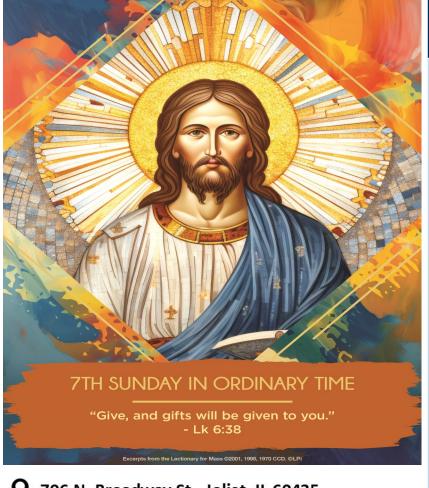
St. Mary Nativity Catholic Parish Holy Cross Mission Deeply Committed. Christ at Heart.



- 706 N. Broadway St., Joliet, IL 60435
- 815-726-4031

Feb.

23,

2025



🖄 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/

Welcome!



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



706 North Broadway Street Joliet, Illinois 60435



830 Elizabeth Street Joliet, Illinois 60435

Parish and School Centers

Meet Our Staff...

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

Office Hours

facebook®



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

st. Mary Nativity

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

> **Faith Formation Office** (331) 316-4366

Visit us at 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 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

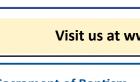
702 North Broadway Street Joliet, Illinois 60435 (815) 722-8518 www.stmarynativity.org Hours : Monday- Friday 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

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



Find us on:





Thank you

I'm happy to be back after my vacation in Kenya. I had a wonderful lovely time with family. Greetings from them. Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you for your prayers. In a Special Way, thank you to those who were kind to send me greetings at Christmas. Your thoughtfulness & generosity was appreciated. Since I can't thank

all of you individually, please accept this as my deepest gratitude!! God Bless You!!

On another note....

The Diocese was kind enough to entrust us with a Seminarian of the Diocese to help him become the best priest of Jesus Christ. This last phase of formation will be crucial and fruitful for him. We're happy to welcome Deacon Vincent into our Community and help him grow with us as we look forward to his Ordination this May. May God Bless us with what we need & more.

Fr. Clive





Deacon Vincent Omondi

I was born November 4, 1987, and grew up in Kenya, Africa. I am the sixth born in a Catholic family of nine. My parents played a great role in my faith formation as a Catholic, and I learned strong Catholic values that helped me grow and succeed.

I graduated from Consolata Institute of Philosophy with degree in Philosophy in Kenya and later, from Saint Joseph's Theological Institute with degree in Theology in

South Africa. After my graduation, I discerned out of religious life to discern diocesan priesthood. During my discernment, I met Father Clive, a priest of the Diocese of Joliet. He encouraged me to consider applying to the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois. After a rigorous application process, I was accepted. I am grateful to God that I am here today as a seminarian of the Diocese of Joliet.

Since arriving in December of 2022, I've been blessed to experience great ministries at Our Lady of Mercy in Aurora and at Visitation in Elmhurst. I am presently in my fourth year of Configuration at Mundelein Seminary. I am so happy to continue with my discernment of priesthood in the Diocese of Joliet. I will be ordained to the priesthood on May 17th of this year. Please continue to pray for me.



Flame of Faith Andy Orosco



Saturday - February 22 8:30 am Mass (SMN) 4:00 pm Mass (HC) + Joan Kozar by Family ⁺ Alice Scheffler by Larry & Laurie Pottorff 7:00 pm Mass (HC) 4:00 pm Mass (SMN) + Karolek i za ++ zmarłych z rodziny + Robert Schaffnit by Wife & Son + Sharon Trizna By Reenie & Roger Trizna Friday - February 28 + Richard Robak & Family 8:30 am Mass (HC) 7:00 pm Mass (HC) For the Sick and Suffering of our Parishes + + Ewa, Helena i Wacław Sędaccy 7:00 pm Mass (HC) + Florentyna Sielicka (15. rocznica śmierci) Sunday - February 23 7:00 am Mass (SMN) Saturday - March 1 + Robert Buldak by Jim & Pam Boucher 4:00 pm Mass (HC) 9:00 am Mass (HC) For the People of the Parishes For the People of the Parishes 4:00 pm Mass (SMN) 10:30 am Mass (HC) O dalsze Boże błogosławieństwo dla Heleny i Stanisława w 43. rocznicę ślubu + Leo Hojnacki O zdrowie i Boże błogosławieństwo dla Mateusza okazji 9. urodzin + Charlotte Frieh By Mary & Sue + + Emilia i Jan Gagor 7:00 pm Mass (HC) Jan Mucha (25.rocznica śmierci) + ks. Stanisław Rakiej SChr † Andrzej Długopolski 11:00 am Mass (SMN) Sunday - March 2 + Victoria Hernandez by Family 7:00 am Mass (SMN) + Robert Buldak by David & Ann Buldak ⁺ Mary Lou Carreno by Family 9:00 am Mass (HC) + Jose DeJesus Rivera by Family + Kathy Auman By Family + Andy Orosco by John Gudac ⁺ Sue Koizumi By Family ⁺ Joyce Ozella "Anniversary" by Traina Family 10:30 am Mass (HC) 12:30 pm Mass (SMN) For the People of the Parishes 5:30 pm Mass (SMN) + + Za zmarłych kapłanów For the People of the Parishes † John Cieśla Monday - February 24 + Darlene Wunderlich 8:30am Mass (HC) 11:00 am Mass (SMN) For the needy and poor of the World 7:00 pm Mass (HC) + Joyce Ozella by The Traina Family O dar zdrowia i umocnienie na duchu dla chorych z naszych rodzin + Veronica Keigher by The Traina Family

Tuesday - February 25

8:30am Mass (SMN)

- + Karl Sicinski by Carol & Family
- ⁺ Josephine Wicevic by David & Darlene Badorski

8:30am Mass (HC)

† Jan Guzikowski SChr

Wednesday - February 26 8:30am Mass (SMN)

- + Robert Buldak by Dave & Ann Buldak
- + Christine Mauzer by Parents

7:00pm Mass (HC)

+ + Zmarli z rodziny Zioło

Thursday - February 27

+ + Frances & Martin Chinderle by Chinderle Family

- + Teresa Kościelak (zam. Koło Różańcowe pw. Św. Anny)
- + Janina Kasperek (zam. Koło Różańcowe pw. Św. Anny)
- + Alina Majcher (4. rocznica śmierci) i ++ Emilia i Stefan Góra oraz
- ⁺ Juan Montoya by Andrea McIntosh & Family
- ⁺ Ida M. Salerno by The Nahorski Family
- 12:30 pm Mass (SMN)
- For the People of the Parishes
- 5:30 pm Mass (SMN)
- + Andrea McCarthy by Lilly Kalis

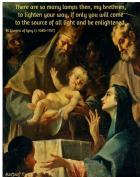


Prayers for Our Beloved Deceased. We offer sympathy and the promise of our prayers to the family and friends of:

Bernadine Smith

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord; and let the perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

<u> Parish Prayer</u>



"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

Pfc. Paul Roder, USMC

Sgt. FC Jay R. Martin, Army



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 JolietRegistrtion@HelpOurMarriage.org or visit us on the Web at www.RetrouvailleJolietIL.com





Please Keep in Your Prayers Those Serving in the Military

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 Bill Mary Bellos Mike Bertino Vietta Bews Sheri Bokholdt Christopher Borsom Denise Boudreau Tyler Centorbi Dianne Cerpen-Verlare Bob DeLach John Drnek Gerald Drobick Bob Eberhard Dosseh Houseaj Elise Kellv G. Anthony Gregory Nicholas Gulas **Anthony Harmes** Alba Hensley

Janet Horvath Janet Jacqueline H. Violet Hyndman Gene Jevitz Harriet Kazlauskas **Tony Keating** Cathy Koenig James Kozar Dan Kramerich Marilyn Lajcin Jerry Lakota Lou Lakota, Jr. Don Legerski Kathleen Lepacek Darlene Likar George MacZura Gerald L. Mahalik Phil May Alex McKeel Charlene Molnar

Robert Nasenbenny **Raymond John Nickel** Paul Norris Gliceria Nunez Patricia Phinney Mildred Pruss **Ronald Pruss** Armando Rodriguez Father Pete Rossa Steve Senisais Nancy Serdar Ashly Smith Scott & Adam Mary Suarez **Thomure Family** Joseph Trubich Jim Thompson Margaret Thompson Sister Elaine Teders Susan Ward

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



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Calendar Raffle

Congratulations to the following WINNERS!

<u>Friday - February 14</u> Lisa Rodriguez - \$500 Seller: School Family

<u>Saturday - February 15</u> Jean Page - \$40 Seller: Mailing

<u>Sunday - February 16</u> Jodie Dziuba - \$150 Seller: Mailing

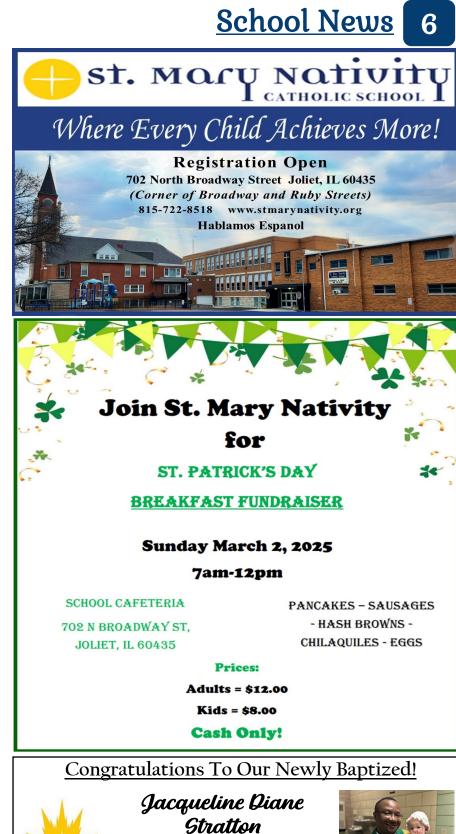
<u>Monday - February 17</u> Paul Mellen - \$30 Seller: School Family

<u>Tuesday - February 18</u> Yecenia Salgado - \$20 Seller: School Family

Wednesday - February 19 Pam Terrell - \$20 Seller: Mailing

<u>Thursday - February 20</u> Jose S. Lara - \$150 Seller: School Family





at St. Mary Nativity Church

May Jesus, who loves all children, bless her with His love and grace as she grows close to Our Lord throughout her life.

BAPTISM







RESTORE THE CHURCH BUILD THE FUTURE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For more than 40 years, and in some countries more than 70 years, communism ruled Central and Eastern European countries and the Soviet Union's many republics. The Soviet Union stretched from Eastern Europe across central Asia and beyond to the Pacific Ocean. One of its former republics is Tajikistan, in central Asia. Bordering China to the east and Afghanistan to the south, Tajikistan is today the poorest of the former Soviet republics.

The country's economic challenges—along with a population that today is 98% Muslim—make Tajikistan a true mission country for the Church, because Catholics are few and needs are great. In fact, the Church's presence is so small that the Tajikistan Church is not part of a diocese with its own bishop but is an independent mission of the pope, administered by priests from the Institute of the Incarnate Word, a missionary order from Argentina. Along with the institute's order of sisters, the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará, these priests faithfully serve the pastoral needs of the people through education and accompaniment. Despite its small size and relative poverty, this community has fostered the first two priestly vocations and ordinations of two Tajik men, as well as the religious vocation of a Tajik woman who professed perpetual vows with the sisters.

With critical support from the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, the sisters continue their mission by educating the children and providing them with instruction, school supplies, school uniforms, and the food they need to develop intellectually, spiritually, physically, and socially. Guided by their faith and this material support, the sisters witness to Christ's love while carrying out their works of mercy. You can participate in their success by donating to this special collection when it is taken up in our diocese, either by contributing at Mass or through your parish's e-giving platform. #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds online for the collection.

For more information about the collection and who it supports, visit *www.usccb.org/ccee*. Thank you for your help to restore the Church and build the future in Central and Eastern Europe.

With best wishes, I ask God to bless you always.

As I remain –

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ fonald a. Hichs

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks Bishop of Joliet

For more information on the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, visit <u>www.usccb.org/ccee</u>

The Week Ahead

Monday, February 24

Tuesday, February 25

9:30am Bible Study - SMN Nativity Room 1:00pm Rosary - SMN Church 5:30pm Faith Formation Class - SMN School & NR 6:30pm St. Vincent de Paul meeting - SMN Nativity

Wednesday, February 26

Thursday, February 27

1:00pm Rosary in Spanish - SMN Church

Friday, February 28

12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration - SMN Church 5:00pm Polish School - SMN School & Nativity Room

Saturday, March 1 Food Pantry Collection - SMN

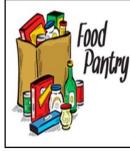
3:00pm Soup Kitchen -SMN Cafeteria



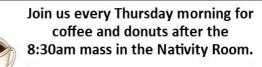
Sunday March 2 Food Pantry Collection - SMN

7:00am St. Patrick's Day Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser -SMN Cafeteria

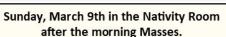




Non Perishable items may be dropped off at St. Mary Nativity Church vestibule on March 1st & 2nd Thank you!



All Are Welcome





Upcoming Events



8

English Spanish (Livestream)

PRAYER GROUP



BIBLE STUDY

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



Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured

into your lap. Give the gift of your love by participating in the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on

February 14-16 in Geneva, IL or April 25-27 in Rockford, IL or June 27-29 in Rockford, IL. For more info go to:

wwme.org or call (888) 574-5653.



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.



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED



SERVE OUR COMMUNITY! HELP IS NEEDED WITH THE <u>MAGNIFICAT</u> <u>TABLE</u> 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

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS



On February 21-23, our Holy Father will be remembering in prayer and celebrating with Deacons. These men have been given to the Church to minister to the needs of the people of God. They assist in our parishes in many ways and are available to

serve parishioners in many ways and are available to serve parishioners in whatever manner may be required. Thay are a gift to us for which we are most grateful, and we twike compresent their environments the

truly appreciate their service to us. Let us ask God's blessings upon them on these days and every day, as they have become the face of God in our lives.

Return of Palms Palms from last Palm Sunday may be returned beginning on February 22. Baskets will be in the back of Church.

The palms will be burned and used for Ash Wednesday, March 5.

Catholic Kids Column



There is a lot of conflict in our world today. When we think about enemies, we often imagine people in far-off places, like another country waging war against us or terrorists who might try to harm us.

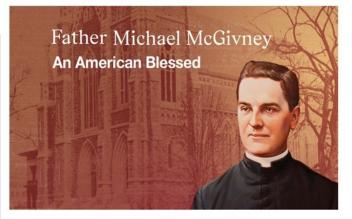
But in today's world, enemies can be much closer to home. Think about the culture wars we hear so much about. People on opposite sides of an issue get so caught up in their arguments that they start to see those who disagree with them as enemies. They may not attack with weapons, but they attack with words. They use social media, news outlets, and even conversations with friends to tear down those on the other side. They twist facts and spread rumors. They act out of anger and a desire to win at all costs. In this way, they become enemies to each other without even realizing it.

In this Gospel, Jesus is inviting you to do something that feels almost impossible—He is asking you to love your enemies. This includes the enemies who are far away, those who have power and influence in society, and those personal enemies who have hurt you deeply. Jesus doesn't just suggest this; He commands it. But how can we possibly do that? How can we love people who have caused us so much pain?

The key to loving your enemies is found in the last part of the Gospel reading: "Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you." Jesus is telling us that the way we treat others will be the way we are treated. If we want to receive mercy, we must show mercy. If we want to be forgiven, we must forgive.

This change of heart is not easy, but Jesus reminds us that we also need mercy and forgiveness. We are all sinners in need of God's grace. Our hardened hearts need to become open and loving. Our vengeful hearts need to become forgiving. Young-catholics.com





Father Michael McGivney: An American Blessed

In May 2020, Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Fr. Michael McGivney, paving the way for his beatification. This documentary highlights Fr. McGivney's fraternal charity, evangelization, and empowerment of the laity.

Our parish has a Formed subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the Formed app to your phone.



An offering from the PAUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Sunday, February 16, 2025 St. Mary Nativity \$6,910.00 Holy Cross \$2,334.00



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.

<u>Stewardship</u> 10





The Opening Report for the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) in today's bulletin reflects how as Christians, we are called to Open our hearts to God's goodness in service to our brothers and sisters in need.

Through the CMAA, we show generosity toward the most vulnerable members of our community. We also benefit, as a parish, from the many ministries the CMAA supports, that touch our lives and the lives of our fellow parishioners. Ministries that include vocations.

Catholic education. and faith formation.

Our 2025 CMAA parishes' goals are: St. Mary Nativity \$40,600 Holy Cross is \$14,000

The Diocese will return 70% of any amount we raise over our goal to us, to be used fruitfully within our own parish. Please review the materials you received in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet this month and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal. Thank You!



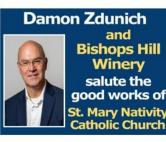
Diocese of Joliet Office of Child and Youth Protection

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.

Thank you to our Trivia Knight 2025 Sponsors









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St. Mary Nativity/Holy Cross, Joliet, IL

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