



# Our Mother of Good Counsel

*Catholic Church*

## 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

1st Friday 6:00-7:15 pm Bilingual

PARISH OFFICE   

16043 South Bell Road

Homer Glen, IL 60491

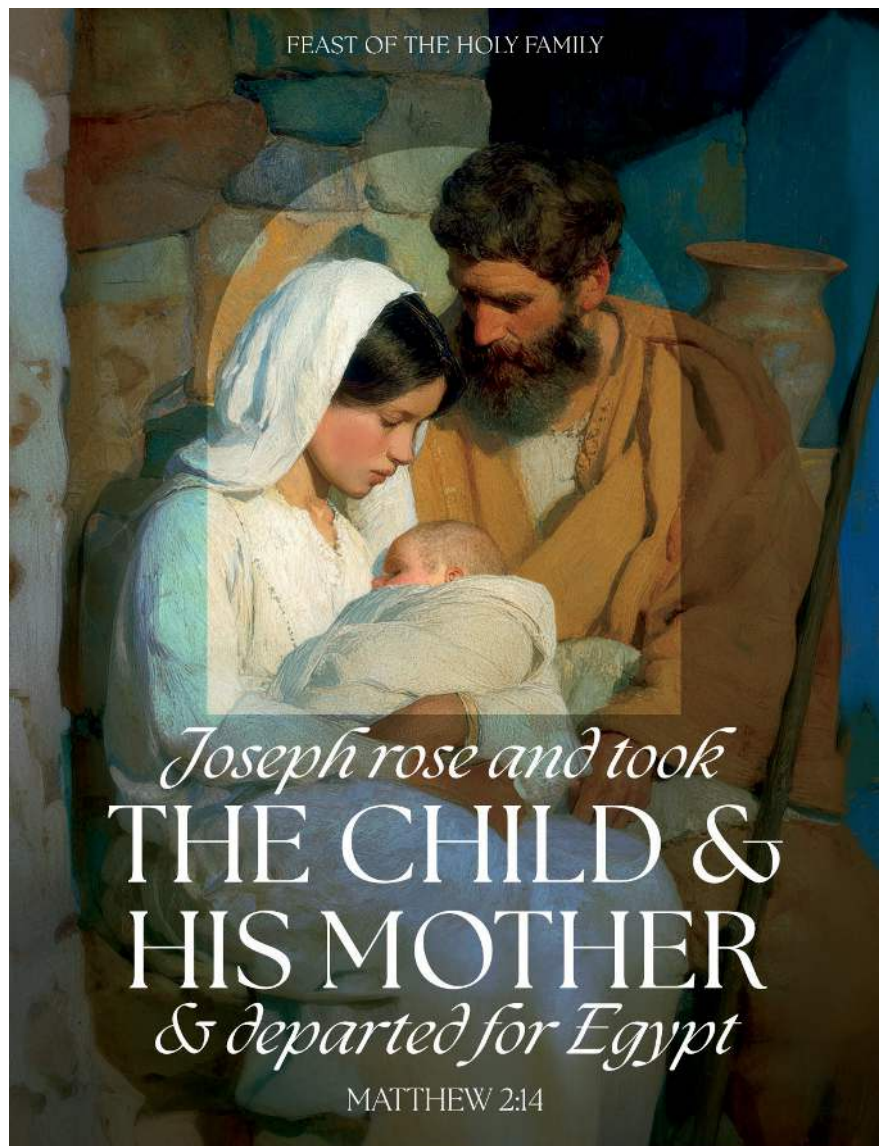
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[www.omgccc.org](http://www.omgccc.org)

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

Thurs by appointment





## MASS INTENTIONS

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 30 8:00AM**  
Virginia Schultz†

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31 4:00PM**  
Lisa Gibson

**THURSDAY JANUARY 1 7:30AM**  
Our Homebound Parishioners

**THURSDAY JANUARY 1 9:00AM**  
Za parafian  
Slawek, Arek, Robert

**THURSDAY JANUARY 1 10:30AM**  
Magdalena & Franciszek  
Dlugopolski†

**THURSDAY JANUARY 1 12:00PM**  
Helena Piotr Pikul†  
Amalia Jozef Waz†  
Zygmunt Panek†  
Beata Wybraniec†

**FRIDAY JANUARY 2 8:00AM**  
Marion Beaucaire†

**FRIDAY JANUARY 2 7:30PM**  
Za parafian

**SATURDAY JANUARY 3 4:00PM**  
Calvin Brun†

**SUNDAY JANUARY 4 7:30AM**  
Janina & Andrzej Bobak†

**SUNDAY JANUARY 4 9:00AM**  
Slawek, Arek, Robert  
Maria&Wladyslaw Mrozek†  
Damian&Krystian Krzysiak†  
Tadeusz Tylka†

**SUNDAY JANUARY 4 10:30AM**  
Mary L. Harjung†

**SUNDAY JANUARY 4 12:00PM**  
Za parafian

**SUNDAY JANUARY 4 4:00PM**  
Harley Schinker†

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**DEC 31** No 8:00am Mass. 4:00 pm Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass English

**JAN 1** Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God: See Mass Schedule Below

**JAN 2** First Friday

## GOODBYE 2025

As we welcome the new year, we want to take a moment to warmly thank all the priests, deacons, vendors, organizations, ministries, committees, and individual volunteers whose dedicated efforts have helped Our Mother of Good Counsel thrive over the past year. Your hard work and commitment truly made a difference, and we look forward to continuing this journey together in the year ahead.

Your presence here with us truly means a lot to our continued growth. As we step into 2026, keep in mind the uplifting words: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Continue to come and walk with us!

Happy New Year!

Fr. Greg and the Staff

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions  
Dec 21st - Dec 27th

Nick Wagner †  
Miroslaw Krzysztof Zwolinski †



## PIERWSZE PIĄTKI MIESIĄCA

Spowiedź Święta w jęz polskim Od godz. 6:00pm  
Msza Święta:

8:00am w jęz angielskim

7:30pm w jęz polskim

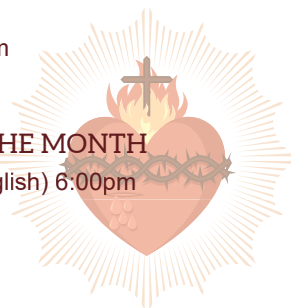
## FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Confession: (Polish/English) 6:00pm

Mass:

8:00am English,

7:30pm Polish



## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

**Wednesday, Dec 31<sup>st</sup> Mass:**

4:00 PM

**Thursday, Jan 1<sup>st</sup> Mass:**

7:30 AM English

9:00 AM Polish

10:30 AM English

12:00 PM Polish

\*this is a Holy Day Of Obligation\*

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Loving Obedience

One theme common to all three readings today is obedience. Sirach commends the son who obeys his father. St. Paul tells children to obey their parents "in everything." And the Gospel shows Joseph obedient to the warnings of the angel. Yet all three put obedience in terms of a larger relationship.

Sirach says that obedience is part of what makes a happy family. As we saw last Sunday, it shows trust in the one who is obeyed. Children trust that their parents have good reason for telling them to do something. Children also learn both discipline and how to contribute to family life. Spouses trust each other not to ask them to do something harmful. Obedience is also a sign of respect for an older family member. Americans tend to look at older people as if they were useless, but Sirach reminds us of the wisdom they can share with us.

St. Paul continues this theme in the second reading. He shows how love of Christ transforms a family. When he talks about wives being subordinate and husbands loving them, he means that husbands and wives should defer to each other and love each other. Children and parents have duties to each other: Children are to obey parents and parents are to be reasonable ("do not provoke") and loving.

Parents might look at the Gospel for support in encouraging obedience. Joseph obeyed the messages from the angel and saved the life of the infant Jesus. So families can learn that stressing obedience can protect the child as well as teach. Parents can also remind children that God asks for obedience for our good, not on a whim. When we obey God's law, we learn to trust God more deeply and to appreciate that God's law enables us to live more freely. As children we think that rules restrict us, but as we mature, we learn that we are more restricted by our misguided desires and beliefs. We learn to adjust those desires to be in line with God's plan for us. We grow by replacing misguided beliefs (i.e., that material things bring true happiness, that revenge is sweet, etc.) with faith in a loving God who wants the best for us and who doesn't magically take away our sufferings, but supports us through them.  
-Tom Schmidt

### MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - JANUARY 1ST

Let us strive to be pure and holy like our Heavenly Mother. All mothers want their children to inherit or acquire their good qualities. Our Heavenly Mother is no exception.

With Joseph, she succeeded in training the Child Jesus, so that He grew in holiness and in "favor before God and man." Hence, our best way of celebrating this feast and honoring our Heavenly Mother would be to promise her that we will practice her virtues of Faith, obedience, purity and humble service. In this way, we will be trying to become the saintly sons and daughters of our Heavenly Mother, the Holy Mother of God.



## 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@omgccc.org](mailto:faithformation@omgccc.org)

Visit our parish website [omgccc.org](http://omgccc.org) for the RE schedule and other Faith Formation information throughout the year under the Religious Education link.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

January 7—Class  
January 14—Class  
January 21—Class  
**January 28—No Class**

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 of keeping our children safe.

## Feast of the Holy Family

The Feast of the Holy Family is celebrated this weekend. By celebrating this feast right after Christmas, the Church encourages us to look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child so that He might grow up not only in human knowledge, but also as a Child of God. Jesus brought holiness to the family of Joseph and Mary as Jesus brings us holiness by embracing us in His family.

THANK YOU to parents, and to all adults that pass on our faith to our young members in our parish family! May we always strive to be good examples for our young people by working hard, helping each other and taking good care of our children, just as Mary and Joseph did with Jesus.



# OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

We sincerely thank God for everyone who generously shared their talents at the Annual Christmas Concert. It was a special moment for all of us to enjoy the choir's beautiful singing, the talented musicians, and the incredible work of the lighting and sound team. We also loved hearing many voices from the audience join in during the sing-along, making the event even more joyful and memorable!

A heartfelt thank you to Anna Siwec-Sitkowska, our Music Director; Monica Kropidlowski, a Guest Pianist; and Thomas McNichols, Guest Conductor. We appreciate everyone who helped make this event at Our Mother of Good Counsel an incredible evening. Your hard work and dedication truly shone through, creating an atmosphere of joy and community. We hope to see everyone back next year! Wishing you all a blessed and joyful holiday season.





December 18, 2025

Dear Friends,  
Peace be with you.

Today, December 18, 2025, it was officially announced that I will be installed as the 11th Archbishop of the Archdiocese of New York on Friday, February 6, 2026.

I want to begin by expressing my heartfelt gratitude to Pope Leo XIV for this appointment. Growing up in the south suburbs of Chicago, just a stone's throw from where he grew up, and having spent part of my priesthood in missionary work in Latin America, I feel a deep connection to him. His leadership is a guiding light for me, and I accept this new role with humility and an open heart.

I am also grateful to Cardinal Christophe Pierre, our apostolic nuncio, for his trust. When he called to share this news, I told him I simply wish to do God's will. Receiving his phone call on the feast of Saint Juan Diego is a reminder that sometimes God calls us to things that feel beyond us, but with grace and faith, we can answer yes.

I also want to offer a heartfelt thank you to Cardinal Timothy Dolan for his more than 17 years of leadership in New York. I have been touched by his gracious support and encouragement.

These past five years in Joliet have been a true blessing for me. I have felt grateful, happy, and deeply blessed to serve as your bishop. Together we have catechized, evangelized, and put our faith into action. The relationships we have built, the faith we have shared, and the journey we have walked together are treasures I will carry with me to New York.

As you continue to read, share, and embrace my pastoral letter, "MAKE," I ask you to let it keep guiding you. Please do not let it sit on a shelf, gathering dust. Instead, continue to implement it as a living, breathing call to be disciples who MAKE disciples.

I have much to learn in New York, and I will serve there as I have served here, with all my heart. I trust in God's will and count on your prayers. Know that as you pray for me, I am praying for you, with immense gratitude and love.

With good wishes, may God bless you this Advent season as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

As I remain --  
Sincerely Yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks

Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet and Archbishop designate of the Archdiocese of New York

**Office of the Bishop**  
815.221.6100 | 815.722.6632 (f) | [officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org)

# COME AS YOU ARE, LEAVE WITH PURPOSE

ST. RAPHAEL'S PARISH  
1215 MODAFF RD, NAPERVILLE, IL 60540  
JANUARY 10, 2026 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
(VIGIL MASS INCLUDED)

## FEATURED SPEAKERS

KATIE CHOUDHARY FR. ALEX LORANG




FR. JEREMY LEGANSKI






# RECHARGE



TINY.CC/TDNT001

**Recharge High School 1 Day Retreat:** The Diocese of Joliet invites you to a 1-day retreat to help you find and gain focus on the voice of the Lord so that you can learn where He is calling you. Teens may register with their parish for this event. Any questions? Contact 815-221-6171 or [vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org). This event will take place at St. Raphael Catholic Church in Naperville.




The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.  
-Luke 2:40

### Feast of the Holy Family

S	E	A	R	C	H	K	O	K	K
I	K	B	W	W	R	I	S	E	O
D	N	I	E	E	U	D	K	I	F
R	D	A	E	H	K	D	R	M	X
E	H	A	Z	G	O	B	W	A	F
A	N	N	A	A	Y	L	Y	G	L
M	I	E	N	N	R	P	D	I	E
N	G	S	Y	D	G	E	T	I	E
L	H	H	B	A	B	E	T	R	T
T	T	X	N	O	V	B	L	H	P

Magi  
Behold  
Angel  
Dream  
Rise  
Flee  
Egypt  
Search  
Night  
Nazareth



SUNDAY

©Diocesan

DEC 31/JAN 1	Dec 31st - 4:00pm	Jan 1st - 7:30am	Jan 1st - 9:00am	Jan 1st - 10:30am	Jan 1st - 12:00pm
Eucharistic Minsters	Mary Westberg Janet Litterio Marian Strzelczk	Mary Ann Mesich Patti Mulligan	Jasia Para Katarzyna Karpiuk	Dawn Nolan Volunteers Needed	Ewelina Szafran Agata Świętosławska Ryszard Kloc
Lector	Dennis Foley	Debbie Hoekstra	Agnieszka Witek	Volunteers Needed	Kazimierz Wilk
Sacristan	Arlene Fassola	Mary Ellen Fitzpatrik	Bożena Bisaga	Dawn Nolan	Ewelina Szafran
Usher	Dennis Foley Art Smigelski Andy Smigelski	Jim Mulligan Tony Angelo	Witek Szaflarski Stanisław Smalec Sławomir Budz Czesław Bisaga	Volunteers Needed	Artur Leja Wiesław Mos Andrzej Kas Eugeniusz Blachut



JAN 3/4	Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:30am	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 12:00pm	Sun 4:00pm
Eucharistic Minsters	Volunteers will be emailed the schedule.	Mary Ann Mesich Patti Mulligan Mike Gatto Debbie Hoekstra	Katarzyna Karpiuk Ryszard Kloc	Phillip Gosewisch Denise Holub Steve Kon	Ewelina Szafran Agata Świętosławska	Volunteers will be emailed the schedule.
Lector		Debbie Hoekstra Patti Mulligan	Zofia Kracik	Jennifer Galka	Marian Gal	
Sacristan		Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick	Bożena Bisaga	Dawn Nolan	Artur Leja	
Ushers	Schedule not finalized at time of publication	Jim Mulligan Tony Angelo	Sławomir Budz Witek Szaflarski Stanisław Smalec Czesław Bisaga	Art Smigelski Andy Smigelski Tom Lorang	Andrzej Kas Artur Leja Wiesław Mos Eugeniusz Blachut	

## 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**  
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**  
Digital Media

**Paula Bucciferro**  
Accountant  
accountant@omgccc.org

## STEWARDSHIP

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## 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 omgcpayers@gmail.com, and our prayer warriors will discreetly pray for you intention. If you would like to join the prayer warriors, send omgcpayers@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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