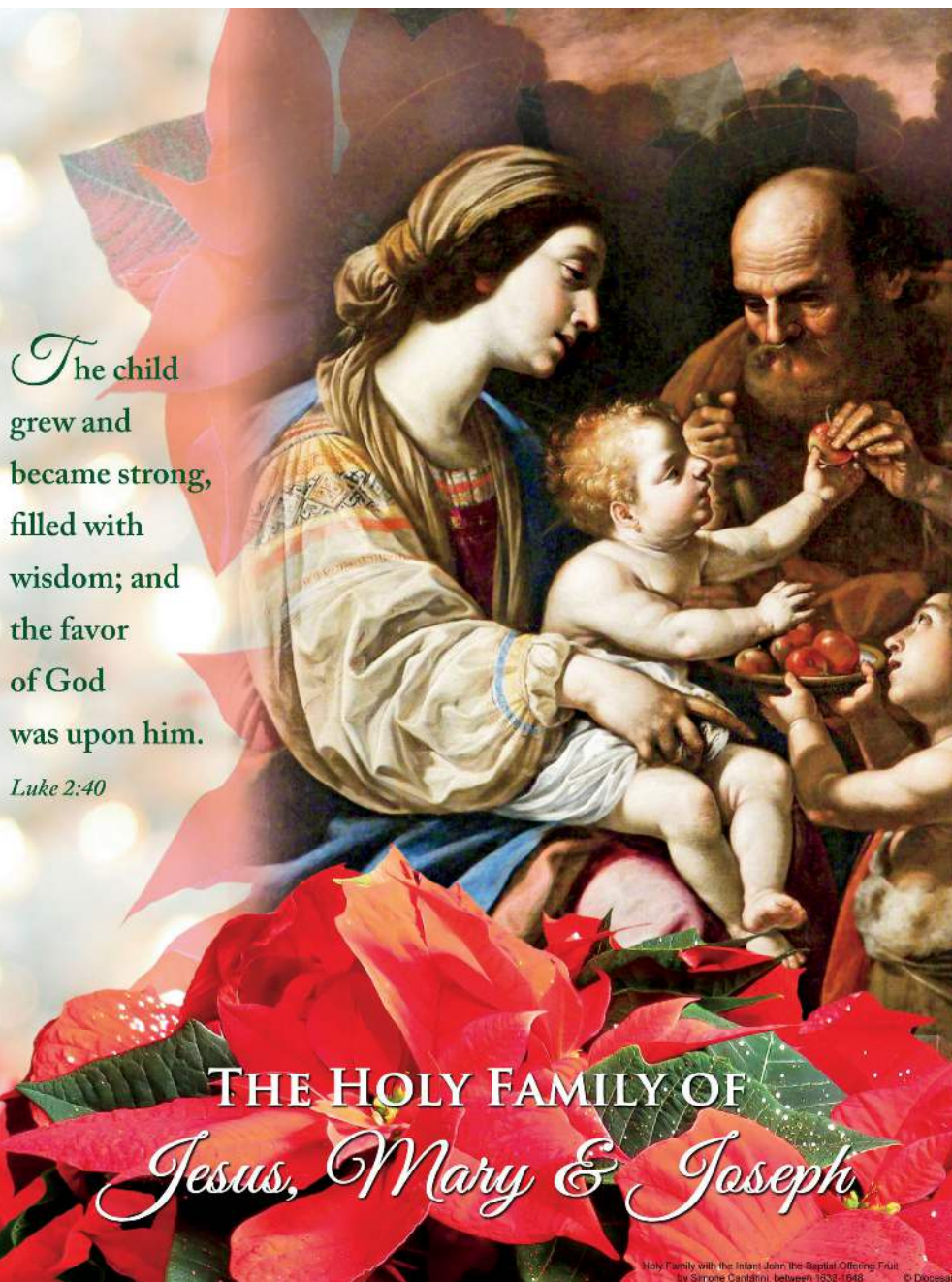




CATHEDRAL OF SAINT RAYMOND NONNATUS



**December 28, 2025**

Liturgical Schedule: Weekdays: Mon, Tues, Wed 6:30am | Thurs, Fri, Sat 8:00am

Weekends: Sat. 4:00pm and Sunday 8:00 & 10:30am

604 N. Raynor Avenue | Joliet, Illinois 60435 | 815.722.6653 | fax 815.722.3137 | [straymond.net](http://straymond.net)



## CATHEDRAL OF SAINT RAYMOND NONNATUS

### Parish Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 8:30am—4:30pm  
Friday 8:30am—3:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am - 12:00pm

### St. Raymond Grade School

608 N. Raynor Ave, Joliet, IL • 815-722-6626

### Sacramental Information

#### Anointing of the Sick

To arrange a pastoral visit or for those that would like their name added to the bulletin please call the parish office.

#### Baptism of Children

Please call the parish office to make arrangements or visit our website to complete a Baptism Request Form. First time parents will need to attend a Baptism Preparation Workshop. In order to serve as a Catholic Godparent, one must be a practicing Catholic who has been confirmed.

#### Marriage

Couples requesting a wedding must be registered for a minimum of six months before the date can be reserved. Please contact the parish office a year in advance.

#### OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Contact us for further information regarding the instruction for those discerning whether to become members of our Catholic community and how to begin the process.

### Join Us For Prayer!

#### St. Peregrine Devotion

Join us in praying for those who suffer with cancer or incurable disease or condition **Monday, January 19 at 7:00pm** or every third Monday for St. Peregrine Devotion in the Cathedral.

#### Prayer Connection

Have a special need for prayer? The Cathedral Prayer connection will assist by praying for your intention. Please call Yvonne Callans 815-723-4495 with your requests or your desire to join the prayer ministry.

**Welcome!** We are truly blessed by your presence with us today. *United by baptism, our parish family gathers together for worship and support. Empowered by the spirit of God's Love, we will preach, teach and live the Good News of Jesus Christ.* If you are new to the parish, we invite you to register by calling us at 815-722-6653 or visiting our website [straymond.net](http://straymond.net).

**Sign up for our weekly Flocknote** email blast for information about upcoming events within our parish community and ministries by texting CSRN to 845-76 from your smartphone or visit [csrn.flocknote.com](http://csrn.flocknote.com) to subscribe.

**Like us on Facebook @ CathedralofStRaymond.**

**Download Our Parish App** text APP to phone number 55321 or visit [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com) to download.

**Explore our Parish Website [straymond.net](http://straymond.net)** for sacramental preparation, ministry opportunities and contact information.

**Parish Directory** Our online password-protected directory can be accessed anytime, any where; upload or change your information within minutes. To access you will need to create a login using your email address on file. <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/signup>



- Dec. 28 SRN @ Daybreak—5:00AM  
Cathedral Choir Rehearsal—Cathedral—9:00am  
Closing Mass for the Jubilee Year of Hope—Cathedral—10:30am  
Baptism—Cathedral—11:30am
- Dec. 29 Basketball Practice—Gym—3:00pm
- Dec. 30 Basketball Practice—Gym—4:15pm
- Dec. 31 Vigil Mass Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God—Cathedral—4:00pm  
New Year's Eve
- Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God—Cathedral—9:00am  
New Year's Day
- Jan. 2 Basketball Practice—Gym - 4:15pm
- Jan. 3 Adoration—Cathedral—8:30—9:30am  
Basketball Practice —Gym— 9:00am—1:30pm
- Jan. 4 Religious Education Classes—School—9:00—10:15am  
Youth Ministry—Gym—9:00— 10:15am  
Family Mass—Cathedral—10:30am  
OCIA / AC—Tower—6:00pm
- Jan. 5 Grade School Classes Resume  
GS Musical Rehearsal—Commons a/c—3:00—5:00pm  
Basketball Practice—Gym—4:15—9:15pm
- Jan. 6 Epiphany
- Jan. 7 Youth Choir Rehearsal—Cathedral—3:15pm  
Basketball Games—Gym—5:00—9:00pm
- Jan. 8 GS Mass  
GS Confirmation Speaker  
GS Confirmation Sponsor / Candidate Speaker



## Starting January 2026

### New Hours for prayer, confession & adoration

#### CATHEDRAL OPEN

Monday & Tuesday 6:30am-4:30pm  
Wednesday 6:30am-2:30pm  
Thursday & Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm  
Saturday 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Sunday 7:30am - 11:30am

#### CONFESSIONS

Tuesday starting at 7:30am  
Saturday starting at 3:00pm

#### ADORATION

Saturday 8:30am - 9:30am



## Advertiser of the Week!

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# CONGRATULATIONS ARCHBISHOP DESIGNATE OF NEW YORK RONALD A. HICKS

## WE WILL MISS YOU!

**Diocese of Joliet**  
Office of the Bishop



[www.dioceseofjoliet.org](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org)

Blanchette Catholic Center  
16555 Weber Rd.  
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403

December 18, 2025

Dear Friends,  
Peace be with you.

Today, December 18, 2025, it was officially announced that I will be installed as the 11th Archbishop of the Archdiocese of New York on Friday, February 6, 2026.

I want to begin by expressing my heartfelt gratitude to Pope Leo XIV for this appointment. Growing up in the south suburbs of Chicago, just a stone's throw from where he grew up, and having spent part of my priesthood in missionary work in Latin America, I feel a deep connection to him. His leadership is a guiding light for me, and I accept this new role with humility and an open heart.

I am also grateful to Cardinal Christophe Pierre, our apostolic nuncio, for his trust. When he called to share this news, I told him I simply wish to do God's will. Receiving his phone call on the feast of Saint Juan Diego is a reminder that sometimes God calls us to things that feel beyond us, but with grace and faith, we can answer yes.

I also want to offer a heartfelt thank you to Cardinal Timothy Dolan for his more than 17 years of leadership in New York. I have been touched by his gracious support and encouragement.

These past five years in Joliet have been a true blessing for me. I have felt grateful, happy, and deeply blessed to serve as your bishop. Together we have catechized, evangelized, and put our faith into action. The relationships we have built, the faith we have shared, and the journey we have walked together are treasures I will carry with me to New York.

As you continue to read, share, and embrace my pastoral letter, "MAKE," I ask you to let it keep guiding you. Please do not let it sit on a shelf, gathering dust. Instead, continue to implement it as a living, breathing call to be disciples who MAKE disciples.

I have much to learn in New York, and I will serve there as I have served here, with all my heart. I trust in God's will and count on your prayers. Know that as you pray for me, I am praying for you, with immense gratitude and love.

With good wishes, may God bless you this Advent season as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

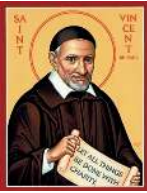
As I remain --  
Sincerely Yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks

Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet and Archbishop designate of the Archdiocese of New York

**Office of the Bishop**

815.221.6100 | 815.722.6632 (f) | [officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org)





**The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul** is a worldwide organization who helps to serve those in need. The St. Raymond conference consists of 14 active members, 11 associate members and YOU!

We cannot carry out this ministry without you! Your contributions have allowed us to help hundreds of families in need in our community, through rental or utility emergencies, and miscellaneous needs such as food, clothing, shelter and transportation.

Our conference is always looking for dedicated members to assist us in serving our community. If you are interested in joining the group or simply have questions please call the parish office.

Please donate by placing a specially marked envelope in the Sunday collection, using provided monthly envelope or online at [straymond.net](http://straymond.net).

In need of assistance, or know someone who is, please call SVDP at 815.773.4167. A volunteer will return your call within 48 hours. For security purposes, return calls are made from a "private/blocked" line not recognized by caller ID's.



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DOWN  
TO  
THE SPEED  
OF JOY**

THE SIMPLE ART OF  
TAKING BACK YOUR LIFE

**MATTHEW KELLY**

**A Christmas gift to the parishioners of the Cathedral of St. Raymond, copies of this book are available at the church entrances.**



CATHEDRAL OF SAINT RAYMOND NONNATUS  
A ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET

## Assisted Suicide Law

Illinois has recently become the twelfth state to pass legislation that allows terminally ill patients to consider "end-of-life" options. Governor J.B. Pritzker has approved a bill enabling adults with a terminal diagnosis and a prognosis of six months or less to request a prescription for medication that they can self-administer to end their lives. This legislation, referred to as "Deb's Law," is scheduled to take effect in September 2026. However, the Catholic Bishops of Illinois have voiced strong opposition, contending that the bill neglects critical issues regarding access to quality care and does not adequately safeguard vulnerable individuals from potential coercion. As you know, the Catholic Church firmly upholds the dignity of every human life from conception to natural death. Assisted suicide contradicts our moral teaching and threatens the well-being of the poor, the elderly, and those with disabilities. It sends the tragic message that some lives are no longer worth living. For further details about the bill and to view the letter from the Catholic bishops of Illinois, please scan the QR code.



**coldest  
\*night**  
OF THE YEAR

**catholic  
charities**  
Diocese of Joliet  
SUPPORTING  
CATHOLIC CHARITIES'  
DAYBREAK CENTER

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28  
DOWNTOWN JOLIET**

**Coldest Night of the Year  
is a winterrific  
family-friendly walk  
in support of  
Catholic Charities'  
Daybreak Center.**

**FREE to  
Participate!**

Daybreak Center operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, providing emergency housing and supportive services to individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness. Participants stay in a safe and clean environment while receiving comprehensive case management.

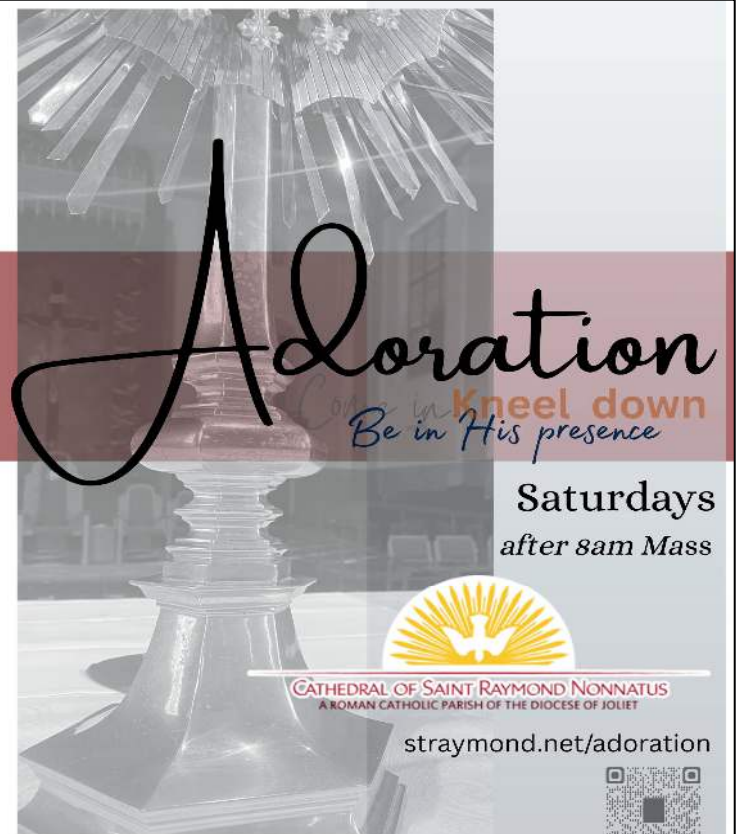
Winter is an especially busy time at the shelter, which also operates as a warming center during cold weather. As such, the shelter (and the soup kitchen located within the shelter) is often operating at capacity.

Ready to get started? Visit [cnoy.com/location/joliet](http://cnoy.com/location/joliet)

Questions? Contact Derek Schultz at [dschultz@cc-doj.org](mailto:dschultz@cc-doj.org) or 815-724-1160

**TEAM UP, FUNDRAISE, WALK, AND TAKE A MOMENT TO LOOK CLOSER...  
BECAUSE IT'S COLD OUT THERE**

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet is a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling others of good will to do the same.

**Adoration**  
*Be in His presence*  
**Saturdays  
after 8am Mass**

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT RAYMOND NONNATUS  
A ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET

[straymond.net/adoration](http://straymond.net/adoration)



## Year End Giving

Thank you to all who have helped support St. Raymond this past year. Your generous gifts to our parish and its ministries is a wonderful example of your faith and commitment to our parish community and the Lord.

The final months of the year are traditionally considered the season of giving. In addition to the gifts we give to the important people in our lives, this season of generosity is also the prime time to show support for the causes we love. When we look back at the days and months of the years and the countless blessings we have received, we hope that you will consider special ways to give back to the Lord for all He has given you. Please prayerfully remember St. Raymond, your spiritual home, as you discern your year-end gifts.

Although there may still be time to make several different types of charitable gifts, based on your unique situation and tax considerations, some gift types may be more practical than others. Here are a few ideas provided by the Diocese of Joliet, that you may want to consider, in addition to traditional monetary donations, which are always greatly appreciated.

### 1 Save taxes on appreciated stock

When you donate stocks that are worth more than what you originally paid for them, you can claim deductions for their full fair market value and eliminate any tax on the appreciation.

### 2 Avoid hassles & costs associated with selling real estate

Like securities, if you try to sell appreciated property you will be subject to capital gains tax on the appreciation. By donating the property to charity, you can enjoy tax savings and relieve yourself from the hassles of selling or maintaining it.

### 3 Put an insurance policy to good use

An old policy you no longer need can make a big impact on our work. To qualify as a deductible gift, we must become the policy owner. For most types of insurance policies, your tax deduction is usually the cost basis or the fair market value of the policy-whichever is less. It is more common to donate policies that require continued premiums to be paid. When you donate these, the future premiums are tax deductible as you pay them.

### 4 Tax-free donations of Required Minimum Distribution for an IRA

Individuals starting at age 70½ can transfer up to \$108,000 from their IRA's to charity, tax-free. The gift counts as the required minimum distribution for the year but it is not included in the adjusted gross income. This can be a great way to avoid having to pay taxes on your RMD if you want to support a charity, and it gives you a tax break even if you do not itemize your deductions.

### 5 Employer Matching Gifts

Companies frequently match their employees' monetary contributions. If your employer has this type of program, please consider utilizing it on behalf of St. Raymond Grade School. Many corporations offer employee matching gift programs for educational purposes.

### 6 Charitable Gifts from Your Will or Trust

An easy way to make a gift to St. Raymond is to include a bequest in your will or trust. You can give a specific sum, a percentage of your gross estate or your residuary estate.

If you have any questions regarding the above suggestions,  
please contact Pete Pluth  
ppluth@straymond.net or 815-722-6653 ext 220.

## +Epiphany Blessing Of A Home+

**All:** make the Sign of the Cross.

**Head of Household:** "Peace be to this house and to who dwell here, in the name of the Lord.

**All:** Blessed be God forever.

**Reader:**

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things come to be through Him, and without Him nothing came to be.... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-3.14)

Using chalk, write on the outside of your house, above or next to an entrance:

(write the first half of the current year)

20+

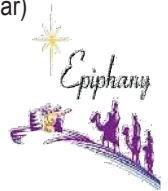
(C)hristus+

(M)ansionem+

(B)enedicat+

26

(write the other half of the year)



These words mean. "May Christ bless this house".

**20 + C + M + B + 26**

or optionally you may use the names of the Magi

(write the first half of the current year)

20+

(C)aspar+

(M)elchior+

(B)althazar+

26

(write the other half of the year)

(Each word could be written by a different member of the household.)

**All:** Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## 2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

To request your annual contribution statement, send an email to [danielle@straymond.net](mailto:danielle@straymond.net) or call the parish office at 815-722-6653. Statements can be mailed, emailed or picked up Monday-Friday during regular office hours. Donors using our online giving program who wish to pull their own statements in the **OSV Online Giving Portal** can log into their online account and click on "My Online Giving History".

Thank you for your  
generous support of St.  
Raymond throughout this  
past year!







Those who have been made holy through  
 God's salvation are a part of His family.

Identify each family member. Use the circled letters  
 to find the relationship we have with God.

my brother's daughter

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my male parent

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my daughter's husband

\_\_\_\_\_ - ○ - \_\_\_\_\_

my mother's brother

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my father's mother

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my grandfather's brother

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

a man's spouse

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my mother's sister

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

We are God's \_\_\_\_\_.

People are very special and very blessed  
 to receive God's mercy.

Supply 2 missing letters in each row to make a word  
 that fits the clue. Use the letters to complete the statement.

1	2	3	4	5
	D	O		T
	E	V		R
	R	O		M
	L	O		E
	O	W		Y
	A	B		R

choose and accept

at no time

bride's mate

marry secretly

humble

curved sword

For surely it is not \_\_\_\_\_ He helps, but ...  
 column 1  
 that He might make atonement for the sins  
 of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 column 4



Those who have been made holy through  
 God's salvation are a part of His family.  
 Identify each family member. Use the circled letters  
 to find the relationship we have with God.

my brother's daughter  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my male parent  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my daughter's husband  
 \_\_\_\_\_ - ○ - \_\_\_\_\_

my mother's brother  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my father's mother  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my grandfather's brother  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

a man's spouse  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

my mother's sister  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

We are God's \_\_\_\_\_.

People are very special and very blessed  
 to receive God's mercy.  
 Supply 2 missing letters in each row to make a word  
 that fits the clue. Use the letters to complete the statement.

choose and accept  
 at no time  
 bride's mate  
 marry secretly  
 humble  
 curved sword

For surely it is not \_\_\_\_\_ He helps, but ...  
 column 1  
 that He might make atonement for the sins  
 of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 column 4



# Mass Intentions

## Monday, December 29, 2025

6:30 AM Lorenzo Filetti, req. John and Lorraine Lucenta  
Mary Ann Ballak (anv.), req. Shirley Ballak

## Tuesday, December 30, 2025

6:30 AM Silvestre Eugenio, Sr., req. Jennifer LaCour

## Wednesday, December 31, 2025

6:30 AM Joseph and Jennie Gelsomino, req. Jim and Jo Schmitz  
4:00 PM Robert and Scott Terdic and the Holy Souls in Purgatory

## Thursday, January 1, 2026 Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God

9:00 AM St. Raymond Parish Family

## Friday, January 2, 2026

8:00 AM Ed Grizzle, req. Melody and Family

## Saturday, January 3, 2026

8:00 AM St. Raymond Memorial Mass Society  
4:00 PM Bill Porter, req. Dom and Rita Egizio

## Sunday, January 4, 2026

8:00 AM Don and Jean Burzama, req. Ken and Carol Wiers  
10:30 AM Franca DeNovellis, req. Carmie Castagna  
St. Raymond Parish Family

## Please Pray For...

### OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED

Matthew George Adler	Leo Nicholas Andrade
Agustin Nicolas Mata	Mackenzie Rose Metzler
John Jeffrey Stammen	Kevin Owen Bedolla
Carlie Mary Engwall	Colton Bradley Warnecke

### OUR SICK

Megan Arnold	Robert Greenly	Ruth Smego
Silvie Belue	Ernest Hankins	Joseph Spiech
Patricia Buchwald	Aurelie Hagstrom	Katherine Spiech
Tyler Centorbi	David Hampton	Bernie Spieler
Colleen Cler	Ross Karraker	Chuck Sroka
Mari Condon	Maria Masterson	Colleen & Tom Stonis
Arlene Day	Patricia McShaffrey	Tom & Kathy Wise
Judy Delaney	Lydia O'Donnell	Patricia Wisniewski
Sharon DelRose	Lillianna Peylo	
Patrocino Fernandez	Bonnie Salamon	
Edward Gannon	Sharon Slabicek	

### OUR MILITARY

2LT Nicholas Zelehovits PFC	Sgt. Ryan Vander Tuuk
CAPT Faith C.E. Moore D.O.	COL David Conner
Brandon Vasquez, PFC	LTC Donald Erickson
Ryan Grill, SSG	Danielle M. Wyatt
2nd Lieutenant Isabel Izquierdo	Midshipman Leo Anastopoulos
Midshipman Victor Izquierdo	Ryan Wilhelmi
Adrianna Soltis SPC	

**Reporting Sexual Abuse:** Anyone with reason to believe that a child has been abused or is being abused should report their suspicions to civil authorities. Contact: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services: 1-800-25ABUSE or local police. The Diocese of Joliet Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help victims/survivors of child sexual abuse by a cleric, employee or volunteer of the Catholic Church. The Victim Assistance Coordinator will report to Bishop Hicks and coordinate efforts of pastoral support and outreach to assist in the healing process. The Victim Assistance coordinator can also assist in making a report to civil authorities. Contact the Diocese of Joliet Victim Assistance Coordinator at 1-815-263-6467.

# Liturgical Ministers of the Mass

## Wednesday, December 31 • 4:00pm

**Lector:** Eugenie Cheko  
**EM:** TBD  
**Servers:** TBD

## Thursday, January 1 • 9:00am

**Lector:** Steve O' Connor  
**EM:** Marilyn Skelly, Mary Lawson  
**Servers:** Meaghan Russ, Julian Nieves, Scarlett Howard

## Saturday, January 3 • 4:00pm

**Lector:** Mary Lawson  
**EM:** Kristin Drain, Jeanne Lindholm, Tom Reiser, Nathan Homolka  
**Servers:** TBD

## Sunday, January 4 • 8:00am

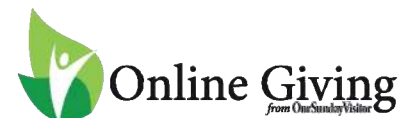
**Lector:** Austin Hough  
**EM:** Marilyn Skelly, Maggie Colabuono, Jen Errthum, Sue Batis  
**Servers:** TBD

## Sunday, January 4 • 10:30am

**Lector:** Youth  
**EM:** Youth  
**Servers:** TBD

## Stewardship

Due to early bulletin transmittal dates, the stewardship totals for December 21 and 28 will be published in the January 4 bulletin.



## Meet Our Staff

**Most Rev. Ronald A. Hicks,** Bishop of Joliet  
**Most Rev. Dennis E Spies** Auxiliary Bishop of Joliet  
**Most Rev. R. Daniel Conlon,** Bishop Emeritus

**Very Rev. William G. Dewan,** Rector  
**Rev. Michael Groth,** Parochial Vicar

**Dn. Ralph Bias,** Deacon  
**Dn. James Batis,** Deacon  
**Dn. Karl Huebner,** Deacon  
**Dn. Darrell Kelsey,** Deacon / OCIA  
**Dn. Edwin Petak,** Deacon

**John Ankeney,** Maintenance Engineer  
**Linda Cassineri,** Main Office  
**Katie Choudhary,** Dir of Religious Ed  
**Marjorie Hill,** Grade School Principal  
**Kevin O'Donnell,** Pastoral Associate  
**Pete Pluth,** Business Manager  
**Danielle Schumacher,** Admin Asst  
**Stacy Sienko,** Dir of Music  
**Karen Slattery,** Main Office/Baptisms  
**Mary Wheaton,** Bookkeeper



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