



Our Mother of Good Counsel

Catholic Church

16043 S. Bell Road Homer Glen, IL 60491 708-301-6246 www.omgccc.org office@omgccc.org

MASS SCHEDULE

<i>Tues-Friday</i>	<i>8:00am</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>4:00pm</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	
<i>ENGLISH</i>	<i>7:30am</i>
	<i>10:30am</i>
	<i>5:00pm</i>
<i>POLISH</i>	<i>9:00am</i>
	<i>12:00pm</i>
<i>1st Friday</i>	
<i>ENGLISH</i>	<i>8:00am</i>
<i>POLISH</i>	<i>7:00pm</i>

CONFESSION

<i>Saturday</i>	<i>3:00-3:45pm</i>
<i>1st Friday</i>	<i>6:00-6:45pm</i>

CONTACT

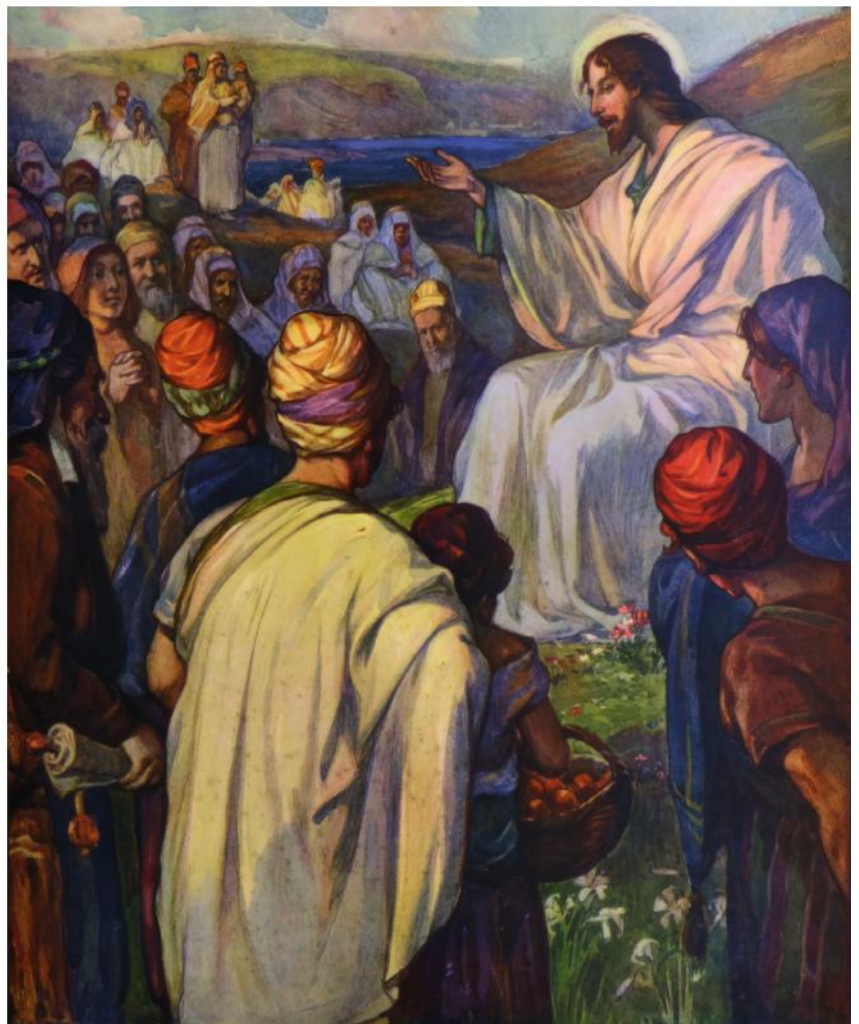
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708-301-6246
office@OMGCCC.org
www.omgccc.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tues, Wed, Fri 9-3:00pm
Thurs by Appointment Only

FAITH FORMATION HOURS

Tues & Thurs 9am-3:00pm
Wed 9am-4:30pm



YOUR REWARD WILL BE GREAT IN HEAVEN



Tuesday February 18 8:00am

• Margaret & Ed Stover

Wednesday February 19 8:00am

† Stanley Pacholski

Thursday February 20 8:00am

† Jan Chowaniec

Friday February 21 8:00am

• Our Homebound Parishioners

Saturday February 22 4:00pm

† Richard Keating

Sunday February 23 7:30am

† Maria Chowaniec

Sunday February 23 9:00am

• O zdrowie dla Marii

Sunday February 23 10:30am

† Rose Marie Murphy

Sunday February 23 12:00pm

† Marian Jedrol

† Stanisława Franciszek Peksa

† Lisa Montez

Sunday February 23 5:00pm

• All Parishioners of the Joliet Diocese as we approach the Annual Appeal

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS



On February 16-18, our Holy Father will be remembering in prayer and celebrating with artists. Look around the outside and inside of your parish church. Look around your neighborhood or the nearby towns. Look in your own house. Look at the skyline of any city. Just look as you drive to and from work and everywhere you can see the handprint of an artist. These women and men give to us a beauty that speaks of God in all His glory. We thank them for sharing their gifts and talents in a way that opens our eyes to the God-Given beauty around us.



Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter -- Feb 22

This feast day celebrates the papacy and St. Peter as the first bishop of Rome. St. Peter's original name was of course Simon. He was a husband, father, and fisherman when Jesus called him.

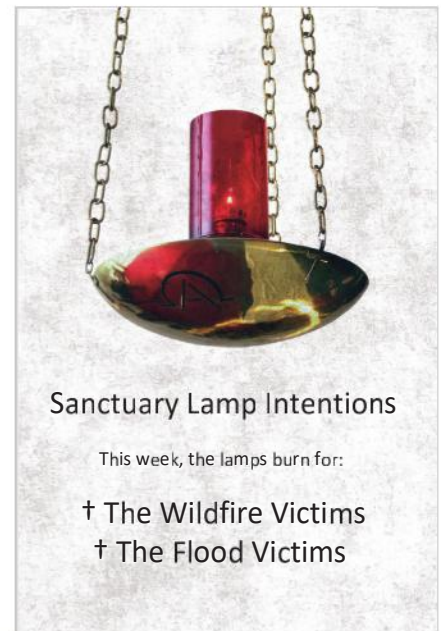
Peter was special among the Apostles. He was with Christ at the Transfiguration, Garden of Gethsemane, and was the only Apostle to whom Christ appeared on the first day of the Resurrection.

Jesus declared: "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever you shall bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven: and whatsoever you shall loose on earth, it shall be loosed also in heaven". (Mt 16:13-20)

Jesus made St. Peter the head of his believers, placing the spiritual guidance of the faithful in Peter's hands. Peter delivered the first public sermon after Pentecost winning many converts. The date of St. Peter's death is not clear. Historians estimate he was executed between the years 64 and 68. His remains now rest beneath the altar of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

-www.catholicnewsagency.com

Saints and Observances this Week



Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

This week, the lamps burn for:

† The Wildfire Victims

† The Flood Victims



Food Drive

Did you know that our Parish has an ongoing food drive?

Every first weekend of the month, our food donations are taken to the Lockport Fish Food Pantry. This pantry is a non-profit organization, operated solely by volunteers. The FISH Food Pantry is funded by donations of monetary and non-perishable food items.

We welcome your contributions throughout the month, and your non-perishable food items can be dropped off in the Narthex. Thank you for serving local families in need!

Welcome our new Parishioners:

The Mucha Family

The Zeglin Family



Stewardship Prayer

Lord God, You alone are the source of every good gift, of the vast array of our universe, and the mystery of each human life. We praise you and we thank you for your great power and your tender, faithful love.

Everything we are and everything we have is your gift, and after having created us you have given us into the keeping of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Fill our minds with His truth and our hearts with His love, that in His Spirit we may be bonded together into a community of faith, a parish family, a caring people.

In the Name and Spirit of Jesus, we commit ourselves to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us, to share our time, our talent, our material gifts as an outward sign of the Treasure we hold in Jesus. Amen.

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. Simply click on the Religious Education link once you enter the site.

Religious Education Program Schedule

February 19—CLASS

February 26—OFF

March 5—OFF—Ash Wednesday

March 12—Class

March 19 —Class

March 26—OFF

Please use extreme caution in the HJH parking lot and follow the direction of our volunteer traffic controller.

Upcoming Spring Sacramental and Practice Dates

Our Eighth Grade students will be Confirmed on **Saturday, March 15th at 6pm.**

Bishop Mroziewski from the Diocese of Brooklyn, NY will be the Confirming Bishop. Practice and Confessions will be held on **Thursday, March 13th at 6pm in church.**

Our Second Grade students will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on **Saturday, April 26th at 11am.**

Our Second Grade students will receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time on **Saturday, May 3rd** during our First Communion Liturgy which will be held at **11am.**

Practice for First Communion will be held on **Thursday, May 1st at 7pm in church.**

Please pray for our religious education students preparing to receive Sacraments this Spring.

***Our Mother of Good Counsel,
Pray For Us!***

Blessings and Congratulations to our newly Baptized



Francis Christopher
Krzystyniak



Izabella
Bryjak



Natalia
Murphy



St. Joseph's Corner

St. Thomas Aquinas teaches that the Beatitudes provide a pathway to human perfection—the highest fulfillment we can attain in our limited capacity—by aligning our souls with God's Providence.

St. Luke's depiction of Jesus's Sermon on the Plain presents a more direct and condensed version of the Beatitudes compared to St. Matthew's portrayal of the Sermon on the Mount. While the Sermon on

the Mount emphasizes the interior spiritual transformation necessary for holiness, the Sermon on the Plain highlights the tangible realities of discipleship—showing both the blessings of living according to the Beatitudes and the consequences of rejecting them.

Applying the Beatitudes in Modern Discipleship

In our path of modern discipleship, many of us are not poor—at least not by the standards of the rest of the world—and many of us are not hungry—again by that same standard. Fewer still are persecuted by the standards of Jesus's time. At the Plain, Jesus literally speaks to a "great crowd" of real, marginalized, and materially impoverished people. But the lessons for us are the same.

While we may not be materially poor, God is still on our side if we acknowledge that true comfort comes not from wealth but from Him alone. God is still on our side if we acknowledge that our security does not come from material abundance but from Him alone. God is still on our side if we use our resources not for self-indulgence but for the good of others, recognizing that everything we have is a gift meant to be shared.

While we may not be physically hungry, we are still called to hunger for righteousness—to long for justice, truth, and holiness in a world that often opposes them. If our stomachs are full but our souls are empty, we are missing the deeper satisfaction that only God can provide.

While we may not face persecution in the way the early Christians did, we are still called to stand for Christ in a world that increasingly rejects Him. If we prioritize comfort over conviction, approval over

truth, or silence over witness, we fail to live out the radical call of the Gospel.

The Role of Prudence in Living the Beatitudes

But with all things, prudence must come first. More than a mere ability to make good decisions, prudence is the virtue that orders all others. Infused with God's grace, it guides us to choose rightly in light of truth and our ultimate end—union with God. Prudence ensures that our pursuit of the Beatitudes does not become reckless idealism or misplaced guilt but rather a deliberate, thoughtful embrace of God's will in our circumstances.

To live out the Beatitudes prudently means recognizing where God has placed us and discerning how best to respond. It does not mean abandoning responsibility or recklessly divesting ourselves of wealth but rather using what we have with wisdom and justice. It means knowing when to speak, when to remain silent, when to act boldly, and when to wait with patience.

Prudence keeps our spiritual hunger from becoming self-righteousness, our mourning from becoming despair, and our detachment from material goods from becoming irresponsibility.

It teaches us that the Beatitudes are not a one-size-fits-all prescription but a call to discern how we can best embody Christ's teaching in our unique circumstances.

Husbands and Fathers: Living the Beatitudes

Like St. Joseph As husbands and fathers, the Beatitudes call us to lead our families with faith, humility, and courage—just as St. Joseph did. He was not rich, yet he provided. He was not powerful, yet he protected. He was not honored, yet he remained faithful.

Like St. Joseph, we must hunger for righteousness in our homes, show mercy in our relationships, and embrace sacrifice for the sake of those entrusted to us. True strength is not found in wealth or status but in trust in God's providence.

Lead with love, serve with humility, and strive for holiness—this is the path of a Christian father.

—Sebastian Abbinanti (Parish Pastoral Council)

Bishop Hicks' Column February 2025



The Gift of Imagination

Whenever I fly, I frequently do three things. First, I always pray a rosary—that's a given! Then, I catch up on some work or necessary reading. Finally, I relax a bit and watch a movie. I admit I am quite conscious that, by wearing my Roman collar, many people in the seats around me take note of the movie I have selected. The last thing I want is for them to go home and tell their family and friends that they witnessed a Catholic bishop praying a rosary and then watching a super-violent or unseemly movie!

On my most recent flight, I selected the family-friendly movie *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. It is a heartwarming film about the power of imagination and the beauty of creativity. The hero of the story is Harold, a young boy who is gifted with a purple crayon that allows him to bring his drawings to life. As he sets out on an adventure, Harold learns valuable lessons about courage, problem-solving, and the responsibility that comes with shaping the world around him.

Spoiler alert: toward the end of the movie, Harold finds a touching letter from the author who created him. In it, he reads:

"Dear Harold, one day you might want to know why I made you. I wanted to show folks that, with a little imagination, you can make your life whatever you want it to be."

This film reminds us that, like Harold, we all have the ability to create, dream, and make a difference in this world through our imaginations. How true!

Our imagination is truly a gift from God, allowing us to see beyond what is and dream of what could be. We are made in the image of God, and our ability to imagine and create reflects His divine nature. This gift allows us to participate in our Creator's ongoing work of beauty and goodness in the world.

Perhaps you are familiar with *Ignatian Contemplation*, also known as *imaginative prayer*. Through this method, St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us to pray using our imaginations. This practice encourages us to place ourselves inside a biblical scene, using all our senses to experience the story as if we were truly there. If you have never used this form of prayer, I invite you to try it using these basic steps:

- Imagine yourself in a scene from Scripture, such as being present at Jesus' birth, walking with Him along the road, or witnessing His miracles.
- Engage your senses by seeing the setting, hearing the voices, feeling the textures, smelling the surroundings, and experiencing the emotions.
- Interact with Jesus directly by listening to His words, speaking to Him, and experiencing His love.

After an imaginative prayer experience, St. Ignatius invites us to reflect on what we felt, learned, or heard. In other words, we can ask ourselves, *"How did God speak to me through my imagination?"*

Faith itself requires the gift of imagination. It gives us the ability to believe in what we cannot see (Hebrews 11:1). Imagination allows us to trust in God's plan, envision a better future, and hold onto hope even in difficult times. It also builds our capacity for compassion and empathy by helping us put ourselves in others' shoes and understand both their joys and struggles. This ability to see the world from different perspectives strengthens our call to love one another, just as Christ taught.

Of course, like all gifts, we can misuse our imagination. According to John Lennon, we can *"imagine there's no heaven. It's easy if you try."* Why would we do that? Sometimes our world or life experiences bring us to imagine sad, evil, and immoral things. Yet God gifted us with our imaginations so that we may be fully alive and joyful through, with, and in Him.

So, I invite you to imagine the Holy Trinity—being in the presence of God the Father and feeling His eternal love, peace, and mercy; walking and talking with Jesus; and experiencing the Holy Spirit descending upon you, filling you with wisdom, strength, and courage. Imagine there is a beautiful heaven, teeming with saints, angels, and your loved ones in God's eternal presence.

Ultimately, imagination is a sacred gift that allows us to create, love, hope, and draw closer to God in all that we do. Please join me in imagining a Church and a world where every heart is filled with God's love and mercy, abounding in kindness, respect for life, justice and peace for all people—now and forever!

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts

Called & Gifted Charism Workshop

Saturday March 1, 2025
8:30 - 3:30
 (lunch included)

ONLY \$35
 includes lunch

"Uncover the unique spiritual gifts (charisms) God has given you to bring His love to others and fulfill your purpose!"

What is a Charism?

Charisms are unique spiritual gifts given to each of us at Baptism—special abilities God uses to work through us to make a difference in the lives of others.

They're meant to help us share His love, strengthen our communities, and bring out the best in ourselves and those around us.

Whether it's teaching, healing, hospitality, or something else entirely, your charisms are a part of who you are.

Want to discover how your gifts can transform your life and the world around you? **Join us & find out!**

What to Expect

- ✓ Learn about the mission of charisms in the Church and your life.
- ✓ Take the Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory to uncover your gifts.
- ✓ Get guidance on how to use your gifts in your life.



QUESTIONS? ROBERTA BALSEWICZ
 rbalsewicz@hsc.us 630-922-0081 x7

Launch Your Journey!
 Register today or before 2/19
<https://qrco.de/bfgBQw>



Sponsored by the Diocese of Joliet, hosted by Holy Spirit parish, led by the Catherine of Siena Institute



The Little Ones Jim Burrows

Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose trust is the Lord. Jer 17:7

Scripture from the New American Standard Bible © (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission, www.Lockman.org

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6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 Joy Reward Heaven Ancestors Prophets

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Ministry Schedule - February 22nd/23rd

	Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:30am	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 12:00pm	Sun 5:00pm
Eucharistic Minsters	Dennis Foley Marian Strzelczyk Ed Wereldsma	Mary Ann Mesich Patti Mulligan Monica Shaub Mike Gatto	Józef Staszeczka Jasia Para Ryszard Kloc	Philip Gosewisch Ellen Dudycha Melissa Dopke	Ewelina Szafran Kararzyna Karpiuk Agata Świętostawska	Monica Shaub
Lector	Arlene Fassola	Sue Targosz Darcy Trudelle	Czeslaw Bisaga	Art Smigielski	Wiola Golab	Bill Shaub
Sacristan	Mike and Gina Jadron	Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick	Bozena Bisaga	Dawn Nolan	Artur Leja	Monica Shaub
Ushers	Cody Cwik Mike Jadron	Mike Targosz Tony Angelo Jim Mulligan	Sławomir Budz Witek Szaflarski Czesław Bisaga Stanisław Smalec	Phillip Gosewisch Andy Smigielski Tom Lorang	Artur Leja Andrzej Kas Wiesław Mos Eugeniusz Blachut	Bill Shaub Mary Keene

Parish Staff

Very Rev. Grzegorz P. Podwysocki

JCL, JV, KHS • Judicial Vicar
Diocese of Joliet • Pastor

Weekend Assistants:

Rev. Michael Flynn • Rev. Maciej Stelmach

Director of Parish Mission and Ministry:

Naomi O'Malley
ParishMissionMinistry@omgccc.org

Director of Faith Formation:

Janet Litterio
FaithFormation@omgccc.org
708-301-0214

Office Manager &

Director of Polish Ministry:

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708-955-9682

Music Director:

Anna Siwiec-Sitkowska

Accountant:

Paula Bucciferro

Digital Media:

Victoria Petecki

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www.omgccc.org
16043 S. Bell Rd.
Homer Glen, IL 60491

Hours:

Tues, Wed, Fri: 9am-3pm
Thurs: By Appointment

Collection

February 8th/9th

Sunday Envelopes.....\$9,507.00
Utilities.....\$62.00
Building Fund..... \$65.00
Snow Removal..... \$60.00



Online Giving is available through the secure OSV website. Choose a one time donation or sign up for a recurring contribution.

The link to our online donation page can be found on our website.



Sacramental Information

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

Marriage: As members of Our Mother of Good Counsel, couples 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 are unable to attend Mass please contact the Parish Office for the Sacraments of the Eucharist.

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 or see our website to register.

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

Prayer Request Line: Submit your intention to omgcpayers@gmail.com, and our prayer warriors will discreetly pray for you intention.

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