

Saint Mary Nativity

706 North Broadway Street
Joliet, IL 60435

Pastor: Father Jerome Kish

Weekend Associate: Father Gerald Nicholas, O.S.A.

School Principal: Mrs. Gina Pestrak

Music Director: Mr. Donald Legerski

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. Barbara Surges

Maintenance Supervisor: Mr. Mick Joutras

Maintenance Manager: Mr. Larry Tomasic

Business Manager: Mrs. Mary Nemanich

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Tricia DiChristofano

MASKS REQUIRED

Parish Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Fridays 8:30am – 3pm

Rectory Office (815) 726-4031

Rectory Fax (815) 727-4393

School Phone Number (815)-722-8518

www.stmarynativityholycross.com



st. mary nativity
CATHOLIC CHURCH



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. - Lk 3:21-22a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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St. Mary Nativity Weekend Masses

Saturdays: 4pm

Sundays: 7am, 11am, 12:30pm & 5:30pm

Weekday Masses 8:30am: Tuesday & Thursday

at St. Mary Nativity

Confessions

Saturdays 3:15pm-3:45pm

Holy Cross

Kościół Świętego Krzyża

830 Elizabeth Street Joliet, IL 60435

Mailing Address:

901 Elizabeth Street Joliet, IL 60435

Parochial Vicar: Father Tomasz Sielicki

Polish Organist: Mr. Mariusz Madej

Business Manager: Mrs. Mary Nemanich

Polish School Principal: Barbara Szuba



Holy Cross Weekend Masses

Saturdays: 4pm in English

7pm in Polish

Sundays: 9am in English

10:30am in Polish

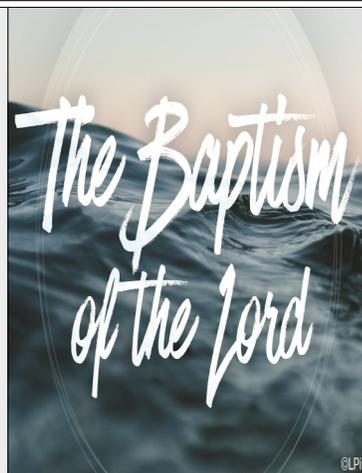
Weekday Masses 8:30am in English

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

7:00pm in Polish Monday—Friday

Confessions

Saturdays 3:15pm-3:45pm

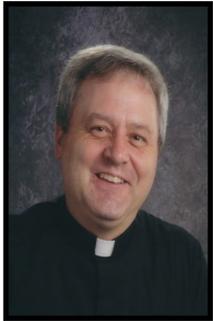


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Baptism of the Lord

Sunday, January 9, 2022

You've Got Snoo on Your Back



You've got snoo on your back. You might ask, "What's snoo?" And the answer is, "Not much. What's new with you." You'll have to say it out loud. There's a bad joke in there somewhere that comes from my childhood. But it does lead to an interesting question: "What's new?" For many of us, things might seem

old and tired. The news doesn't seem new as we face ongoing worries about health and finances.

Still, the calendar keeps rolling. We are about a week into our new year of 2022. We are entering into a new season in our church year, the first week of Ordinary Time. And it begins with something new that had never happened before throughout all human history. On the very day when Christ entered into the waters of the river Jordan to be baptized by John, something very new and wonderful happened. A voice came from heaven [saying], "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22)

Well, it's new to me. I've never heard voices come from heaven. And it's the voice of Our Father who art in heaven. It's a message that has been handed on to us since it is contained in our Sacred Scripture. That means the voice of the Father echoes on throughout time to you and me. Sometimes the old things of the Bible seem far away. We're glad that Jesus washed them all clean and made them new. But what about us? We can forget that Jesus came to make all things new (Rev 21:5); that means you and me, here and now, and all that surrounds us in our daily life.

So what would you like new in your life? Maybe a new car, a new home, a new job. Maybe you 'want a new drug' to cure the pandemic. Or maybe you want a 'new attitude' to help you handle life's problems. Maybe you want a new pastor, because he makes references to rock songs from the 80s that you don't know (Huey Lewis and Patti Labelle, for those who are interested).

But our desire for new things can't stay here on earth. Remember, when you were baptized into the life of Christ, God the Father started speaking to you. Now you are his beloved child, the voice comes from heaven, not simply from earth, and speaks to you from the depths of your baptized heart. This means that our

conversations have to go higher—all the way back to heaven. We can say, "Father, what new things do you want for me? How will the life of Jesus make them new?"

Even to talk in this way to God is something new in our life. It stirs up in your heart an expectation for the Messiah, the Christ, the Savior. This is no longer a distant hope. Your faith makes you able to call upon his help day by day, moment by moment. You will be able to die with him in the midst of life's daily crosses. Because your life is hidden now in Christ, you will find yourself repeating, "Father, not my will but yours be done." We have this beautiful gift of free will living within our hearts and we rarely engage it. Most times we simply act on our appetites and instincts. We're hungry, so we eat. We're angry, so we bark. Even our pets do this, but the children of God are made for more. When we do finally get around to acting as humans, it's usually to get my own way. We live saying, "MY will be done!" instead of "Father, thy will be done."

Maybe that could be something new for us this year, as a gift to Our Father. During this new civil year and new church season, we could all try in a new way to let the prayer of the 'Our Father' overflow into our daily life. Since God has spoken to us from heaven, we can speak to him from earth with the words, "Thy will be done." When conflicts confront us in our family, in our nation, in our church, after our bad reactions subside, we could say, "Thy will be done." I'm sure a new moment of peace and courage will come from heaven to restore our hearts. When we enter into our daily work by which we earn our daily bread we could say, "Thy will be done." New moments of generosity will flow from us, followed by new moments of gratitude. Truly, we will find Jesus making all things new, and you will find him waiting for you to help make it happen. What's new with you? New graces from heaven for your life on earth.

With my prayers, ***Fr. Jerome***

PS: This week St. Mary Nativity continues the restoration of its sanctuary starting on Monday, January 10. It will take at least one week and maybe two. We will be moving most weekday events to Holy Cross parish to accommodate the work. Please call the parish office if you need any particular details. Thank you for your patience during this time. May God bless our parishioners, especially those who contribute to the Capital Campaign. Your generosity makes this project happen.

St. Mary Nativity & Holy Cross News & Events



Beginning On Monday, January 10th work will be done on the Sanctuary floor at St. Mary Nativity. All daily Masses, Eucharist Adoration, Women's Day of Recollection Bible Studies and January 15th First Confessions will be held at Holy Cross Church. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office.

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available from Noon to 3:00 p.m. every Friday. All are welcome! Both regular adorers and substitutes are needed for these times. Please contact Laurie at (815) 370-4533 to sign up.



"By standing before the Eucharistic Christ, we become holy." Bl. Carlo Acutis Please note: The church continues to be open for personal prayer Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

St. Mary Nativity's Tuesday Prayer group is inviting you to join us as we rekindle the devotion of the Novena in honor of our Sorrowful Mother. Please join us every Tuesday.

1:00—The Holy Rosary

1:20—The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

1:30— The Sorrowful Mother Novena

(Although the emphasis of the Novena will be intended for conversations and the return of lapsed Catholics, there is period of time allowed during the Novena for private intentions as well). You are most welcome to join us for the entire prayer time or join us just for the Novena at 1:30pm.

Do you suffer from celiac disease? This can make it difficult to receive our Lord in Holy Communion, since the hosts are made from wheat flour. Often times, a low-gluten host can be used. It is kept in a separate container as all the hosts are consecrated at Mass. Then at Communion time the person receives Communion from this separate container. If you or a family member needs help in this way, please contact the parish office and let us know. Thank you. Fr. Jerome.



Attention!!! St Mary Nativity 2022 Offertory Envelopes are available to pick up in the Nativity Room. **Holy Cross** will be in the back of the Holy Cross church. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish offices. Thank you

COME JOIN Our Bible Study Group

as we continue to study the Bible book by book. We meet on **Tuesday mornings from 9:30AM until 11AM in the Nativity Room.** Our next meeting date will be: **Tuesday, January 11 in the Nativity Room**

A Day of Recollection



Join us for a Day of Recollection for Women on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. at **Holy Cross Church**. The recollection will include several short talks, Eucharistic Adoration, and the opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation. All of the women in the Parish are invited. Please bring a friend!

Holy Cross and the Faith Formation Team

We are seeking a member of Holy Cross to join our Family Faith Formation Team. How would you like to be a helping hand on our Catholic Faith? Our parishes are looking for volunteers to help at all levels. This core group will help organize and promote programs to help your fellow Parishioners know Christ better and grow closer to him. The range is from young people to adults, from catechesis to sacramental preparation. Don't worry about your background—we'll train together!! Please call or email Barbara Surges, our Director of Faith Formation, at (815) 726-4031 bsurges@stmarynativity.org. The next team meetings is Sunday January 30, 2022 at the St. Mary Nativity Rectory.

Hospitality Sunday

On Sunday, January 16 we invite you to gather with fellow Parishioners in the Nativity Room after the 7am, 11am, and 12:30pm masses for coffee, donuts and conversation. Religious items will be available. (Small donation would be appreciated). The DVD-CD Lending Library will be available, as will the book share Library. Free will donation appreciated. Sponsored by St. Mary Nativity Lay Apostolate.



TOTUS TUUS 2022

Summer of 2022

Students entering grades 1-6
June 19-24 Totus Tuus 9:00-2:30
Vacation Bible School: July 18-22
from 9:00 am-12:00 pm

We are excited to offer two camps for faith and fun this summer! Vacation Bible School had 27 students last year who *loved* their junior high crew leaders. Enthusiasm for these summer programs is high.

In an effort to keep the cost reasonable for families, we are asking for **donations** now. **Adult volunteers** are needed and **housing** for Totus Tuus college students. Can you help with these well attended events? Please contact Barbara Surges at (815) 726-4031.

St. Mary Nativity & Holy Cross Mass Intentions

St. Mary Nativity & Holy Cross Mass Intentions Cont.

Saturday January 8
4:00 PM Mass (SMN)
 + Nicholas Kirinchich by Family
 + John Valek by Helen Farcus
4:00 PM Mass (HC)
 + Jeanne Stofko by Dave & Judy Stofko
 + Robert & Genevieve Susner by Frank LaBuda & Daughter Caryn
7:00 PM Mass (HC)
 + Janina Gąsior (8. rocznica śmierci)
 O dar powrotu zdrowia dla Władysława Liptaka oraz dla Władysławy Jasioneckiej i Krystyny Nowobilskiej
 + Helena Szewczyk (1. rocznica)
 ++ Michał, Maria i Roman Kaszuba

Sunday, January 16 — Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00 AM Mass (SMN)
 + For the People of the Parish
9:00 AM Mass (HC)
 + John B. & Ann S Borski by Son Jack
10:30 AM Mass (HC)
 O Boże błogosławieństwo dla Daniela z okazji 21. urodzin
 + Władysław Skolarus (zam. parafianie)
 + Czesława Krzysiak
 + Zofia Walkosz (1. rocznica śmierci)
 + Janusz Szymczak (6 miesięcy po śmierci)
11:00 AM Mass (SMN)
 + For All Souls in Purgatory by Juan Montoga
 + Virginia Knick by Jim & Joyce Traina
12:30 PM Mass (SMN)
 + John Bannon by Bill & Mary Whitmer
5:00 PM Mass (SMN)
 + Raymond & Elizabeth Marso by Edward & Deborah Marso

Sunday, January 9 — The Baptism of the Lord
7:00 AM MASS (SMN)
 + Lawrence Wicevic by Geradette Russ
9:00 AM MASS (HC)
 + Anne V. Kolakowski by Bolek & Kolakowski Families
10:30 AM MASS (HC)
 O uwolnienie świata od pandemii
11:00 AM MASS (SMN)
 + Alice Devea by SMN Parish
 + Bernard Zolecki by the Keller Family
12:30 PM MASS (SMN)
 + Rosemarie Nickl SMN Parish
5:30 PM MASS (SMN)
 + For the people of the Parishes
6:00 PM Mass (HC) 7:00 PM Christmas Concert
 + Władysław Zapotoczny

THIS WEEKS EVENTS

(SMN) Saint Mary Nativity	Nativity Room (NR)
(HC) Holy Cross	(SMNS) Saint Mary Nativity School

Saturday, January 8
 12:00 PM First Confession (SMN)

Sunday, January 9
 10:00 a.m. Family Faith Formation (SMN) (NR)
 6:00 p.m. Mass at (HC)
 7:00 p.m. Christmas Concert (HC)

Monday, January 10
 6:30 pm Parish Council (NR)
 SMN Church closed due to work in Sanctuary

Tuesday, January 11
 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (NR)
 1:00 p.m. Rosary (HC)
 SMN Church closed due to work in Sanctuary

Wednesday, January 12
 All School Mass
 11:00 a.m. Women's Day of Reflection (HC)
 SMN Church closed due to work in Sanctuary

Thursday, January 13
 1:00 p.m. Rosary in Spanish (HC)
 SMN Church closed due to work in Sanctuary

Friday, January 14
 12:00 p.m. Eucharist Adoration (HC)
 SMN Church closed due to work in Sanctuary

Saturday, January 15
 12:00 p.m. First Confession (HC)

Sunday, January 16
 Hospitality following morning masses

Monday January 10 (HC)
8:30 AM Mass
 + For All Souls in Purgatory
7:00 PM Mass
 + Władysław Skolarus (zam. parafianie)

Tuesday January 11
8:30 AM Mass (HC)
 + Mary Helen Tezak by Larry & Laurie Pottorff
7:00 PM Mass (HC)
 + Helena Piorun (zam. Piotr i Dorota Matras)

Wednesday January 12
8:30 AM Mass (HC)
 + Sue Ann Tierney by Family
7:00 PM Mass (HC)
 O Boże błóg. dla dzieci i młodzieży przygo towujących się do I Komunii św. i bierzmowania

Thursday January 13
8:30 AM Mass (HC)
 + Rosemary Malarich by SMN Parish
 + Delores Bebej by Deanne Herman
7:00 PM Mass (HC)
 + O powrót do Boga i Kościoła oraz o wyzwolenie z nałogu dla Władysław

Friday January 14
8:30 AM Mass (HC)
 + Jim Policandriotes by Family
7:00 PM Mass (HC)
 + Józef Strojny (30. rocznica śmierci)

Saturday, January 15
4:00 PM Mass (SMN)
 + Martin Lepacek, Sr. "Anniv." by Pat Lapacek
 + John Valek by Bob & Marilyn Mason
4:00 PM Mass (HC)
 + Frances & Loretta Kramer by Frank LaBuda & Daughter Caryn
7:00 PM Mass (HC)
 O cud uzdrowienia dla Anny Głodek
 O przezwyciężenie pandemii i jej skutków
 + Helena Piorun (zam. parafianie)
 ++ Anna, Jan, Władysław i Aniela Koscielak

Flame of Faith Candles for the week of January 9
St. Mary Nativity
Christine Mauzer Christopher Kobe
Holy Cross Parish—For the Sick and Suffering

The Parish Families of **Holy Cross** and **St. Mary Nativity** join in prayerful remembrance of:
Robert M. Weber — December 23, 2021
 May his soul and all souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them.



As stewards of God’s gifts, our parishes have many opportunities to provide lasting legacies. Please prayerfully remember St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross in your estate plans. Your gift to the Church and its ministries would be very much appreciated and will be used in accordance to your wishes. For more information, please call the rectory office at 815-726-4031.



January 2, 2022—Offering
Solemnity of Mary

St. Mary Nativity	Holy Cross
\$ 6,584.00	\$ 1,432.00
\$ 4,503.00	\$ 2,401.00

Support the Works of the Lord through the 2022 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal



The 2022 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) is now underway, and we are asking everyone to pledge their support to this important effort for our diocese, and our parish. This year’s CMAA theme, Devoted to the Works of the Lord, illustrates how the many ministries our annual appeal supports allow us to join together to do God’s work throughout our diocese. From helping the poor and vulnerable to forming future priests and educating people of all ages in the faith, the ministries funded through your gifts are far more extensive than our parish could provide on its own.

St. Mary Nativity parish goal for the 2022 CMAA is 39,900.00 and Holy Cross parish goal is \$11,000.00, 70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us. This is a great opportunity for our parish!

Please review the materials and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year’s annual appeal. If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office to request one.

Share ^{OF} Faith

Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America

January 23 we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.



Bless the
LORD
Oh my soul

The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered:
 This is my beloved Son, listen to him. *(Mark 9:7)*

We are thankful to our families and friends at Saint Mary Nativity and Holy Cross
 who faithfully support with the upkeep of our campuses.

We are blessed too for those who volunteer in the life and ministry of our parishes.

November and December Monthly Maintenance Expenses

Holy Cross

Bathroom Repairs—School
 Touchless Holy Water Dispensers—Church
 Snowblower Repair

Saint Mary Nativity

Fire Alarm Inspection—Entire Campus
 Refrigerator and Freezer Repair—School
 Water Treatment Chemicals for Boilers—Church Thermostat Wiring—School Gym
 Snowblower Repair



Holy Cross

Maintenance Fund Collection \$4,894
 (Period November 20, 2021 to December 31, 2021)

Saint Mary Nativity

Maintenance Fund Collection \$9,681
 (Period November 20, 2021 to December 31, 2021)

Maintenance Fund

Balance as of 12-31-2021

St. Mary Nativity
 \$75,262

Holy Cross
 \$20,746

Capital Campaign

Balance as of 12-31-2021

St. Mary Nativity
 \$143,118

Holy Cross
 \$12,515

School Educational Appeal

(Period November 20, 2021 to December 31, 2021)

\$1,412

\$205

Thank you to our parishioners who continue to support our parishes during this uncertain time.

**Thank
 You**

St. Mary Nativity & Holy Cross News & Events



On this Sunday of the Baptism of the Lord, which marks the closing of the Christmas holiday period, I would like to sincerely thank everyone who sent me their greetings with words of prayerful and material support. I apologize that I am not writing each one of you an individual a note of thanks because I am pressed for time, but I assure you of my thankful prayers. In the intention of all parishioners and individuals, who so concretely support my ministry, I will celebrate a Mass (in Polish) on Monday, January 17 at 7:00 pm at the Holy Cross church. God Bless you, *Father Tomasz*

Full-time Building Grounds and Custodial Maintenance Manager Cathedral of St. Raymond, Joliet

The Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet is seeking to hire a full-time Building Grounds and Custodial Maintenance Manager. This position is responsible for the maintenance of all parish buildings and grounds. Must be able perform/oversee tasks related to HVAC, electrical, plumbing, painting, security and maintain the safety of all buildings and grounds. General knowledge related to HVAC, Electrical and plumbing trades is preferred. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. and climb ladders. Position requires a team player who pays attention to detail and can work with limited supervision. Please submit resume and references to ppluth@straymond.net.

Sign up for Flocknote today to receive emails or texts of our bulletins, parish information and upcoming events! stmaryativity.flocknote.com



#GIVING
TUESDAY
THANK YOU

Thank you to those who made a donation for Giving Tuesday. Every donation helps! We are thankful for your generosity! St. Mary Nativity Parish and School received \$720 is donations!

Bookings for 2022

Mass
Intentions

According to Diocesan Policy, mass intentions may not be scheduled earlier than one year ahead. Mass Intentions for St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross parishes are now available for the month of January 2023. Two "Collective Mass Intentions" are offered for Saturday evening at 4:00pm and Sunday morning at 11:00 am at both churches. Please call the church office to schedule.



End of Year Tax Announcement Donation letters for 2022 contributions to Saint Mary Nativity and Holy Cross Parishes will be mailed upon request toward the end of January. Please call the rectory at 815-726-4031 after January 15th to request your statement for taxes.

FORMED

It gives me great joy to share with you that our parish now has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform filled with over **4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children.** FORMED has content from over 60 apostolates, including Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, and the Knights of Columbus, with material that is professionally produced, engaging, and solid in its catechism. Best of all, this material is FREE to you. Much of FORMED's content is available in both English and Spanish. **Have you despaired of finding good movies that your family can enjoy together on a Friday night?** Start with *Mother Teresa, the story of a saint who brought love to the poorest of the poor.* You can enjoy FORMED on your computer – no extra equipment needed. OR, on your television with an inexpensive Roku device or Apple TV. You can even listen on your phone as you commute to work or do chores. My hope and prayer is that the content on FORMED will enrich, deepen, and inspire your faith. May the good Lord bless you and all of your loved ones! To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps: Go to <https://signup.formed.org/> Enter our parish's zip code: 60435 then Enter your name and your email address.

St. Mary Nativity News



Thank you to all who generously contributed to the Christmas flower collection. A list of donors can be viewed at the Nativity scenes at both parishes. The Christmas flowers beautify our sanctuaries during the Christmas season. A huge thank you to those who volunteered their time to decorate the Church this Christmas season.



CASH CALENDAR RAFFLE

Winners will be posted on the school's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StMaryNativitySchool> and on the on the school's website at www.stmarynativity.org

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Seller</u>
Anna Vrinceanu	January 1st New Year's Day	\$500	School Family
Corinne Rodighiero	January 2nd Sunday	\$150	Annette Jelinek
Celina Vargas	January 3rd Monday	\$20	School Family
Stewart Miller	January 4th Tuesday	\$20	School Family
Mayra Garcia	January 5th Wednesday	\$20	School Family
Yasha Thompson	January 6th Epiphany	\$50	School Family

Congratulations!

Thank You

Congratulations to the following families who won the tuition credit incentive for the Cash Calendar Raffle.

James Rositch Family Omar Torreblanca Family Oliver Perez Family Benedict Pawlowski Family

Proceeds for the school will be posted in a future bulletin.

St. Mary Nativity & Holy Cross News & Events

SUPPORT DAY

A DAY OF SUPPORT AND REFLECTION.

FREE ZOOM ONLINE EVENT

DATE: January 22, 2022

Working on annulment papers alone without support can be emotionally overwhelming and frustrating. Papers may be placed in a desk drawer and/or not completed. In an effort to help petitioners complete their part of the process, the Office for Family Ministry, in collaboration with the Joliet Diocesan Tribunal, is once again offering an **OPTIONAL Day of Support for Annulment Petitioners** on Saturday, January 22, 2022 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm **ONLINE via Zoom.**

This free workshop is designed for divorced persons who have already started the annulment process by petitioning the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal, have submitted their Matrimonial Fact Sheet and have a current case in process but have not yet completed the Marriage Summary Long/Questionnaire. Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome to attend, whether remarried or not.

The day will include time for prayer and reflection, a witness talk, and time for questions related to the long questionnaire. To register, please call The Office of Family Ministry at 815-838-5334 or online at <https://bit.ly/2Bv0drA>.

Attendance at this day of support is very helpful but not mandatory.

Registrations must be received no later than January 17, 2022

A Day of Support and Reflection for Annulment Petitioners
Saturday, January 22, 2022

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
PARISH _____
EMAIL ADDRESS (for confirmation) _____

Please register online at <https://bit.ly/2Bv0drA> email your information to: familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org call 815-838-5334 or send form to: The Office of Family Ministry, 16555 Weber Rd, Crest Hill, IL 60403

SACRAMENTAL AND MINISTRY INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT
(815) 726-4031

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- ◆ **Saturdays** in English from 3:15 p.m. until 3:45 p.m. at both parishes.
- ◆ **Sundays** in Polish from 10:00 a.m. until 10:20 a.m. at Holy Cross.
- ◆ Confessions also available by appointment.

Sacrament of Anointing

- ◆ Please call the Parish Office to notify us if someone needs an anointing or is critically ill or in the hospital.

Baptism

- ◆ Parents should be active parishioners and are required to take a baptismal preparation class before the Baptism.

Marriage

- ◆ The couple is asked at least six months in advance to begin preparation discussions. This should be done before making other wedding plans.

Funerals

- ◆ Upon the death of a loved one, before publication in the newspaper, please schedule the funeral mass.

Catechumenates

- ◆ Adults interested in joining the Catholic church should contact the Parish Office for information concerning the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

JOIN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

St. Mary and Holy Cross Parishes presently serves hundreds of families within Joliet and the surrounding areas. Many Catholics attend either of these parishes for Mass and consider it their "spiritual home." However, they are not formally registered in either parish. Why not take the opportunity to become "one of the family?" For those who are new to either Roman Catholic parish, we hope that you find the grace and love of Jesus Christ in the teachings and ways of the Catholic faith. As you become more acquainted with either parish, you may find an area in which to share. The success of our parish and bringing the faith to others depends on the work, sacrifice, prayers, and cooperation of all of us. To register, simply fill out the form below and return it to the parish office through the mail, drop it off, or return it through the Sunday offering. You may also register online by going to the parish website. Our parish secretary will contact you to complete your registration. Welcome! We're happy you're here!

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

PhoneNumber: _____

Email: _____

PÓJDŹMY WSZYSCY DO STAJENKI



Po raz kolejny również i w tym roku mamy zwyczaj i możliwość podejścia do stajenki Betlejemskiej w naszym Kościele, aby oddać pokłon Jezusowi i przynieść nasze serca w darze, z wdzięcznością za Jego bezgraniczną miłość i ofiarę. Ta piękna tradycja sięga czasów Św. Franciszka z Asyżu, który jako pierwszy zorganizował żywą szopkę w 1223 roku w Greccio. Była ona naturalnej wielkości i składała się z żywych zwierząt i ludzi. Franciszek miał na celu zainteresować ludzi wiarą i przybliżyć im tajemnicę zbawienia.

Do Polski ta tradycja dotarła za sprawą zakonników bernardynów już pod koniec XIII wieku.

Ten sposób ewangelizacji Św. Franciszka stał się tak znany i ceniony, że z upływem lat szopki stawały się świąteczną dekoracją nie tylko w klasztorach i kościołach, ale również w domach. Obecnie każda rodzina w okresie świąt Bożego Narodzenia stawia pod choinkę lub w innym widocznym miejscu szopkę. Znajdziemy ją również w naszym kościele. Do budowy naszej pięknej szopki przyczynili się parafianie wraz z dziećmi. Jest to wspaniały sposób na integrację

wierzących, którzy mają okazję spędzić więcej czasu razem, przekazując jednocześnie tradycję i ewangelizując nasze nowe pokolenie na wzór Św. Franciszka. Równie ważnym elementem obchodzenia świąt Bożego Narodzenia jest kolędowanie przy zółbku naszego Zbawiciela. Do tegoż kolędowania zachęca nas parafialny chórek, który z radością i oddanym sercem śpiewał Jezusowi przy zółbku w naszym kościele.



Oprac. Dorota Matras

Poniżej możemy podziwiać ozdobne szopki z domów naszych rodzin parafialnych



Communion to the Homebound

The Holy Eucharist is the gift of Jesus himself at Mass. If you are confined to home and unable to receive him, we have volunteers who will bring him to you. Please contact the parish office if you would like to receive Holy Communion at home. We could also use new volunteers to help in this outreach, so also contact the parish office if you are able to help. Our parish office can be reached at 815-726-4031.

Please pray for our sick

Mary Bellos	Paul Morris
Vietta Bews	Phil May
Sheri Bokholdt	Ann
Christopher Borsom	Robert Nasenbeny
William Brenc	Raymond John Nickel
Charlotte Brown	Andy Orosco
Miguel Cruz	Nick Pervan
John Drnek	Mildred Pruss
Bob Eberhard	Ronald Pruss
Dosseh Houeai Elise	Amy Rabb
Jim Flannery	Father Pete Rossa
Charlette Frieih	Steve Senisais
Anthony Gregory	Nancy Serdar
Anthony Harames	Ashley Smith
Haramas	Adam Speirs
Janet Horvath	Scott Speirs
Harriet Kazlauskas	Mary Therese Stefanech
James Kozar	Joseph Trubich
Janet	Diann Cerpen-Verlare
Jacqueline H	Susan Ward
Marilyn Lajcin	Bill
Jerry Lakota	
Darlene Likar	
Gabby Matlak	Need prayers or know
Alex McKeel	someone who does call
John	Pat Weiskop
Charlene Molnar	(815)-723-7141

If it is too difficult for you to walk to the front of the church to receive Communion, please know that at each Mass an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion comes to the back of the church to distribute Communion. If you would like to have the Extraordinary Minister give you communion in the back of church, please let an usher know before Mass begins. At Communion time, when you see the Extraordinary Minister come to the back, please raise your hand so that they can see you and give you Holy Communion.



Please pray for our troops

Pfc. Paul Roder, USM
Jacob Gregurich, USMC
Chris McCarty, USMC
LT Alex Aguilera, USMC
2ND LT Kevin A'Hearn
Capt. Marcos Aguilera, USMC 1st Sgt.
Christina Romero USMC,
Cpl. Anthony Gutierrez, USMC
Pfc. Michael McCallister, USA
Joe Miller, USMC Sgt.
Tommy Hanks, USMC
Sgt. Christina Hanks, SMC
Alexander Gregurich Pfc. Lawrence Washington
Sgt. FC Jay R. Martin, USA

E5 Kathleen Sullivan, USN
SRA Michael Wilson Arellano
CPL. Christopher Wesoly,
Brent Moot
Justyn Moot
Jeremy M. Close, USMC
David Walters, USA
Johnathon Schroll, USMC Special Forces
Petty Officer 1st Class Tyler Hintzsche, USN
PV2 Christian Cortez

