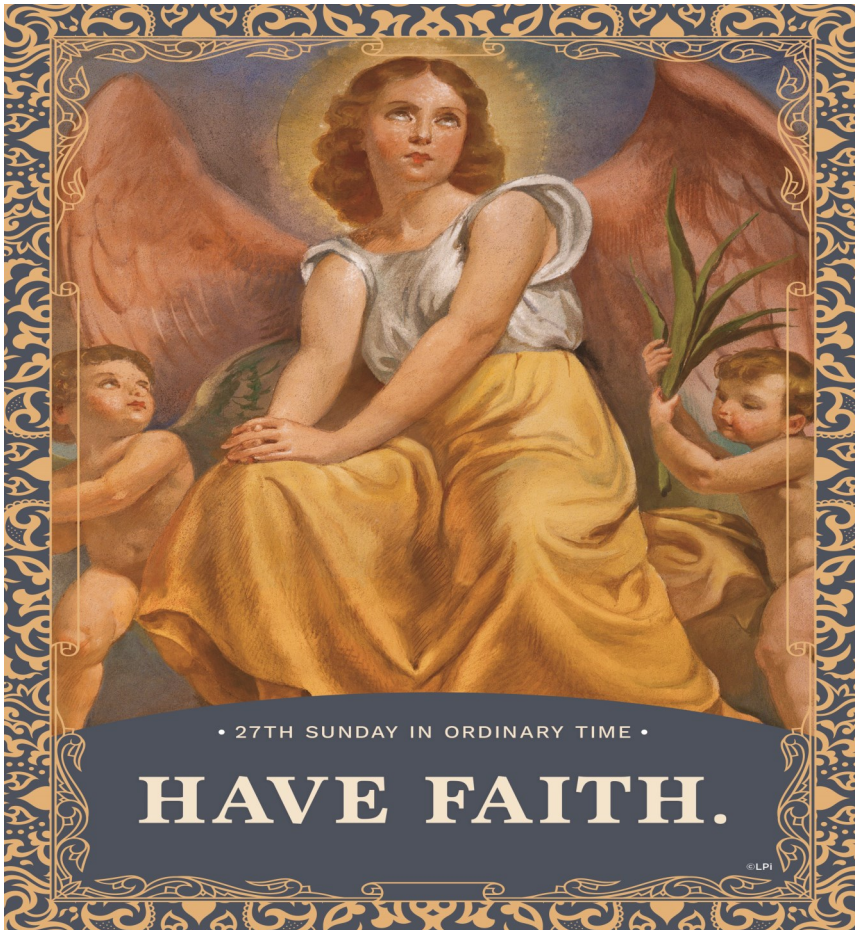



Oct.
5,
2025

St. Mary Nativity Catholic Parish Holy Cross Mission


Deeply Committed. Christ at Heart.



 706 N. Broadway St., Joliet, IL 60435

 815-726-4031

 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!



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



**706 North Broadway Street
Joliet, Illinois 60435**



**830 Elizabeth Street
Joliet, Illinois 60435**

Parish and School Centers

2

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@smnccs.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

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Friday - 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Parish Office (815) 726-4031

Parish Fax (815) 727-4393

Faith Formation Office

(331) 316-4366

Office Hours



**Find us on:
facebook®**

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

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Dr. Elias Alonzo, School Principal

elonzo@stmarynativity.org

Christina Hinojosa, School Secretary

chinojosa@stmarynativity.org

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

Barbara Szuba,

Polish School Principal

polskaszkolajoliet@gmail.com





Saturday - October 4

4:00 pm Mass (HC)

† Leonard Fordonski "Birthday" by Family

4:00 pm Mass (SMN)

† Frank & Angie Badorski by David & Darlene Badorski

† Deceased members of the Pluth Family by Betty & Family

† Mary Ann Clennon by Carol Heredia

7:00 pm Mass (HC)

Dziękczynna za dar stworzenia i o mądrość w korzystaniu z niego

Sunday - October 5

7:00 am Mass (SMN)

† Robert Buldak "Anniversary" by Diana

9:00 am Mass (HC)

For the People of the Parishes

10:30 am Mass (HC)

O szczęśliwe rozwiązanie i zdrowie dla matki i dziecka

O Boże błogosławieństwo dla Marii Łękiej z okazji imienin

† Józef Niejadlik

† Aniela Długosz (rocznica śmierci)

† Władysław Dziadkowiec (17. rocznica śmierci)

11:00 am Mass (SMN)

† Dan & Steve Mahalik by Lawrence Mahalik

† Merle Hoebing by Family

† Jimmy & Mary Lou Smolik by Bob & Judy Hintze

† Frances Medina "100th Birthday" by Frances Cisneros

12:30 pm Mass (SMN)

† Langston Britton by The Miranda Family

5:30 pm Mass (SMN)

† Andres & Antoinette Ochotorena by Rosa Maria Ochotorena

Monday - October 6

8:30am Mass (HC)

† Joan & Anton Kozar by Family

7:00 pm Mass (HC)

† Piotr Karwicki (25. rocznica śmierci)

Tuesday - October 7

8:30am Mass (SMN)

† Sue Tierney "Anniversary" by Family

† Rufino & Amparo Lara by Rosa Maria Ochotorena

8:30am Mass (HC)

Dziękczynna Bogu Ojcu za dar życia i łaski otrzymane przez Niepokalane Serce Maryi w dniu urodzin dla Marceliny

Wednesday - October 8

8:30am Mass (SMN)

† Richard W. Serdar by Tom Grohar

7:00pm Mass (HC)

Dziękczynna i o Boże błogosławieństwo dla Doroty i Piotra Matrasów z okazji 21. rocznicy ślubu oraz dla Roberta z okazji 21. urodzin

Thursday - October 9

8:30am Mass (SMN)

† Nora Tierney "Anniversary" by Family

7:00pm Mass (HC)

† Janusz Szymczak

Friday - October 10

8:30am Mass (HC)

† Ray Page by Wife, Jean

7:00pm Mass (HC)

O zdrowie dla Marka Stocha i wszelkie potrzebne łaski dla mamy Ludwika z okazji urodzin

Saturday - October 11

4:00 pm Mass (HC)

For the People of the Parishes

4:00 pm Mass (SMN)

† Joe Kararo by Family

† Sharon Gutierrez by Family

† Richie Pervan by The Gutierrez Family

† † Robert & Jacob Ivezych by Family

7:00 pm Mass (HC)

Dziękczynna za wysłuchane prośby i otrzymane łaski

Sunday - October 12

7:00 am Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes

9:00 am Mass (HC)

† † Anna & John B. Gorski by Son, Jack

10:30 am Mass (HC)

O zdrowie i Boże błogosławieństwo dla Pawła i Karola z okazji urodzin

O szczęśliwe rozwiązanie i opiekę Matki Bożej na każdy dzień

† Teresa Kościelak

† † Maria i Józef Oleś

† Edward Styrzcula

11:00 am Mass (SMN)

† Tim Gruber "Anniversary" by Family

† Andy Orosco by The Martinez Family

† Richard W. Serdar by Estelle Sorensen

12:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes

5:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes



October is the month of the Most Holy Rosary

The Blessed Virgin Mary has given us a great weapon in the rosary. Pray it. Live it. Amen!

"O Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, I would like to be filled with love for Thee; keep me closely united with Thee, may my heart be near to Thine. I want to be to Thee like the apostle John. O Mary of the Rosary, keep me recollected when I say these prayers of thine; bind me forever, with thy rosary, to Jesus of the Blessed Sacrament. Blessed be Jesus, my love."

(Pope John XXIII, Journal of a Soul)



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

Each year on December 25th we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. For centuries the Church has also celebrated his conception on March 25, the feast of the Annunciation.

Our parishes have once again begun our "Spiritual Adoption program." Each month we will be keeping you up to date with the development of your baby.

THE SIXTH MONTH - SEPTEMBER 25 thru OCTOBER 25

Mary and Joseph knew in advance that their baby would be a boy. And although Jesus was not his biological child, Joseph eagerly anticipated his birth. By the seventh month, the baby's hands grip strongly. His eyelids open and close as he surveys his increasingly cramped surroundings. The baby is now 15 inches long and weighs 2-3 pounds. The infant Jesus listens intently for his mother's recognizable voice. A child of seven months would survive birth. Four to 20 couples wait to adopt each available child. The average abortion takes 5-10 minutes. The average wait for adoption is 2-10 years.

Pray for all adoptive parents who provide the loving care and nourishing environment which every child deserves, and for foster parents who lend their hearts and homes to those whose fates hang in the balance.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 CELEBRATIONS



On October 4-5, our Holy Father will be remembering in prayer and celebrating with Migrants and the Missionary World. During these days let us remember all those who have left their home country to move to another land to live out their lives. Let us offer our assistance to them at every opportunity with Christian hospitality. Let us pray for the women and men who have dedicated their lives to the service of allowing people throughout the world to learn about and come to honor and worship God while also fulfilling their human life needs.



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 Maurer, Air Force



Heavenly Father, we pray for...

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

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





Bishop Hicks' Column October 2025 MAKE



When I arrived as your bishop five years ago, I laid out a vision of catechesis, evangelization, and faith into action, emphasizing that a thriving Church is one where we truly know, love, and serve God. The big question remains: how do we actually do that? How do we move from just having a vision to putting it into real practice?

This is why I wrote the pastoral letter *MAKE!* and launched it just this month. It builds on [Bishop Conlon's 2018 pastoral letter GO!](#), which draws on the Great Commission in Matthew's Gospel ([Matthew 28](#)): "Go and make disciples." *MAKE!* vulnerably reflects my heart. I love Jesus, and I want you to love Him too. It expresses my desire to give everyone a practical, loving roadmap to becoming disciples and making disciples, with a hands-on guide for passing our faith from one generation to the next.

Right before publishing it, I have to admit that I was filled with some self-doubt. I wondered, "There are so many other issues I could be writing about: the Eucharist, Pro-Life concerns, Vocations, Care of Creation, Immigration, Violence, and more. Is making disciples really the best topic?"

The Holy Spirit answered that question for me last month during a meeting at the headquarters of the [United States Conference of Catholic Bishops \(USCCB\)](#) in Washington, D.C. Our committee was presented with the results of a large national survey of thousands of priests across the country. One question asked, "Out of all the issues in the world, which one most needs to be addressed by our Church?" The number one response from priests nationwide was clear: passing the faith on to the next generation.

The statistician went on to explain that this does not mean priests consider the other issues unimportant. Rather, they recognize that if we do not have people in the pews, if this generation and the next are not alive in their faith and participating in the life of the Church, then all of those other issues will

eventually lose their voice in the Church. We first need to form disciples who are rooted in Christ, so that they in turn can carry the mission forward and address these other urgent concerns with faith and courage.

This is why *MAKE!* is so important. It is not just another document, and it is certainly not meant to sit on a shelf and collect dust. It is a living invitation to every Catholic in our diocese to move from simply managing decline to boldly embracing mission. We all want to belong to a Church that is alive, thriving, and centered on the salvation of souls. That future depends on how seriously we take this call to be made into disciples so that we can go out and make disciples.

The letter offers a clear path: conversion, confession, communion, commission, all held together by prayer. These are not abstract concepts but real, concrete steps that anyone can begin today. I both invite and urge you to read the letter. And then read it again. Pray over it, discuss it with your family, your friends, or a group in your parish. Choose one small action and begin.

If each of us takes this seriously, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Diocese of Joliet can become a Church on fire with love for Jesus. Boldly, I want our diocese to be the most evangelizing diocese in the country, not out of competition, but because I love Jesus, and I want you to love Him and be saved through Him too. This is our time, and this is our mission. Let us first be disciples, men and women of all ages who know, love, and serve Jesus, so that together we can go out with joy and courage to *MAKE* disciples, starting now.

To learn more about my pastoral letter and how to make disciples for Jesus, visit make.diojoliet.org.

Let's **MAKE** Disciples for Jesus!

Download and read Bishop Hicks' new pastoral letter, *MAKE*, to discover how you and your loved ones can live as disciples and help make other disciples in your community.



[MAKE.diojoliet.org](http://make.diojoliet.org)



MAKE

A Pastoral Letter for the People of the Diocese of Joliet

Czyńmy uczniów Jezusa!

Pobierz i przeczytaj nowy list pasterski biskupa Hicksa, *MAKE*, aby dowiedzieć się, w jaki sposób Ty i Twoi bliscy możecie żyć jako uczniowie Chrystusa i pomagać w czynieniu uczniów w Waszej społeczności.



[MAKE.diojoliet.org](http://make.diojoliet.org)



MAKE

A Pastoral Letter for the People of the Diocese of Joliet

¡Hagamos discípulos para Jesús!

Descargue y lea la nueva carta pastoral del Obispo Hicks, *MAKE*, para descubrir cómo usted y sus seres queridos pueden vivir como discípulos y ayudar a hacer otros discípulos en su comunidad.



[MAKE.diojoliet.org](http://make.diojoliet.org)



MAKE

A Pastoral Letter for the People of the Diocese of Joliet

Upcoming School Events

St. Mary Nativity Catholic School

150 DAYS OF WINNING

CALENDAR RAFFLE ~ January to May 2026

\$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

Each Month win \$150
on the 20th and 26th!

Jan. 1st	New Year's Day	\$500	Mar. 29th	Palm Sunday	\$500
Jan. 6th	Epiphany	\$50	Apr. 2nd	Holy Thursday	\$100
Jan. 19th	MLK Jr. Day	\$40	Apr. 4th	Holy Saturday	\$200
Feb. 2nd	Groundhog Day	\$40	Apr. 5th	Easter Sunday	\$500
Feb. 14th	Valentine's Day	\$500	Apr. 6th	Easter Monday	\$50
Feb. 16th	President's Day	\$40	May. 5th	Cinco de Mayo	\$50
Feb. 18th	Ash Wednesday	\$100	May. 10th	Mother's Day	\$200
Mar. 17th	St. Patrick's Day	\$40	May 16th	Fr. Clive's Anniversary	\$500
Mar. 19th	St. Joseph's Day	\$40	May 25th	Memorial Day	\$200

Tickets drawn daily*

*Weekends and holidays will be drawn the next business day.
There will be no drawing on 4/3/2026 Good Friday

\$20
per Ticket

Tickets will be available in mid October!



*The students are very grateful for the
continuing support of our parishioners.*

*We are blessed to have such a
supportive and faithful community!
Our hearts are filled with thankfulness!*

HALLOWEEN



TRUNK OR TREAT
CAR
SIGN UP SHEET



3-6 PM
25th October 2025



St. Mary Nativity
Gym Parking lot



• CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED

- Arrive@ 2pm to decorate your trunk.
- Vehicles must be decorated and ready to hand out candy at 3:00pm
- Vehicles must remain parked until the event is over at 6:00.
- Please join us for extra fun in the gym from 6-9

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND TO SCHOOL OFFICE.

Full Name _____

Contact Number _____

Vehicle Type _____ (car, truck, suv, etc.)

Email _____

DAN'S HOMEMADE CARAMEL APPLE SALE!

PROCEEDS SUPPORT SMN 8th GRADE CLASS TRIP



Orders are due by **October 7th**

Pick-up will be on **Tuesday, October 21st** in the Nativity Room, from 3:00-4:00 PM.

Small orders for school families will be sent home with students.

Please make check payable to St. Mary Nativity

NAME: _____ PHONE #: _____

CARAMEL APPLES (\$5) _____ CASH _____ CHECK: _____



**"It's Beginning
To Look
A Lot Like
Christmas!"**

**Coming soon...
Holiday
Greenery Sale!!!**



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>

<u>September 28, 2025</u>	<u>St. Mary Nativity</u>	<u>Holy Cross</u>
Sunday Offertory	\$7,658	\$2,138
Sunday Offertory Budget Need	\$9,020	\$2,745
YTD Sunday Offertory	\$108,590	\$30,690
YTD Budget Need	\$117,260	\$35,685
Overage/(Shortage) Amount	(\$8,670)	(\$4,995)
Annual Budget	\$460,000	\$140,000
<i>(July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026)</i>		

Stewardship

8



Catholic Ministries
Annual Appeal
Diocese of Joliet

Saint Mary Nativity

2025 Goal	\$40,600
Amount Pledged	\$32,785
Amount Paid	\$31,383
Balance Due	\$ 1,402
Donor Count	129
2025 Rebate	\$0

Holy Cross

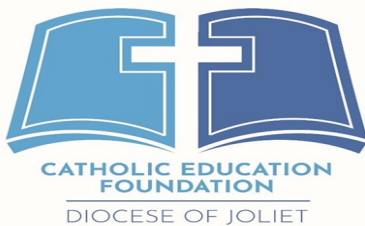
2025 Goal	\$14,000
Amount Pledged	\$17,675
Amount Paid	\$16,035
Balance Due	\$ 1,640
Donor Count	63
2025 Rebate	\$ 1,424

Thank
YOU

Once our
parishes reach
their goal
in paid
pledges,
70% of the
amount over
goal will
be returned to
the parishes.



Fr. Ken Nielsen and The Food for the Poor Organization would like to extend their sincere gratitude to Fr. Clive and our welcoming community here at St. Mary Nativity and all who contributed to their Food for the Poor Campaign. They raised \$4,967.00 the weekend of September 6th and 7th. Thank you again for your generosity and support.



Keeping Catholic Education Strong

Since 1996, the Catholic Education Foundation (CEF) has secured the future of Catholic schools in our diocese. Through generous donors, more than 50,000 students at 40+ schools across five counties have received a faith-filled education.

This year, we aim to raise \$1 million to keep Catholic education vibrant for generations to come.

Join us! Visit CEFJoliet.org to learn more or use this QR Code to give today.



**PLEASE JOIN US AS
WE PRAY THE
ROSARY FOR LIFE!**

Please join the Knights of Columbus & the Bible study groups to pray the Rosary for Life & our country on Saturday, October 18 at 10 AM at Lockport Central/City Hall. We will be near the fountain & pavilion. Our country & our world & all of us are in such need of Our Lady's help & intercession for all life: the unborn, the poor, the suffering all over the world. Our Lady told us that the Rosary is the most powerful prayer. We need peace. We need hope. We need the repentance & conversion of our great nation. We need Jesus. Help us ask Our Mother of Jesus for all this help. Just show up with your rosary & pray with us.

**You can contact John Walters (Knights)
at 630-003-0075**

**Denise Adelman (SJ/SMN Bible study)
denadelmann@gmail.com**

The Week Ahead

Monday, October 6

1:15pm Practice for Living Rosary - SMN Church

Tuesday, October 7

9:30am Bible Study - SMN Nativity Room

1:00pm Rosary - SMN Church

2:00pm Living Rosary - SMN Church

Wednesday, October 8

8:30am Mass - St. Mary Nativity (School Mass)

5:00pm Volleyball Games - SMN Gym

Thursday, October 9

1:00pm Rosary in Spanish - SMN Church

Friday, October 10 Teacher Diocesan Institute

12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration - SMN Church

5:00pm Polish School - SMN School

Saturday, October 11

4:00-6:00pm Magnificat Table

Fellowship Meal - SMN Cafeteria

Sunday, October 12

7:30am Hospitality Sunday -

SMN Nativity Room

9:15am No Religious Ed Class

THE LIVING
ROSARY



St. Mary Nativity/Holy Cross
Magnificat Table
Fellowship Meal

HOSPITALITY
SUNDAY

Parish Office
and School will be

CLOSED
ON
COLUMBUS
DAY

October 13, 2025

Sunday, October 12th in the Nativity Room
after the morning masses.

Sweet!
HOSPITALITY
SUNDAY

Bring the Family!

All Are Welcome



Non Perishable items
may be dropped off at
St. Mary Nativity Church
vestibule on
October 4th & 5th
Thank you!



PRAYER GROUP



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

All Are Welcome



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



"And the Apostles said to the Lord,
increase our faith." Learn how to
increase your faith through your
spousal relationship on the next
Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Experience on
November 14-16 in Geneva, IL.

For more info go to:
wwme.org or call (888) 574-5653



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 10am
to right before the 11am 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 double that to
about 20. If you are interested in joining, please contact
Tony Brandolino at 815-531-9257.

Catholic Kids Column Servant Heart

In the parable of the master and the servant in this week's Gospel, Jesus is telling us that a servant does not expect the master to serve him. He knows his role is to do the work he was given. And when the job is done, he does not demand a reward or special recognition. He simply did what was expected. Jesus is reminding us that we are servants of God. We are here to serve Him, not to expect Him to serve us.

Even though we know we are supposed to be serving God, sometimes we act as if He should be serving us. We might ignore Him for weeks, barely praying or thinking about Him. But then, when we need something, we suddenly start asking for favors. Maybe we have a big test coming up, and we pray, "God, please help me pass this test, and I promise I'll start praying every day." Or maybe we want to make the soccer team, so we say, "God, if you help me make the cut, I'll go to Mass every Sunday."

There is nothing wrong with asking God for help. In fact, He wants us to bring our needs to Him. But we must remember that God is not a vending machine that gives us what we want in exchange for a few prayers. Jesus taught us to pray, "Thy will be done." This means that when we ask for something, we should also trust that God knows what is best for us. If things do not go the way we want, we should not get upset or stop praying. Instead, we should humbly accept His plan.

This week, try to stay focused on serving God, especially when you pray. Instead of making demands or trying to bargain with Him, take a different approach. When you pray, don't just ask for things you want—ask God what He wants for you. Prayer is not just about getting answers; it's about building a relationship with Him. Trust that He knows what is best for you, even if His plan looks different from what you expected. The more you focus on serving God, the more you will see His presence in your life.

Young-catholics.com



St. Mary Nativity/Holy Cross

Magnificat Table Fellowship Meal



A variety of Chilies and Gourmet Grilled Cheese with dessert and drinks.

Saturday, October 11

from 4 PM to 6 PM

FREE TO ANYONE WHO WANTS A HOT MEAL

Join us for great food & fellowship!

Free will offering appreciated, but not required.

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 FELLOWSHIP MEAL TO SET UP, SERVE AND CLEAN.

CONTACT MORGAN HUDSON AT 815-931-1397 OR CRAIG MAZUR AT 331-316-4366 TO SEE HOW YOU CAN BEST SERVE! THANK YOU!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14th, 2025
Details coming soon!

THANKFUL FOR YOU

Save the Date!



- Altar Server
- Lector
- Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
- Usher
- Choir

Serving in a Liturgical Ministry is an excellent opportunity to fulfill your baptismal call of service to one another. Our liturgies utilize the talents and gifts that God has given this community to the fullest extent. Parishioner contributions help our liturgies to be truly life-giving celebrations. Please prayerfully consider joining one of these ministries. Training is provided. Contact the Faith Formation Office.

11 Polish School News



2005 **20** **LAT** **2025**

**POLSKA KATOLICKA SZKOŁA
IM. ŚWIĘTEGO KRZYŻA W JOLIET**

ZAPRASZA NA

BAL Z OKAZJI 20 LECIA

SOBOTA
11.15.2025
6:30 P.M.

CRYSTAL GRAND BANQUETS
12416 S ARCHER AVE,
LEMONT, IL 60439


CENA BILETU:
\$100.00

KONTAKT:
POLSKASZKOLAJOLIET@GMAIL.COM
P. KOGUT 773 704 4159
P. KOKOSZKA 773 960 8108

Polska Katolicka Szkoła im.
Świętego Krzyża obchodzi swoje
20 Lecie istnienia.
Serdecznie zapraszamy wszystkich
do wspólnego świętowania.
Bilety w cenie \$100 dorośli, \$50 dzieci od
13 lat oraz \$30.00 dzieci do 12 lat.



Holy Cross Polish Catholic School
is celebrating its 20th anniversary.
We warmly invite everyone to join us in the celebration.
Tickets are \$100 for adults, \$50 for children aged 13
and up, and \$30 for children up to 12 years old.



2005 **20** **LAT** **2025**

HOLY CROSS POLISH SCHOOL IN JOLIET

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ITS

20TH ANNIVERSARY BALL.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025
AT 6:30 IN THE EVENING

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DONATION
\$100.00 PER PERSON

KINDLY RSVP BY NOVEMBER, 9 2025
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