

Our Mother of Good Counsel

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm English

Sunday 7:30 am English

9:00 am Polish

10:30 am English

12:00 pm Polish

4:00 pm canceled on the 14th

Tues- Fri 8:00 am English

FIRST FRIDAY

8:00 am English

7:30 pm Polish

CONFESSION

Saturday canceled on the 20th

1st Friday 6:00-6:45 pm Bilingual

PARISH OFFICE



16043 South Bell Road

Homer Glen, IL 60491

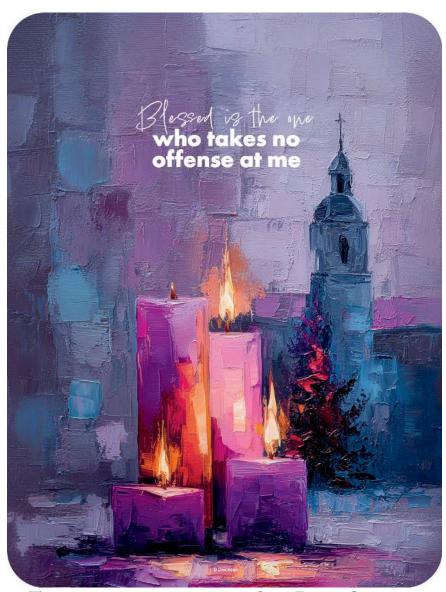
708-301-6246

office@omgccc.org

www.omgccc.org

Tues, Wed, Fri 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Thurs by appointment



THIS WEEK WE LIGHT THE 3RD ROSE CANDLE REPRESENTING JOY.



Tuesday December 16 8:00am Edward & Gertrude Bialecke†

Wednesday December 17 8:00am Delphine Kasuk†

Thursday December 18 8:00am Nancy Gatto†

FRIDAY DECEMBER 19 8:00am Virginia Schultz†

SATURDAY DECEMBER 20 4:00PM Calvin Bruni†

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 7:30AM
Our Homebound Parishioners

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 9:00AM Arek Sławek Robert Rodzina Bielak

- +Stanislaw Wróbel†
- +Krzysztof Kalata†

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 10:30AM Sam Kasuk†

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 12:00pm Za parafian

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 4:00PM Anthony Butler†

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES
Sun: Saint John of the Cross



UPCOMING EVENTS

	Dec 13/14	Giving Tree Collection & Blood Drive 7:00am - 11:00am						
	Dec 14	Christmas Concert 5:00 PM						
	Dec 17	R.E. Reconciliation Grades 3-8						
	Dec 19	Advent Reconciliation 7:00 PM (enter at Adoration chapel door)						
	Dec 20	No 3:00 PM Confession						



BAPTISMS



Congratulations to Isabella Lambert who received the Sacrament of Baptism on November 9th.

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions Dec 14th - Dec 20th

Wincenty Wladyslawa Bobak † Wladyslaw Maria Gubala †



Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas concert is this Sunday, the 14th, at 5:00pm. This is a beautiful night. We hope to see you there!

Koncert Świąteczny

NIEDZIELA, 14 GRUDNIA Godzina: 17:00



Advent Reconciliation

Dec 19 at 7:00 PM bilingual. This is your last opportunity for Confession before Christmas! Enter at the Adoration Chapel door.

Adwentowa Spowiedź

PIĄTEK, 19 GRUDNIA Godzina: 19:00



Oplatki Christmas Wafer

Oplatki are available in the Narthex for you to take home. At will donations are greatly appreciated.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL



Memorialize a loved one while contributing to the Parish's Christmas decor. This envelope can be found in your envelope mailer and in the Narthex. When including the name(s) of those you would like honor, please print very clearly. Return the envelope in the collection

basket or the office. Names will be listed in the bulletin after Christmas.

Zapraszamy do upamiętnienia bliskich osób poprzez wsparcie dekoracji naszego kościoła na Boże Narodzenie. W kopercie, którą znajdziesz w zestawie kopert oraz w korytarzu kościoła, możesz wpisać imię i nazwiska osób, które pragniesz uhonorować. Prosimy o wyraźne

wpisywanie nazwisk. Sugerowana ofiara wynosi 5 dolarów lub więcej za każdą zmarłą osobę lub parę. Prosimy o złożenie koperty do koszyka na ofiary lub dostarczenie jej do biura parafialnego. Imiona zmarłych będą publikowane w biuletynie po Bożym Narodzeniu. Dziękujemy za Twoją hojność i wsparcie!

*Envelopes are due by December 21st!

Donate to the flower memorial securely online.



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 or faithformation@omgcc.org

Visit our parish website omgccc.org for the RE schedule and other Faith Formation information throughout the year. Simply click on the Religious Education link once you enter the site.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

December 17-Confessions in church Grades 3-8

Students in grades 3-8 will meet in church for Advent Reconciliation. Students will sit with their class and attendance will be taken. Parents must accompany their children in church.

Grades 1 and 2 are off on Dec. 17th.

Why is the Advent Candle Pink This Weekend?

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice."

This Sunday is so named because "Rejoice" is the first word in the entrance antiphon for Mass this weekend which is taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near."

We mark this Sunday on our Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. The Church brought the Lenten practice of rose vestments to Advent on Gaudete Sunday. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

How is Jesus inviting you to experience greater joy this Advent?



FAMILY PRAYER THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT (JOY)

Gracious God, as we light the third Advent candle of joy, may the joy of your salvation fill us with gladness. Help us to share this joy with others, especially those in need.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

WINTER WEATHER AND PARKING -

PRZYPOMNIENIE DOTYCZĄCE PARKOWANIA



Now that winter weather has arrived, we want to share a few important parking lot reminders to keep everyone safe.

Park only in designated parking spaces. It is important to keep the circle drive at the front entrance clear at all times to allow room for emergency vehicles.

Also, bear with us for snow removal. We do not have control over when the plows arrive, so use your discretion and extreme caution when coming to Church and Adoration. Thank you, and let's all stay safe this winter!

Uprzejmie prosimy, aby nie parkować przed głównym wejściem do kościoła, w miejscu, gdzie znajduje się hydrant przeciwpożarowy, ani na zaokrągleniu chodnika. Parkowanie w tych miejscach jest zabronione i może stanowić zagrożenie w sytuacji nagłej.

Prosimy o korzystanie wyłącznie z wyznaczonych miejsc parkingowych na parafialnym parkingu, szczególnie w okresie zimowym, kiedy odśnieżanie oraz ograniczona widoczność wymagają jeszcze większej ostrożności.

Dziękujemy za zrozumienie i współprac

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CONTEST



Thank you to all the Religious Education students that participated in the Keep Christ in Christmas Contest.

Everyone's artwork was wonderful! Congratulations to the winners!

Name	Grade	Place
Sylvia W.	1	2nd
Makenzie B.	2	1st
Vivian V.	2	2nd
Lillian R.	3	2nd
Gianna Y.	4	1st
Sara C.	4	2nd
Josh G.	6	1st
Ellie M.	6	2nd
Sophie K.	7	1st
Alayna M.	8	1st
Sophia C.	8	2nd

HOLIDAY HOP PE



DONATE BLOOD

Sunday
December
14

7:00AM - 11:00AM

Helpful tip: Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

1-800-7TO-GIVE

Our Mother of Good Counsel Blood Drive

Location: Our Mother of Good Counsel

16043 S. Bell Road Homer Glen, IL 60491

Appointments appreciated; Walk-Ins welcome! To schedule, go to www.versiti.org/IL, load the Versiti Donor app, call (800) 7TO-GIVE, or scan the QR code

Photo ID Required





COAT DRIVE



Our Mother of Good Counsel Knights of Columbus thank our fellow parishioners for their outstanding generosity during our coat drive.

The tremendous contributions will benefit local charities including Big Brothers Big Sister of Will County, 2morrowstartz2day, a local Joliet Community Organization and other local charities.

FOOD DRIVE



A great big thank you to our RE classes for participating in the Thanksgiving food collection.

We collected a whole car load of food and 11 cases of bottled water! (wow that was heavy!) Our church also collected 38 bags of food & 1 case of vegetables through the month of November.

All was delivered to the Lockport Food Pantry. They were very grateful!

May God bless you for your generosity!

SANTA'S BREAKFAST 2025

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE CCW BY ATTENDING. A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WHO WERE IN THE KITCHEN!

WE HAVE THE BEST COMMUNITY!





St. Joseph's Corner

Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another? -Matthew 11:30

This Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, we are reminded to rejoice, for our salvation is near. Yet I begin with a question from this Sunday's Gospel—a question spoken not by a wavering beginner in faith, but by St. John the Baptist, the greatest of those born of women (Mt 11:11), the fiery forerunner whose whole life pointed to the Lamb of God.

And yet here he is—in prison. And from that dungeon, the light looks different. From that dungeon, he sends disciples to Jesus with a question that seems almost unthinkable: "Are You the One?"

It is startling to imagine these words coming from a man so consumed by his mission that he leapt for joy in the womb, who baptized the Son of God in the Jordan, who declared before all Israel, "He must increase; I must decrease." But this is precisely what makes his question so important. Even the greatest can feel disoriented when the walls close in. A dungeon, literal or metaphorical, changes the way we see. Long stretches of darkness can make God seem distant. Suffering or uncertainty can shake even the most disciplined heart.

And if we allow it, that experience of absence can begin to distort our perception—and eventually, our resolve.

But here lies John's greatness: He does not stew in confusion. He brings it to Christ. He sends his disciples not with a complaint, but with a question rooted in relationship. His doubt does not lead him away from Jesus; it drives him toward the One he proclaimed.

This is the Advent invitation.

God is Still at Work. Even in the Dark

The darkness that obscures John's view of the Truth exists in our lives, too. and it goes by many names. St. Ignatius called in spiritual desolation. St. John of the Cross refers to it as the dark night of the soul. Yet the answer throughout every Christian spirituality remains the same: Persevere, for even though you may not notice, God is at work.

Jesus responds to St. John the Baptist in kind: the blind see, the lame walk, and the deaf hear. Not a mere list of miracles, but evidence that the kingdom advances even when you cannot see it (cf. Mt 11:4-5; Is 35:5-6).

And this remains true for us. So much of the spiritual life is spent in seasons where the work of God is subtle, hidden, or easily overshadowed by our circumstances. We seek answers, but God offers presence. We seek freedom from our dungeon, but God fills it with grace. We seek clarity, but God gives Himself.

This is where St. Joseph becomes our model. Joseph's life unfolded almost entirely in shadows—dreams, silence, sudden detours, hidden years. Yet his holiness rested on a deep, steady trust that God was acting even when he could not understand the how or the why. Joseph did not need the whole plan because he had the presence of Christ. And that was enough (cf. Mt 1:20–24; Mt 2:13–15; 19–23).

The Path Forward for Husbands and Fathers

As we prepare our hearts for Christ this Advent, let us remember a truth John the Baptist had to rediscover from his prison cell: Christ is already here. Whether we feel His presence or not, whether our circumstances brighten or remain dim, God is unceasingly at work in the depths of our

Joy does not come from having everything resolved, controlled, or per-

fectly ordered. Joy comes from the steady conviction that God is acting, even in the places that feel burdensome, confusing, or unfinished. The Christian life is not built on emotional clarity but on trust in the One who cannot fail.

Christ's message to John was simple, and it is His message to us: Look again, and see. See where grace is moving. See the small signs of healing and renewal. See the ways God is carrying your family, strengthening your vocation, and shaping your heart—often in ways that only become clear in hindsight.

As husbands and fathers, we must remember that questioning is not weakness. What matters is where we bring those questions. John brought his to Christ, not away from Him. The same must be true for us. Our doubts, our discouragements, our anxieties about work, family, faith, or our own inadequacies—none of these disqualify us from discipleship. Instead, they become the very places where Christ wants to meet us.

So let us approach Him honestly, without pretense, without self-protection, without trying to manage our spiritual life on our own terms. And let us pray not simply for what we want, but for the courage to receive what He offers—the grace we truly need.

If we do this, we will discover what John discovered, what Joseph lived, and what every saint eventually learns: Christ is faithful in every dungeon, present in every darkness, and active in every heart that turns toward

And this is the foundation of a husband's joy, a father's strength, and a family's peace.

-Sebastian Abbinanti (Parish Pastoral Council Member)



A Pastoral Letter for the People of the Diocese of Joliet



Learn How to MAKE Disciples!

What: Join us for a conversation with Bishop Ron Hicks as he unpacks the details of his pastoral letter, MAKE, and discusses how to make disciples for Jesus in the Diocese of Joliet.

Where: Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 36 N. Ellsworth St., Naperville, IL (630) 355-1081

When: Tues., January 20th, 6:30-8:00 pm





MAKE is a call to action-rooted in Catechesis, Evangelization, and Faith into Action-to follow Jesus' Great Commission: Go and make disciples

Learn more about the bishop's pastoral letter, MAKE, by visiting: make.diojoliet.org



DEC 20/21	Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:30am	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 12:00pm	Sun 4:00pm
Eucharistic Minsters	Lynn Ayres Judy Keating Ed Wereldsma	Mary Ann Mesich Monica Shaub Mike Gatto Debbie Hoekstra	Jasia Para Józef Staszeczka	Philip Gosewich Denise Holub Dawn Nolan	Ewelina Szafran Agata Świętosławska Ryszard Kloc	Mary Keene Patti Mulligan
Lector	Arlene Fassola	Sue Targosz Bill Shaub	Agnieszka Witek	Jennifer Galka	Wiola Golab	Patti Mulligan
Sacristan	Lisa Stanly	Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick	Bożena Bisaga	Philip Gosewich	Ewelina Szafran	Patti Mulligan
Ushers	Cody Cwik Roger Sendra	Mike Targoz Jim Mulligan Tony Angelo	Sławomir Budz Witek Szaflarski Stanisław Smalec Czesław Bisaga	Art Smigielski Philip Gosewich Andy Smigielski	Andrzej Kas Artur Leja Wiesław Mos Eugeniusz Blachut	Mary Keene Jim Mulligan

PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Grzegorz P. Podwysocki JCL, JV, KHS • Chancellor • Judicial Vicar Diocese of Joliet • Pastor

Rev. Michael Flynn Rev. Maciej Stelmach Mass Assistants

Naomi O'Malley

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Anna Siwiec-Sitkowska

Music Ministry

Victoria Petecki

Digital Media

Paula Bucciferro

Accountant accountant@omgccc.org

Stewardship Dec 06/07

Conception

Mass Collections\$10,494.00Utilities\$125.00Building Fund\$341.00Online Giving\$2,976.00Christmas Flowers\$345.00Immaculate\$1,612.00



PUBLISHING DEADLINES

Bulletin submission requests must be submitted to the office by Monday at 5:00pm. Due to limited space, we cannot guarantee your content will be published. Due to the holiday hours of our printers, deadlines are as follows:

Dec 21st: due by Monday, Dec 15th 9am Dec 28th: due by Thursday, Dec 18th 5pm Jan 04th: due by Mon, Dec 28th 5pm

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION



Baptism: Baptisms are scheduled on the second Sunday of each month. Polish Baptisms are at 1:00 p.m., and English Baptisms are at 1:30 p.m. Please contact the Faith Formation Office before booking your venue for the celebration. Parents must be registered with our parish. Both sponsors must be over 16 years old, with at least one being a practicing Catholic.



Marriage: The bride and groom should be active members of our parish. The couple should contact the Faith Formation Office at least six months in advance to schedule their marriage, allowing for adequate preparation. Schedule the church date for your marriage before securing your venue.



Funerals: The family of the deceased will coordinate with the chosen funeral home to make the arrangements. The funeral home will then contact the Faith Formation Office at Our Mother of Good Counsel (OMGC) to notify us about the upcoming funeral Mass. We (OMGC) will get in touch with the family and work together to organize the funeral liturgy.



Eucharist for the Homebound and Hospitalized: If you are unable to attend Mass please contact the Parish Office for the Sacraments of the Eucharist. Our Homebound ministry would be happy to assist you.



Anointing of the Sick & Hospital Visits: Please contact the Parish Office if your loved one requires an anointing. Please do not wait until death is imminent to request anointing, as it may take some time to find a priest for the sacrament.



Religious Education: We offer religious education classes for grades 1-8. Call the Faith Formation Office for more information. Classes meet Wednesday, 6:00-7:30PM September through March.



Newcomers: Welcome to our Parish! Please stop in the Parish Office or visit our website for a Parishioner registration form. We are so happy to have you.



Prayer Request Line: Submit your intention to omgcprayers@gmail.com, and our prayer warriors will discreetly pray for you intention. If you would like to join the prayer warriors, send omgcprayers@gmail.com an email asking to be added.



Religious Life: Considering Religious Life? For more information about vocations, please contact: vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org

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BROKER | Parishioner

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