



Our Mother Of Good Counsel

Very Rev. Grzegorz P. Podwysocki • Pastor

The Second Sunday of Lent

February 25, 2024

Weekday Mass

Tues-Friday 8:00am

Confession

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm

1st Friday 5:30-6:45pm

Office Hours

Tues-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm

Weekend Mass

Saturday 4:00pm (English)

Sunday 7:30am (English)

Sunday 9:00am (Polish)

Sunday 10:30am (English)

Sunday 12:00pm (Polish)

Address

16043 South Bell Road

Homer Glen, IL 60491

Faith Formation Hours

Tues & Thurs 9:00am-3:00pm

Wednesday 9:00am-4:30pm

Phone

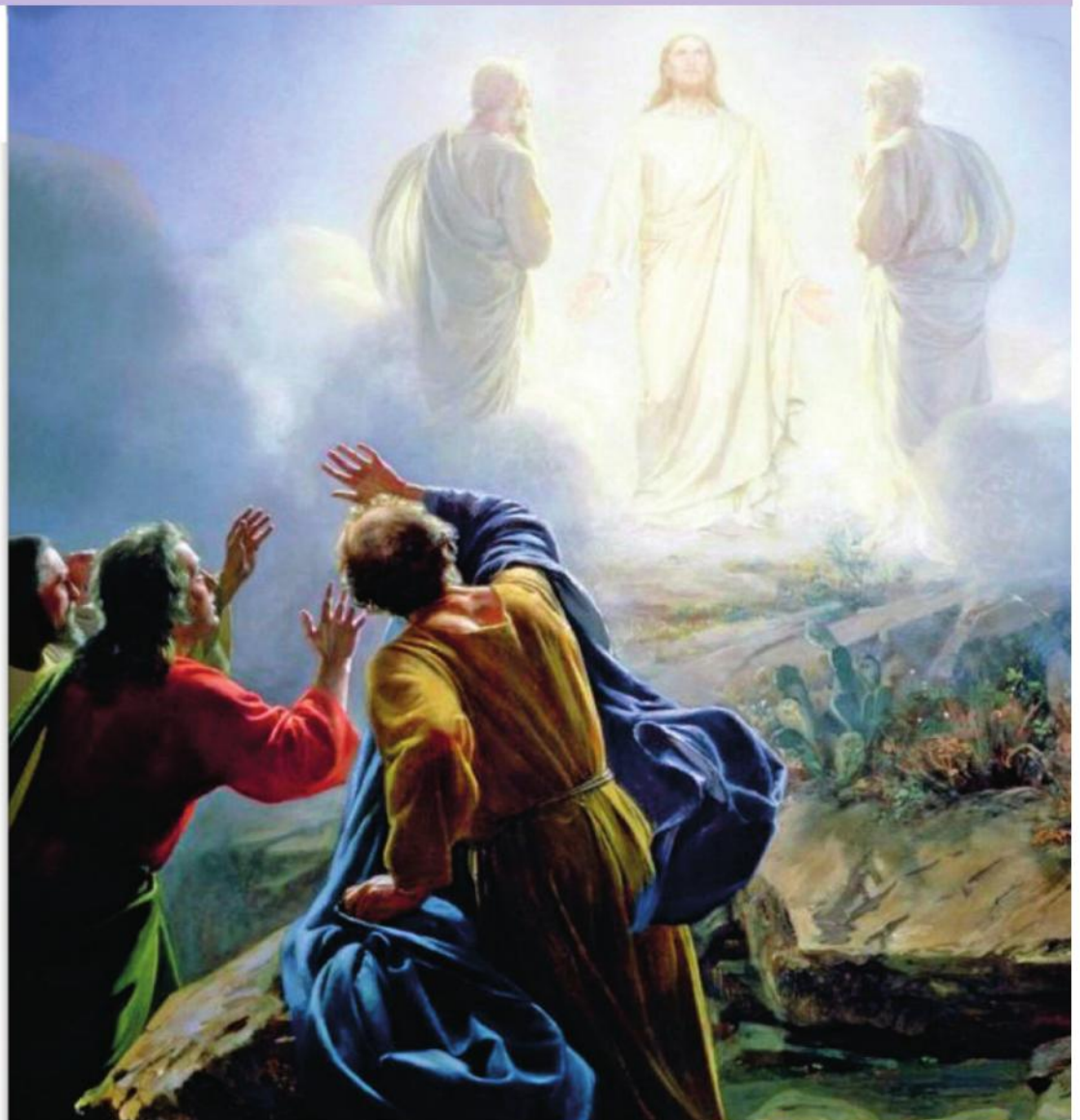
708-301-6246

Website

www.omgccc.org

Jesus took Peter,
James, and John
and led them up
a high mountain
apart by
themselves.
And he was
transfigured
before them,
and his clothes
became dazzling
white.

Mark 9:2,3



Transfiguration of Jesus
by Carl Bloch, 1872



MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday February 27

- Mark Lenart a birthday blessing

Wednesday February 28

- Krystyna Soprych and family for their health and God's Blessing
- Seminarians

Thursday February 29

- Zdzislawa & Sylvia Kazecki for their health and God's Blessing

Friday March 1

- † Robert Passente

Saturday March 2

- † Dorothy Mitchell

Sunday March 3 7:30am

- Intention of the Presider

Sunday March 3 9:00am

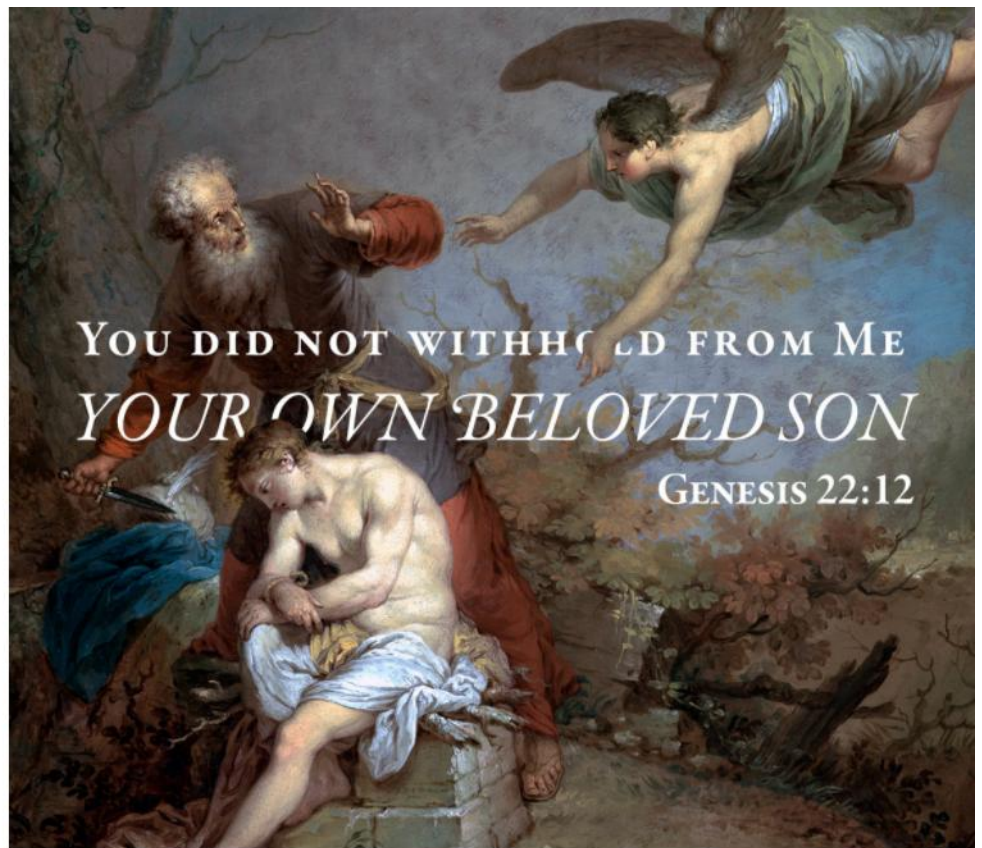
- † Stanisław Wróbel
- † Zofia Szaflarska
- † Franciszek Iwan

Sunday March 3 10:30am

- All living and deceased Parishoners

Sunday March 3 12:00pm

- † Maria i Stanisław Ratułowski
- Z okazji urodzin dla Renata Cwyl
- Z okazji urodzin dla Grace Lenart



**God Bless Luke Edward Motoniak
who was baptized into our faith**

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

TUESDAY FEB 27:
ST. GREGORY OF NAREK

FRIDAY MAR 1:
**1ST FRIDAY DEVOTION TO THE
MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**
ABSTAIN FROM MEAT

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHONERS

The Slowik Family
The Bielanski Family
The Cwik Family

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions



The sanctuary flames
burn in memory of

† Rev. Bronisław Wojdyła
† Helena Pakla

**Pray for the reposed soul of our
parishioner**



Kathleen Kolacki
who entered eternal life
on February 15th





STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays during Lent

- following the 8am Mass
- 6pm in English
- 7pm in Polish

DROGA KRŻOWA

w języku polskim w Piątki Wielkiego Postu o godz. 7:00 wieczorem

Droga krżowa nie będzie w piątek 22-go marca



GORZKIE ŻAŁE

w niedzielę Wielkiego Postu po Mszy Świętej o godz. 12pm.

PIERWSZE PIĄTKI MIESIĄCA

Adoracja Najświętszego
Sakramentu Po Mszy Świętej
8:30am do 7:00pm

Spowiedź Święta w
jęz polskim Od godz. 5:30pm

Msza Święta:
8:00am w jęz angielskim
7:00pm w jęz polskim

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Adoration and Benediction
after Morning Mass:
8:30am-7:00pm

Confession (Polish/English):
5:30pm

Mass:
8am (English)
7pm (Polish)



First Friday

What is this devotion?

The first Friday of the month is marked by a special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Since Jesus died on Friday to win our salvation, every Friday is a special day of penance.

In St. Margaret Mary Alacoque's vision of Jesus, she was told to spread devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on nine consecutive First Fridays as reparation for sins and to show love to our Blessed Saviour.

In return for this act of devotion, which includes Mass, Communion, confession, and adoration, Jesus gives 12 promises including the 12th and greatest promise below:

"In the excess of the mercy of my Heart, I promise you that my all-powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments, and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour."



St. Joseph's corner

Today, the struggles we face in life are markedly different from those of centuries past. Many of us live in wealthy nations, largely shielded from the atrocities of war or tyrannical rulers. Though we may regularly encounter famine or disease, life isn't without its struggles. While we often feel tested, God never demands the impossible from us. Our test, therefore, may be the same as that which we are already expected to give.

Jesus taught us to pray that we may not be put to the test, knowing that Jesus Himself would be subject to the test. It's important to remember that God's love led Him to sacrifice His only Son for our salvation. Yet, God instructed Abraham to spare his son, Isaac, from a similar fate.

It is, at times, difficult for us to understand how a God who loves us so much would allow us to live in a world plagued by hardships and suffering. This difficulty is not new. In fact, throughout Salvation History, man has struggled to understand this very concept, but not because God has neglected to teach us. For the Lord declared to Isaiah, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," (Isaiah 25:8).

The struggle is rooted in our own frail nature. We often offer to one another, especially when we see our brothers and sisters in Christ suffer, the platitude that God does not give us a cross that we cannot bear. But in the midst of our own suffering, we often neglect to notice that Jesus is there, helping us carry our crosses.

At Mass, we all hear the Gospel according to St. Mark and are reminded that Jesus tells us to, "repent and believe in the gospel," (Mark 1:15), but do we really understand what Jesus is calling us to do?

The word "repent" in English is usually thought to mean to apologize, regret, or maybe even atone. The original Greek word used in the Gospel is "metanoieo", which is more appropriately translated to change your heart and mind, to stop going down the wrong path and turn toward the right path.

Every year, the Second Sunday of Lent is about the Transfiguration. Jesus takes Peter, James, and John to the top of Mount Thabor. Here, the disciples witness interconvertible proof of Jesus's Divine Sonship. They are given a glimpse of Christ's future glory. The glory that they, and all who "Repent and believe in the gospel," will share.

Our Call During Lent -We must acknowledge that the Transfiguration is a gift to us. A pure representation of God's glory. A glory that we are called to share in through Christ. We are purified in our suffering if we allow for mortification—the dying of our sinful and doubting nature.

As husbands and fathers, we must protect our families from the consequences of sin within and without. We must guide our families toward personal transfiguration, letting go of our old lives and turning toward Christ.

We do this through self-sacrifice. We deny ourselves that which keeps us from God, and we turn to prayer, fasting, and charity toward those in need. We teach our families that the path to shared glory in Christ is through the test—through our suffering where Christ is ever-present, and that in serving others, we serve God, bringing us ever closer to Him.

-Sebastian Abbinanti

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

FAITH FORMATION

For further information on any of the items below, or on the Religious Education program, please contact Janet Litterio in the Faith Formation Office at 708-301-0214. FAX #: 708-301-6356.

Visit our parish website omgccc.org for the RE schedule and other Faith Formation information throughout the year.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

February 28- OFF

March 6- CLASS

March 13- CLASS

March 20- Class

*****March 27-Reconciliation Gr 3-8 CHURCH*****

Grades 1 and 2 are off.

April 3—CLASS

April 10—CLASS

April 17—LAST CLASS

What We Can Do For Lent

We are in the season of Lent, preparing for Easter.

As Catholic Christians, we prepare ourselves during Lent by fasting, praying and giving alms... ie giving of ourselves to others.

Jesus came to serve, not to be served.

We can easily incorporate giving of ourselves (almsgiving) into our lives. If we go outside of ourselves during Lent, it will become second nature to us, and we will continue our almsgiving beyond Lent.

Some examples of putting our faith into action by incorporating almsgiving into our daily lives are:

- Volunteer for one of our parish ministries, checking in on our neighbor, becoming a catechist in our religious education program.
- Spending the time you would have spent watching TV with your family playing a game together, or praying together.
- Writing letters or sending cards to family members you don't often see. Make cards for residents in nursing homes to help brighten their day.
- Giving someone a compliment each day, or simply smiling at a stranger....go out of your way to do so.

Let's journey through Lent together, making ourselves a better version of "us" by becoming more giving of ourselves.



Bishop Hicks' Column

February 2024

PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND



Bishop Hicks with Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO?

Throughout the journey of our lives, we all experience moments of uncertainty, ambiguity, or indecision. We can feel small, inadequate, and almost paralyzed as we face looming problems ranging

from our own personal issues to worldwide crises.

Grounded in faith, Saint Francis of Assisi wisely taught that when we do not know what to do, we should “pray, obey, and love.” Our Catholic tradition reflects his wise counsel.

PRAY In the good times and bad, we turn to God in prayer. Through prayer, we realize that we are not the center of the universe, as we raise our hearts and minds to God. As Jesus taught, “For human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26).

OBEY While prayer is the proper first step, it should not end there. We also need to be obedient to God, always discerning: What is the best response according to God’s command, law, and divine will?

LOVE However we respond to problems, our actions should always reflect Christ’s love, specifically following the greatest commandment: “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind... and you shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22: 37–39).

Since October 2023, the conflicts in the Holy Land have escalated into a horrible war. Most of us follow the news with broken hearts and feel helpless.

Recently, I attended a dinner in Chicagoland (*photo above*) at which His Beatitude Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, spoke about the realities in the Holy Land.

Born in Italy in 1965, Cardinal Pizzaballa entered the Franciscan Order. He serves as the Latin Patriarch and Archbishop of Jerusalem. On January 27, 2024, we gathered at a dinner hosted by the Arab American Catholic Community (AACC), which exists to unite and support Catholic Arabs within the United States. In attendance were also many Knights and Dames from the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre. Its mission includes supporting and promoting the Holy Land and protecting the Christian presence there. I am humbled to

belong to this ancient and noble order and am proud to witness the local members’ dedication and commitment to this mission.

Known for his constant efforts to promote solidarity, cultural and historical preservation, interreligious dialogue, and embrace and advocate for peace, justice, and reconciliation, Cardinal Pizzaballa’s 45-minute presentation literally quieted the entire banquet room, as even the waitstaff stopped to listen to his every word. He called for a ceasefire and spoke of the Catholic Church’s boundless efforts to provide food, shelter, housing, healthcare, and spiritual care for those affected by the war.

He also prophetically commented that instead of striving for peace in the current war, both sides unfortunately are fighting only for victory — a victory that clearly delineates a winner and a loser. “Peace is not victory,” said Cardinal Pizzaballa. “It is the willingness on both sides to give something up for the greater good.”

He spent a lot of time laying the foundation for the need for true peace, a peace which is reflected only in Jesus. He reminded us that peace is not the absence of conflict. Instead, it includes the presence of justice, reconciliation, discernment of God’s will, and the desire for the common good.

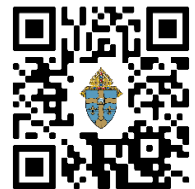
This Lent, as we prepare ourselves to enter this season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, you might consider donating to a reputable organization or charity that aids and services to those in need in the Holy Land; some suggestions are included at the bottom of this article. Also, on Good Friday, throughout the Diocese of Joliet, a collection will be taken up to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land.

The Holy Land holds a powerful place in our hearts and in salvation history. It is where Jesus was born, grew up, taught, prayed, performed miracles, suffered, died, and was resurrected. In solidarity, let us join Cardinal Pizzaballa’s call for an end to the violence and for a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land as we turn to God with prayer, obedience, and love.

Jesus, Prince of Peace, pray for us.

Holy Land Humanitarian Agencies

- Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher Humanitarian Fund
- Catholic Relief Services (U.S. arm of Caritas International)
- Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land Humanitarian Programs
- Catholic Near East Welfare Association Emergency Holy Land Fund



Scan the QR code for links or visit diojoliet.org

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



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ST. BERNARD'S MEN'S CLUB
FISH FRY
 St Bernard's Church Foyer
FRIDAY March 1st, 2024
4:30PM – 7:00PM



MUST PURCHASE TICKETS BY FEBRUARY 25th, 2024
 PURCHASE TICKETS ON ST BERNARD'S WEBSITE or AFTER
 ST BERNARD'S MASSES WEEKENDS OF FEBRUARY 17/18th
 and FEBRUARY 24/25th

Adults \$14 – When purchasing tickets, please select a choice
 of Cod, Shrimp, or Jumbo Cheese Ravioli.
 Dinner includes Entree, Baked Potato, Salad,
 Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Dessert

Children \$7 – Dinner includes Mac & Cheese, Dessert,
 and Drink. Children 5 and under are free.

Coffee, Water, Milk, Juice will be provided. Beer and wine
 can be purchased. Carry out dinner available.



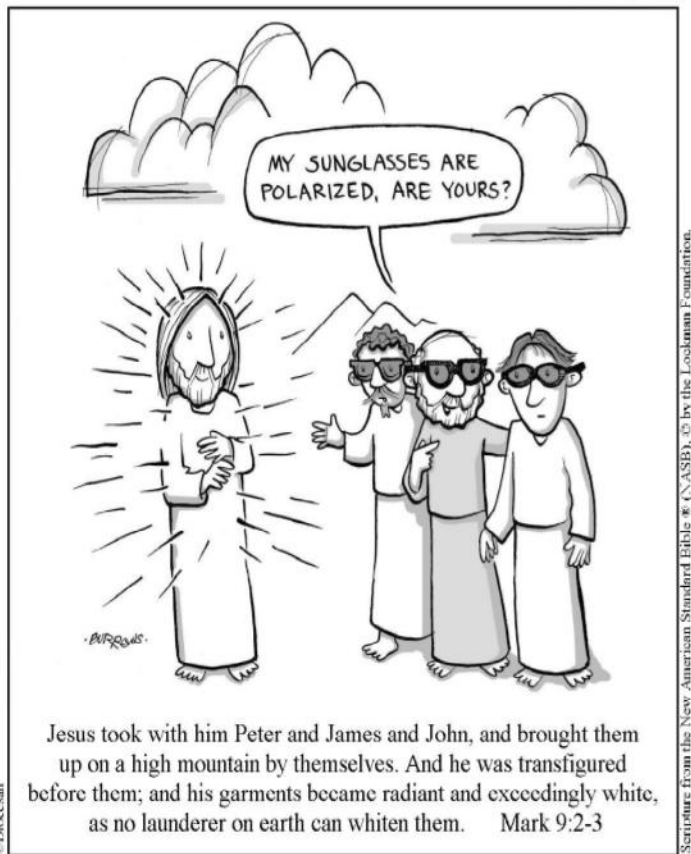
50/50 Raffle

Additional questions please call or text
 John Callaghan at 708-243-7641



The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Synod Sessions

The Diocese of Joliet will host two Synod Sessions to gather feedback from diocesan parishioners in preparation for the Second Session of the Synodal Assembly in October 2024. The guiding questions for the sessions are:

1. Where have I seen or experienced successes—and distresses—within the Church's structure(s)/organization/leadership/life that encourage or hinder the mission?
2. How can the structures and organization of the Church help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel and to live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?

All diocesan parishioners are invited to attend one of two Synod Sessions offered:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27
6 TO 8:30 PM

ST. RAPHAEL

1215 Modaff Road
 Naperville, IL 60540

Room: Sts. Joachim and Anne

THURSDAY, MARCH 14
6 TO 8:30 PM

ST. JOHN PAUL II

907 South 9th Avenue
 Kankakee, IL 60901

Room: Parish Hall



Synod Session Outline

- 6 p.m. Sign-in/refreshments
- 6:30 p.m. Opening prayer/reflection
- 7 p.m. Small group discussion of two questions (see left)
- 7:45 p.m. Break
- 8 p.m. Share themes from small group discussions
- 8:30 p.m. End



Pre-registration for either date is required. Please scan the QR code or visit qrco.de/Synod

Those who are unable to attend can email responses to the above questions to dsalvato@dioceseofjoliet.org.

Ministry Schedule

	March 2nd Saturday 4:00pm	March 3rd Sunday 7:30am	March 3rd Sunday 9:00am	March 3rd Sunday 10:30am	March 3rd Sunday 12:00pm
Eucharistic Ministers	John Fassola Marian Strzelczyk Ed Wereldsma	Mary Ann Mesich Theresa Pettinato Mike Gatto	Ryszard Kloc Jasia Para	Phillip Gosewisch Denise Holub Ellen Dudycha	Ewelina Szafran Bernice Szaflarski
Lector	Lisa Stanly	Darcy Trudelle		Jane Finlon	
Sacristan	Lisa Stanly	Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick	Bozena Bisaga	Dawn Nolan	Ewelina Szafran
Ushers	Cody Cwik Dennis Foley	Jim Mulligan Tony Angelo	Czesław Bisaga Witek Szaflarski Edward Matoniak Marcin Miskowicz	Tim Finlon Phillip Gosewisch Andy Smigielski Kara Finlon	Artur Leja Andrzej Kas Wiesław Mos Eugeniusz Blachut

Parish Staff

Pastor: Very Reverend Grzegorz P. Podwysocki

Weekend Rev. Michael Flynn

Assistants: Rev. Maciej Stelmach

Deacon: Jerry Souta

Parish Secretary: Kristie Husarik
khusarik@omgccc.org
708-301-6246

Director of Faith Formation: Janet Litterio
janet.re@omgccc.org
708-301-0214

Director of Polish Ministry: Gosia Siuta (**Mówię Po Polsku**)
polishMinistry@omgccc.org
708-955-9682

Music Director: Anna Siwiec-Sitkowska

Digital Media Coordinator: Vicki Petecki
media@omgccc.org

Sacraments

Baptism

Catholic parties should be members of Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish. Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Marriage

Catholic parties should be members of Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish. They should contact the Parish Office at least six months before the wedding to allow time for preparation.

Funerals

Call the Parish office to schedule an appointment to make preparations for the Mass.

Eucharist for homebound

If you or a member of your family is unable to attend Mass please contact the Parish Office for the Sacraments of the Eucharist.

For Anointing of the Sick, Hospital Visits

Please contact the office. Please do not wait until prognosis is imminent.

Religious Education

Grades 1-8 (Call Faith Formation Office)
Classes meet Wednesday, 6-7:30 PM-September through March.

Newcomers

Welcome to our Parish! Please contact the Parish Office to register or visit our website omgccc.org

Vocations for Religious Life

Considering Religious Life? For more information about vocations for the Religious Life, please visit vocations@dioceseofjoliott.org

Prayer Request Line

Submit your intention to omgcprayers@gmail.com, and our prayer warriors will discreetly pray for you intention.



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