

Sept.
20,
2026

St. Mary Nativity Catholic Parish Holy Cross Mission

Deeply Committed. Christ at Heart.



Blessings on CATECHETICAL SUNDAY



 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

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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

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 Nativty and

Holy Cross Conference 815-779-4878



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 12 pm for the upcoming Sunday Bulletin. Send all articles to smammosser@stmarynativity.org

**Advertiser
of the
Week**



The Sacrament of Baptism

For Baptisms at St. Mary Nativty 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.



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 Nativty 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

Ms. Catherine Scotkovsky, School Principal

cscotkovsky@stmarynativity.org

Bianca Mata, School Secretary

bmata@stmarynativity.org

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

Barbara Szuba,

Polish School Principal

polaskaszkolajoliet@gmail.com

Message from Bishop Dennis E. Spies



Catechetical Sunday Message from Bishop Dennis E. Spies

September 20, 2026



Happy Catechetical Sunday, everyone!

We begin the preparation for our school year, and as we learn our catechesis, which is the passing on of our faith to our younger generation, we ourselves can grow in our understanding of our faith—and as we do, please teach it to your children.

And I want to offer gratitude for Directors of Religious Ed in every parish—gratitude and thanks to all the teachers of every age level that teach our catechism week after week after week. It's a beautiful thing to see the different age levels learning about their faith and learning about it at their own level.

We are all called to become saints, and one of the ways we learn how to become saints is to learn the ways of the Lord, to learn the teachings of the church. The best way to grow in the image and likeness of our Lord Jesus is to know all about him, all that he did and that he said and that he taught. The example he had of growing up in a family—realizing that we are all growing up in a family—and to make the connection of what we're learning in class to our life at home.

So, parents, please continue to ask your children what they're learning and answer their questions. If you don't know, ask them to ask their teachers, ask your pastor when you see them and allow your children to learn and reflect about the Lord Jesus and growing up in his life.

One other thing I want to make sure I share is we can learn a lot about Jesus, but the really important part of our Catechesis, of handing on our faith, is learning how to pray—realizing that God is available to his saints whenever we call upon him. Teach your children to pray. Teach them how to pray and show them the heart of prayer in union with our Lord Jesus as he prayed to His Father.

+ Dennis E. Spies

Sincerely in Christ,
Bishop Dennis E. Spies

Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Joliet



Flame of Faith Frances & Joseph DePodesta



Mass Intentions

4

Saturday - September 19

4:00 pm Mass (HC)

For the People of the Parishes

4:00 pm Mass (SMN)

- † Margaret Kirinchich by Family
- † Dick Boban "25th Anniversary" by Family
- † Mary Stacel by Family
- † Andrew Shepich "Anniversary" by Susan & Dan Sameck
- † Sharon Gutierrez by Family
- Special Intentions of the Hochevar Family

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

- † O. Rajmund i + o. Marian
- † Zbigniew Kołpak (10. rocznica śmierci)
- † Stanisław Mierzwa

Sunday - September 20

7:00 am Mass (SMN)

Faith Formation Teachers by The Parish

9:00 am Mass (HC)

- † Deceased members of the Wruk Family by Family
- † Michael C. Gruben by Tony & Patty Torres

10:30 am Mass (HC)

- † Danuta Mąka
- † Mikołaj Mroczek
- † Robert Wierzbicki
- † Michalina Takuśka
- † Józef Topór (41. rocznica śmierci)

11:00 am Mass (SMN)

- † Veronica Mahalik by Family
- † Kenneth Hrusosky by Family
- † Frank & Michaeline LaBuda by Caryn LaBuda
- † John & Rosemary McCormack by Karen McCormack

12:30 pm Mass (SMN)

- † Kathleen Weiss by Fred & Diane Hafner

5:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes

Monday - September 21

8:30 am Mass (HC)

- † John & Kathryn Gudac by The Gudac Family
- † Martin W. Pavelek "Birthday" by Pat Lepacek

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

- † Dusze czyśćcowe

Tuesday - September 22

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

- † Deceased members of the O'Reilly Family by Family
- † Bob Tierney "Anniversary" by Family

8:30 am Mass (HC) Polish

ks. Ryszard Głowacki SChr (6. rocznica śmierci)

Wednesday - September 23

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

- † Deceased members of the O'Reilly Family by Family

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

- † Ewa, Helena i Wacław Sędaczy

Thursday - September 24

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

- † Keven Hansen by Elizabeth Hansen
- † Rufino Lara by Rosamaria & Richie Ochotorena
- Antonio Brandolino "1 Year Anniversary" by Children

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

- † Bronisława Pietrusza

Friday - September 25

8:30 am Mass (HC)

- † Marie MacZura "Birthday" by Family

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

W podziękowaniu za otrzymane łaski i z prośbą o zdrowie i opiekę Matki Bożej dla całej rodziny

Saturday - September 26

4:00 pm Mass (HC)

For the People of the Parishes

4:00 pm Mass (SMN)

- † Mary Ann Clennon by Family
- † Deceased members of Dzunich Family
- † Jerry Lakota by Annette & Ray Koncar
- † Sharon Gutierrez by Family
- † Dolly Parton (Month's Mind)

7:00 pm Mass (HC) Polish

O Boże błogosławieństwo dla Grażyny i Józefa z okazji 39. rocznicy ślubu

Sunday - September 27

7:00 am Mass (SMN)

- † Marie Rodawold by Rick & Janice Rodawold

9:00 am Mass (HC)

- † Lawrence Sekula by Larry & Laurie Pottorff

10:30 am Mass (HC)

- † Józef i Maria Oleś
- † Władysław Dziadkowiec (18. rocznica śmierci)
- † Danuta Łowisz

11:00 am Mass (SMN)

- † Janet Reddy Schalk by Karen McCormack
- † Juan Montoya "Birthday" by Family
- † Delores Bebej by Andrea McIntosh & Family

- † Daniel & Stephen Mahalik by Brother, Lawrence

12:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes

5:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes

Prayers for Our Beloved Deceased.

We offer sympathy and the promise of our prayers to the family and friends of:

Marilyn B. Tarizzo

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.



September is the month of Our Lady of Sorrows



Happy 95th Birthday Clara!



May God Bless you with many more!



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



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 SEVENTH MONTH – SEPTEMBER 25 TO 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.

Heavenly Father, we pray for...

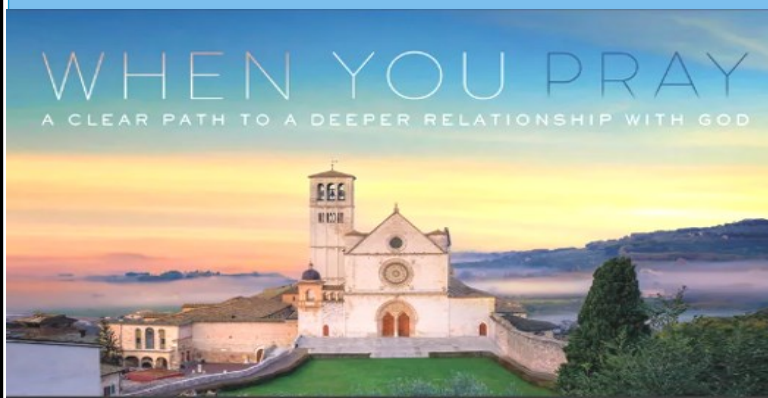
Ann	Jacqueline H.	Phyllis Popek
Bill	Violet Hyndman	Ronald Pruss
Mary Bellos	Harriet Kazlauskas	Armando Rodriguez
Vietta Bews	James Kozar	Father Pete Rossa
Sheri Bokholdt	Dan Kramerich	Lesa Ruth
Christopher Borsom	Bernadette (Lajcin)	Kimberly Schlegel
Stephanie Cavanagh	Marilyn Lajcin	Steve Senisais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

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



Coming this Fall: Adult Study

Thursday Evenings at St. Mary Nativity



Do you want to grow deeper in your relationship with God through prayer?

When You Pray: A Clear Path to a Deeper Relationship with God, a seven-session study designed to help transform your prayer life. Through each session, you will learn simple and powerful steps for prayer, gain tools to overcome distractions and discouragement, and discover how God desires to draw you into a deeper relationship with him. This adult study is open for all to join for one session or all sessions at St. Mary Nativity at 7pm to 8:15 in the Nativity Room. **For more information contact Christine at 815-726-4031 or by email at faithfomation@stmarynativity.org**

**Join us for When You Pray:
A Clear Path to a Deeper
Relationship with God**

Session One – “I Thirst”

Sept. 24

Session Two – The Battle for Prayer

Oct. 15

Session Three – Trust and Surrender

Oct 29

Session Four – Meeting God in the Valley

Nov. 5

Session Five – The Living Flame of Love

Nov. 19

Session Six – In the World, Not of the World

Dec. 3

Session Seven – Radiating Christ

Dec. 17

Parish News

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OPERATION ANDREW DINNER



Young men and their fathers are invited to join Bishop Dennis Spies and several area priests for dinner, conversation, and testimonials about their own vocation stories.

There will be opportunity for a question-and-answer session and meeting other young men open to the priesthood.

Queen of Apostles Parish
18 Woodlawn Ave
Joliet, IL 60435

OCT 1 | 6 PM

Open to high school and young adult age men and their fathers

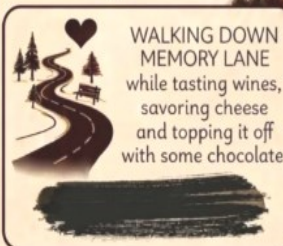
SCAN ME



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER — SPONSORED —

Wine,
**CHEESE &
CHOCOLATE**
A Night for Your Marriage

GOOD WINE.
GREAT COMPANY.
STRONGER TOGETHER.



WALKING DOWN
MEMORY LANE
while tasting wines,
savoring cheese
and topping it off
with some chocolate

NO COST
FREE EVENT
for all
married couples



DATE: **September 26th**

TIME: **Starts at 5:30pm**

LOCATION: The Parish Center
Holy Family Catholic Church
600 Brook Forest Ave
Shorewood IL 60404

Scan to register



**LIMITED SPACE
SIGN UP TODAY!**

ALWAYS be ready to give an explanation...a reason for your HOPE. 1 Pet 3:15

Catechetical Sunday is September 20, 2026

From faith formation teachers, to youth leaders, to adult religious educators, catechists, please thank and pray for all those who give their time, talents, and treasure to spread the Faith in our parish community.

Fr. Clive Otieno, Pastor

Fr. Tomasz Sielicki, Parochial Vicar

Fr. Gerald Nicholas, OSA

Fr. Johnus Cherunilath, Prison Ministry

Christine Goba, Director of Faith Formation

Cathie Scotkovsky, SMN School Principal

Barbara Szuba, Polish School Principal

SMN School Teachers:

Pilar Cisneros, Preschool Teacher

Jodie Dziuba, First Grade Teacher

Gina Fleming, Specials Teacher

Kaitlyn Franzone, Second Grade Teacher

Debbie Grace, Jr. High Math & 8th Grade ELA

Kathryn Larkin, Third Grade Teacher

Sue Mazur, Jr. High Religion & 7th Grade ELA

Ann Nelson, Kindergarten Teacher

Lauren Paris, Jr. High Social Studies & 5th Grade ELA

Patricia Paris, Student Support

Jill Ryan, Fourth Grade Teacher

Linda Watson, Jr. High Science & 6th Grade ELA

Polish School Teachers:

Magdalena Gilarska

Edyta Gwizdz

Dorota Matras

Elzbieta Palar

Ewa Tulak

Maria Wnek

Anna Zelek

Sylwester Gilarski

Paulina Kedzierski

Patrycja Mrowca

Dorota Stasik

Ewa Wislocka

Katarzyna Wojcik

Catechists:

Anne Fenoglio

Mary Goba

Christine Goba

Peggy Radziwon

In today's readings we hear a parable about a landowner who hires people to work on his farm. The landowner pays the people who work only one hour the same amount as the people who work the whole day. This doesn't seem very fair to us humans, but the landowner is acting like God does, and God loves to be super generous. Sometimes God's ways don't make sense to us, but God's ways are always better. From LTP Sourcebook

Classes Begin September 20/21

Help your child meet their Best Friend

Register Now for Religious Education Classes

Fun, Friendly, Flexible Times
(Now Sunday, Monday or online)

St. Mary Nativity
815-726-4031

Thank You, Catechists!

As we celebrate Catechetical Sunday today, we lift in prayer and gratitude every catechist and minister who said "yes" to sharing the faith. You are the sowers of hope. The companions on the journey. The joyful witnesses of Christ. May God bless you abundantly for the lives you've touched through your ministry.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring good news to the poor" Lk 4:18

St. Mary Nativity Adult-Sacrament Class

Join us for an Informational Meeting and Hospitality

Class Begin September 23

Call Christine at (815) 726-4031
For more information

Can you lend a hand?

Is God Calling you?

Catechist and Helpers are needed for the 2026-2027 school year

Call Christine at (815) 726-4031
For more information

The Week Ahead

Sunday, September 20

9:15am Religious Education Class –
SMN School & Nativity Room

Monday, September 21

4:30pm Religious Education Class –
SMN School & Nativity Room

Tuesday, September 22 Fall Pictures - SMN School

9:30am Bible Study - SMN Nativity Room

1:00pm Rosary - SMN Church

3:30pm SMN/HC Joint Finance Meeting -
SMN Nativity Room

6:30pm SMN/HC Parish Council Meeting –
SMN Nativity Room

Wednesday, September 23

Grandparents Day Celebration - 8:30am Mass & Reception

7:00pm OCIA Class/Adult Sacrament -
SMN Joann Room/Nativity Room

Thursday, September 24

1:00pm Rosary in Spanish - SMN Church

4:00pm Volleyball Games - SMN Church

7:00pm When You Pray Session 1 (Adult Study)
SMN Nativity Room

Friday, September 25

12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration - SMN Church

5:00pm Polish School - SMN School

Saturday, September 26

Sunday, September 27 Priesthood Sunday



**Non Perishable items may
be dropped off at the
SMN Church vestibule on
October 3rd & 4th
Thank you!**

**Sunday, October 11th in the Nativity Room
after the morning Masses.**



(MT 18) Jesus says we must
forgive others seventy times
seven times. Learn how the
gift of forgiveness and
healing can strengthen your
marriage by going on a Worldwide Marriage
Encounter Experience on Sept. 18-20 in Batavia or
October 9-11 in Rockford
or December 4-6 in Lemont.

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



Parish Events

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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



SMN MUSIC MINISTRY CALLING ALL SINGERS & INSTRUMENTALISTS!

The St. Mary Nativity Music
Ministry is welcoming new
members as we begin the

2026-2027 year on Sunday, September 13, 2026. The choir, cantors
and instrumentalists participate at the 11:00 am Sunday Masses and
for all other special Liturgies throughout the year. Practice is on
Sunday from 10:00 am until 10:50 am. We sing from September
through the end of May and take the Summer months of June, July
and August off. Please consider joining and helping us build
the Kingdom of God!

Call Tony Brandolino, Music Director at 815-531-9257.

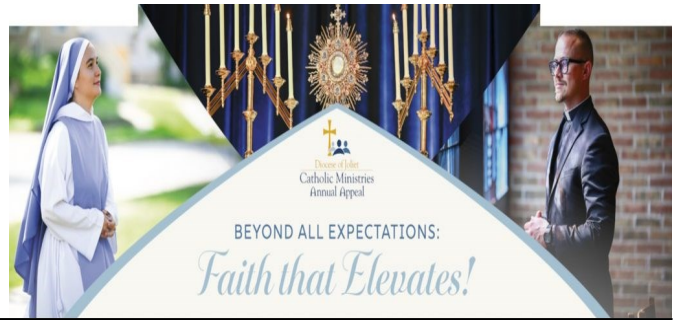


Scan now to donate!

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>



September 6, 2026	St. Mary Nativity	Holy Cross
Sunday Offertory	\$7,816	\$2,387
Sunday Offertory Budget Need	\$9,215	\$2,843
YTD Sunday Offertory	\$85,354	\$24,341
YTD Budget Need	\$92,150	\$28,430
Overage/(Shortage) Amount	(\$6,796)	(\$4,089)
Annual Budget (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027)	\$470,000	\$145,000
Average Weekly Shortage	(\$680)	(\$409)

Saint Mary Nativity

2026 Goal	\$39,800
Amount Pledged	\$41,850
Amount Paid	\$39,021
Balance Due	\$ 2,829
Donor Count	141
2026 Rebate	\$0

Holy Cross

2026 Goal	\$13,700
Amount Pledged	\$17,742
Amount Paid	\$16,992
Balance Due	\$ 750
Donor Count	57
2026 Rebate	\$2,304

Thank You

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

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

Congratulations to Holy Cross Mission and St. Mary Nativity Church for reaching their goals for the 2026 CMAA.

September 13, 2026	St. Mary Nativity	Holy Cross
Sunday Offertory	\$8,803	\$2,563
Sunday Offertory Budget Need	\$9,215	\$2,843
YTD Sunday Offertory	\$94,157	\$26,904
YTD Budget Need	\$101,365	\$31,273
Overage/(Shortage) Amount	(\$7,208)	(\$4,369)
Annual Budget (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027)	\$470,000	\$145,000
Average Weekly Shortage	(\$655)	(\$397)

DONATE TODAY

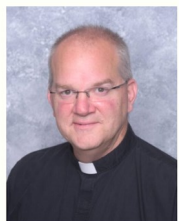


She wasn't alone when she became principal

When Colleen Carroll stepped into her second year as principal of St. Jude Catholic School in New Lenox, she wasn't walking the path alone. Through the Emmaus Mentor Program, supported by your gifts to the CMAA, Colleen was paired with veteran principal Carol Albreski, giving Colleen support and a person to reach out to with the everyday challenges of a first year in the principal's office.



Watch the video and see the good your donation to the CMAA brings to our community



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

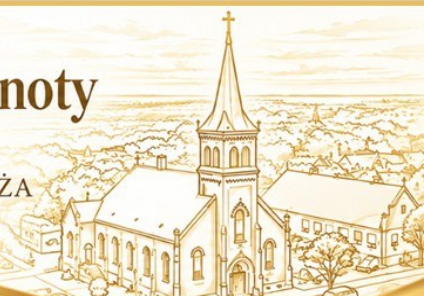
vocations.diojoliet.org/start-a-conversation



125

125 lat wiary, tradycji i wspólnoty

JUBILEUSZ KOŚCIOŁA ŚWIĘTEGO KRZYŻA



W niedzielę, 13 września 2026 roku, mieliśmy ogromną radość wspólnie świętować 125-lecie Kościoła Świętego Krzyża. Uroczystej Mszy Świętej przewodniczył ks. prowincjał Hubert Zasada, wraz z ks. Stanisławem Drewniakiem, ks. Tomaszem Sielickim oraz Christopher Groh-em.

Był to dla nas wyjątkowy czas modlitwy, wdzięczności i wzruszeń. Przez 125 lat nasz kościół był miejscem, w którym kolejne pokolenia spotykały się z Bogiem oraz przystępowały do sakramentów świętych.

Po Mszy Świętej spotkaliśmy się na wspólnym obiedzie w Crystal Grand Banquets w Lemont, Illinois, gdzie mogliśmy dalej celebrować ten wyjątkowy jubileusz. Uroczystość rozpoczęło wniesienie sztandarów oraz flag Polski i Stanów Zjednoczonych, a następnie wspólnie odśpiewaliśmy hymny obu narodów.

Podczas obiadu wyjątkową atmosferę tworzyły piękne dźwięki harfy. Nie zabrakło także śpiewu, tańca i radości. Wspaniały występ zaprezentował zespół góralski „Zaradni”, a swoim śpiewem podzielił się również nasz chór „Promienie Świętego Krzyża”. Piękną grą na skrzypcach uroczystość wzbogaciła także Klaudia Długosz.

Szczególnym momentem była prezentacja filmu przygotowanego przez Piotra i Dorotę Matras, który przypominał nam 125 lat historii naszej parafii oraz ludzi, którzy przez wszystkie te lata ją tworzyli. Dla wielu z nas była to chwila prawdziwego wzruszenia i wspomnień.



11 Holy Cross 125th Anniversary Celebration



Z całego serca składamy szczególne Bóg zapłać ks. Tomaszowi Sielickiemu za duchowe przewodnictwo, troskę o naszą wspólnotę, ogromne zaangażowanie oraz serce włożone w przygotowanie i przeżycie tego wyjątkowego jubileuszu.

Serdeczne Bóg zapłać ks. prowincjałowi Hubertowi Zasadzie, ks. Stanisławowi Drewniakowi oraz Christopherowi Grochowi za obecność i wspólną modlitwę. Bóg zapłać organizatorom, parafianom, Polskiej Szkole Świętego Krzyża, chórowi „Promienie Świętego Krzyża”, Kludii Długosz, zespołowi „Zaradni”, Piotrowi i Dorocie Matras, Green Village Flowers, Anecie Koziera oraz wszystkim naszym gościom za obecność, zaangażowanie i wkład w ten piękny dzień.

Szczególnie Bóg zapłać kierujemy do Nicole Kulon za ogromne poświęcenie, trud, zaangażowanie i serce włożone w przygotowanie jubileuszu. Jej praca i troska miały szczególny udział w tym, że mogliśmy wspólnie przeżyć tak piękny dzień.

To był wyjątkowy czas wspólnej modlitwy, wdzięczności, wspomnień i radości. 125 lat historii, która nadal trwa i którą teraz razem piszemy dalej.

Niech Bóg błogosławi naszej wspólnocie Świętego Krzyża i wszystkim jej rodzinom na kolejne lata.

*Opr. Dorota Matras
Zdj. Alex Duda*



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