

# 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 English

Tues- Fri 8:00 am English

# FIRST FRIDAY

8:00 am English

7:30 pm Polish

# CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm English

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

# PARISH OFFICE



(F)

16043 South Bell Road

Homer Glen, IL 60491

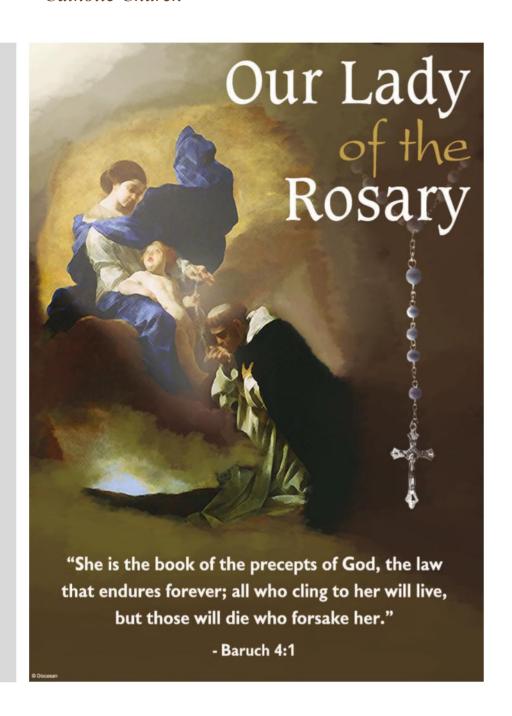
708-301-6246

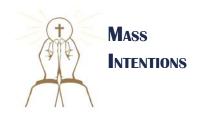
office@omgccc.org

www.omgccc.org

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

Thurs by appointment





**TUESDAY OCTOBER 7 8:00AM** Olga Guerra†

**Wednesday October 8 8:00am** Sr. Paula Bingert

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 9 8:00AM**Sr. Anita Beloin

FRIDAY OCTOBER 10 8:00AM Fr. Néstor F. Sánchez

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11 4:00pm Helena Mozdzeniak†

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 12 7:30AM**Our Deceased Parishioners

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12 9:00AM Mari

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 12 10:30**AM Cathy Magierski†

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12 12:00PM Andrzej Bryja† Casey Bobak† James Anthony Sobczak†

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 12 4:00PM** Barbara Ann Smith†

# SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

October: The Holy Rosary Sun: Saint Faustina Kowalska

Mon: Saint Bruno

Tues: Our Lady of the Rosary Thurs: Saint Denis, Bishop, and

Companions
Sat: Saint John XXIII

## WATCH MASS ONLINE!

Our Sunday Masses are now streaming on our youtube channel. www.youtube.com/
@OurMotherofGoodCounsel



# **BAPTISMS**





Axel Leszek Maj and Christian Kozyra

received the Sacrament of Baptism on September 27th and 28th.

Congratulations and may God Bless these children!

# **RED MASS**



On September 27th, we had the honor of hosting the Will County Bar Association for its annual Red Mass. Thank you to Bishop Hicks for celebrating the Mass with Fr. Greg. The Red Mass asks the Holy Spirit to bestow its gifts upon our judges and attorneys as they uphold the Constitution. Watch the replay on our YouTube channel!

# **OCIA**

We had our first OCIA class, but it's not too late to join our group. Classes meet on the following dates from 6:30pm until 9pm:

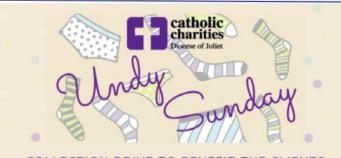
October 7 December 16 March 3
October 21 January 6 March 17
November 4 January 20 April 4-Easter Vigil
November 18 February 3 April 21-Last class
December 2 February 17



# Spiritual Adoption Program "Here I am!" 9 Months

Your spiritually adopted baby was born this month -nine months after his/her mother conceived him/her.
The only change at birth is a change in the external
life support system of the baby. He/she is no
different now than he/she before birth except that he
breathes and eats differently. He/she is truly a
miracle. He began as a 46-chromosome cell and has
developed over the past nine months into this unique
human baby.

Never before in history, nor ever again, will anyone exist that is just like your spiritually adopted baby. Your prayers saved his/her life. Thank you on behalf of all of the little babies that you cared enough to pray for him/her and his/her mother. . HAPPY BIRTHDAY BABY!



COLLECTION DRIVE TO BENEFIT THE CLIENTS OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES.

# OCTOBER 18-19, 2025

We will be collecting donations of basic needs items for the clients of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet at the Parish the weekend of October 18-19. Any donation of new underwear, socks, and diapers are welcome. Catholic Charities has requested that we focus on the following items this year:

- Diapers (size 4, 5, 6)
- Pull Up Training Diapers (sizes 2-3T, 3-4T, 5-6T)
- Baby wipes
- Boy's underwear (size 3T -5/6)
- Girl's underwear (size 3T 5/6)
- · Boy's socks (all sizes, especially crew socks)
- Girl's socks (all sizes)





# **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

OCTOBER 1 - CLASS OCTOBER 8 - CLASS OCTOBER 15 - CLASS OCTOBER 22 - CLASS OCTOBER 29 - OFF

We thank you for heeding the directions in the parking lot at HJH upon dismissal. Our Knights of Columbus are helping with this important task to keep our children safe.

# October is the Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. October includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7).

The Rosary helps us to pray to Jesus through Mary. When we pray the Rosary, we think about the special events, or mysteries, in the lives of Jesus and Mary. The Rosary is made up of a string of beads and a crucifix. We hold the crucifix in our hands as we pray the Sign of the Cross. Then we pray the Apostles' Creed.

Between the crucifix and the medal of Mary, there is a single bead, followed by a set of three beads and another single bead. We pray the Lord's Prayer as we hold the first single bead and a Hail Mary at each bead in the set of three that follows. Then we pray the Glory Be to the Father. On the next single bead we think about the first mystery and pray the Lord's Prayer.

There are five sets of ten beads; each set is called a decade. We pray a Hail Mary on each bead of a decade as we reflect on a particular mystery in the lives of Jesus and Mary. The Glory Be is prayed at the end of each set. Between sets is a single bead on which we think about one of the mysteries and pray the Lord's Prayer.

We end by holding the crucifix in our hands as we pray the Sign of the Cross. Bring prayer into your home by praying the rosary together in your domestic church this October.



# St. Joseph's Corner

How long, O Lord? I cry for help but you do not listen! I cry out to you, 'Violence!' but you do not intervene.

—Habakkuk 1:2

Habakkuk's lament could have been written yesterday. It's a prayer of a man who feels aban-

doned in the middle of chaos. Habakkuk, a seventh-century BCE prophet, begins prophesying in a unique way. Instead of immediately speaking God's word to the people, he begins by speaking to God.

His lament is raw and honest. Habakkuk witnesses the rampant corruption and injustice that plagues Israel in his day. He knows it has reached a fever pitch and is driving the nation toward collapse—though he cannot yet see the Babylonian exile that looms on the horizon. He does the only thing a just man can do: he brings his pain to God. But despite his cries, he is met with silence.

This is where many of us live as husbands and fathers. We pray for our families, for clarity in decisions, for relief from financial strain or illness. And often it feels like we're met with nothing but silence. Like Habakkuk, we cry out: "How long, O Lord? Why don't you answer?" We especially feel it when we watch our children step back from the faith, and our prayers for their return seem to vanish into the void.

## Prayer Is Not Magic

Habakkuk gives us permission to pray like this—honestly, even desperately. His words remind us that God is not offended by our cries. He listens. But He does not always respond in the way we expect.

Here is where many of us stumble. We want prayer to be a lever that moves heaven, a formula that guarantees results. If I say the right words, in the right way, then surely God must give me what I ask.

But prayer is not a magic spell. God is not a vending machine. He is Father. Just as we do not give our own children everything they ask for—especially when we know it would harm them—so too God withholds what is not for our good. Our children may not see the danger in their requests, but as fathers, we see further, and we say "no" out of love. Why, then, do we expect that God—who knows us more intimately than we know our own children—would do any less?

### Even Our Holy Desires Can Be Disordered

Even our seemingly purest desires can become disordered—whether it is a longing for restored health, for adult children to return to the faith, or for reconciliation with loved ones estranged by hurt and trauma. These are good things, yet they bear fruit only when entrusted to the Father's will.

The danger is subtle. The very things we ask for in prayer—things that appear noble and holy—can still become occasions of pride. We risk substituting God's saving plan with our own "good will," convincing ourselves that our way of fixing things must be His way.

And while we may get on our knees to pray, we can still slip into treating it like a transaction—placing an order, expecting fulfillment, and measuring success by outcomes. But prayer is not a contract. It is an encounter with the living God—a Person who loves us completely, who desires our good beyond what we can imagine, and who longs to unite us with Himself forever

When we understand God as a Person, we begin to see that His will is the only path to eternity with Him. Prayer is no mere request line—it is an invitation into relationship, an opportunity for the conversion of our hearts. Only in this way can we abandon our own will and, like St. Thérèse in her Little Way, discover God Himself dwelling within our desires.

## Christ in Gethsemane

If we need proof that prayer is not a magic spell, we need only look at Jesus Himself. On the night He was betrayed, in the Garden of Gethsemane, He prayed a prayer that every husband and father knows by heart: "Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me." (Mt 26:39)

This is no polite request. It is the raw cry of a Son who knows the weight of what is coming. Jesus names His desire clearly: He does not want to suffer. In that moment, His humanity is fully visible, and He prays honestly, just as Habakkuk prayed centuries earlier. But Jesus does not stop with desire. He finishes the prayer with the words that define true sonship, "Yet not my will, but yours be done."

Here is the heart of Christian prayer. It is not wrong to pour out our wants, our fears, our deepest longings. But prayer is incomplete until it ends in surrender. The Son of God shows us that even holy desires must be placed beneath the Father's will. If Jesus Himself had to pray this way, how much more must we?

# A Word to Husbands and Fathers

Habakkuk's cries did not prevent the Babylonian exile. God allowed His people to be carried off, the Temple destroyed, and Jerusalem reduced to ruins. From the outside, it looked as if their prayers had gone unanswered. Yet in God's providence, the exile was not merely punishment but the furnace where Israel's faith was purified. Stripped of power and possessions, they discovered again that God alone was their life. From the ashes of exile, the hope of the Messiah burned even brighter.

Brothers, this is the pattern of our prayer too. We bring our longings—health restored, children returned to faith, relationships healed—and sometimes God permits the exile instead. Our hearts cry, "How long, O Lord?" and we are tempted to despair. But the Father is not absent. In His wisdom, He is shaping a greater fruit than we can yet see.

Jesus in Gethsemane shows us how to pray through our own exiles: with honesty, and with surrender—"Not my will, but yours be done." That is the prayer of true sons.

As husbands and fathers, our call is to lead our families in this way of faith: to pray honestly, to trust deeply, and to surrender completely. For what feels like silence may in fact be God preparing the harvest of salvation.

-Sebastian Abbinanti (Parish Pastoral Council Member)



# Bishop Hicks' Column October 2025

#### MAKE

When I arrived as your bishop five years ago, I laid out a vision of catechesis, evangelization, and faith into action, emphasizing that a thriving Church is one where we truly know, love, and serve God. The big question remains: how do we actually do that? How do we move from just having a vision to putting it into real practice?

This is why I wrote the pastoral letter MAKE! and launched it just this month. It builds on Bishop Conlon's 2018 pastoral letter GO!, which draws on the Great Commission in Matthew's Gospel (Matthew 28): "Go and make disciples." MAKE! vulnerably reflects my heart. I love Jesus, and I want you to love Him too. It expresses my desire to give everyone a practical, loving roadmap to becoming disciples and making disciples, with a hands-on guide for passing our faith from one generation to the next.

Right before publishing it, I have to admit that I was filled with some self-doubt. I wondered, "There are so many other issues I could be writing about: the Eucharist, Pro-Life concerns, Vocations, Care of Creation, Immigration, Violence, and more. Is making disciples really the best topic?"

The Holy Spirit answered that question for me last month during a meeting at the headquarters of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in Washington, D.C. Our committee was presented with the results of a large national survey of thousands of priests across the country. One question asked, "Out of all the issues in the world, which one most needs to be addressed by our Church?" The number one response from priests nationwide was clear: passing the faith on to the next generation.

The statistician went on to explain that this does not mean priests consider the other issues unimportant. Rather, they recognize that if we do not have people in the pews, if this generation and the next are not alive in their faith and participating in the life of the Church, then all of those other issues will eventually lose their voice in the Church. We first need to form disciples who are rooted in Christ, so that they in turn can carry the mission forward and address these other urgent concerns with faith and courage.

This is why MAKE! is so important. It is not just another document, and it is certainly not meant to sit on a shelf and collect dust. It is a living invitation to every Catholic in our diocese to move from simply managing decline to boldly embracing mission. We all want to belong to a Church that is alive, thriving, and centered on the salvation of souls. That future depends on how seriously we take this call to be made into disciples so that we can go out and make disciples.

The letter offers a clear path: conversion, confession, communion, commission, all held together by prayer. These are not abstract concepts but real, concrete steps that anyone can begin today. I both invite and urge you to read the letter. And then read it again. Pray over it, discuss it with your family, your friends, or a group in your parish. Choose one small action and begin.

If each of us takes this seriously, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Diocese of Joliet can become a Church on fire with love for Jesus. Boldly, I want our diocese to be the most evangelizing diocese in the country, not out of competition, but because I love Jesus, and I want you to love Him and be saved through Him too. This is our time, and this is our mission. Let us first be disciples, men and women of all ages who know, love, and serve Jesus, so that together we can go out with joy and courage to MAKE disciples, starting now.

To learn more about my pastoral letter and how to make disciples for Jesus, visit make.diojoliet.org.

# The Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life





October 10, 2025 -March 20, 2026 A Virtual Retreat with Fr. Bill Creed, SJ

This virtual retreat is facilitated by Fr. Bill Creed, SJ and led by Louis Savary's *The New Spiritual Exercises* in the Spirit of Teilhard de Chardin. Join us as we journey through the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius, praying the Scriptures, reflecting on our invitation to be missionary disciples. This retreat calls you to love as Jesus loved, face challenges with courage and compassion, grow in greater awareness, and trust in the slow work of God. Through reading, prayer, reflection, and small group discussion, open yourself to deeper union with God's presence, discernment, and action.

This virtual retreat takes place on the Fridays listed below from 7:30 am - 8:45 am.

2	0	2	5

October 10, 24 November 7, 21 December 5, 19

#### 2026

January 9, 23 February 6, 20 March 6, 20



# Retreat Leader: Fr. Bill Creed, SJ

Bellarmine Ministry Team member; co-founder of the Jesuit Renewal Center; chaplain and co-founder of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps in Chicago and the Ignatian Spirituality Project.

To register for this retreat, scan the QR Code or visit jesuitretreat.org/retreats



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Questions? Call Deacon Tony Clishem 815-221-6134

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October

5
8:00AM - 12:00PM

# Our Mother of Good Counsel Blood Drive

Location: Mobile Bus 16043 S. Bell Road Homer Glen, IL 60491



Oct 11/12	Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:30am	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 12:00pm	Sun 4:00pm
Eucharistic Minsters	Janet Litterio Lisa Lorek Ken Marcin	Mary Ann Mesich Patti Mulligan Mike Gatto Debbie Hoekstra	Jasia Para Ryszard Kloc	Dawn Nolan Melissa Gordon Yayi Cazares	Ewelina Szafran Agata Świętosławska	Mary Keene Monica Shaub
Lector	Arlene Fassola	Debbie Hoekstra Darcy Trudelle	Grażyna Staszel	Jennifer Galka	Kazimierz Wilk	Carol Trainor Bill Shaub
Sacristan	Mike and Gina Jadron	Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick	Bożena Bisaga	Dawn Nolan	Andrzej Kas	Monica Shaub
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#### PARISH STAFF

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Rev. Michael Flynn Rev. Maciej Stelmach

Mass Assistants

Naomi O'Malley

Parish Operations & Ministry ParishMissionMinistry@omgccc.org

Janet Litterio
Lifelong Formation
FaithFormation@omgccc.org

Tues - Thurs: 9am-3pm

Małgorzata Siuta (Po Polsku)

Polish Ministry

PolishMinistry@omgccc.org

Anna Siwiec-Sitkowska

Music Ministry

Victoria Petecki

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Paula Bucciferro

Accountant

### **STEWARDSHIP**

September 27/28

Mass Collections \$10,566.00 Utilities \$342.00 Building Fund \$100.00 Online Giving \$2,150.00



### CMAA PLEDGE REPORT

Thank you for the continued donations! 70% of the amount over our goal will come back to our Parish.

Donor count: 151

PARISH GOAL: \_\_\_\_\_\_ \$42,600 AMOUNT PLEDGED: \_\_\_ \$48,320 AMOUNT PAID: \_\_\_\_\_ \$45,683 REMAINING BALANCE: \$2,637 2025 REBATE: \$2,158

### **S**ACRAMENTAL 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.



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

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# 10

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BROKER | Parishioner

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