



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

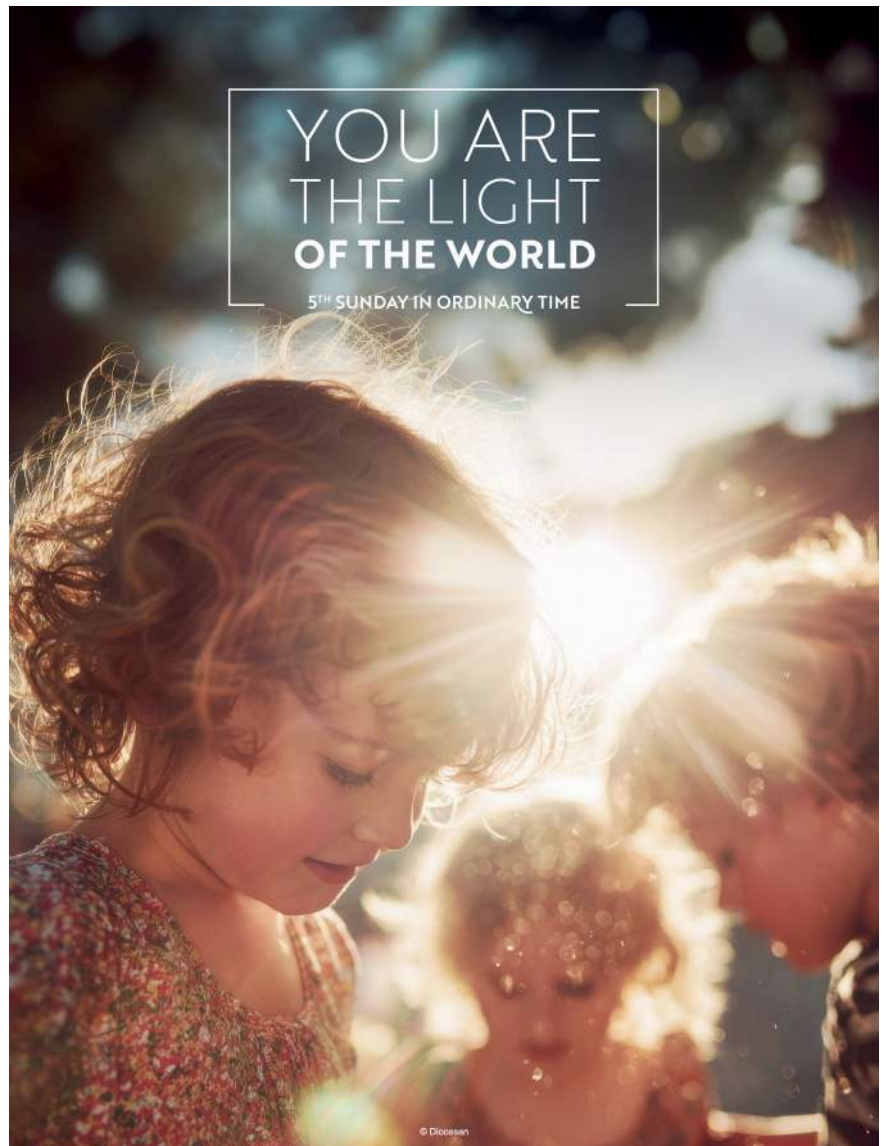
708-301-6246

office@omgccc.org

www.omgccc.org

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

Thurs by appointment





MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10 8:00AM
Zofia & Jozef Lenart†

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11 8:00AM
Delphine Kasukt†

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12 8:00AM
Intention of the Presider

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 13 8:00AM
Bill Schultz†

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14 4:00PM
Virginia Schultz†

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15 7:30AM
Our Liturgical Volunteers

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15 9:00AM
Slawek, Jarek, Robert
Jan & Helena Kaminski†
Jan & Stanislaw Bafia†
Stanislaw Mrowca†
Aniela Bafia†

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15 10:30AM
Richard Keating†

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15 12:00PM
Za Parafian

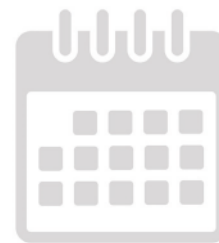
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15 4:00PM
Our Parish Council

RESERVE A MASS INTENTION OR THE SANCTUARY CANDLES

We currently have availability in the near future for special Mass Intentions and Sanctuary Candle Memorials. Contact the Parish Office to choose a Mass or a week to honor or bless loved one. Suggested donations are \$10 for a Mass Intention and \$20 to reserve the Sanctuary Candle for a week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB 9	Respect Life Committee Meeting 6:30pm
FEB 10	CCW Meeting 7:00pm
FEB 11	RE Class 6:00pm - 7:30pm
FEB 14-15	CCW Bake Sale Weekend
FEB 18	Ash Wednesday



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18th

8:00 am - Mass English
10:30 am - Mass Polish
3:00 pm - Ash Service English
7:00 pm - Mass Bilingual

ŚRODA POPIELCOWA

18 Lutego

8:00 am - msza w języku angielskim
10:30 am - msza w języku polskim
3:00 pm - ceremonia posypania popiołem
w języku angielskim
7:00 pm - msza dwujęzyczna

SAINTS AND COMMEMORATIONS



Saint Scholastica (February 10) The twin sister of St. Benedict, Scholastica founded the first Benedictine convent for women. She is remembered for her powerful prayer during a meeting with her brother, in which her love and faith had God send a storm so they could spend one last night talking about God.



Our Lady of Lourdes (February 11) This feast commemorates the 1858 apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Saint Bernadette in a grotto in France. Today, Lourdes remains a world-renowned site of pilgrimage and miraculous healing, and the day is observed as the World Day of Prayer for the Sick.



Saint Agatha (February 5 - Memorialized this week) A noble virgin and martyr from Sicily, Saint Agatha remained steadfast in her faith and her vow of purity despite brutal torture and imprisonment. She is honored as the patron saint of nurses and those suffering from breast cancer, serving as a powerful witness to courage and divine protection.



Saint Valentine (February 14) Beyond the modern holiday, Saint Valentine was a third-century Roman priest who was martyred for ministering to Christians and secretly performing marriages. He is the patron saint of engaged couples and happy marriages, reminding us that true love is rooted in sacrifice and faith.



Saints Cyril and Methodius (February 14) These two brothers, known as the "Apostles to the Slavs," were tireless missionaries who translated the Scriptures and Liturgy into the Slavonic language. They bridged Eastern and Western cultures and are honored today as co-patrons of Europe.



Your gift to CMAA makes an impact!

The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) Opening Report is in today's bulletin. As Christians, we are called to elevate our faith beyond all expectations in service to our brothers and sisters in need.

Through the CMAA, we serve the most vulnerable in our community, and our parish benefits from many CMAA-supported ministries including vocations, Catholic education, and faith formation.

As always, the diocese returns 70% of any amount raised over goal to our parish. Please review your mailing from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully consider your gift. Thank you!

INTERVIEW WITH FR. GREG



Fr. Greg recently visited the TBTS show to share his story, which began with serving as a Dean for the Diocese before he became our administrator and, then, our pastor. During the interview, he reflects on our journey toward becoming one

of the fastest-growing church communities in the area. This podcast interview can be viewed in English and Polish on the TBTS YouTube channel found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@TBTSShow>

2026 LENTEN MISSION

Mark your calendars! Fr. Tom McCarthy O.S.A. (and Prior Provincial-Elect) is returning to host a 3 day Lenten Mission! We are excited and honored that he has made time to journey with us through our Lenten season.

Sunday, March 22nd 7pm
Monday, March 23rd 7pm
Tuesday, March 24th 7pm

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.

Visit our parish website omgccc.org for the RE schedule and other Faith Formation information throughout the year under the Religious Education link.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

February 11—CLASS

February 18—OFF—ASH WEDNESDAY

February 25—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.

What We Can Do For Lent

The Season of Lent begins in a week and a half. As Catholic Christians, we prepare ourselves during Lent by fasting, praying and giving alms...ie giving of ourselves to others. **Jesus came to serve, not to be served.**

Incorporating prayer into our daily life is easier than you may think. There are many ways in which to do so. Bring prayer into your Domestic Church, aka your home by saying grace before meals. Say a bedtime prayer together before everyone goes to sleep. Praying together will soon become part of your daily routine.

There are several prayer apps that will help with your prayer life. One I especially like, and use myself is Hallow. There will be a free trial for Lent. There is a cost to continue when the free trial ends, but if you give up something for Lent, use the money you save and put the money toward a subscription to Hallow. This Lent the theme is **Lent Pray 40: The Return**. The Gospel of The Prodigal Son will be discussed. Repentance, mercy and restoration of relationship with God is the focus. God runs toward us always, He does not wait for us to be perfect to love us. Letting go of what keeps us distant from God will be another aspect discussed. Week one will talk about distance awakening, how far we've wandered away from God due to sin, restlessness and distraction.

There is a children's version of Lent called Kid's Lent: Saints Alive.

We always have our phones with us....let's use this tool for prayer. Let's journey through Lent together, making ourselves a better version of "us" by becoming more prayerful people.



The Coldest Night of the Year

The Coldest Night of the Year is a winterrific family-friendly walk to support local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness. Join us on February 28, 2026 at 5:00PM in downtown Joliet as we raise funds for Catholic Charities' Daybreak Center.

The Daybreak Center provides programs and services to individuals experiencing poverty. The facility offers an emergency homeless shelter, a daily soup kitchen, and various supportive services to assist individuals and families in their pursuit of self-sufficiency.

To learn more, visit: <https://cnoy.com/location/joliet> or call 815-724-1140.

It's FREE to participate, so team up, fund-raise, walk, and take a moment to look closer... because it's cold out there.



Celebrating Scouting

Today, our parish family is participating in Scout Sunday. We welcome the scouts, leaders, and families joining us at the 10:30 AM Mass.

Scouting is much more than camping trips and merit badges; it is a form of youth ministry. A goal of the Scouts organization is to help young people grow into "Servant Leaders."

The Scout Law of being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, and brave mirrors the virtues of the Gospels. Scouting provides a practical environment where young people can:

Scout Sunday is an annual tradition that marks the anniversary of the Scouting organization.

"A Scout is reverent. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion." — The Scout Law

For more information on the Scouts contact:
Alan Berkey Alan.L.Berkey@gmail.com



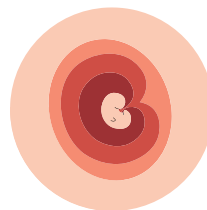
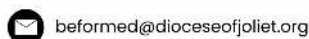
BE FORMED

SEASON 12: THE CREED (PART 2) – THE SON

FEBRUARY 13 – MAY 13, 2026

Learn more about the Creed and the identity of Jesus Christ through this 90-Day Discipleship Ministry!
For more information, visit our website at beformed.net.

REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 5, 2026



Spiritual Adoption

Baby's Development

1 MONTH

"My heart started beating today!"

During this first amazing month of life, the baby grows to 10,000 times his size at conception. He is totally dependent upon his mother. Between mother and child lies the vital organ called the placenta. Here vessels from mother and baby intertwine without joining, highlighting this newly formed relationship – mutual, nourishing and deeply connected.

By the third week the baby's tiny heart begins to beat. Pray that the Lord of Life might move the heart of the baby's mother to give him the most precious gift of all - the gift of life.

Keep this precious life in you prayers!



St. Joseph's Corner

"The light shines, but the weak eye is pained; yet it is healed by the very light that wounds it."

—Paraphrased from Augustine of Hippo, Confessions

This week's Gospel invites us to rediscover one of the most familiar teachings from one of Christ's best-known sermons. Familiarity, however, can dull perception. Trying to hear these words anew can feel like attempting to rediscover the back of one's own hand—always present, rarely examined. And yet, Christ's words demand exactly that.

The words "You are the light of the world" are usually received as a kind of encouragement—sometimes even as a compliment. We hear them as an affirmation of visibility, initiative, or influence. Light, in this reading, means being seen: standing out, making a difference, leaving a mark. The unspoken assumption is that the light Christ speaks of is something we must generate on our own or project by our own design.

Read this way, the passage becomes motivational. It reassures us that our faith should be noticeable and effective, perhaps even impressive. And while none of this is false, it is incomplete. The danger is subtle: the focus shifts from what illumines to who is noticed. The light becomes ours before it remains His.

Jesus tells us that we are the light of the world. He does not say that we will become the light, nor does He issue a command to manufacture it. This is not first an invitation or a mission; it is a declaration—one that reveals what is already true because of Him.

Christ alone is Light by nature. Yet those who are united to Him are illuminated by participation. We are made capable of light because we are created in His image and, by grace, infused with His life. Because that life is given for others, burning does not make the lamp light; it reveals what has already been received.

The lamp, then, must burn. The wick is consumed so that light may be given. To be a lamp is to accept a certain cost—to suffer, at times, for the sake of others and for the Kingdom. Yet this suffering is not self-justifying, nor does it confer importance. As John Chrysostom reminds us, the lamp does not draw attention to itself for burning; it simply gives light. Its humility lies not in the pain it endures, but in its refusal to claim the light as its own.

The lamp burns because it participates in the reign of Christ the King—not in spectacle but in truth, not in self-display but in obedience. And because His kingship is ordered toward restoration, not loss, nothing given in fidelity to Him is ever wasted. Pope Pius XI articulated this truth when he reflected on the nature of Christ's kingship:

"The empire of our Redeemer embraces all men...His kingdom is spiritual and is concerned with spiritual things."

—Quas Primas.

On February 11, 1858, a young miller's daughter in the south of France encountered a light deep within a grotto. It was not a light she possessed, but one she received—and in receiving it, she would burn quietly in fidelity, shining for the world for more than a century and a half. Her name was Bernadette Soubirous, better

known today as St. Bernadette of Lourdes.

Bernadette herself did not seek to be seen. She resisted attention and repeatedly attempted to retreat into obscurity. But the basket placed over the lamp did not come from her alone. It was lowered by parents who feared scandal, by civil authorities who suspected fraud, by clergy who demanded proof, and by a public eager either to dismiss or to exploit what it could not control. The light was questioned, examined, confined, and pressured into silence—not once, but persistently. Yet the Gospel does not promise that the light will go unchallenged; it promises only that it will not be overcome. What Bernadette received could be doubted, resisted, even suppressed for a time—but it could not be extinguished.

The basket was temporary. And because His reign is assured, it ultimately did not prevent Bernadette's light from shining more clearly—illuminating the world with a witness to truth that, in turn, reveals other lights long obscured beneath the baskets of doubt.

Yet her light shone most brightly before it could even be seen—measured not by recognition, but by fidelity. She was subjected to repeated questioning by civil authorities who suspected deception. She was pressured by local officials to recant or remain silent. She was doubted by clergy who, bound rightly to discernment, nonetheless subjected her to scrutiny. She was mocked by neighbors, followed by crowds, and spoken about far more than she was ever listened to. This weighed heavily on a frail body and a simple mind, and even after the apparitions ceased, the cost did not. Illness, isolation, and obscurity marked her remaining years. The basket remained, pressing down—not briefly, but persistently.

In Bernadette's lifetime, the Church ultimately affirmed the truth of what she had received, but she herself was never placed at the center. The light was recognized; the lamp was allowed to fade into silence. This is how the Kingdom advances—not by avoiding resistance, but by outlasting it. Bernadette understood this well when she famously said, "I was asked to tell, not to convince."

If this Gospel unsettles us, it is because it asks more than visibility. It asks for fidelity. Most of us will never be placed on a lampstand in the world's eyes. Our witness will be tested quietly—misunderstood, doubted, or set aside beneath baskets not of our choosing. Yet the Kingdom does not advance by force of recognition, but by endurance in truth. What is received from Christ and guarded in obedience will shine when and where He wills. The question is not whether the light will be seen, but whether it will be faithful while it waits.

Bernadette's life reminds us that we are not responsible for outcomes, only for faithfulness. We are asked to tell, not to convince; to remain, not to prevail. The light entrusted to us is not diminished by resistance—it is clarified by it.

In that spirit, the story of Bernadette is being brought to the stage in Bernadette de Lourdes: The Musical, opening in Chicago this month. More information can be found at:

<https://www.bernadettethemusical.com/>

May we have the courage to let the light we have received do its work—whether seen or hidden—trusting that no fidelity offered to Christ the King is ever lost.

—Sebastian Abbinanti (Parish Pastoral Council Member)



Knights of Columbus Superbowl Spectacular

Prizes
\$250—1st Quarter Score
\$400—2nd Quarter Score
\$250—3rd Quarter Score
\$500—Final Score

N

Seattle Seahawks

New England Patriots	A	5	4	7	0	2	3	8	1	9	6
	7	Linda Mitchell	Marilyn Andruch	Marge Stover	Meagan Yucaitis	Chris Swiatkowski	Joe Pettinato	Joe Caputo	Matt Zarbbczan	Cindy Ulatowski	Bob Caridi
	9	Rich Madura	Wajda	Theresa Pettinato	Tony Charvat	Joe Lenart	Chris Swiatkowski	John Swiniarski	Jeff Lapsarski	Bob Caridi	Jim Kolacki
	8	Cliff Guileau	Rich Madura	Ed Garner	Patti Nakutis	Wajda	Maureen Plebanek	Jame Palewski	Donna G	Sheila Utz	Cliff Guileau
	3	Father Ken	Chris Swiatkowski	John Swiniarski	Rich Madura	Jim Ryan	Adam Molek	John Rock	Micheal Davis	Donna G	Cody Cwik
	5	John Bielek	Jim Ryan	Kay Charvat	Jim Ryan	Rich Madura	Jim Huck	Marion K	Edward Plebanek	Mike Gatto	Chris Swiatkowski
	0	Jim Huck	Donna G	Michael Davis	Wajda	Bob Caridi	Charles Gawley	Monica Schaub	John Swiniarski	Randy Meyers	Bernie Smigielski
	2	James Utz	Monica Schaub	Jim Ryan	Dave Stanley	Jim Kolacki	John Swiniarski	Rich Madura	Jim Huck	Mark Hink	Mary Kula
	1	Matt Zarbbczan	John Swiniarski	Bernie Smigielski	Eric Petecki	Michael Davis	Mary Szaflarski	Rick Debelak	Rich Madura	Michael Davis	Eric Jones
	6	Jim Ryan	Eric Jones	Chris Gres	John Bielek	Michael Locascio	Donna G	Wajda	Renet Smalec	Michet	Rich Modell
	4	Bob Caridi	Tim Behland	Rich Modell	Marion Pyra	Bernie Smigielski	Patuis Meneaela	John Bielek	Bob Caridi	Michael Davis	Cody Cwik

N

Seattle Seahawks

New England Patriots	B	4	7	2	6	1	9	3	0	8	5
	8	Andy Kopczyk	Monica Budz	Paige Plebanek	Tom Litterio	Tim Finlan	Mia Jones	Bill G	Bernie Smigelski	Janet Jadron	Tim Behland
	7	Michele S	Nick Delek	Mike Jadron	Diane Ryan	Bob Caridi	Tim Behland	Janet Litterio	Tom Litterio	Abbinianti	Mike Davis
	2	Denise Holub	Bev Kintz	Bev Kintz	Richard Madura	Tim Finlan	Michele S	Tim Behland	Utz Haglia	Jim G	Jim G
	6	Jim G	Abbinianti	Erik Jones	Eileen Lyman	Richard Madura	Mike Budz	Mike Ryan	Tom Litterio	Frank Poppsh	Ellen Dudycha
	9	Lori Kazich	Tom Litterio	Utz Haglia	Alan Shook	Tim Palewski	Richard Madura	Natalie Steczek	Richard Madura	Maggie Budz	Terry Rvaa
	1	Mary Willnen	Bob Caridi	Donna Swinlarski	Mike Davis	Tim Behland	Michele S	Richard Madura	Mark Korvacz	Richard Madura	Patti Mulligan
	5	Monica Schaub	Bob Enguita	Bernie Smigielski	Bob Caridi	Joe Beissel	ary Ellen Fitzpatrick	Bob Caridi	Bob Strel	Mike Davis	Janet Litterio
	3	Max Budz	Mary Willnen	Tom Litterio	Janet Litterio	Ellen Dudycha	Joe Milosovic	Mike Davis	Eric Jones	Michele S	Isabelle Plebanek
	4	Michele S	Mike Tomanich	Mike Davis	Nello Farneti	Sue & Mike Targosz	Monica Schaub/ Maure	Frank Wajda	Maya Budz	Tim Behland	Dooty Dolan
	0	Tony Ragano	Alisa Topolski	Jennifer Wajda	Kim Targosz	Frank Pippio	Janine Para	Mike Toyanich	Patti Mulligan	Dave Markusic	Bob Caridi

N

Seattle Seahawks

New England Patriots	C	3	5	8	4	6	1	7	9	0	2
	5	Anna Marie Allen	Denise Zuhn	Lorraine Solimeno	Mary Westburg	Denise Holub	Jim Castleton	John Fassola	Mike Oruczo	Maureen Grobarek	Judy Keating
	2	Carole Trainor	Kevin Hoffmeister	Lisa Lorek	Tony Charvat	K. Miller	Jim Castleton	Mike Oruczo	Kevin Jennings	Ken Marcin	Sibby
	6	Jerry Vinci	Sibby	Steve Kon	Steve Kon	Scott Morgan	Phil Gosewisch	Diana Sullivan	Kevin Hoffmeister	Bev Pavesic	Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick
	8	Paul Troy	Ann Dal-Cason	Larry L.	Bob Trainor	Patti Mulligan	Piotr Cygan	Joe Wilimczyk	Michael Davis	Diane Mizcak	Riley Fassola
	7	Trisha Ernst	Russ Petrizzo	Jonathan Pavesic	Denise Zuhn	Richard Madura	Angela Plebanek	Kevin Hoffmeister	Patti Mulligan	John Bielak	Mary Kula
	1	Randy Meyers	Joe Wilimczyk	Mom Bielak	Michael Davis	Lisa Lorek	Richard Madura	Monica Schaub	Jim Mulligan	Arlene Fassola	Mary Kamba
	4	Mary Kamba	Monica Schaub	Lynn Ayres	Carole & Bob Trainor	Raquel Gonzalez	Mike Oruczo	Chris Zalinski	Judy Keating	Russ Petrizzo	Dawn Nolan
	0	Mike Paszyna	John Bielak	Diane Mizcak	Kathy Felichowski	Joey Smalec	Marty Graham	Fr. Tom McCarthy	Mary Grobarek	Sue Strella	Steve Strella
	3	Steve Strella	Kay Charvat	Larry Ford	Larry L.	Dolores Fassola	John Bielak	Steve Strella	Mike Oruczo	Angela Plebanek	Russ Petrizzo
	9	Janina Para	Steve Strella	Julie Sohacki	Mary Zirino	Kevin Hoffmeister	Carol Shimkus	Steve Strella	Dawn Nolan	Michael Szaflarski	Jim Huck



FEB 14/15	Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:30am	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 12:00pm	Sun 4:00pm
Eucharistic Minsters	Lynn Ayres Janet Litterio Marian Strzelczyk	Mary Ann Mesich Patti Mulligan Monica Shaub Debbie Hoekstra	Jasia Para Katarzyna Karpiuk	Denise Holub Dawn Nolan Yayi Cazares	Ewelina Szafran Agata Świętosławska Ryszard Kloc	Mary Keene Patti Mulligan
Lector	Arlene Fassola	Darcy Trudelle Bill Shaub	Agnieszka Witek	Art Smigelski	Wiola Gołąb	Patti Mulligan
Sacristan	Lisa Stanly	Monica Shaub Debbie Hoekstra	Bożena Bisaga	Dawn Nolan	Ewelina Szafran	Patti Mulligan
Ushers	Dennis Foley John Swiniarski	Mike Targosz Jim Mulligan Tony Angelo	Czesław Bisaga Sławomir Budz Witek Szaflarski Stanisław Smalec	Art Smigelski Philip Gosewisch Andy Smigelski	Andrzej Kas Artur Leja Wiesław Mos Eugeniusz Blachut	Jim Mulligan Mary Keene

PARISH STAFF

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Diocese of Joliet • Pastor

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Rev. Maciej Stelmach
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Naomi O'Malley

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Victoria Petecki

Digital Media

Paula Bucciferro

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STEWARDSHIP

Jan 31/Feb 1

Mass Collections: \$11,188
Utilities: \$30
Building Fund: \$397
Online Giving: \$2,848
Snow Removal: \$222



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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 a 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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