read Scripture and pray the rosary weekly at the Groves. If you would like to assist in the nursing home ministry or know anyone in need of this ministry, please contact Debbie Gilbert.

CONFIRMATION

Contact Persons:

Debbie Gilbert	252-0121, ext. 110
Tony Douglas	252-0121, ext. 101

The usual age for Confirmation in our diocese is 16 years old (high school sophomores). Contact Debbie for more information.

Adults who have been baptized Catholic, but have not yet received Confirmation are prepared through our parish RCIA program. Contact Tony Douglas for more information.

CONFESSION

Contact Persons:

Father Matthew Bartulica

252-0121, ext. 104

Debbie Gilbert

252-0121, ext. 110

Confession is celebrated 45 minutes before every Mass or by appointment by calling Fr. Bartulica.

First Confession preparation takes place in Second Grade, and is celebrated a few weeks before First Eucharist. For more information contact Debbie Gilbert.

Adults who have never received this sacrament may do so after attending preparation classes. Call Fr. Bartulica for more information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact Persons:

Father Matthew Bartulica

252-0121, ext. 104

Debbie Gilbert

252-0121, ext. 110

This sacrament is no longer thought of as “last rites”, but is intended to celebrate the healing gifts of God’s Spirit that make us whole and at peace with our weakness and infirmity-whether we reach health of body or not. Anyone with a life threatening illness should contact Father Bartulica to receive the Sacrament. **Viaticum** (Eucharist) is desired by the Church to be the “last Rite” administered if possible. In the case of a person who is dying, it is “food for the journey” home to God.

MARRIAGE

Contact Persons:

Father Matthew Bartulica

252-0121, ext. 104

Debbie Gilbert

252-0121, ext. 110

Couples who would like to be married here at St. Mary Parish must be registered, active members who regularly attend Sunday Mass. Please allow a minimum of 9 months for marriage preparation. Contact Fr. Bartulica, to begin the marriage preparation process.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/RELIGION CLASSES

Contact Person: Debbie Gilbert 252-0121, ext. 110

The classes are open to all children, grades K-8. We meet Sunday mornings 9:00-10:30 mid September through the end of April. Classes start for everyone with prayer in the church, then move across the street to the Ministry Center.

The sacraments of Penance (first Confession/Reconciliation) and Eucharist (first Communion) are offered in the Sunday School Program as well.

Open to all children attending public school, grades K-8.

Volunteers are always needed to be classroom instructors, aids, to lead singing, or to help with office duties. Contact Debbie if you would like to become involved.

ADULT EDUCATION

Contact Person: Tony Douglas 252-0121, ext. 101

We offer courses on Scripture. The courses provide an in-depth study of one book or area of the Bible. This not only provides deeper knowledge of Scripture and our Catholic faith but also teaches people how to read, interpret and apply God's Word and our Catholic faith to daily life. Please check the bulletin for further information and times for these courses.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

Contact Person: Tony Douglas 252-0121, ext. 101

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is a spiritual journey for adults seeking Baptism or full communion with the Catholic Church. It can also be a good refresher course for Catholics wishing to re-learn their faith.

The process is concerned with the total formation of the person (head and heart) and encompasses:

- Believing with the Church (doctrinal formation)
- Living with the Church (practical formation)
- Praying with the Church (liturgical formation)
- Serving with the Church (apostolic formation)

This is not a journey one makes alone. Each year a new group of "inquirers" gathers and begins the process. We welcome you and we welcome parishioners who are always needed to serve as Team Members and sponsors. We also welcome Catholics that simply want to learn more about their faith through the study of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.



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Saturday 12pm to 12am • Cash-O-Rama 9:30pm to 12am



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SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY

Contact Persons:

Rita Hunter	252-8649
Glenna Coleman	252-8649
Donna Ryan	252-8649
Marie Hennigh	252-8649

We have a long tradition of reaching out to the poor here at St. Mary Parish, offering assistance with food, clothing, and medicine purchases. The Outreach Center is staffed by many volunteers who help stock and distribute the items. The Center is open to the public who need assistance on Wednesday and Thursday of each week, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We prefer to take clients by appointment.

We accept donations of food and clothing on Tuesdays or Fridays during regular office hours. Donations of furniture are also accepted, but please call to make arrangements for a furniture drop off. Volunteers are always needed in the Outreach Center. If you would like to help, call Outreach at 252-8649.

PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Contact Person: Kris Douglas 257-0212

The St. Mary's Respect Life Committee seeks to promote a deep respect for life, from conception to natural death, through prayer and support for those in need by providing education and communication. Our particular concerns are for the victims of abortion (both parent and child), euthanasia, infanticide, medical experimentation and the abolition of capital punishment.

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE

Contact Person: Brad Davis 252-0121, ext. 106

Here at St. Mary's we are blessed to have such a beautiful history filled worship space with many other meeting areas to host various organizations and ministries. While much of the general maintenance is provided by paid staff, there is always a need for volunteers to aid with the upkeep of our facilities and grounds. If you have any special skills in maintenance (e.g., plumbing, carpentry, HVAC, etc.) or if you would like to help with church cleaning, gardening, or a variety of other needs, please contact Brad or the church office for arrangements.

For everyone's safety, please:

Observe our 5 mph speed limit and handicap access parking spaces; never block stairs or doorways, especially in snowy weather; watch your step for such things as ice, snow, shifting concrete, oil, and other fluids which can be slick and/or tracked inside from the parking lots; attend to your children when crossing the street, using the restrooms, or lighting candles; be careful when using the kneelers (they are not a footrest); report any hazards or maintenance issues to Brad or the parish office.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Contact Person: Brad Davis 252-0121, ext. 106

The purpose of the Welcome Committee is to greet parishioners and make them feel welcome at St. Mary's. We hold fellowship gatherings in Fitzgerald Hall on the third weekend each month after each Mass. For new parishioners, we host special events throughout the year and encourage all parish members to join us at these events. Our mission is to encourage everyone at St. Mary's to engage in the ministry of creating a warm and welcome place. We are also available to answer questions about St. Mary's and the various ministries. If you would like to know more about the various ministries at St. Mary's, please contact us.

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY

Contact Persons:

Kathy Philpot 810-0516
Marilyn Pontalion 719-0863

We are a group of women and men of the parish. The Altar and Rosary Society General Meetings are held at 1:00 PM in Fitzgerald Hall on the second Thursday of each month (September-May) with a potluck at 12:00 noon in December and May. Our ministries include:

- purchasing all the bread, wine, linens, vestments, liturgy books, and candles for the church
- cleaning the church, linens, and vestments
- scheduling Masses and providing an honor guard for deceased members
- cooking and serving all funeral luncheons
- sponsoring blood drives twice a year
- supporting the Outreach Ministry of our parish
- providing Easter lilies to the shut-ins of the parish
- providing spiritual bouquets
- providing hospitality at parish functions

We provide the above ministries with the following fundraisers:

- membership drive
- Christmas gift sale
- bake sales
- nut sales

- Circle 1, "The Guild", contact Kathy Philpott, 810-0516, meets at 1:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month (Sept-May) in the Ministry Center Boardroom.
- Circle 6, contact Pat Rittel, 254-3496, meets at 7:00 PM on the fourth Tuesday of each month (Sept-April usually off site).
- Circle 9, contact Sylvia Julian, 836-9415 or Darlene Huey, 833-1223, meets at 1:00 PM on the third Wednesday of each month (Sept-April) in the Ministry Center Boardroom.

QUILTERS CLUB

Contact Persons:

Darlene Huey
Pat Rittel

833-1223
254-3496

The quilters meet every Tuesday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the lower level of the Ministry Center. Anyone who can quilt or who wants to learn how to quilt is welcome to join.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL No. 10746

FATHER BERNARD DONNELLY COUNCIL

Contact Person: Eric Ball **510-0701**

Knights of Columbus Council #10746 is a Fraternal Organization of Catholic men serving St. Mary's Parish community. Our members live by Charity-Unity-Fraternity-Patriotism.

Activities of our council have assisted the following organizations:
St. Mary's Outreach Program

- St. Mary's Adopt a Family
- Special Olympics
- Sunshine Center
- Birthright of Kansas City
- Pisces Fund (scholarships)

The Knights are Catholic men who are committed to making St. Mary's community a better place, supporting the Church, while enhancing our faith and enhancing family life. Our Council holds monthly breakfasts for the community as well as various dinners and garage sales to support Catholic Education and Seminarians.

Monthly meeting is the 2nd Monday of each month; meeting begins at 7:00 PM in Fitzgerald Hall with the Rosary said prior to the meeting. New Members and Transfer Members are always welcome.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 221

The Boy Scout Troop at St Mary Parish has been around since 1939, and is still going strong. The troop meets every Tuesday evening in Fitzgerald Hall, and has a campout every month. You can find more information on their website: www.bsatroop221.org, or contact one of the following leaders:

John Ryan (Scoutmaster)	833-1141
..... John.ryan@bsatroop221.org	
John Riley (Chartered Organization Representative)	461-4789
..... John.riley@bsatroop221.org	
Michael Warner (Committee Chairman).....	645-5027
..... Mike.warner@bsatroop221.org	
Jim Rittel (Institutional Head)	254-3496
..... Jim.rittel@bsatroop221.org	



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CUB SCOUT PACK 221

St. Mary Pack 221 meets every Tuesday evening at 5:00 PM in the lower level of the Ministry Center. For more information contact:

John McQuillan (Cubmaster) 257-1855
Loren (Bud) Stoneburner (Committee Chairman)..... 228-3064
Shelley Allen (Assistant Cubmaster)..... 453-5077
John Riley (Chartered Organization Representative) 461-4789
..... John.riley@bsatroop221.org

VENTURE CREW 221

The Venture Crew at St. Mary Parish meets every Thursday evening in Fitzgerald Hall. For more information contact one of the following leaders:

Jay Waldman (Committee Chairman) 257-0382
John Riley (Chartered Organization Representative) 461-4789
..... John.riley@bsatroop221.org