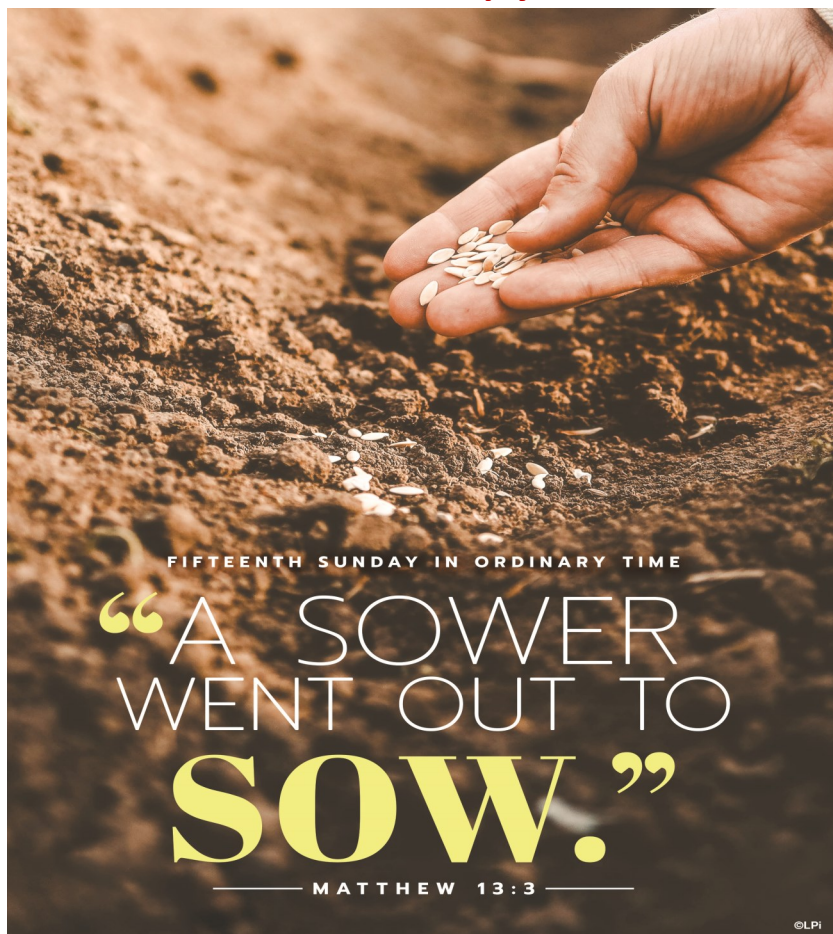


July  
12,  
2026

# St. Mary Nativity Catholic Parish Holy Cross Mission

*Deeply Committed. Christ at Heart.*



## 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 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/)

## 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
- Christine Goba**, Director of Faith Formation  
faithformation@stmarynativity.org
- Allen Kramerich**, Facilities Manager  
facilities@stmarynativity.org
- Deacon Emmanuel Eklou**  
deacon@stmarynativity.org
- St. Vincent de Paul St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross Conference** 815-779-4878



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  
(815) 726-4073

### Office Hours



Find us on:  
**facebook**

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)

**Office Hours:**  
Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

**Ms. Catherine Scotkovsky**, School Principal  
[cscotkovsky@stmarynativity.org](mailto:cscotkovsky@stmarynativity.org)

**Bianca Mata**, School Secretary  
[bmata@stmarynativity.org](mailto:bmata@stmarynativity.org)

### Polskiej Szkoły im. Świętego Krzyża w Joliet

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

# 3

# Maintenance

Our deepest gratitude for your contributions to our maintenance fund. Your support helps us preserve and improve our campuses. Thank you for believing in our vision and for helping to build a stronger more vibrant faith community.

### June 2026 Maintenance

#### Holy Cross

Reinstall Slate Shingle on Church Roof  
 Replace Condenser Fan Motor Church AC  
 Miscellaneous Items (Amazon and Menards)

Donations	Expenses	Available Funds
\$2,134	\$2,363	\$3,720

GRATEFUL

#### Saint Mary Nativity

January 2026 Invoice Campus Snow Removal and Salting (Third Invoice - Final Payment)  
 March 2026 Invoice Campus Snow Removal and Salting (Fourth Invoice- Final Payment)  
 Summer Cleaning Supplies for School Campus  
 Water Treatment for Boiler  
 Miscellaneous Items (Amazon and Menards)

Donations	Expenses	Available Funds
\$6,403	\$6,109	\$6,068

Thankful

#### Upcoming Projects - Holy Cross

Church north gutter painting - man lift needed - Pending due to cost  
 Church plumbing in basement - Pending bids  
 Church door hinge - Pending availability  
 Church front outside stairs in need of repairs - Pending bids  
 Church replacement of damage grass - In process - Estimated \$500  
 Rectory gutter repair and downspout - Completed in July \$300  
 Rectory retaining wall in need of repairs - Pending bids



HC Rectory Downspout Repair

BLESSED



SMN North parking lot sealcoating

#### Upcoming Projects - St. Mary Nativity

Sealcoating of north and south parking lots - In progress \$5,700  
 South lot parkway - removal of existing asphalt grind tree stumps and install new asphalt Estimated cost \$9,000  
 Pending inquiry submitted to City of Joliet  
 Proposals also requested brick pavers versus asphalt  
 Church canopy area sidewalk section spalding and chipping  
 City of Joliet has been contacted for an engineer to come out  
 Clock tower repair - In process  
 Waxing Nativity Room and cafeteria floors  
 Miscellaneous outdoor repairs being reviewed



**Saturday - July 11**

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

For the People of the Parishes

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

† Bob Eberhard by Jim, George & Gerry

† Jerry Lakota by Pat Weiskop

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

† Tadeusz

**Sunday - July 12**

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

For the people of the Parishes

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

† Piotr Rafacz "17th Anniversary" by Brother, Stanislaw & Family

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

O Boże błogosławieństwo dla Cecylii i Grzegorza Miętusów z okazji 20. rocznicy ślubu

† Mikołaj Mroczek

† Krystyna Złozą

† Wiesław Fijołek i + Zdzisław Kuwik

† Tadeusz Zelek

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

† † Lee Bivens & Julius Roark by Judy Hintze

† Merle Hoebing by The Salas Family

† Kenneth Hrusosky by The Lawrence Mahalik Family

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

† † Amin Abdullah, Mansour Kaziha, Naden Awad by Jennifer Jefferson

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

† Rosa Foote by The Pervan Family

**Monday - July 13**

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

† Frederick & Nadine Ferebee by Daughter

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

† ks. Zbigniew Szwarz SChr i + ks. Czesław Kamiński SChr

**Tuesday - July 14**

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

† Kevin Hansen by Mike & Beth Hansen

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

† † ks. Zbigniew Szwarz SChr i + ks. Czesław Kamiński SChr

**Wednesday - July 15**

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

† Deceased members of the O'Reilly Family by Family

† Louis Lakota Jr. by Children

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

† † Aniela i Stanisław Bieniek

**Thursday - July 16**

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

† Frank Ozella by The Traina Family

† Kevin Hansen by Elizabeth A. Hansen

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

† Maria Bachleda-Kubańska

**Friday - July 17**

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

† † John & Kathryn Gudac by The Gudac Family

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

† † Wojciech i Anna

**Saturday - July 18**

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

† † Feliz and Kitty Burzawa by Family

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

† Michaeline LaBuda by Frank LaBuda & Daughter Caryn

† Veronica Mahalik "Anniversary" by Family

† Deceased members of the Pluth Family by Betty & Family

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

O Boże błogosławieństwo dla Anny i Pawła z okazji 39. rocznicy ślubu

**Sunday - July 19**

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

† Jan Crosetto by Friends

† William Jones by Family

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

† Raymond Stofko "Birthday" by Family

† Lorraine Jaskowiak "5th Anniversary" by Marcia Groves & Family

† Andrew Jaskowiak "13th Anniversary" by Marcia Groves & Family

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

† † Eugenia i Władysław Gawron

† Danuta Mąka

† Mikołaj Mroczek

† † Anna i Czesław Styrzcula

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

† Kenneth Hrusosky "Birthday" by Family

† Carol Widlowski "Anniversary" by The Zagoda Family

† Brad Chinderle by Wife

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

† Ann Jelinek "Birthday" by Family

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

† For the People of the Parishes

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



### Month of July Most Precious Blood

*“The Saviour has instituted the most glorious Sacrament of the Eucharist, which truly contains His Body and His Blood, so that, whoever eats it will live forever. Therefore, those who receive it frequently, with devotion, strengthen their spiritual life and well-being, to such an extent, that it is almost impossible for them to be poisoned by any kind of evil attachment.”*

(Introduction to the Devout Life, Part II, Chapter 20)  
St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622)  
Doctor of the Church



(MT 13) “But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.” Help your marriage be like the rich soil by taking part in a Worldwide Marriage

Encounter Experience on July 10-12 at St. John Neumann in St. Charles (2 day non-residential) or Sept. 18-20 in Batavia or October 9-11 in Rockford.

For more information go to:  
[wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call (888) 574-5653



### 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 FOURTH MONTH – JUNE 25 to JULY 25

Mary now takes her place in village society as a married woman and expectant mother. Family and friends gather materials to weave the swaddling garments in which her child is to be clothed. At four months, Jesus’ organs are functioning and his heart is pumping 6 1/2 gallons of blood each day. Approximately 6 inches in length, fine hair covers his body, eyelashes and brows are showing as well as unique fingerprints which will remain the same all his life. He is comforted by listening to his mother’s heartbeat. Sadly, 160,000 abortions per year take place after the fourth month. Pray for expectant mothers that they will find support to make life’s realization possible.



### 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  
Airman, Josh Maurer, Air Force



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

Ann	Janet Horvath	Patricia Phinney
Bill	Jacqueline H.	Phyllis Popek
Mary Bellos	Violet Hyndman	Ronald Pruss
Vietta Bews	Harriet Kazlauskas	Armando Rodriguez
Sheri Bokholdt	James Kozar	Father Pete Rossa
Christopher Borsom	Dan Kramerich	Lesa Ruth
Denise Boudreau	Bernadette (Lajcin)	Kimberly Schlegel
Stephanie Cavanagh	Marilyn Lajcin	Steve Senisais
Tyler Centorbi	Don Legerski	Terri Shepherd
Yolanda Costa	Kathleen Lepacek	Ashly Smith
Dianne Cerpen-Verlare	Darlene Likar	Scott & Adam
Bob DeLach	Ann Marie Linko	Elizabeth Mary Sobolak
Anthony Deredita	George MacZura	Mary Suarez
John Drnek	Phil May	Thomure Family
Gerald Drobick	Alex McKeel	Joseph Trubich
Linda Eck	Charlene Molnar	Jim Thompson
Dosseh Houseaj Elise	Robert Nasenbenny	Margaret Thompson
Kelly G.	Raymond John Nickel	Sister Elaine Teders
Anthony Gregory	Paul Norris	Tommy Turner
Anthony Harmes	Gliceria Nunez	Susan Ward
Alba Hensley	Parnell	
Janet	James Partak	

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



The Joliet Croatian Cultural Club has given St. Mary Nativity free tickets to the Folklore Show event. We have 16 left in the Parish Office. If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at 815-726-4031.



**CROATIAN CULTURAL FOLKLORE SHOW**  
Featuring  
**-Hearts of Zagreb-**  
@  
Joliet Croatian Cultural Club  
1503 Clement Street  
Joliet, IL 60435

**Sunday July 19, 2026 @2:00pm**

**Tickets available at Club Bar - \$10**

**2:00 - 4:00pm Youth Craft Workshop**  
Crafting Licitar Hearts and Wooden Horses  
Listed by UNESCO Representative of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity  
Reserve a spot by emailing: [george.gibsoniii@gmail.com](mailto:george.gibsoniii@gmail.com) or call 972-375-7972  
Ages 5 - 15 : Limited Availability

**2:00 - 4:00pm Croatian Culture Learning Display**  
A wide and varied selection of books and exhibit will be displayed for review, including; History, Language, Costume, Food, Geography & More

**2:00 - 4:00pm Family Meal**  
Grilled Chicken, Italian Beef or Sausage Sandwich, potato salad, dessert and soft drink.  
Continuous 2 hour serving period.

**4:00 - 5:00pm Hearts of Zagreb Ensemble Show**  
Musical & Dance Heritage Journey featuring traditional instruments to modern tambura with accompanying dance in cultural costumes. Sound, rhythm, song and movement connect to an authentic Croatian cultural experience.

**5:00 pm Door Prize Drawing**  
3 Croatian Cultural Items - Must be present to win  
more information available - [heartsofzagreb.com](http://heartsofzagreb.com)  
Questions - [george.gibsoniii@gmail.com](mailto:george.gibsoniii@gmail.com) or call 972-375-7972



Announcing the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual  
*Wedding Anniversary*  
*Mass*

AUGUST  
SUN **30** 1:00 PM  
2026

604 N Raynor Ave., Joliet, IL 60435

Couples celebrating anniversaries of 25 years, 50 years, and more than 50 years are welcome to attend. Bishop Dennis Spies will celebrate the Mass at St. Raymond's Cathedral and will lead all couples in a special renewal of wedding commitment.

**Deadline to register: August 10, 2026**

Questions? Contact Deacon Doug McIlvaine:  
815-221-6136  
[dmcilvaine@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:dmcilvaine@dioceseofjoliet.org)




**Volunteers Needed to Join Our Conference.**

**St. Mary Nativity Holy Cross Conference of St. Vincent de Paul**

We meet 1-2 times a month, either in person or via Zoom.

**(815)779-4878**

St. Mary Nativity/ Holy Cross *Magnificat Table Fellowship Meal*

Join us for a  
**FUN SUMMERTIME MEAL**

July 12th, 2026  
5:00-7:00pm




*Bring your appetite and enjoy a cozy night with family and friends.*  
**FREE for anyone who wants a delicious hot meal!**  
**St. Mary Nativity (Nativity Room)**  
FREE WILL OFFERING APPRECIATED BUT NOT REQUIRED

# 7 Stewardship

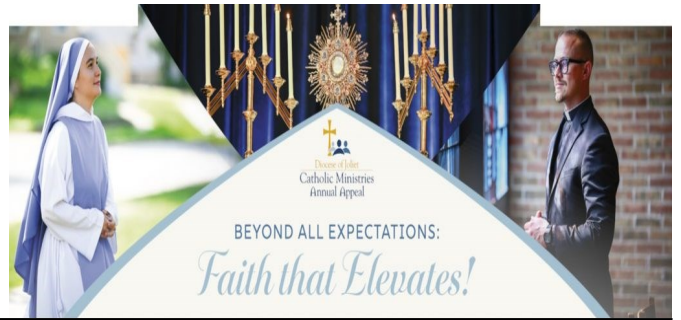


Scan now to donate!

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>



<u>June 28, 2026</u>	<u>St. Mary Nativity</u>	<u>Holy Cross</u>
Sunday Offertory	\$7,303	\$2,843
Sunday Offertory Budget Need	\$9,020	\$2,745
YTD Sunday Offertory	\$439,072	\$137,396
YTD Budget Need	\$460,000	\$140,000
<b>Overage/(Shortage) Amount</b>	<b>(\$20,928)</b>	<b>(\$2,604)</b>
Annual Budget <i>(July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026)</i>	\$460,000	\$140,000
Peter's Pence	\$2,485	\$895

<u>Saint Mary Nativity</u>		Thank YOU	Once our parishes reach their goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to the parishes.
2025 Goal	<b>\$39,800</b>		
Amount Pledged	\$37,310		
Amount Paid	\$32,524		
Balance Due	\$ 4,786		
Donor Count	137		
2025 Rebate	\$0		
<u>Holy Cross</u>			
2025 Goal	\$13,700		
Amount Pledged	<b>\$17,475</b>		
Amount Paid	\$15,815		
Balance Due	\$ 1,660		
Donor Count	57		
2025 Rebate	\$1,481		

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

**SMN, we are so close to reaching our goal, we need roughly \$2500 more. If you have not donated yet to the CMAA, please prayerfully considering making a donation to help us reach our goal!!**

<u>July 5, 2026</u>	<u>St. Mary Nativity</u>	<u>Holy Cross</u>
Sunday Offertory	\$8,311	\$2,334
Sunday Offertory Budget Need	\$9,215	\$2,843
YTD Sunday Offertory	\$8,311	\$2,334
YTD Budget Need	\$9,215	\$2,843
<b>Overage/(Shortage) Amount</b>	<b>(\$904)</b>	<b>(\$509)</b>
Annual Budget <i>(July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027)</i>	\$470,000	\$145,000

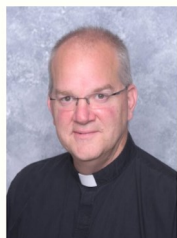
O God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unflinching care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church of Joliet who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



**God can't be outdone**

Years ago, Chris and Nena Lavoie began welcoming seminarians into their home for a meal and a blessing. Over time, 10 or 12 young men gathered around their table. They couldn't have known that this simple hospitality was planting a seed in their own son, Joshua, now a priest for the Diocese of Joliet, ordained just a few weeks ago. The diocese walked with Fr. Josh through eight years of formation. For the Lavoies, giving to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal is one way to walk with the next young man, and the next.



Bishop Dennis Spies  
Diocesan Administrator

## Are You Being Called to the Permanent Diaconate?

The Diocese of Joliet is in the process of inviting men to discern the call to the next diaconate class of formation.

If the thought of becoming a deacon has whispered to your soul, I encourage you to contact the diaconate office for more information.

WHAT IS A  
*Calling*  
FROM  
GOD



Office for the Diaconate  
815-221-6174  
[vocations.diojoliet.org/start-a-conversation](http://vocations.diojoliet.org/start-a-conversation)

### The Week Ahead

**Monday, July 13**  
**Tuesday, July 14**  
 9:30am Bible Study - SMN Nativity Room  
 1:00pm Rosary - SMN Church

**Wednesday, July 15**  
**Thursday, July 16**  
 10:00am Funeral - SMN Church  
 1:00pm Rosary in Spanish - SMN Church

**Friday, July 17**  
 12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration - SMN Church

**Saturday, July 18**  
**Sunday, July 19**  
 8:35am Monthly Pro-Life Rosary - HC Church  
 10:35am Monthly Pro-Life Rosary - SMN Church

 **Parish Office Summer Hours:**  
**Monday through Thursday**  
**8:00am to 3:00pm**  
**Fridays - CLOSED**  
**From June 1 thru August 14**  
 Church will be open for Personal Prayer on Fridays from 8:00am to 3:00pm.  
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Eucharistic Adoration will continue on Fridays from 12:00pm - 3:00pm throughout the Summer months.


**AVAILABLE NOW!**  
**PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES**

**Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!**

Julie Blanford from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.



**LPi** Julie Blanford  
 (800) 950-9952 x2141  
 JBlanford@4lpi.com


 **Non Perishable items may be dropped off at the SMN Church vestibule on August 1st and 2nd. Thank you!**

**Sunday, July 12th in the Nativity Room after the morning Masses.**

**Sweet! HOSPITALITY SUNDAY**  
  
*Bring the Family!*  
**All Are Welcome**

 **BIBLE STUDY**  
 *Rosary Hour*  
 English Spanish (Livestream)

# 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, please contact Mike Hansen at 815-212-3661 or mikehansen@mikehansenlaw.com



 **Come Sing with us!**

**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. If you are interested in joining, please contact **Tony Brandolino at 815-531-9257.**

## RELIGIOUS FORMATION

We are glad to support your family on its faith journey. The Religious Formation Office works to help your child build a personal, grace-filled relationship with Jesus.

Our program supports your efforts to nurture spiritual growth at home. Religious Formation partners with families to pass on the Catholic faith through a structured program tailored to each child's developmental stage, from kindergarten through eighth grade. We are committed to helping your child know and love God and to helping your family grow in faith. For more information, contact Christine at [Faithformation@stmarynativity.org](mailto:Faithformation@stmarynativity.org).



## SACRAMENTS

St. Mary Nativity /Holy Cross church is genuinely happy to be able work with your family to prepare and receive the Sacraments.

The Sacraments are God's great gift to mankind and so there is great joy in being able to share this wonderful gift and work of God with your family. The seven sacraments touch all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life: "they give birth and increase, healing and mission to the Christian's life of faith. There is thus a certain resemblance between the stages of natural life and the stages of the spiritual life." (St Thomas Aquinas)

## Sacrament Reminder



Confirmation  
Don't forget if your child is planning to make a sacrament that the Diocese of Joliet requires that children **complete a minimum of two consecutive years of religious formation** before receiving sacraments. Typically, in 2nd grade, our children receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the late fall and the Sacrament of Eucharist in the spring. (Children must have participated in Religious Formation classes in first and second grade or two other consecutive years of preparation). Preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, which will be conferred at the end of 8th grade begins in 6th and 7th grade. (Full participation in RF in 7th and 8th grade is the minimum enrollment required.)

## Faith Formation

### Catholic Kids Column

#### 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Today's readings invite us to think about how God's Word works in our lives. Each reading uses simple images from the world around us. Rain, seeds, soil, and harvest all show how God's word brings life and hope. These readings remind us that God always works with purpose.

In the Gospel Jesus tells us the parable of the sower, a person who plants seeds in the ground. The seed falls in different places, and how well it grows depends on the type of soil and where it falls. Jesus isn't trying to teach us about how to plant seeds; He's telling us something about how we should listen to His Word and receive it into our hearts so that it can grow. What helps you to receive God's message? What might distract or challenge you in receiving and growing in God's Word? Based on Young-Catholics.com

#### What Religious Formation Class Will Be Learning

This upcoming school year we will be learning about many things. One of the subjects that we will be learning about is prayer and how it is a conversation with God and how prayer is lifting our hearts and minds to Him and also listening for His voice. Our children will learn that when people come together to pray using Jesus' name, He is actually with them listening, helping, and praying with them too. We will discuss how our souls need prayer just as our bodies need food; our souls are fed by prayer. They will learn that the greatest way to pray is to participate in Mass.

We will learn that there are numerous ways to pray: talking to God; using special prayers we learn; even being silent can be a prayer. There are also different things to say in our prayers like blessing and adoration which is the form of prayer in which we tell God that we love Him. Petition is the form of prayer in which we ask God for good things and Intercession is the form of prayer in which we ask God to help others. Thanksgiving is the fourth form of prayer in which we thank God for the good things He has given us. Also, some grades will be studying the words of the Our Father and the Apostles Creed and what they mean.



### St. Mary Nativity Religious Education

**Register Now for 2026-2027**

Classes meet from

September through April

Info and Registration is online at  
[www.stmarynativityholycross.com](http://www.stmarynativityholycross.com)



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## ZAPISY NA NOWY ROK SZKOLNY 2026/2027



*Rozpoczynamy zapisy na nowy rok szkolny 2026/2027*

Nasza szkoła od 20 lat uczy i cieszy się językiem polskim, przekazuje wiedzę z literatury i kultury polskiej jak również z historii i geografii

Oferujemy zajęcia w małych grupach dla dzieci w wieku od przedszkola do liceum. Indywidualne podejście do ucznia oraz wykwalifikowana i z pasją kadra pedagogiczna pozwala na unikalny rozwój każdego dziecka. Przygotowujemy do sakramentów świętych – I Komunii oraz Bierzmowania

### Polska Katolicka Szkoła im. Świętego Krzyża

Holy Cross Polish School

**815 630 6190**

[polskaszkolajoliet@gmail.com](mailto:polskaszkolajoliet@gmail.com)

<https://www.polskaszkolajoliet.com/>



**Registration is now underway for the 2026-2027 School year.**

**Please contact Bianca, the school secretary, if you would like to schedule a tour of the school or if you have any questions regarding enrollment. 815-722-8518**

Do you have a religious statue that needs repainting? I'm happy to help! Please text or call me at

**(815) 954 6906**

Amelia Knick



Before



After

# 11 Upcoming events



Mammo Strong Inc. is a 501(c)3 Illinois Non-Profit Organization, created to honor the life and giving heart of Mathew "Mammo" Mammosser (SMN Class of 2009) who lost his courageous battle with brain cancer in 2012. Matt's legacy and inspiration continues on through Mammo Strong Inc., whose purpose is to provide charitable support to children in the areas of health, education or to experience youth sports. Each year Mammo Strong Inc. donates to St. Mary Nativity School for scholarships for students here. To date, Mammo Strong Inc. has donated over \$206,000 to children in need in those 3 areas. The annual fundraiser Mammo-Palooza will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2026 at St. Joe's Park in Joliet from 3:00-10:00 pm. Please join Sue Mammosser, our Secretary, in honoring her son Matt's life and supporting the fundraiser. If you would like to volunteer or become a sponsor for the event, please contact Sue at (815) 351-5727 or visit her in the parish office. Thank you!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross Parish Picnic

Sunday, August 23rd

12:00 - 9:00pm

More details coming soon!!!

SAVE THE DATE!



August 23rd

**Hoodwink'd**

**Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze**

**Live Bands:**  
 Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze  
 12:00 - 3:30pm  
 Hoodwink'd  
 5:00 - 9:00pm



Mammo Strong Inc. is an Illinois 501(c)3 Corporation that is dedicated to helping children succeed. All proceeds from these events will be donated to help children in the areas of medical needs, education and youth sports.

13th Annual

# MAMMO-PALOOZA

Saturday, August 22nd, 2026

St. Joseph Park  
 700 Theodore St, Joliet, IL 60435  
 3:00pm - 10:00pm

**FREE ADMISSION**



3:15pm—6:15pm

Live Bands - Food - Beer Garden - Games - Raffles - 50/50

**Midnight**

www.midnightband.com

7:00pm - 10:00pm

- ♦ Raffle Tickets are in the mail.
- ♦ Donation of raffle baskets are being accepted at the Parish Office.
- ♦ Donations of small prizes for kids games, face painting supplies, candy, etc. are being accepted at the Parish Office.
- ♦ To volunteer for the church picnic, please contact Bianca at the school office at 815-722-8518.
- ♦ Donations of water and pop are being accepted at the Parish Office.
- ♦ Bakery for the Bake Sale can be dropped off the morning of the Church Picnic to the gym at St. Joe's Park.

## Car Cruise

Saint Mary Nativity and Holy Cross Picnic

Sunday - August 23, 2026 12pm to 9pm

**No Entry Fee**

St. Joe's Park at Theodore and Raynor



and come to our picnic!

Join Us

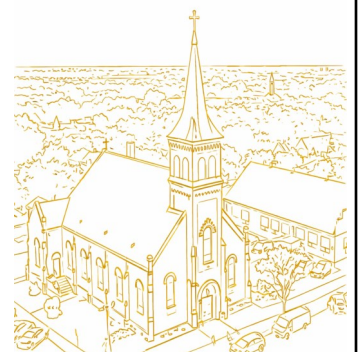


Activities for All Ages



Holy Cross Celebrating  
 125 Years of the  
 Dedication of the New Church  
*Save the Date September 13*

More information will be published soon about the event date.



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[jblanford@4LPi.com](mailto:jblanford@4LPi.com)  
 (800) 950-9952 x2141

**CROATIAN CULTURAL FOLKLORE SHOW**  
 Featuring **-Hearts of Zagreb-**  
 Joliet Croatian Cultural Club:  
 1503 Clement Street • Joliet, IL 60435  
**Sunday July 19, 2026 @2:00pm**  
**Tickets available at Club Bar - \$10**  
**2:00 - 4:00pm Youth Craft Workshop**  
 Crafting Licitar Hearts and Wooden Horses  
 Listed by UNESCO Representative of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Reserve a spot by emailing; [george.gibsoniii@gmail.com](mailto:george.gibsoniii@gmail.com) or call 972-375-7972. Ages 5-15 : Limited Availability  
**2:00 - 4:00pm Croatian Culture Learning Display**  
 A wide and varied selection of books and exhibit will be displayed for review, including; History, Language, Costume, Food, Geography & More  
**2:00 - 4:00pm Family Meal**  
 Grilled Chicken, Italian Beef or Sausage Sandwich, potato salad, dessert and soft drink. Continuous 2 hour serving period.  
**4:00 - 5:00pm Hearts of Zagreb Ensemble Show**  
 Musical & Dance Heritage Journey featuring traditional instruments to modern tambura with accompanying dance in cultural costumes. Sound, rhythm, song and movement connect to an authentic Croatian cultural experience.  
**5:00 pm Door Prize Drawing**  
 3 Croatian Cultural Items - Must be present to win.  
 More information available - [heartsofzagreb.com](http://heartsofzagreb.com)  
 Questions - [george.gibsoniii@gmail.com](mailto:george.gibsoniii@gmail.com) or call 972-375-7972

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