

July
5,
2026

St. Mary Nativity Catholic Parish Holy Cross Mission

Deeply Committed. Christ at Heart.




14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” - Mt 11:28


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

©LPI

 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

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

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
ealonzo@stmarynativity.org

Bianca Mata, School Secretary
bmata@stmarynativity.org

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

Barbara Szuba,
Polish School Principal
polskaszkolajoliet@gmail.com

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



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

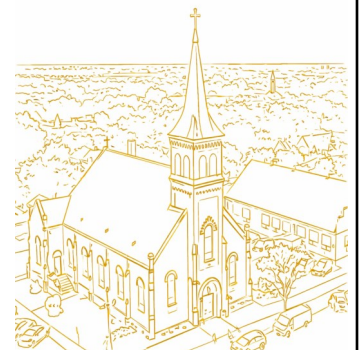


Activities for All Ages



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.





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

Mass Intentions

4

Saturday - July 4

4:00 pm Mass (HC)

† Kathy Fordonski by Family

4:00 pm Mass (SMN)

† Deceased members of the Troppe, Shepich, Zembruski & Mikuska Families by Family

† Lillian Kucharz by Marge & Jean Zanella

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

Dziękczynna i o opiekę Bożej Opatrzności dla Stanów Zjednoczonych w 250. rocznicę Deklaracji Niepodległości

† † Helena i Eugeniusz Zwolenik

Sunday - July 5

7:00 am Mass (SMN)

† Marie Cherven by Family

9:00 am Mass (HC)

† Helena Warmuz by Godson Stanislaw & Family

10:30 am Mass (HC)

O opiekę Bożą dla Stanów Zjednoczonych w 250. rocznicę Deklaracji Niepodległości
O zdrowie i Boże błogosławieństwo dla Władysławy, Anety i Pawła okazji urodzin

† Henryk Dąbrowski

† Marek Gawron (zmarł w Polsce)

† Andrzej Wróbel (rocznica urodzin)

11:00 am Mass (SMN)

The living and deceased mothers of our Parishes

† Fr. Anthony Nyamai by SMN & HC Parish Community

† Robert Benedick, Jerry Russ & James Flanery by Family

† Richard W. Serdar by Joe Sako

12:30 pm Mass (SMN)

† Frank LaBuda by Daughter, Caryn

5:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the people of the Parishes

Monday - July 6

8:30 am Mass (HC)

† Gregory Wagley by Aunt

† Phillip Hoffman by Friend

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

† Fr. Anthony Nyamai

Tuesday - July 7

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

Jerry Lakota and Family by Trent and Laura Bohacz

8:30 am Mass (HC) Polish

O spełnienie się woli Bożej dla Janiny

Wednesday - July 8

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

† In honor of the Holy Angels

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

O zdrowie dla Anny

Thursday - July 9

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

Holy Souls in Purgatory by George MacZura

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

† Zygmunt Żyznowski i + Szczepan Wróblewski

Friday - July 10

8:30 am Mass (HC)

† Eva Galounis by The Traina Family

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

† Andrzej Janik

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 Złoz

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

**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 11) “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” Give your marriage a rest from the world and renew your love by participating 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:
wwwme.org or call (888) 574-5653



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

Betty Ann Juricic

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



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 SECOND MONTH – MAY 25 to JUNE 25

Faith-filled Joseph, believing the revelation that he is to be the protector of the Messiah, bravely stands by Mary’s side, offering his strength and sense of mission as her body begins to accommodate her child. How many fathers have abandoned the mothers of their children? Indeed, how many fathers who have treasured a child never know of its existence or of its terrible end? Babies denied life who can at this stage hear, open and close their lips, hiccup and suck their thumbs. At three inches, the baby now begins to kick, curl and fan toes, make a fist, and practice breathing. Pray for all fathers that they may use the awesome power of life-giving to be a true protector.



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	Kimberly Schlegel
Denise Boudreau	Bernadette (Lajcin)	Steve Senisais
Stephanie Cavanagh	Marilyn Lajcin	Terri Shepherd
Tyler Centorbi	Don Legerski	Ashly Smith
Yolanda Costa	Kathleen Lepacek	Scott & Adam
Dianne Cerpen-Verlare	Darlene Likar	Elizabeth Mary Sobolak
Bob DeLach	Ann Marie Linko	Mary Suarez
Anthony Deredita	George MacZura	Thomure Family
John Drnek	Phil May	Joseph Trubich
Gerald Drobick	Alex McKeel	Jim Thompson
Linda Eck	Charlene Molnar	Margaret Thompson
Dosseh Houseaj Elise	Robert Nasenbenny	Sister Elaine Teders
Kelly G.	Raymond John Nickel	Tommy Turner
Anthony Gregory	Paul Norris	Susan Ward
Anthony Harnes	Gliceria Nunez	
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 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
Questions - george.gibsoniii@gmail.com or call 972-375-7972



Announcing the 48th 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




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>

Due to early submission, the parish weekly collection for June 28, 2026 will be posted later.

WORLD YOUTH DAY
 JULY 30 - AUGUST 9, 2027
 WITH OPTIONAL SOUTH KOREA PRE-TOUR AND VIETNAM POST-TOUR

WORLD YOUTH DAY SEUL 2027
 Logo By Mubarakia - Christwork, COO
<https://www.wydworld.org/en/usa>
<http://www.wydworld.com>



AGE REQUIREMENTS: 18 - 39 (must be 18 by July 1, 2027)
 For more information or to be added to the list of future participants, contact:
 Penny Borello - Inteltravel • 630-309-1851 • pborello@gmail.com



Bishop Dennis Spies
 Diocesan Administrator

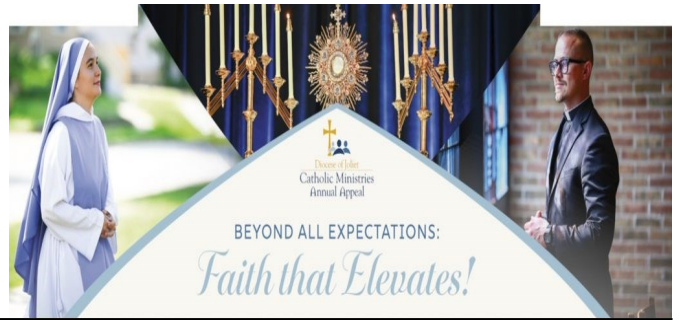
Are You Being Called to the Permanent Diaconate?

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



Saint Mary Nativity

2025 Goal	\$39,800
Amount Pledged	\$37,010
Amount Paid	\$31,712
Balance Due	\$ 5,298
Donor Count	136
2025 Rebate	\$0

Holy Cross

2025 Goal	\$13,700
Amount Pledged	\$16,300
Amount Paid	\$14,510
Balance Due	\$ 1,790
Donor Count	54
2025 Rebate	\$ 567

Thank YOU

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

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.

DONATE

TODAY



God can't be outdone

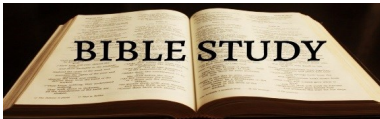
Years ago, Chris and Nena Lavoie began welcoming seminarians into their home for a meal and a blessing. Over time, 10 or 12 young men gathered around their table. They couldn't have known that this simple hospitality was planting a seed in their own son, Joshua, now a priest for the Diocese of Joliet, 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.



The Week Ahead



Saturday, July 4
Sunday, July 5
Monday, July 6
Tuesday, July 7
9:30am Bible Study - SMN Nativity Room
1:00pm Rosary - SMN Church
Wednesday, July 8
Thursday, July 9
1:00pm Rosary in Spanish - SMN Church
Friday, July 10
12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration - SMN Church
Saturday, July 11
Sunday, July 12
7:00am Hospitality Sunday - SMN Nativity Room
5:00pm Magnificat Table Fellowship Meal
SMN Nativity Room



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



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.



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.



Non Perishable items may be dropped off at the SMN Church vestibule on July 4th & 5th Thank you!



Please note: The North and South Parking Lots will be closed the week of July 6 for seal coating and yellow striping. Thanking you in advance.

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

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



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.



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



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 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Today's readings Jesus shows us that He knows that we often face situations that can be difficult. We may feel frustrated or tired and want to give up. Jesus calls the weary and tried to Himself, telling us to not worry, because He will help us with our burdens. If we hand over our troubles to Him in prayer, He will give us strength and help to keep going. Through the Holy Spirit we can be transformed and find true life and freedom from sin. The life of Discipleship is not a burden but life-giving. Based on Young-Catholics.com



What Religious Formation Class Will Be Learning

This upcoming school year we will be learning about many things, but one of the subjects that we will be learning about is what a sacrament is and why it is important. Our kids will learn that as human beings, we learn about the world through our senses. We see things, hear things, touch things, taste things and smell things. We know about things by using our senses. Jesus understood this. This is why He instituted the sacraments using ordinary things that we can see, hear, taste and touch. They are outward signs of His grace at work in us. We experience the sacraments with our physical senses and also in our souls. Each time we receive a sacrament, it actually changes us. Through the sacraments Jesus feeds us, heals us, protects us, and strengthens us. We cannot see Jesus but the sacraments make Him present to us.



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



ST. MARY NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Preschool - 8th grade

REGISTER NOW

Deeply Committed,
Christ at Heart.

Call to schedule a tour

702 N. Broadway St.
Joliet, IL. 60435

- ✓ Certified staff
- ✓ Standard-based curriculum
- ✓ Catholic Education
- ✓ Athletics
- ✓ Extra Curricular Programs
- ✓ Community Service

For more information:
815-722-8518
Hablamos Español

Visit us:
stmarynativity.org



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

<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



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Vatican Recognition:

Decree Signing and Papal Audience

Vatican City, March, 2026 – Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) has been formally recognized as an International Private Association of the Faithful by the Vatican’s Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life. The recognition was formalized in Rome on March 11 with the signing of the decree, followed by an audience with the Holy Father on March 12, both attended by a delegation of WWME couples, priests, bishops and religious from around the world.

The decree, presented by Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Prefect of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life affirms the place of Worldwide Marriage Encounter within the life of the Church as a lay movement serving married couples and clergy in their vocation.

For more than 55 years, Worldwide Marriage Encounter has provided experiences centered on reflection, intentional communication and renewed commitment, inviting couples, priests and religious to engage more fully in their relationships and responsibilities with the Church. What begins as one encounter experience continues through a sustained network of communities that support participants in daily life.

The Vatican’s recognition acknowledges not only the structure of the movement, but the lived witness of those who have carried it forward—couples, priests and religious who have dedicated themselves to fostering stronger marriages, supporting ministry and building relationships rooted in faith.

Founded in 1968, WWME is now present in nearly 100 countries, serving a global community through experiences that provide practical tools for communication, reflection and renewal. These experiences continue beyond the initial encounter, shaping how participants engage with their families, ministries and local church communities.

This is an invitation being offered to all married couples and priests to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience being offered on the following dates and locations:

July 11-12	St. John Neumann, St. Charles (2 day non-residential)
September 18-20	Comfort Inn, Geneva
October 9-11	Bishop Lane Retreat Center, Rockford
December 4-6	St. Mary’s Retreat Center, Lemont



For more information and to sign up for an Experience use the QR Code:

Or visit our website at: wwme.org or call 888-574-5653 -or- contact parishioners Karen & Paul McDermott @ (815) 955-1289 or Jane & Jim Richards @ (815) 955-1568 jrichards75@hotmail.com

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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 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
 Questions - george.gibsoniii@gmail.com or call 972-375-7972

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