

St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross Parishes

706 North Broadway Street and 830 Elizabeth Street - Joliet, Illinois 60435

*Fourth Sunday of*  
**ADVENT**



Sunday, December 24, 2023

# Pastor's Corner



## *Away in a Manger*

I remember going out one Christmas Eve in the dark to do the chores. On the farm, the animals had to be fed just like you and me. The cows were glad to see you when you entered the barn, eager to munch on the bale of hay you were going to bust open. There was frost on the whiskers around their nostrils, and you could see their hot breath in the cold night air. On this particular Christmas night, it struck as I dumped the hay into the trough—this was a manger.

That's what the manger is: the feeding trough, the place where the cattle eat. In a place like this—away in a manger—Mary gave birth to her firstborn Son, and laid him in that manger because there was no room for them in the inn. (Luke 2:7) The barn I was in wasn't a nativity scene of plastic figures. It wasn't a living nativity scene of real people. This was a part of my life. Amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night, where the ox knows its owner, and the ass its master's manger (Isaiah 1:3), I began to know and to understand a little bit more. Ancient prophecies were foretold. In time they were fulfilled. Yet even there in a cold, dark barn, even there a farmer could discover Emmanuel, God-with-us, God with me.

Those ancient prophecies include you, too. Their fulfillment in time at the birth of Jesus includes you. This year's celebration of the Birth of the Lord includes you. It includes you and me and all the billions of people on the planet on this very day. On this very Christmas day 2023, new lives will be born into the world. Each one of them reminds us of God the Son who chose to enter into our world in the very same way. On this very Christmas day, some of us will leave the world. Each one of them reminds us how God the Savior left this world by his death. Yet as human as we are, each Christmas also reminds us of the difference between our lives and the life of Christ. For the tiny baby boy born of the Ever-Virgin Mary is also the One who created us, with his Father and the Holy Spirit. He will grow to be the Savior of the world, of all people of all time, who will give his life on the Cross so that sins may be forgiven. And it is because Christ is both like us and different from us, he has the ability to bring his saving power from heaven into the life of each one of us here below.

As you celebrate this Christmas, look back. Can you call to mind any memories when God brought you the gift of faith? Or look at this very day. Maybe the gift of faith is still waiting to be unwrapped, to come out of the darkness into the light. It's the same path Jesus took, waiting nine months in darkness until he saw the light of day. Since faith is a gift, it should move us to be grateful. So please, fill your Christmas day with prayers of thanks. Each nativity scene you see can move you to a new prayer of thanks. Each living person you see can also move you to a new prayer of thanks. Your conversations with others can also include in your heart your conversation with God. Thank God the Father for sending to you his Son the Savior—there is no greater gift. Thank God the Holy Spirit for bring this great gift to you, to the world years ago and to your life here and now. Thank God the Son for not only coming into this world, but for offering his life to you out of love, and not just on the Cross, but at every Mass.

Every Catholic Mass is Christ's Mass—it is Christmas. In the manger and on the altar, we find the Body of Christ. Though born over two thousand years ago, he wanted to make himself present to you, here and now. So he instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist, because of his great love for you. The Catholic Mass is celebrated all through the world, for all kinds of people. Rich and poor, old and young, workers and scholars, shepherds and wisemen, fools and sinners—Christ has come for each one of us and all of us together. Each Christmas and at every Mass, Christ is waiting to be consumed by our grateful love. May our reverent and loving celebration of these sacred mysteries be our Christmas gift to him.

Along with Fr. Tomasz and all who serve you at our parishes, I wish you a blessed and joyful Christmas and a grace-filled New Year,

Fr. Jerome

# St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross

## PRAISE GOD FOR THE GIFT OF JESUS!

We rejoice in His birth! His coming is a message of hope, peace, joy, and love with the promise of our salvation.

Let the joy of Christmas fill our hearts and souls.  
With gratitude for all you have done to grace our parishes.  
We hold you in our hearts and in our prayers.

**We wish you a Blessed Christmas!**

*Father Jerome, Father Tomasz,  
and the Parish Staff*



You're invited to  
**Join Us**

**St. Mary Nativity (SMN)  
and Holy Cross (HC)**

**Saturday - December 23**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent:**

SMN - 4pm  
HC - 4pm English  
5:30pm Polish

**Sunday - December 24**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent:**

SMN - 7am and 11am  
HC - 9am English  
10:30am Polish

**Christmas Vigil:**

**SMN - 3pm, 11pm  
HC - 3pm**

**Monday**

**December 25**

**Christmas Day:**

**SMN - 7am, 11am  
and 12:30pm**

**HC - 12am Polish**

**Pasterka Midnight Mass  
9am English  
10:30am Polish**

**December 30 and 31:**

**Holy Family:**

Regular Sunday Schedule

**January 1:**

**Mary, Mother of God:**

not obligatory

Regular Sunday Schedule

**January 6 and 7: Epiphany:**

Regular Sunday schedule

**Saturday - January 6**

**Family Opłatek Ball**

**Crystal Grand Banquets**

**Lemont**

**Monday, January 8:**

**Baptism of the Lord**

**Christmas season ends.**

# St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross



## Stewardship

Scan now  
to donate!

**Scan here** With the simple click of a button from your computer or smart device, you can securely set-up one-time or recurring donations.

You can also donate by visiting our website at <https://stmarynativityholycross.com>

Due to early bulletin submission, the Parish weekly collection for December 17th, 2023 will be posted later.



Thank you for attending.  
Thank you for serving.  
Thank you for giving.  
Thank you for growing with us.



**ATTENTION!!!**  
Offertory Envelopes  
for the Entire Year  
(2024) are available  
for pick up.

St. Mary Nativity in the Nativity Room  
Holy Cross in the back of the church  
Your boxed set will include all Sundays,  
Holy Days, and second collections.

## The Week Ahead

**Monday, December 18**

10:30am Funeral - SMN Church (Sliwinski)

7:00pm Baptism Meeting - SMN Nativity Room

**Tuesday, December 19**

9:30am Bible Study - SMN Nativity Rm

1:00pm Rosary - SMN Church

1:00pm SMN Staff Meeting - SMN Nativity Room

5:00pm Faith Formation - Reconciliation Service - SMN Church

**Wednesday, December 20**

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal - SMN Church

**Thursday, December 21**

12:00pm Priest Day of Recollection HC

1:00pm Rosary in Spanish - SMN Church

**Friday, December 22**

12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration—SMN Church

1:30pm Early Dismissal - SMN School

**Saturday, December 23**

Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Vigil)**

(Refer to Postcard for Masses)

**Monday, December 25 Christmas Day**

(Refer to Postcard for Masses)



The Parish Office  
will be closed at  
3:00pm on Friday,  
December 22nd  
and reopen on  
Wednesday,  
December 27th  
at 8:30am

*Merry  
Christmas*

## Hospitality Sunday



Sunday January 14th in the Nativity Room after the morning Masses.

**All Are Welcome**  
*Bring the Family!*

## Women's Recollection

Please Join us for a Day of Recollection for Women on Friday, January 12th from 10:00 am until 12:00pm at St. Mary Nativity.

The recollection, led by Fr. Jerome Kish, will include several short talks, Eucharistic Adoration, and the opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation. All of the women in the Parish are invited. Bring a friend!

# Mass Intentions



## St. Mary Nativity Church

Saturday 4:00 pm  
Sunday 7:00 am, 11:00 am,  
12:30 pm and 5:30 pm  
Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 8:30 am

## Holy Cross Church

Saturday 4:00 pm English and 5:30 pm Polish  
Sunday 9:00 am English and 10:30 am Polish  
Monday and Friday 8:30 am English  
Tuesday 8:30 am Polish  
Monday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 7:00 pm Polish

### Saturday - December 23

#### **4:00 pm Mass (HC)**

† Michael Kipilla by Mom and Dad

#### **4:00 pm Mass (SMN)**

† Bernard Zolecki by Wife, Helen

Raymond & Sophie Levek & Irene by Family

#### **5:30 pm Mass (HC)**

† Maciej Jaśkiewicz (zmarł w Polsce, 37 lat)

### Sunday - December 24

#### **7:00 am Mass (SMN)**

† Delores Bebej by Andrea & Andy McIntosh

#### **9:00 am Mass (HC)**

For the People of the Parishes

#### **10:30 am Mass (HC)**

O zdrowie i Boże błogosławieństwo i opiekę MB dla Helenki z okazji 1. urodzin

† Ewa Sędacka (imieniny)

† Mariusz Mucha (w rocznicę urodzin)

† Maria Klikuszowian (4. rocznica śmierci)

#### **11:00 am Mass (SMN)**

Joseph & Cecelia Wolf by Marianne Wolf

Edward & Evelyn Grskovic by Family

### **Christmas Vigil**

#### **3:00 pm Mass (SMN)**

Raymond & Elizabeth Marso by Edward & Deborah Marso

#### **3:00 pm Mass (HC)**

† Kathy Giaudrone by Phil & Maryann Alberico

#### **11:00 pm Mass (SMN)**

For the People of the Parishes

### Monday - December 25 Christmas Day

#### **12:00am Polish Midnigh Mass (HC)**

† Maria, Stanisław i syn Józef Janik oraz + Władysław Skolarus

† Józef i Helena Waliczek

† Natalia, Feliks Bartnik, Stanisław Palar i Maria Leśniak

† Jerzy Gancarczyk

#### **7:00 am Mass (SMN)**

Bob Tierney by Bob Heinzel

#### **9:00 am Mass (HC)**

John Klen by Dan Lajcin Family

#### **10:30 am Mass (HC)**

† Stanisław Mrowca

#### **11:00 am Mass (SMN)**

Albert W. & Catherine P. Hochevar by Al Hochevar Family

#### **12:30 pm Mass (SMN)**

For the People of the Parishes

### Tuesday - December 26

#### **8:30 am Mass (SMN)**

† Charlotte Brown by Marianne and Jonas

#### **7:00 pm Mass (HC)**

† Helena Piorun

### Wednesday - December 27

#### **8:30 am Mass (SMN)**

† Patricia Gudac by Gudac Family

#### **7:00 pm Mass (HC)**

O wszelkie potrzebne łaski i o ochronę i opiekę Matki Bożej dla Krystyny

### Thursday - December 28

#### **8:30 am Mass (SMN)**

† Robert Svetlecic by Joe Newton

#### **7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish**

O Bożą Opatrzność i dary z nieba dla Shannon Nestorowicz i jej rodziny  
(God's providence and gifts from heaven for Shannon Nestorowicz and her family)

### Friday - December 29

#### **8:30am School Mass (HC)**

† Frances Weeditz by Family

#### **7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish**

† Vicky Ann i Andrzej Wróbel

### Saturday - December 30

#### **4:00 pm Mass (HC)**

For the People of the Parishes

#### **4:00 pm Mass (SMN)**

For the People of the Parishes

#### **5:30 pm Mass (HC)**

† Witold Seroka

† ks. Tadeusz Perlik SChr

### Sunday - December 31

#### **7:00 am Mass (SMN)**

† Brian Stewack by Rob Stewack

#### **9:00 am Mass (HC)**

† For a Special Friend by Dan Lajcin Family

#### **10:30 am Mass (HC)**

Dziękkownia za wszystkie łaski otrzymane w Starym Roku 2023

† Maria Król

† Jan Stopka

#### **11:00 am Mass (SMN)**

Joseph & Cecilia Wolf by Marianne Wolf

Matthew Sicinski by Mom & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Ozella by Family

#### **12:30 pm Mass (SMN))**

For the People of the Parishes

#### **5:30 pm Mass (SMN)**

For the People of the Parishes



*Flame of Faith*  
James Bloch



*Mass Intentions are available for  
December 2024 and January 2025.*

**Donations for Christmas Flowers were made by the following people to beautify  
St. Mary Nativity Church in celebration of Jesus' birth this Christmas Season.**

**In Memory of.....**

William A. O'Hara  
Patricia E. O'Hara  
Edward Smrekar  
Elizabeth Smrekar  
Julius Roark  
Mom & Dad Aguilera  
Martin Lepacek Sr.  
Margaret Lepacek  
Joanne Lepacek  
Martin Lepacek Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Calcaterra  
Mr. & Mrs. H. McMurray  
Mr. & Mrs. A. Jasinski  
Don Jasinski  
Mr. & Mrs. B. Gray  
Harry McMurray  
Don & Dorothy Adelmann  
George & Florence Adelmann  
Joe & Ann Cunico  
Tim & Tom Adelmann  
Puco Lenci  
Barbara Lenci  
Jerry Lenci  
Pat Siska  
Denny Welch  
John Furlong Family  
John Spreitzer Family  
John Horvat Family  
Mathew T. Mammoser  
John & Catherine Tomac  
John & Mary Picha Sr.  
John & Mary Picha Jr.  
Bob Baldigo  
Walter Mueller Sr.  
Catherine Mueller  
William & Anna Budzinski  
Gaspar & Mary Dorich  
Joseph & Sophia Budzinski  
Kelly Ann Ristau  
Mrs. Julia R. Vallejo  
Mr. Lalo Torres  
Mrs. Rafaela P. Gomez  
Mrs. Victoria B. Torres  
Mrs. Conception Rodriguez  
Gene & Sandy Slaboszewski  
John & Betty Slaboszewski  
Dede Cacia Neal  
Sister Eugene Baiardo  
Irene Chinderle  
Joseph & Dorothy Lakotich  
Albin & Margaret Zlogar  
Stanley Angus Jr.  
Ryan Angus  
Margaret Hinz  
Robert Hinz, Sr.  
Mueller Family  
Phillip Torres  
Ronald Pawlowski  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Szczepaniak  
Mr. & Mrs. B. Pawlowski  
Elizabeth Sellers  
Edward Surma

Leo Keigher Family  
Frank Ozella Family  
Mary Traina  
Alex Galounis Family  
Raymond Klein Family  
Martin Ledezma Jr.  
Dick Shaw  
John S. Russ  
John & Tillie Hankovcak  
Perkins, Papach & Weiskop Families  
Garland, Lakota and Kukla Families  
Haggerty, Omotta & Paul Families  
Mr. & Mrs. William Krok  
William F. Krok  
Juliana M. Krok  
William J. Jones  
James D. Kozar  
Anton Kozar  
Hilda Britz  
Mary Kozar  
Charles Oberholtzer  
Martha Estes  
Kermit Estes  
Vicente Mejia  
Mary Andrea Mejia  
Andrew Tomac Sr.  
Frances Tomac  
Joseph J. Grzincic, Sr.  
Mary A. Grzincic  
Doris A. MacIntyre  
Joseph J. Grzincic, Jr.  
Ted & Lillian Juricic  
Jim & Linda Randich  
Bob Rymsza  
Stephanie Schronski  
Kris Toborg  
Chris Moon  
Richie Pervan  
Nick Pervan  
Karl Sicinski  
Matthew Sicinski  
Raymond Sicinski  
Joseph & Rose Schranz  
Frances Yakich  
Veronica Demsky  
Stewart Demsky  
Yakich Family Brothers  
Julia Ludwig  
Troppe/Shepich Families  
Maria Padilla  
Antoinette Collofello  
Janice Smeets  
Josephine Hlavacik  
Kay Zlogar  
Albin B. Zlogar  
Matthias, Annette & Joyce Senffner  
Robert & Shirley Lambert  
August Juricic Family  
Charles Stiglich Family  
Kathy Yack

Lawnzak, Weeditz & Rachor Families  
Earl Poole  
Frank G. Fuchs  
Carmen F. Fuchs  
Louise Rodawold  
William Karpen  
Britz, Kozar & Krause Families  
Ben & Marie Tekel  
Kathy Giaudrone  
Norm & Marilyn Nemanich  
Joseph & Cecilia Wolf  
Charles & Anna Gecan  
Spreitzer/Brereton Families  
Tillie Buldak  
Mary Ferry Digilio  
Dr. Joan Ferry  
Walter, Mary & MaryAnn Miller  
Jack & Marilyn Oldani  
David Hann  
Michael & Mary Wesolowski  
Albert & Anna Zolecki  
Marge Cassani  
Chuck Cassani  
Joe Cassani  
Ethel Cassani  
Willard J. Brown  
Josephine R. Brown  
Susan A. Brown  
Christine Mauzer  
Fran & Joe DePodesta  
Helen Vrakas  
Zanella & Perisich Families  
Dick Boban  
Margaret & Nick Kirincich  
Andy Salata  
Alex Kirincich  
Jim Kirincich  
Norman & Gloria Borman  
Helen Mikuska  
Mary Jachinowki  
Edward & Josephine Costello  
Peter & Mary Tomasic  
Peter J. Tomasic  
Tom W. Tomasic  
Peter & Katrina Tomasic  
Joseph & Lucille Kararo  
William & Lena Petan  
Douglas Petan  
Frances Hakey  
Daniel & Joseph Harvey  
Elizabeth Harvey Mormon  
Frank & Evelyn Biegun  
Papa Roberto  
Robert & Geraldine Boley  
Ray Page  
Ray Larke  
Robert Mueller  
Walter & Catherine Mueller  
Joseph & Dorothy Pasdertz  
Edward & Ann Buldak

**In Gift of.....**

Carol Maloney  
Barbara & Baron Westphal  
Mr. & Mrs. William Malinowski  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bixenmann  
Julie Bednarzyk  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Pluth  
Mrs. Thomas Bridick  
Suzanne Zaleski  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Brown  
Ms. Mary Frances Bajt  
Mrs. Jackie Edmonson  
Mr. David Cherven  
Mrs. Georgine Platko  
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Biasetti Jr.  
Mr. John Gudac  
Roger & Elvia Rickmon  
Ms. Marguerite Nelson  
Marsha Kaye  
Mr. & Mrs. John Mihelich  
Mr. James Partak  
Mr. & Mrs. John Elder  
Mr. & Mrs. Glynn Turner  
Mr. & Mrs. John Srncik  
Mr. Richard Luzbetak  
Mrs. Phyllis Thompson  
Gerald Drobick  
Heidi O'Laughlin  
Mrs. Beverly Kopman  
Mr. & Mrs. William Petan  
Anonymous



*Silent  
Night*

**Donations for Christmas Flowers were made by the following people to beautify  
Holy Cross Church in celebration of Jesus' birth this Christmas Season.**

**In Memory of....**

Pacelli & Tracy Families  
Ruettiger Family  
Mahalick & Leck Families  
Tracy Paramo  
Rose Norberg  
Jacob E. Kozoli  
Sr. Rita Pawlik, OSF  
Harold Kraske  
Anna & John B. Gorski  
Bob Jaskowiak & Family  
Andrew & Catherine Jaskowiak & Family  
Roman Kurator Family  
Louis Mahalik Family  
Ray & Sophie Levek  
Irene Sparazynski  
Wladyslawa Glowacz  
Stanislaw Glowacz  
Martin Zavadsky  
Marian Glowacz  
Rita & Jozef Zavadsky  
Aniela Gawenda  
Casimir Gawenda  
Janet Kapala  
Alphonse & Cecilia Kapala  
Leonard & Dolly Kapala  
Bob Fordonski  
Gene Koren  
Walt Dziurawiec

Jan Czarniak

Wladyslaw Jandura  
Janina Gawlik  
Helena Fedorowicz  
Mieczyslaw Fedorowicz  
Janik Family  
Skolarus Family  
Kobart & Garbolski Families  
Bottino Family  
Cemeno Family  
Fisher Family  
Helena & Jozef Piorun  
Hischier Families  
Zobel Families  
Joseph & Mary Ludrovec  
Lawrence & Angela Lewandowski  
Ludwig & Mary Ludrovec  
Bryce McElroy  
Britz Family  
Kozar Family  
Mary "Sis" Evans  
Mabel Huckaba  
Walt Dziurawiec  
Vicky Ann Wrobel  
Andrzej Wrobel  
Josef Klikuszowian  
Betty Peterson  
Mary & Rudolph Sprajcar

**In Honor of....**

Members of Holy Cross and St. Mary Nativity  
Friends of Daniel Hischier Family  
  
**In Gift of....**  
Mr. & Mrs. Jozef Szymon and Marzena Pasek  
Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Sedacki  
Mr. Thomas Hylka  
Peggy Spolnik  
Mr. & Mrs. Henryk Szlembarski  
Mr. & Mrs. Marcin Tulak  
Mr. & Mrs. Franciszek Dlugosz  
Mr. & Mrs. Slawomir Bienik  
Mr. & Mrs. Janusz Poznanski  
Maria Kowallzy  
Mr. & Mrs. Tomasz Wroblewscy  
Mr. & Mrs. Jozef Jasielec  
Lisa Mahalik  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Sojka  
Mr. & Mrs. Witold Jarosz  
Mr. & Mrs. Roman Stafinski  
James Pirc  
Mrs. Harriet Rotnicki  
Mr. & Mrs. Marian Haber  
Mrs. Robert Pluth  
Mr. & Mrs. Antoni Jurkiewicz  
Donna Wysocki  
Theresa & Celex Dunajewski



# St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross

## Get Your Tickets!

Call the parish office at 815-726-4031.  
Calendar Raffle Tickets will make a great Christmas gift  
to friends or stocking stuffers for the family!  
All proceeds support St. Mary Nativity Catholic School!

### St. Mary Nativity Catholic School **151 DAYS OF WINNING** CALENDAR RAFFLE ~ January to May 2024

**\$11,500**  
in Total Payouts

All Tickets Can Win More Than Once

Every Weekday	\$20
Every Saturday	\$40
Every Sunday	\$150
1st Day of the Month	\$200
Last Day of the Month	\$200

#### Special Days

4 Winners \$240 ea.  
Feb. 29th - Leap Year

Jan. 1st	New Year's Day	\$500	Mar. 28th	Holy Thursday	\$150
Jan. 6th	Epiphany	\$50	Mar. 30th	Holy Saturday	\$200
Jan. 15th	MLK Jr. Day	\$50	Mar. 31st	Easter Sunday	\$500
Feb. 2nd	Groundhog Day	\$50	Apr. 1st	April Fool's Day	\$500
Feb. 14th	Ash Wednesday	\$50	Apr. 2nd	Spring Break	\$30
Feb. 14th	Valentine's Day	\$500	Apr. 3rd	Spring Break	\$30
Feb. 19th	President's Day	\$50	May 5th	Cinco de Mayo	\$200
Mar. 14th	Father Jerome's Birthday	\$250	May 12th	Mother's Day	\$250
Mar. 19th	St. Joseph Day	\$50	May 24th	Last Day of School	\$40
Mar. 24th	Palm Sunday	\$300	May 27th	Memorial Day	\$500

#### Tickets drawn daily\*

\*Weekends and holidays will be drawn the next business day.  
There will be no drawing on 3/29/2024 Good Friday

\$20  
per Ticket

The 151 Days of Winning  
Raffle Ticket would make  
great Christmas gifts  
or stocking stuffers for your  
friends and loved ones!

Please contact the Parish Office  
at (815) 726-4031 if you would  
like to purchase tickets.

Ticket stubs and payment can be  
sent to St. Mary Nativity  
706 North Broadway Street  
Joliet, Illinois 60435,  
dropped off at the Parish Office  
or in the collection basket  
at the weekend masses.

**All proceeds benefit  
Saint Mary Nativity School!**

**The staff, students  
and parents wish you and  
your family a wonderful  
Christmas!**

## Save the Date!!!

**9th Annual  
Trivia Knight  
2024**

**Saturday  
February 24th**

**An Awesome  
Evening of Fun!**



## Science Fair Judges Needed

Do you enjoy working with students? We  
need your help! We are looking for 15-20  
volunteers to judge the Science Fair on Friday,  
January 26, 2024 at 9:00 AM. You do not  
need a strong background in science, but you  
need a love for helping children grow. This  
year we will have 7th and 8th graders compete

in the return of the Science Fair. We hope to send ten students to the regional  
competition at St. Francis University in the spring. As a judge you will help  
decide who gets to advance to the regional competition. You will listen to their  
presentations, read their written reports, examine their work, ask them  
questions, and finally evaluate all that you have seen and heard. You will be  
given training and a rubric to follow. We will have coffee and donuts for you  
too! If you have questions or would like to volunteer for the morning,  
please contact Karen Schultz, 8th grade teacher at SMN School,  
at [KSchultz@stmarynativity.org](mailto:KSchultz@stmarynativity.org).

# St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross

## SPENDING TIME WITH JESUS



**Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
at Saint Mary Nativity  
every Friday Noon to 3:00 pm  
**All are welcome!**

Both regular adorers and substitutes are needed for these times. Please contact Laurie at (815) 370-4533 to sign up.  
**The church is open for personal prayer Monday – Thursday 8am to 4:30 pm and Friday 8 am to 3:00 pm.**



(from Aletaia.org)

**Many saints throughout the centuries recognized the Eucharistic connections to Jesus' birth.**

*On this Holy Night, adoration of the Child Jesus becomes Eucharistic adoration. We adore you, Lord, truly present in the Sacrament of the Altar, the living Bread which gives life to humanity. We acknowledge you as our one God, a little Child lying helpless in the manger! John Paul II*



### Commemorating 75 Years of Catechesis, Evangelization and Service

As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Joliet, we give our utmost gratitude to God for all the abundant blessings that He has bestowed on every person from the time of the first missionaries until today. We acknowledge and celebrate all peoples, living and deceased, who make our diocese strong in faith and compassion, with a heart of service for all people.

Please access the link below for more information and dates on the Commemorating 75 Years of Catechesis, Evangelization and Service.

[75th Anniversary - Diocese of Joliet \(diojoliet.org\)](http://75thanniversary.diojoliet.org)



### THE NINE MONTHS OF THE CHILD JESUS IN THE WOMB OF MARY

This is the last in a series of nine monthly reflections on the development of Jesus in the womb. Our parish began the series on March 25th when we celebrated the Feast of the Annunciation. Soon we will celebrate the wonderful Feast of the Birth of Jesus at Christmas.

### THE NINTH MONTH NOVEMBER 25 TO DECEMBER 25

Bolstered by provisions and buoyed upon a cushion of carpets, Mary perches upon their patient donkey as she and Joseph start their journey. The trip to Bethlehem should take four days, but Mary's pregnancy forces them to travel slowly. Do they perhaps fall behind their fellow travelers? Soon they will be entrusted with the life of God made man. How must they reflect on this awesome responsibility as they journey toward their destiny?

At nine months, the baby is posed head down for its descent into the world. At birth, approximately 280 days from conception, a baby normally weighs from 6-9 pounds; it may be 19-21 inches long. Its tiny heart pumps 300 gallons of blood per day. How can this not be a child?

Give prayerful thanks to God for his most precious gift to humanity—Jesus Christ, his only son



### Pro-Life Rosary Every Month Third Sunday

**Holy Cross** before the 9 am Mass, starting at 8:35 am

**St. Mary Nativity** before the 11 am Mass, starting at 10:35 am.

### The next meeting of the St. Mary Nativity Pro-Life Committee:

Sunday, February 4th, at 10:00 am at SMN Church in the Nativity Room. We are thankful for your continued help and look forward to your participation in our events from now until that date.

For questions or for more information, contact Mike Hansen at 815-212-3661 or [mikehansen@mikehansenlaw.com](mailto:mikehansen@mikehansenlaw.com)



**iNECESITAMOS PERSONAS QUE PARTICIPEN SEMANALMENTE! USTED ES IMPORTANTE Y LO NECESITAMOS. INFORMES CON CECILIA MARTINEZ AL (815) 348-0837.**

**Grupo de Oración en Español ROSARIO DE SANACION Y DEVOCION DE LOS CIELEN REQUIEM ACOMPAÑENOS, JUEVES, 1:00 PM EN LA IGLESIA PRESENCIALMENTE O POR FACEBOOK LIVE**

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**LOS INVITAMOS A ORAR Y UNIDOS PODEMOS HACER UNA DIFERENCIA PARA NUESTRA PARROQUIA.**

# St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross

## Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

The evening began with a Spanish Rosary followed by Mass and a Fiesta with refreshments and a piñata.

Thank you to Father Jerome, Faith Formation catechists and students, and all who participated in this special tribute.

We especially want to extend our gratitude and appreciation to Cecilia Martinez for beautifully coordinating this celebration.



# St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross



st. mary nativity  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



706 North Broadway Street Joliet, Illinois 60435

## Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

830 Elizabeth Street Joliet, Illinois 60435

Parish Office ( 815 ) 726-4031

Visit us at [www.stmarynativityholycross.org](http://www.stmarynativityholycross.org)

Parish Fax ( 815 ) 727-4393

**St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross Confessions: Saturdays 3:15pm to 3:45pm or by Appointment.**

## Meet Our Staff...

**Father Jerome Kish, Pastor**

frkish@outlook.com

**Father Tomasz Sielicki, Parochial Vicar**

sielicki59@gmail.com

**Father Gerald Nicholas, OSA, Weekend Associate**

**Donald Legerski, Director of Music**

dlegerski@stmarynativity.org

**Mariusz Madej, Polish Organist**

**Paul Landa, Maintenance Manager**

planda@stmarynativity.org

**Mary Nemanich, Business Manager**

mnemanich@smnics.com

**Susan Mammoser, Parish Secretary**

smammoser@stmarynativity.org

## St. Mary Nativity Catholic School

702 North Broadway Street Joliet, Illinois 60435

( 815 ) 722-8518 [www.stmarynativity.org](http://www.stmarynativity.org)

Hours : Monday- Friday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Thomas Chinske, School Principal**

tchinske@stmarynativity.org

**Jennifer Martinez, School Secretary**

jmartinez@stmarynativity.org

**Jeanne Butler, School Secretary**

jbutler@stmarynativity.org

## Polskiej Szkoły im. Świętego Krzyża w Joliet

**Barbara Szuba, Polish School Principal**

polkaszkolajoliet@gmail.com

## DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE

Submit Bulletin  
Articles by Mondays  
No Later than 2 pm.

Please send all articles for the bulletin to  
Fr. Jerome first for approval.

frkish@outlook.com

Thank you for your cooperation!



Welcome! In Baptism, the child, freed from original sin, becomes an heir to the Kingdom of God, receiving the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity, and the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit. Through Baptism, the child becomes a member of the Body of Christ and has access to the other sacraments. Please contact the Parish Office at (815) 726-4031.

## Prayer Request



Ann  
Bill  
Mary Bellos  
John Block  
Vetta Bews  
Sheri Bokholdt  
Christopher Borsom  
Denise Boudreau  
Tyler Centorbi  
Dianne Cerpen-Verlare  
John Drnek  
Gerald Drobick  
Bob Eberhard  
Dosseh Houseaj Elise  
Kathy Fordonski  
Charlotte Frieh  
Kelly G.  
Michelle Graves  
Anthony Gregory  
Matthew Gregurich  
Nicholas Gulas  
Anthony Harmes  
Lynn Hischier  
Janet Horvath  
Janet  
Jacqueline H.  
Harriet Kazlauskas  
Tony Keating  
James Kozar  
Joan Kozar  
Marilyn Lajcin  
Jerry Lakota  
Lou Lakota, Jr.  
Kathleen Lepacek  
Darlene Likar  
Veronica Mahalik  
Joan Matejka  
Gabby Matlake  
Phil May  
Alex McKeel  
Charlene Molnar  
Robert Nasenbenny  
Paul Norris  
Raymond John Nickel

Andy Orosco  
Mildred Pruss  
Ronald Pruss  
Amy Rabb  
Armando Rodriguez  
Father Pete Rossa  
Steve Senisais  
Nancy Serdar  
Ashly Smith  
Adam Speirs  
Scott Speirs  
Thomure Family  
Joseph Trubich  
Jim Thompson  
Margaret Thompson  
Sister Elaine Teders  
Susan Ward  
Sarah Weber

Need prayers or know someone who does call Pat Weiskop 815-723-7141

## Please Keep in Your Prayers Those Serving in the Military

Pfc. Paul Roder, USMC  
Jacob Gregurich, USMC  
Lt. Alex Aguilera, USMC  
2nd Lt Kevin A'Hearn  
Captain Marcos Aguilera, USMC  
First Sgt. Christina Romero, USMC  
Cpt. Anthony Gutierrez, USMC  
Jeremy M. Close, Army  
Pfc. Michael McCallister, Army  
Jonathon Schroll, USMC Special Forces  
Petty Officer 1st Class Tyler Hintzsche, Navy  
David Walters, Army  
Joe Miller, USMC Sgt  
Tommy Hanks, USMC  
Sgt. Christina Hanks, USMC



For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Psalm 89

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