

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Behold,
THE LAMB OF GOD.

JOHN 1:29





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

14936 W. Wilmington - Peotone Rd.

Manhattan, Illinois 60442

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 18, 2026

Most Revered Bishop Dennis Spies
Administrator

Office Phone 815-478-3440

Facebook St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening only

Jan. 17	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Eleanor Price req. by Carmen & Jerry Kinsella Parish Family of St. Patrick
Jan. 24	5:45pm	Special Intention of Dan & Lynn Phelan +Gladys Meyer req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick
Jan. 31	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family Bill & Georgia Phelan 64th Wedding Anniversary req. by Ed & Judy Phelan Parish Family of St. Patrick
Feb. 7	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Eleanor Price req. by Joyce Gregory Parish Family of St. Patrick

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Minister</u>
Jan. 17 - 5:45pm	Jim Kreske	C. Smith
Jan. 24 - 5:45pm	Jerry Kinsella	C. Kinsella
Jan. 31 - 5:45pm	Sherrie Ashley	P. Engler

SERVERS & USHERS

Please volunteer at the Mass you are attending



**Scripture Readings
For the Week of January 18, 2026**

Sunday Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Is
49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

**Monday 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21
and 23; Mk 2:18-22**

**Tuesday 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28;
Mk 2:23-28**

**Wednesday Memorial of Saint Agnes, Virgin
and Martyr 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b,
2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6**

**Thursday Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps
56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13; Mk 3:7-12**

**Friday 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11; Mk
3:13-19**

**Saturday Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church 2 Sm 1:1-4,
11-12, 19, 23-37; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21**

**Sunday Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Is
8:23 – 9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt
4:12-23 or 4:12-17**

**WEEKLY OFFERING FOR
1/11/2026**

Sunday - \$1,384.00

Maintenance - \$80.00

Our weekly budget goal is \$1,211.54

THANK YOU For your faith - filled support

**PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH
OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION
STATEMENT FOR 2025**

Please Remember our sick;

especially: Greg Harnois, Jim Kreske,
Ann Marie & Tori Jasinski, Lisa Price, Barbara Schriver, Leslie Lund, Joe & Carol Price, Bernice & Dominick Marino, Tom Lane, Peggy Schiesow, Haley Donzella, Ken Smith, Laura 'Hanson, Steve Niemiec, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernard. Joe Hanson

**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO HAVE
A LOVED ONE ADDED TO THE PRAYER LIST.**



**During the Month of
Our Blessed Mother Candle
Is burning for
THE PARISH FAMILY
OF ST. PATRICK**

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

L	A	M	B	S	N	P	X	I	B
K	L	W	M	Y	U	U	J	P	E
T	C	N	M	A	D	O	V	E	H
T	W	E	X	D	N	U	D	Y	O
E	X	I	S	T	E	D	B	G	L
S	D	Q	P	M	Z	Y	J	W	D
K	A	W	O	R	L	D	G	A	A
H	E	A	V	E	N	Z	S	T	H
G	P	R	E	M	A	I	N	E	Z
A	B	A	P	T	I	Z	E	R	O

Behold Lamb World Man Existed
Water Dove Heaven Remain Baptize

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer. - Pope Saint John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae, no. 100



The Coldest Night of the Year is a winterrific family-friendly walk to support local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness. Join us on February 28, 2026 at 5:00PM in downtown Joliet as we raise funds for Catholic Charities' Daybreak Center.

The Daybreak Center provides programs and services to individuals experiencing poverty. The facility offers an emergency homeless shelter, a daily soup kitchen, and various supportive services to assist individuals and families in their pursuit of self-sufficiency.

To learn more, visit: <https://cnoy.com/location/joliet> or call 815-724-1140. It's FREE to participate, so team up, fundraise, walk, and take a moment to look closer... because it's cold out there.





Bishop Hicks' Column January 2026



One Last Column, Ever Grateful

For more than five years, I have been blessed to share my thoughts with you in this monthly column. When I first began writing, it took me a very long time to craft each reflection. I often wondered if anyone was reading them or if they would make any difference at all.

But at parish visits and events, many of you told me that you read these reflections and that they helped you understand my mind and my heart. Some of you offered positive comments and others offered constructive suggestions. All of that feedback helped me grow in gratitude. I stopped seeing these columns as a task and started seeing them as a privilege. They became one of the ways we shared our faith journey together.

Now I write my final column. It is a bittersweet moment. I am excited for my next steps to New York. At the same time, I am going to miss this ongoing exchange with you.

As we come to the conclusion of this written dialogue, I would like to reflect with you on a few thoughts [I shared at my farewell Mass on January 11, 2026](#).

In my homily, I expressed my sincere gratitude for the faith and love you have shown me throughout my years as your bishop. Together we have shared significant moments. We have celebrated the sacraments. We have strengthened our mission to be a vibrant and evangelizing Church. Through Confirmations, ordinations, graduations, the Chrism Mass, baptisms, funerals, community service, and our care for the most vulnerable, I saw Jesus Christ revealed in you. And each time we gathered for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, you strengthened my faith and drew me closer to God. And I pray that I have done the same for you.

I am deeply grateful to our priests who faithfully serve with pastoral hearts and leadership. To our deacons, wives, and families, thank you for your steadfast ministry of charity and your service. To our religious women and men and consecrated virgins, your prayerful presence and collaborative ministry have been a constant blessing. I am grateful for every sacrifice and every quiet act of love that often goes unseen but never goes unnoticed by God.

I also want to thank our diocesan staff and all employees who work as a vocation to ensure that the Church continues its mission. Our administrators, teachers, catechists, and youth ministers form disciples in classrooms and parish halls. Our musicians, liturgical ministers, and countless volunteers give life and beauty to our worship and mission. And to every parishioner across our seven counties, please know how grateful I am for your generosity and witness to faith in your homes, parishes, and workplaces.

Through baptism, we are all called to continue living the mission of Jesus Christ. I now move forward to serve in New York, trusting that the good work we have begun together will continue to bear fruit here in the Diocese of Joliet.

Many have asked who will become the next bishop. Soon, an administrator will be appointed who will continue to guide and govern the diocese while the apostolic nuncio and the Dicastery of Bishops offer recommendations to our Holy Father, Pope Leo. In due time, he will appoint the seventh Bishop of Joliet. Please join me in prayer for that discernment process.

Even though my ministry will continue in another place, I believe that prayer keeps us close. Every time we pray for one another, we remain closely united in Christ. So let us keep lifting each other up before God. I will carry you with me in my heart and in my daily prayer, and I humbly ask you to remember me in yours.

I also encourage you to be disciples who make disciples. Please continue to embrace my pastoral letter entitled *MAKE*. Pray with it. Reflect on it. Share it. Put it into practice every day. The Church grows when every one of us answers the call to live the Gospel with conviction and joy.

You remain in my heart and in my prayers with great love and deep gratitude. May God bless you and bless us always with His Spirit of peace and all good things. *Paz y bien.*

[Scan the QR code below to listen to the bishop's homily from his January 11th Mass of Thanksgiving.]



I Know a Guy

Before he became an Apostle and author of the fourth Gospel, John was a disciple of an unusual man who lived in the desert and ate locusts. The Baptist, as he was known, explained to his followers that he had been told to make straight the path for the Messiah, to prepare the way of the Lord. What their people had longed for for centuries was coming soon, and John the Baptist was called to help the people be ready. John the disciple believed him as did his friend Andrew. So, when the Baptist's cousin appeared on the scene and this compelling figure proclaimed, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world," John and Andrew were prepared to recognize the Messiah. Then Andrew told his brother Peter, and soon after, a Church was born.

John the Baptist's unusual life — from his unlikely conception, to leaping in his mother's womb upon Mary's greeting, to baptising the Savior Himself — was geared toward helping people know Jesus. He was dedicated to his mission even if the people of his time thought he was a little weird. He was an odd, yet compelling messenger. Even Herod, who would eventually put the Baptizer to death, found himself drawn to John and enjoyed listening to him speak.

John the Baptist got people talking as he set the stage for the greater One to follow. The word about Jesus spread as people told their families and friends about a guy they knew who knew a guy. And the word about Jesus still spreads that way.

We are called to be like John the Baptist, to make straight the path and prepare the way of the Lord. Yes, the world may think we're a little weird sometimes for believing what we do and striving to live out what we believe, but few of us will pay the price John the Baptist did for speaking up about Jesus.

Can we find the courage to be like John the Baptist? Can we live lives of faith that draw the curious toward us, and then urge those people toward the Source of the light? Can we tell the world that we know a Guy who came to make all things new? When we do, we stand with John as he proclaims, "Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

By Pamela Kavanaugh