

Feb.  
16,  
2025

# St. Mary Nativity Catholic Parish Holy Cross Mission

*Deeply Committed. Christ at Heart.*




## 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Blessed are you who are now hungry,  
for you will be satisfied.  
Blessed are you who are now weeping,  
for you will laugh."  
- Lk 6:21


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

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 706 N. Broadway St., Joliet, IL 60435

 815-726-4031

 [info@stmarynativity.org](mailto:info@stmarynativity.org)

 Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Friday 8:00—3:00pm

 <https://stmarynativityholycross.com>

 <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/st706296>

 [www.facebook.com/SMNandHC/](http://www.facebook.com/SMNandHC/)

## Welcome!



### Mass Schedule

#### St. Mary Nativity Church

Saturday - 4:00 pm

Sunday - 7:00 am  
11:00 am 12:30 pm  
5:30 pm

Weekday -

Tuesday 8:30am  
Wednesday (School Mass)  
8:30am  
Thursday 8:30am

#### Holy Cross Church

Saturday - 4:00 pm English  
and 7:00 pm Polish

Sunday - 9:00 am English  
and 10:30 am Polish

Weekday - Monday and  
Friday 8:30 am English

Tuesday 8:30 am Polish

Monday Wednesday

Thursday Friday  
7:00 pm Polish

St. Mary Nativity  
and Holy Cross Confessions:

Saturdays  
3:15pm to 3:45pm  
or by Appointment.

Also 30 minutes before all  
Polish Masses at Holy Cross

# Parish and School Centers

2

## Meet Our Staff...



706 North Broadway Street  
Joliet, Illinois 60435



830 Elizabeth Street  
Joliet, Illinois 60435

**Father Clive Otieno, Pastor**  
frclive@stmarynativity.org

**Father Tomasz Sielicki, Parochial Vicar**  
sielicki59@gmail.com

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

**Tony Brandolino, Director of Music**

**Mariusz Madej, Polish Organist**

**Mary Nemanich, Business Manager**  
mnemanich@smncs.com

**Susan Mammosser, Parish Secretary**  
smammosser@stmarynativity.org

**Craig Mazur, Director of Faith Formation**  
cmazur@stmarynativity.org

**Allen Kramerich, Facilities Manager**  
facilities@stmarynativity.org



ST. MARY NATIVITY  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

**New Hours:**  
**Monday - Thursday**  
**8:00 am to 4:00 pm**  
**Friday 8:00am to 3:00 pm**

### Office Hours



Find us on:  
**facebook**

Parish Office ( 815) 726-4031  
Parish Fax ( 815) 727-4393

Faith Formation Office  
(331) 316-4366

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

**DON'T MISS  
THE DEADLINE**

Submit Articles by  
Monday no later than  
2 pm for the upcoming  
Sunday Bulletin.

Please send all articles  
for the bulletin to  
[smammosser@stmarynativity.org](mailto:smammosser@stmarynativity.org)  
Thank you for your  
cooperation!



### The Sacrament of Baptism

For Baptisms at St. Mary Nativity Church, please call the Faith Formation Office for more information. Baptisms are scheduled on the third Sunday of the month after the 12:30 PM Mass. Baptism preparation classes are scheduled upon need.

For Baptisms at Holy Cross Mission, contact Fr. Tomasz Sielicki



### The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony (Marriage)

Please call the Parish Office before setting a date for your wedding. The diocese requires a six month preparation prior to the wedding.



### The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Contact the parish office if you or someone you know are in need of the sacrament.

### Funerals

Call the Parish Office before placing any obituary notices.



### 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 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

**Dr. Elias Alonzo, School Principal**  
ealonzo@stmarynativity.org

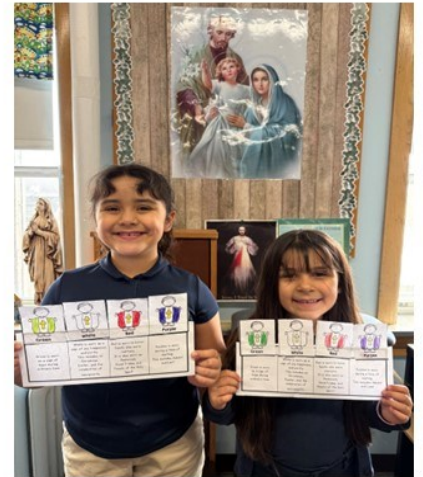
**Christina Hinojosa, School Secretary**  
chinojosa@stmarynativity.org

**Polskiej Szkoły im.  
Świętego Krzyża  
w Joliet**

**Barbara Szuba,  
Polish School Principal**  
[polskaszkolajoliet@gmail.com](mailto:polskaszkolajoliet@gmail.com)



**The 1st Grade is studying liturgical colors. They are learning the reasons why the priest wears different colored vestments at mass and their meanings.**





**In His Love we are saved,  
In His Light we are guided,  
In Him We are One.**

# Mass Intentions

4

## Saturday - February 15

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

† Joseph George Olsta by Daughter Phyllis

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

† Bob Tierney "Birthday" by Family

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

† AndrzejTylka (2. rocznica śmierci)

† † Aniela, Wincenty i Stanisław Haber

## Sunday - February 16

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

† Ralph Stimac by Family

† Robert Buldak by Anna & Jack Adamic

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

Rosemaria Ochotorena by Richie Ochotorena

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

O dar uzdrowienia i Boże błogosławieństwo dla Artura z okazji urodzin

O dalsze łaski i Boże błogosławieństwo dla Pawła i Elżbiety

Kaczmarczyków z okazji 60.

rocznicy ślubu

† † Eugenia i Władysław Gawron

† Zofia Długopolska

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

† Joseph Wolf "Birthday" by Marianne Wolf-Astrauskas

† Gert Kohnke by Traina Family

† Al Gruber "Birthday" by Family

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

For the People of the Parishes

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

For the People of the Parishes

## Monday - February 17

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

† Beatrice Hazer by Dan Lajcin Family

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

† Antonina Truchan (zmarła w Polsce)

## Tuesday - February 18

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

† Carl A. Pottorff by Larry & Laurie Pottorff

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

† Brat Jan Szczepaniak TChr

## Wednesday - February 19

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

† Charlotte Friehe by SMN School Staff

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

O zdrowie i Boże błogosławieństwo dla Izabeli z okazji 13. urodzin

## Thursday - February 20

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

"Two Special Intentions" by Traina Family

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

O szczęśliwe dotarcie do celu dla podróżujących na ziemi,

wodzie i w powietrzu

## Friday - February 21

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

† Daniel Stock by Family

† Antoinette Ochotorena by Rosemaria Ochotorena

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

Za pracowników służby zdrowia - o ducha wrażliwości i miłości

chrześcijańskiej wobec pacjentów

## Saturday - February 22

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

† Alice Scheffler by Larry & Laurie Pottorff

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

† Robert Schaffnit by Wife & Son

† Sharon Trizna By Reenie & Roger Trizna

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

† † Ewa, Helena i Wacław Sędaccy

## Sunday - February 23

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

† Robert Buldak by Jim & Pam Boucher

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

For the People of the Parishes

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

O dalsze Boże błogosławieństwo dla Heleny i Stanisława w 43. rocznicę ślubu

† † Emilia i Jan Gągor

† Jan Mucha (25.rocznica śmierci)

† Andrzej Długopolski

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

† Victoria Hernandez by Family

† Mary Lou Carreno by Family

† Jose DeJesus Rivera by Family

† Andy Orosco by John Orosco

† Joyce Ozella "Anniversary" by Traina Family

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

For the People of the Parishes

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

For the People of the Parishes



**“Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.**

**It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Messiah of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:**

**“Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory for your people Israel.” Luke 2: 25-32**



**Is your marriage struggling?** Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Does talking about problems only seem to make them worse?

### **Retrouvaille can help you save your marriage!**

Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped over 200,000 couples worldwide facing difficulties in their marriages, restore their connection and rebuild a loving relationship. Our marriage-saving program provides couples with tools and actionable steps they can take to improve communication, handle conflicts, build a stronger marriage and more!

### **Take the first step—Attend a weekend!**

For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program or to register for our

**FEBRUARY 28TH - MARCH 2, 2025**

weekend in the Joliet area, call

**815-246-2080**, email us at

[JolietRegistrtrtion@HelpOurMarriage.org](mailto:JolietRegistrtrtion@HelpOurMarriage.org)

or visit us on the Web at

[www.RetrouvailleJolietIL.com](http://www.RetrouvailleJolietIL.com)



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



Pfc. Paul Roder, USMC  
Sgt. FC Jay R. Martin, Army  
Jacob Gregurich, USMC  
Kathleen Sullivan, Navy  
Lt. Alex Aguilera, USMC  
SRA Michael Wilson Arellano  
2nd Lt Kevin A'Hearn  
CPL. Christopher Wesley  
Captain Marcos Aguilera, USMC  
Alexander Gregurich, PFC  
First Sgt. Christina Romero, USMC  
Justyn Moot  
Cpt. Anthony Gutierrez, USMC  
Brent Moot  
Jeremy M. Close, Army  
Pfc. Michael McCallister, Army  
David Walters, Army  
Joe Miller, USMC Sgt  
Tommy Hanks, USMC  
Sgt. Christina Hanks, USMC  
Jonathon Schroll, USMC Special Forces  
Petty Officer 1st Class Tyler Hintzsche, Navy  
Airman Jack Mauer, Air Force

### *Heavenly Father, we pray for...*

Ann	Janet Horvath	Robert Nasenbenny
Bill	Janet	Raymond John Nickel
Mary Bellos	Jacqueline H.	Paul Norris
Mike Bertino	Violet Hyndman	Gliceria Nunez
Vietta Bews	Gene Jevitz	Patricia Phinney
Sheri Bokholdt	Harriet Kazlauskas	Mildred Pruss
Christopher Borsom	Tony Keating	Ronald Pruss
Denise Boudreau	Cathy Koenig	Armando Rodriguez
Tyler Centorbi	James Kozar	Father Pete Rossa
Dianne Cerpen-Verlare	Dan Kramerich	Steve Senisais
Bob DeLach	Marilyn Lajcin	Nancy Serdar
John Drnek	Jerry Lakota	Ashly Smith
Gerald Drobick	Lou Lakota, Jr.	Scott & Adam
Bob Eberhard	Don Legerski	Mary Suarez
Dosseh Houseaj Elise	Kathleen Lepacek	Thomure Family
Kelly G.	Darlene Likar	Joseph Trubich
Anthony Gregory	George MacZura	Jim Thompson
Nicholas Gulas	Gerald L. Mahalik	Margaret Thompson
Anthony Harmes	Phil May	Sister Elaine Teders
Alba Hensley	Alex McKeel	Susan Ward
	Charlene Molnar	

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



# Calendar Raffle

Congratulations to the following WINNERS!

Friday - February 7

Julie Nelson - \$20  
Seller: Mailing

Saturday - February 8

Terry & Marilyn Juricic - \$40  
Seller: Mailing

Sunday - February 9

Joyce Klinger - \$150  
Seller: Mailing

Monday - February 10

Christina Guzman - \$20  
Seller: School Family

Tuesday - February 11

Joey Supergan - \$20  
Seller: Mailing

Wednesday - February 12

Diana Lopatinsky - \$20  
Seller: School Family

Thursday - February 13

Sonia Jaime-Ulloa - \$20  
Seller: School Family

*Thank you*



**st. MARY NATIVITY**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Where Every Child Achieves More!*

**Registration Open**  
702 North Broadway Street Joliet, IL 60435  
(Corner of Broadway and Ruby Streets)  
815-722-8518 www.stmarynativity.org  
Hablamos Espanol

????????????????



**TACOS  
TRIVIA  
TAKE OUT**

????????????????

What's for Dinner? Did someone say Tacos?  
They say "Tacos are the answer no matter what the question is!"

So, come out for a night of fun by joining us on February 22 for **Trivia Knight** where you can purchase these delicious Tacos!

Or "Let's Taco bout Takeout"

- Pre-orders for takeout are due by Tuesday, 2-18-2025.
- Pick-up will be on Saturday, February 22 at 5 pm in the school cafeteria.
- Please drop off or place your order form in the collection basket with your payment.
- Checks made payable to St. Mary Nativity School.
- All proceeds are for the school as part of the Trivia Knight 2025 event!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**MUCHAS GRACIAS**

	Quantity	Amount
Steak Taco	_____ at \$3.00 each	_____
Pork (Al pastor) Taco	_____ at \$3.00 each	_____

Order Total \_\_\_\_\_

# 7

## Trivia Knight

**Trivia Knight 2025 has many amazing raffles!**

Tickets are \$10 each. See information on the right.

To purchase raffle tickets, fill out the tickets below and return them by February 21st with payment to Mary Nemanich at the parish office. You can put them in the collection basket or drop them off. Checks can be made payable to St. Mary Nativity School. Winners do not need to participate in the event. Thank you for supporting SMN school!



**More raffle items will be added prior to the event!**

For an up-to-date list of raffle items, to see more details about the raffle items or to buy more raffles or donate to Trivia Knight, visit [TK25.givesmart.com](http://TK25.givesmart.com)

**Winners will be drawn on February 22 at Trivia Knight 2025!**

**Thank You!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ **\$10**

Raffle # \_\_\_\_\_ Description \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ **\$10**

Raffle # \_\_\_\_\_ Description \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ **\$10**

Raffle # \_\_\_\_\_ Description \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ **\$10**

Raffle # \_\_\_\_\_ Description \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ **\$10**

Raffle # \_\_\_\_\_ Description \_\_\_\_\_

Raffle #	Item Name	Value
1	Chuckles & Cheesecake	\$ 170
2	Live - Laugh - Golf	\$ 350
3	Mr. Mazur for a Day	Priceless
4	Slots of Fun	\$ 200
5	Family Admission Pass	Priceless
6	Calendar Raffle Tickets	Priceless
7	Miss Christina for a Day	Priceless
8	Enjoy Dining In	\$ 200
9	Lottery Pot of Gold	Priceless
10	You Drive Me Glazy	\$ 210
11	Online Shopping Spree	\$ 500
12	Hometown Fun	\$ 80
13	Joliet Gems	\$ 145
14	Joliet Park District Golf	\$ 225
15	Home Improvement	\$ 150
16	Backyard Barbecue	Priceless
17	Spa Day Basket	Priceless
18	Family Game Night	Priceless
19	Date Night	Priceless
20	Arts & Crafts Basket	Priceless
21	Ride with Police Officer to School	Priceless
22	"Reels at the Rialto"	\$ 120
23	Workin' and Relaxin'	\$ 225
24	"Fly the W"	\$ 275
25	Lucky Dog	\$ 105
26	Chi-Town Expeditions	\$ 180
27	Paint and Sip	\$ 110
28	Escape Room Excursion	\$ 150
29	Night at the Theatre	\$ 170
30	Dinner & Dessert	\$ 125
31	Now We're Cooking	\$ 100
32	Ride to School on a Fire Truck	Priceless
33	Start Your Day Right	\$ 100
34	Apple Watch	\$ 220
35	Health Kick	\$ 100
36	Providence Catholic Spirit Basket	Priceless
37	Dinner with K-4th Teachers	Priceless
38	Dinner with 5th-8th Teachers	Priceless
39	"Sparkle Head to Toe"	\$ 170
40	15ft Inflatable Gaga Ball Pit	\$ 200
41	Holiday Spirit	\$ 430
42	Painting Gems with Mrs. Fleming	Priceless
43	Dinner with our Pastor	Priceless



## Bishop Hicks' Column February 2025

### *The Gift of Imagination*



Whenever I fly, I frequently do three things. First, I always pray a rosary—that's a given! Then, I catch up on some work or necessary reading. Finally, I relax a bit and watch a movie. I admit I am quite conscious that, by wearing my Roman collar, many people in the seats around me take note of the movie I have selected. The last thing I want is for them to go home and tell their family and friends that they witnessed a Catholic bishop praying a rosary and then watching a super-violent or unseemly movie!

On my most recent flight, I selected the family-friendly movie *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. It is a heartwarming film about the power of imagination and the beauty of creativity. The hero of the story is Harold, a young boy who is gifted with a purple crayon that allows him to bring his drawings to life. As he sets out on an adventure, Harold learns valuable lessons about courage, problem-solving, and the responsibility that comes with shaping the world around him.

Spoiler alert: toward the end of the movie, Harold finds a touching letter from the author who created him. In it, he reads:

*"Dear Harold, one day you might want to know why I made you. I wanted to show folks that, with a little imagination, you can make your life whatever you want it to be."* This film reminds us that, like Harold, we all have the ability to create, dream, and make a difference in this world through our imaginations. How true!

Our imagination is truly a gift from God, allowing us to see beyond what is and dream of what could be. We are made in the image of God, and our ability to imagine and create reflects His divine nature. This gift allows us to participate in our Creator's ongoing work of beauty and goodness in the world.

Perhaps you are familiar with *Ignatian Contemplation*, also known as *imaginative prayer*. Through this method, St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us to pray using our imaginations. This practice encourages us to place ourselves inside a biblical scene, using all our senses to experience the story as if we were truly there. If you have never used this form of prayer, I invite you to try it using these basic steps:

- Imagine yourself in a scene from Scripture, such as being present at Jesus' birth, walking with Him along the road, or witnessing His miracles.
- Engage your senses by seeing the setting, hearing the voices, feeling the textures, smelling the surroundings, and experiencing the emotions.
- Interact with Jesus directly by listening to His words, speaking to Him, and experiencing His love.

After an imaginative prayer experience, St. Ignatius invites us to reflect on what we felt, learned, or heard. In other words, we can ask ourselves, *"How did God speak to me through my imagination?"*

Faith itself requires the gift of imagination. It gives us the ability to believe in what we cannot see (Hebrews 11:1). Imagination allows us to trust in God's plan, envision a better future, and hold onto hope even in difficult times. It also builds our capacity for compassion and empathy by helping us put ourselves in others' shoes and understand both their joys and struggles. This ability to see the world from different perspectives strengthens our call to love one another, just as Christ taught.

Of course, like all gifts, we can misuse our imagination. According to John Lennon, we can *"imagine there's no heaven. It's easy if you try."* Why would we do that? Sometimes our world or life experiences bring us to imagine sad, evil, and immoral things. Yet God gifted us with our imaginations so that we may be fully alive and joyful through, with, and in Him.

So, I invite you to imagine the Holy Trinity—being in the presence of God the Father and feeling His eternal love, peace, and mercy; walking and talking with Jesus; and experiencing the Holy Spirit descending upon you, filling you with wisdom, strength, and courage. Imagine there is a beautiful heaven, teeming with saints, angels, and your loved ones in God's eternal presence.

Ultimately, imagination is a sacred gift that allows us to create, love, hope, and draw closer to God in all that we do. Please join me in imagining a Church and a world where every heart is filled with God's love and mercy, abounding in kindness, respect for life, justice and peace for all people—now and forever!



Sunday, February 9, 2025

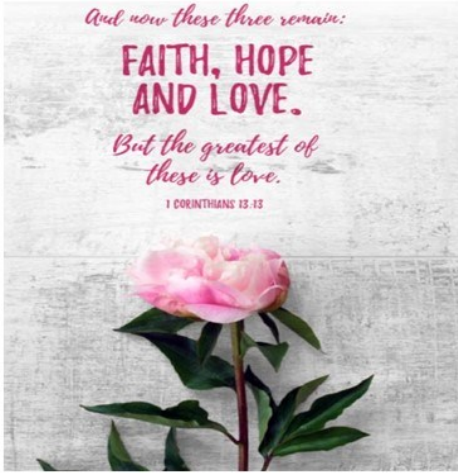
St. Mary Nativity \$10,003.00  
Holy Cross \$ 2,844.00

*And now these three remain:*

**FAITH, HOPE  
AND LOVE.**

*But the greatest of  
these is love.*

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13



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


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>

Scan now to donate!

*May God Bless You!*



 End of Year Tax Donation Letters for 2024 contributions made to Saint Mary Nativity or Holy Cross Parishes will be mailed upon request towards the end of January. Please call the rectory at 815-726-4031 after January 27th to request your statement for taxes.



As the Diocese of Joliet launches the 2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we are humbly asking all parishioners to pledge their support to this important effort, as together we can make a profound difference. This year's CMAA theme is **Open Your Hearts to God's Goodness**. Through our support, we ensure that the mission and ministries of Christ's Church are available to everyone.

Together, we can help provide safe shelter for the homeless, feed the physical and social needs of those who are hungry, inspire those discerning a life of vocation, and aid in the education of our next generation of Catholics. Our parish could not accomplish all of this on its own. As a diocese working together, we can do so much more. **Our 2025 CMAA parishes' goals are: St. Mary Nativity \$40,600 and Holy Cross is \$14,000**

70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us and used fruitfully within our own parish. Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet this month 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. Thank You!



## JUBILEE YEAR PRAYER

Father in heaven,  
may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.  
Amen



## Catholic Kids Column BLESSED ARE YOU...

In today's Gospel, Jesus is reminding us to look beyond what seems good on the surface. He warns us that sometimes the things we think will bring us happiness—like comfort, money, or popularity—can be disappointing or even harmful to us in the end. These things aren't bad on their own, but they don't always lead us to the real, lasting happiness that God wants for us. Sometimes, the greatest blessings in our lives are not the things we chase after or the ones that look exciting, but the quieter, unexpected moments that bring us closer to God.



Jesus calls us to look beyond what's popular or impressive and to trust in God, even if it seems challenging or doesn't seem like what we want at first. Real joy often comes from things that don't shine in the same way that wealth, success, or comfort do. God sees a deeper happiness for us, one that comes from staying close to Him and following His ways, even when the path looks different from what we imagined.

Jesus' message is challenging but also full of hope. He teaches us that even when we're struggling, God is with us, and we are blessed. And when we're comfortable, He warns us to stay focused on what's important. By living this way, we open our hearts to God and to one another, building a community of love that reflects God's vision for the world. This is the Kingdom we're called to create, step by step, with Jesus leading the way.

*Young-catholics.com*

# FORMED®

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.



This powerful epic film depicts the life of now Blessed Carlo Gnocchi, an Italian priest who labored heroically to minister to the wounded and dying soldiers during World War II, and later to children victims of the war on the home front. While teaching students at the Gonzaga Institute in Milan, Fr. Gnocchi volunteered to be the military chaplain on the war front. After witnessing the horrors of the war, helping many suffering and dying soldiers, and miraculously escaping death himself, he returned to start a foundation for the many children who were victims of the war.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and IGNATIUS PRESS

St. Mary Nativity/Holy Cross

# Magnificat Table

SOUP KITCHEN

Saturdays: March 1

and March 29

FROM 4 PM to 6 PM

FREE TO ANYONE WHO WANTS A HOT MEAL

Join us for great food & fellowship

ST. MARY NATIVITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

702 N. Broadway St., Joliet, IL

## VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

SERVE OUR COMMUNITY!  
HELP IS NEEDED WITH THE MAGNIFICAT TABLE MONTHLY SOUP KITCHEN TO SET UP, SERVE AND CLEAN.  
CONTACT LISA COSTA TO SEE HOW YOU CAN BEST SERVE:  
815-662-7866 OR [LISAJCOSTA@YAHOO.COM](mailto:LISAJCOSTA@YAHOO.COM)



## Save the Date

### Parish Lent Mission and Reconciliation Service

Thursday, March 20

6:00 pm at St. Mary Nativity Church

Watch the bulletin for more details soon.



## The Catholic Parent

Join the conversation on the third Tuesday of each month.

*Even if you missed past sessions, you may still join us!*

Prayer is hard for everybody, let alone with family dynamics. Prayer is the foundation of a relationship with God. But how do you do it? And how do you do it as a family?

In this session of The Catholic Parent, you'll hear stories of success and failure from parents trying to incorporate prayer into their family life. You'll gain practical tips from Fr. John Nepil about how to make prayer a reality in your family. Lastly, you'll be inspired by the example of Sts. Louis and Zelig Martin, as you raise your own family toward sanctity.

Session 3 is at 5:30 PM in the Joann Room  
Tuesday, February 18

# 11 Upcoming Events

## Monday, February 17

President's Day -  
SMN No School/Rectory Office Closed

## Tuesday, February 18

9:30am Bible Study - SMN Nativity Room  
1:00pm Rosary - SMN Church  
5:30pm Faith Formation Class - SMN School & NR  
6:30pm SMN & HC Joint Parish Council Meeting -  
SMN Nativity Room

## Wednesday, February 19

8:30am School Mass

## Thursday, February 20

1:00pm Rosary in Spanish - SMN Church

## Friday, February 21

12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration - SMN Church  
3:10pm Cheerleading Practice - SMN Nativity Room  
5:00pm Trivia Knight Set Up - SMN Gym  
5:00pm Polish School -  
SMN School & Nativity Room

## Saturday, February 22

Trivia Knight - ALL DAY SMN Gym & Cafeteria  
10am First Eucharist Retreat - SMN Church & NR

## Sunday, February 23

Basketball Games – SMN Gym

**The School & Parish Office will be closed  
on Monday, February 17, 2025**



Join the  
**St. Mary Nativity  
Choir!**

If you like to sing, then we invite you to consider joining the St. Mary Nativity Choir. The choir meets for rehearsal every Sunday from 10 am to right before the 11 am Mass which is the Choir Mass. The Choir also sings for special and Holy Day Liturgies. We meet from the First Sunday of September to the Last Sunday of May and break for the months of June, July and August. We currently have approximately 12 members and would like to have 20. If you are interested in joining, please contact Tony Brandolino at 815-531-9257.



Join us every Thursday morning for  
coffee and donuts after the  
8:30am mass in the Nativity Room.

**All Are Welcome**



*Rosary Hour*

English

Spanish (Livestream)

# PRAYER GROUP



## SPEND TIME WITH JESUS

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

Both regular adorers and substitutes are  
needed for these times.

**The church is open for personal prayer Monday – Thursday  
8:00 am to 4:00 pm and Friday 8:00am to 3:00 pm.**



## 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:**

**Next date to be determined.**

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)



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April 25-27 in Rockford, IL or June 27-29 in  
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or call (888) 574-5653.



## Diocese of Joliet Office of Child and Youth Protection

Reporting Sexual Abuse: Anyone with reason to believe that a child  
has been abused or is being abused should report their suspicions to  
civil authorities. Contact: Illinois Department of Children and Family  
Services: 1-800-25ABUSE or local police. The Diocese of Joliet Victim  
Assistance Coordinator is available to help victims/survivors of child  
sexual abuse by a cleric, employee or volunteer of the Catholic  
Church. The Victim Assistance Coordinator will report to Bishop Hicks  
and coordinate efforts of pastoral support and outreach to assist in  
the healing process. The Victim Assistance coordinator can also assist  
in making a report to civil authorities. Contact the Diocese of Joliet  
Victim Assistance Coordinator at 1-815-263-6467.

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