



### WELCOME TO SAINT MARY ORATORY

With the gracious permission of His Excellency, David Malloy, Bishop of Rockford, Holy Mass is offered according to the Traditional Roman Rite at Saint Mary Oratory by the *Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest*. We are pleased to have you join us in this venerable act of worship and invite you to return often.



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*\*To preserve the Sacramental Seal  
please leave phones outside  
of the confessional.\**

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*For homebound or sick calls,  
please contact the office  
so we can schedule a time  
for Canon to visit.*

## Saint Mary Oratory

*INSTITUTE OF  
CHRIST THE KING  
SOVEREIGN PRIEST*

### UNITED STATES PROVINCE:

VERY REV. MSGR. R.  
MICHAEL SCHMITZ,  
STD, JCD VICAR GENERAL &  
DELEGATE FOR THE UNITED STATES

REV. CANON  
MATTHEW TALARICO,  
PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR

### ORATORY CLERGY

REV. CANON  
JOHN JOSEPH  
O'CONNOR, Rector

### ORATORY RECTORY

517 ELM ST  
ROCKFORD, IL 61102  
PHONE: (815) 965-5971  
E-MAIL: stmaryrockford@  
institute-christ-king.org

### ORATORY STAFF

Business Manager:  
MRS. JEANANN HAYS  
Director of Sacred Music:  
MR. DANIEL LYTER

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday:  
9:00am - 2:00pm  
Friday - Sunday &  
Holy Days: CLOSED

### GROTTO HOURS

Monday - Friday:  
9:00am - 2:00pm  
Sat., Sun., & Holy Days:  
CLOSED

# Veni, Veni Emmanuel



### MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am  
Monday: 12:00pm  
Tuesday-Friday: 7:00am  
Saturday: 8:00am

### CONFESSIONS

Monday &  
Wednesday-Friday:  
11:15am-11:45am  
Saturday: after 8:00am Mass  
Sunday: 7:15am & 9:45am

### OTHER SACRAMENTS & ALL APPOINTMENT

PLEASE CONTACT  
THE OFFICE

*\*For baptisms, please contact  
the office a month before the  
baby is due. Baptisms should  
be done within 1 to 3 weeks  
after the baby is born*





**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Mon Dec 25...CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE:**

Midnight Mass

Low Mass at 9:00am

Low Mass at 10:30am

no confessions

**Dec 26 - 29.....LOW MASS AT NOON**

Mon Dec 28.....**ST. MARY'S PRO-LIFE GROUP**

day to pray at the abortion clinic

Mon Jan 1.....Low Mass at 10:30am,

no confessions

Sun Jan 7.....No Confirmation Classes Today

*A parishioner of St. Mary Oratory is maintaining a prayer chain.*



*If you would like to join this list, please email:*

*stmaryrockford@institute-christ-king.org and we will forward your request.*

*"One silent night, out over the white-chalked hills of Bethlehem, came a gentle cry. The great ones of the earth did not hear it, for they could not understand how an Infant could be greater than a man. At the Christ Child's birth, only two groups of people heard the cry: the Shepherds, who know they know nothing, and the Wise Men, those who know they do not know everything. The very simple, the very learned ...Never the man who thinks that he knows everything."*

*~Venerable Bishop Fulton J. Sheen*

**WEEKLY COLLECTION GOAL: \$8,022**

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION:

TOTAL: \$9,771

ACTUAL - FISCAL YTD: \$157,702

GOAL - FISCAL YTD: \$200,550

**MAY GOD REWARD YOUR GENEROSITY!**

**Mass Intentions**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24**

*Christmas Eve*

Nicoloff Family, Living & Deceased

Phyllis Monty, RIP

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 25**

*Nativity of Our Lord*

Antonio, Sandra, & Cris Dettori

Sean Veitch, Birthday

Roger Picklesimer

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26**

*Octave of Christmas/St. Stephen*

Nick & Claire Hahn, Deceased Family Members

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27**

*Octave of Christmas/St. John the Apostle*

Arnold & Loy Hintzman. RIP

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28**

*Octave of Christmas/Holy Innocents*

Raul Alvarez

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29**

*Octave of Christmas/St. Thomas Becket*

Roy & Carla Lazaro, Anniversary

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30**

*Octave of Christmas*

Ziad Ahmed

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31**

*Sunday in the Octave of the Nativity*

Msgr. Wach

Michael Schneider

*\*Mass times are on the front cover and changes are under "Upcoming Events"\**

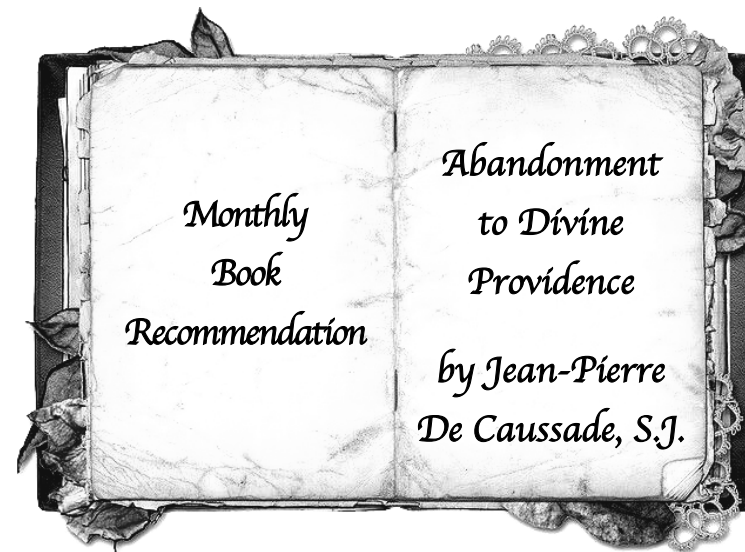


**CHRISTMAS EVE**

'But, what is this that has been said to us: "Sanctify yourselves, ye children of Israel, and be ready; for on the morrow, the Lord will come down"? We are, then, but one half day and night from the grand visit, the admirable Birth of the Infant-God! Hurry on your course, ye fleeting hours, that we may the sooner see the Son of God in his crib, and pay our homage to this world-saving Birth. You, Brethren, are the Children of Israel, that are sanctified, and cleansed from every defilement of soul and body, ready, by your earnest devotion, for to-morrow's mysteries. Such, indeed, you are, if I may judge from the manner in which you have spent these sacred days of preparation for the Coming of your Saviour.

'But if, notwithstanding all your care, some drops of the stream of this life's frailties are still on your hearts, wipe them away and cover them with the snow-white robe of Confession. This I can promise you from the mercy of the divine Infant: he that shall confess his sins and be sorry for them, shall have born within him the Light of the World; the darkness that deceived him, shall be dispelled; and he shall enjoy the brightness of the true Light. For how can mercy be denied to the miserable this night, in which the merciful and compassionate Lord is so mercifully born? Therefore, drive away from you all haughty looks, and idle words, and unjust works; let your loins be girt, and your feet walk in the right paths; and then come, and accuse the Lord, if this night he rend not the heavens, and come down to you, and throw all your sins into the depths of the sea.'

From: *"The Liturgical Year"*  
by *Dom Guéranger*



Monthly  
Book  
Recommendation

Abandonment  
to Divine  
Providence

by *Jean-Pierre  
De Caussade, S.J.*

**Catechism Corner**

**The Our Father**

Lesson 38 from the Baltimore Catechism

490. Why is the Our Father the best of all prayers?

**The Our Father is the best of all prayers because it is the Lord's Prayer, taught us by Jesus Christ Himself, and because it is a prayer of perfect and unselfish love. See Matthew 6:9-13 for the Lord's Prayer.**

491. Why is the Our Father a prayer of perfect and unselfish love?

**The Our Father is a prayer of perfect and unselfish love because in saying it we offer ourselves entirely to God and ask from Him the best things, not only for ourselves but also for our neighbor.**

492. Why do we address God as "Our Father who art in heaven"?

**We address God as "Our Father who art in heaven" because we belong to Him, our loving Father, who created us and watches over us, who adopts us through sanctifying grace as His children, and who destines us to live forever with Him in heaven, our true home.**

*In my Father's house, there are many mansions. (John 14:2)*

493. For what do we pray when we say "hallowed be Thy name"?

**When we say "hallowed be Thy name," we pray that God may be known and honored by all men.**

*From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, the name of the Lord is worthy of praise. (Psalm 112:3)*

494. For what do we pray when we say "Thy kingdom come"?

**When we say "Thy kingdom come," we pray that the kingdom of God's grace may be spread throughout the world, that all men may come to know and to enter the true Church and to live as worthy members of it, and that, finally, we all may be admitted to the kingdom of God's glory.**

*You therefore be perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)*