



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

Saturday 4:00 pm English
Sunday 7:30 am English
9:00 am Polish
10:30 am English
12:00 pm Polish
5:00 pm English
Tues- Fri 8:00 am English

FIRST FRIDAY

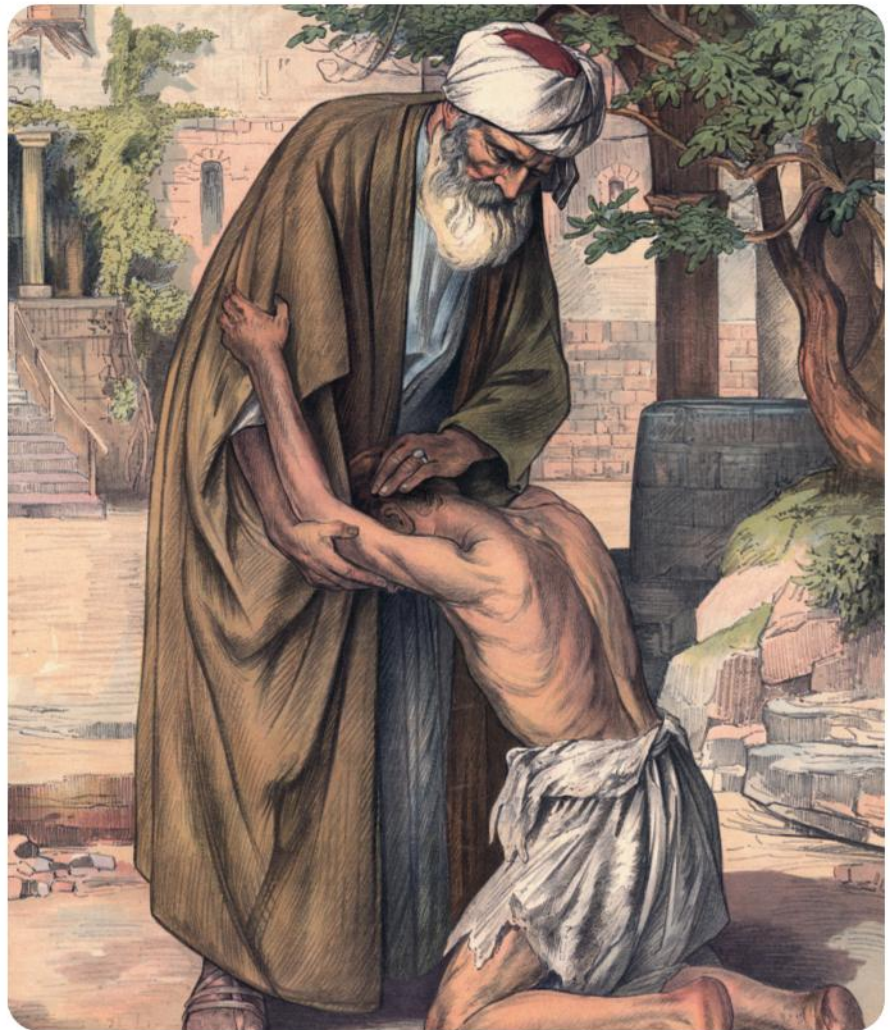
8:00 am English
7:00 pm Polish

CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm English
1st Friday 6:00-6:45 pm Bilingual

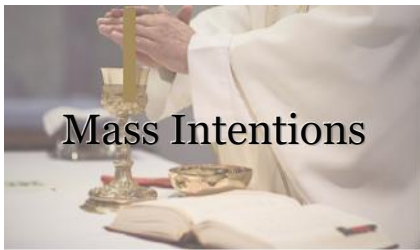
PARISH OFFICE

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



His father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion.
He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him.

Luke 15:20-21



Mass Intentions

Tuesday April 1 8:00am

Intention of the Presider

Wednesday April 2 8:00am

Intention of the Presider

Thursday April 3 8:00am

Eufemia Zakrzewski †

Friday April 4 8:00am

George Petecki Jr †

Saturday April 5 4:00pm

Michael Geary

Sunday April 6 7:30am

Lynn Huck †

Sunday April 6 9:00am

Mateusz, Jan, Alex

Zofia & Teofil Szaflarski †

Henryk Andrzyk †

Sunday April 6 10:30am

Edward & Gertrude Bialeck †

Sunday April 6 12:00pm

Mirosław Zwolinski †

Antonina Kruczak †

Sunday April 6 5:00pm

Our deceased Parishioners †

Saints and Observances

April - Dedicated to The Eucharist and the Holy Spirit

Wednesday - Saint Francis Paola

Friday - First Friday

Saint Isidore

Abstinence

Saturday - St. Vincent Ferrer

Upcoming Dates

APR 4 6:00 pm Friday Lenten Soup Supper

APR 5/6 St. Vincent De Paul Donation Collection

APR 6 K of C Blood Drive

APR 9 R.E. Students Reconciliation 6:00 pm in Church (grades 3-7)

APR 11 7:00 pm Lenten Reconciliation Bilingual

Join the fun with the CCW
EASTER EGG-CITEMENT CELEBRATION

- Easter Bunny Photo-Op
- Crafts
- Games
- Food
- Prizes

Saturday April 12th 10am-12pm

Let us know how many children are coming by April 9th!
rsvp.ccw.events@gmail.com or contact Bernie (773) 320-4608
*This is a great service opportunity as well, contact us for more details

Easter Flower Memorial



This Easter, you may contribute to the Easter Flowers and Decor by memorializing or honoring your loved ones. Envelopes can be found in the Narthex. You may also contribute through our website or QR code. When writing, PLEASE use clearly printed letters. Names submitted after Sunday, April 13th will not be published in the bulletin.

Pray for the reposed soul of

George William Petecki, Jr

who entered eternal life on March 23rd

Pray for the reposed soul of

Dr. Richard J Wallyn

who entered eternal life on February 21st

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

This week, the lamps burn for:
Nick Wagner †
George Petecki Jr †

March 5 - April 13
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

HELP SAVE LIVES IN DOWNERS GROVE!

Learn more ... get involved ... and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at:

40daysforlife.com/downersgrove

Lenten Soup Supper

A big thank you to the The Knights of Columbus for cooking up some delicious soups! There is one last Soup Supper Friday, April 4th at 6:00pm. We hope to see you there!



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:

April 2—Class

April 9 —Reconciliation Gr 3-7*Church

April 16—LAST CLASS

****Grades 3-7 will meet in church for Reconciliation. Grades 1 and 2 are off.*******

DROGA KRZYŻOWA

w języku polskim i angielskim w piątki Wielkiego Postu o godz. 7:00 wieczorem

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

following the 8 am Friday mass and 7:00 PM Bilingual



Laetare Sunday

This weekend is known as Laetare Sunday and marks the halfway point of our Lenten journey.

Laetare is a Latin word which means “rejoice”.

We take a brief break from the austerity of the Lenten season as we express hope and joy amidst our Lenten fasts and penances.

Priests and deacons may wear rose colored vestments this weekend, as they do on Gaudete Sunday in Advent, to share a glimpse of joy that awaits us on Easter.

The point of both days-Laetare and Gaudete Sundays is to provide us encouragement as we progress toward the end of each respective penitential season.



LENTEN RECONCILIATION

Friday, April 11th at 7:00pm

Entry will be through the Adoration Chapel doors. Multiple bilingual priests will be available

SPOWIEDŹ WIELKOPOSTNA

Piątek, 11 kwietnia, godz. 19:00

Wejście przez drzwi Kaplicy Adoracji. Będzie dostępnych wielu dwujęzycznych kapłanów.





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W GÓRALSKIEJ OPRAWIE**

**W WIELKĄ ŚRODE
16 KWIECIEŃ 2025
o godz: 7:00pm**

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DROGA KRZYŻOWA W
GÓRALSKIEJ OPRAWIE**

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Fourth Sunday of Lent Reflection

Usually the first reading is picked to go with the Gospel. This week the connection appears to be a feast. The book of Joshua tells of the Israelites coming into the Promised Land, where they no longer needed to be fed with manna as in the desert. They had been wandering much longer than expected because of their unfaithfulness. But now they are forgiven, and so celebrate the Passover with food from the land. Then we hear the Gospel parable about another feast. This one is also a celebration of forgiveness, for the prodigal son has returned to his father, and the father's forgiveness shows us how willing God is to forgive us. That's where we end the parable, right?

Wrong. The parable continues with the older son's complaint about a feast for his brother. Did you notice the words of the father that "everything I have is yours" (Luke 15:31)? He's not just being sentimental because they are family. The younger brother had already taken his inheritance, so whatever was left will one day go to the older one. That son cannot forgive his brother and is angry at the father for welcoming the prodigal back. This is where we come in.

Most of us have no trouble asking God's forgiveness. But we may have trouble forgiving others. We are so used to thinking in terms of justice that we are not satisfied with forgiveness. When I have been hurt, I feel like hitting back. When you see an action movie, you don't want the bad guy to give up and say he's sorry—you expect him to be destroyed by the good guy, hopefully in a big fight or a spectacular explosion. (Superheroes, however, almost never kill the bad guy.)

So we have to ask ourselves whose idea of justice we live by. Is it the human expectation of an eye for an eye? Or is it God's justice, which is mercy and forgiveness? When someone cuts you off in traffic, do you feel like firing the photon torpedoes, or offering forgiveness? The Golden Rule could be "Forgive others as you would be forgiven." Jesus gave his life for the sins of the world. Do we have the right to ask for more?

-Tom Schmidt



IF...

The title of this article, **“if,”** is so short that it’s easy to overlook — yet few words carry so much weight in the Catholic imagination. These two simple letters hold the potential to launch beautiful dreams or plant seeds of destructive doubt.

On the positive side, the word **“if”** opens possibilities, like saying, *“If I work hard, I can succeed.”* It encourages hope and stimulates creativity, like wondering, *“What if we did it this way?”* It motivates action by highlighting the rewards, like a teacher saying to their student, *“If you study, you’ll pass the exam.”* And it suggests a promising outcome, like me predicting, *“If you are reading this article, you are probably a disciple of Jesus.”*

“if” is the kind of word that sparks dreams — *“If I trust in God, maybe He will take care of everything.”* It invites us to imagine what God could do if only we dared to trust and surrender ourselves to His will. Consider the Gospel of Matthew, where Jesus says, *“If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible for you”* (Matthew 17:20). That tiny word, **“if,”** encourages us to believe in the miraculous, and to trust that God can work wonders through even the smallest act of faith. It does not demand perfection but presents many hopeful possibilities.

There is, however, another side to **“if”** that can be perilous. When used with doubt or hesitation, **“if”** becomes a stumbling block. During this Lenten season, we are reminded that Jesus was tempted in the desert by Satan with the word **“if”** (Matthew 4):

- *“If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”*
- *“If You are the Son of God, throw yourself down.”*
- *“All these I will give you, if you kneel down and worship me.”*

Satan’s use of **“if”** was not just about testing Jesus’ power — it was about trying to plant doubt in Jesus’ very identity as the Son of God. That is the same tactic the enemy uses against us today, aiming to make us question who we are in God’s eyes. But Jesus bravely resisted these **“if”**-based lies. He knew and fully embraced His identity as the Son of God and remained grounded in His mission, united with His Father and the Holy Spirit.

In moments of trial, we too face the temptation to question God’s love or plan: *“If God is good, why am I suffering?”* We are fallible humans; our faith is often tested during challenging times. But our faith calls us to move beyond these doubts, trusting in God’s greater purpose even when we do not completely understand.

Just as Satan tempted Jesus to doubt His own identity, we too can be lured into believing a deceitful lie about our identity. But there is **no “if”** about our awe-inspiring identity: we are all made in the image and likeness of God. We are God’s beloved sons and daughters. And although we are sinners, Jesus came to forgive us and save us from our sins. We trust that promise. Our faith is founded on that truth.

I have seen too many people accept the lie about their true identity. That lie is often planted subtly through internal narratives like, *“I cannot really be God’s beloved son or daughter because I am not smart enough, not good enough, not holy enough, not attractive, not athletic, not popular, not likable... or even worse, not lovable.”* We are bombarded daily with subtle lies about our worth — in social media, in relationships, and even in our own thoughts. But God’s truth is unwavering: you are His beloved. There’s no **“if”** about it. When we reject that basic lie and live in the light of our identity as a beloved daughter or son of God, we are on the road to true joy and salvation.

I invite you to eliminate any and all doubts about Jesus and yourself. God never says, *“I will only love you “if” you are perfect.”* God’s love and mercy for you are unconditional.

So, as we journey through this Lenten season, let us reject the **“if”** of doubt and embrace the certainty of God’s love. Pray for the strength to ignore the negative **“speak”** and to center on the positive truths. With clarity and conviction, we proclaim that Jesus is God. He alone is worthy of our praise, honor, and glory. He is our Savior through His life, suffering, death, and resurrection. He has won the victory over death and offers eternal life to all who believe and follow Him.

You are a beloved child of God. When it comes to God and the divine love freely given to all of us, there is no **“if”** whatsoever!

Knights of Columbus - Blood Drive

**SUNDAY
APRIL**

6

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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Diocese of Joliet

**Diaconate
Ordination**
of Samuel Bergmann,
Andrew Bogusz, & Jonathan
Hernandez
April 5, 2025
11:00 AM

Priestly Ordination
of Dcn. Christian Sinclair &
Dcn. Vincent Omondi
May 17, 2025
11:00 AM

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Eucharistic Minsters	Lynn Ayres Judy Keating Ed Wereldsma	Mary Ann Mesich Theresa Pettinato Mike Gatto Sue Strella	Józef Staszeczka Jasia Para	Steve Kon Ellen Dudycha Julie Sochacki	Ewelina Szafran Katarzyna Karpiuk Agata Świętosławska	Monica Shaub Bob Trainor
Lector	Arlene Fassola	Sue Targosz Darcy Trudelle	Zofia Kracik	Jennifer Galka	Marian Gal	Carol Trainor Bill Shaub
Sacristan	Mike and Gina Jadron	Sue Strella	Bozena Bisaga	Philip Gosewisch	Andrzej Kas	Monica Shaub
Ushers	Mike Jadron John Swiniarski	Mike Targosz Tony Angelo Jim Mulligan	Czesław Bisaga Witek Szafarski Stanisław Smalec Sławomir Budz	Mike Tombers Andy Smigielski Phillip Gosewisch	Artur Leja Andrzej Kas Wiesław Mos Eugeniusz Blachut	Bob Trainor Bill Shaub

Parish Staff

Very Rev. Grzegorz P. Podwysocki

JCL, JV, KHS • Judicial Vicar

Diocese of Joliet • Pastor

Rev. Michael Flynn

Rev. Maciej Stelmach

Mass Assistants

Naomi O'Malley

Director of Parish Mission & Ministry

ParishMissionMinistry@omgccc.org

Janet Litterio

Director of Faith Formation

FaithFormation@omgccc.org

708-307-0214

Tues, Thurs: 9am-3pm Wed: 9am-4:30pm

Małgorzata Siuta (Po Polsku)

Director of Polish Ministry & Office Manager

PolishMinistry@omgccc.org

708-955-9682

Anna Siwiec-Sitkowska

Music Director

Victoria Petecki

Digital Media

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 omgcccprayers@gmail.com, and our prayer warriors will discreetly pray for you intention.

Year End Tax Statement

2024 contribution statements are available and will be provided upon request.

Please contact the parish office at 708-301-6246, email parishoffice@omgccc.org, or visit our website and click on the tax form resource.

Collection

March 23rd/24th

Sunday Envelopes	\$11,387.00
Utilities	\$277.00
Building Fund	\$325.00
Snow Removal	\$40.00
Online Giving	\$1,733.00
Easter Flowers	\$100.00
Catholic Relief	\$100.00



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