

I remember middle school baseball tryouts. A friend of mine, Robert, was trying to make the team to please his father, but his heart wasn't in it. He was lackadaisical and unenergetic. When the final cut-list was announced and his name wasn't on it, he was relieved. He realized the coach was not insulating him but essentially telling him, "Bobby, this only works if you actually want to play ball." I was saddened he'd miss out on the fun, but I knew it was best. Putting Robert onto the team would not have been kindness. It would have made him miserable. Jesus speaks to us today about His identity as our King and Judge. He separates those who inherit the kingdom from those who do not. The King explains, "Whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). His judgment hinges on willingness to participate in love. Heaven is not a prize imposed at the end of life. It is a life freely chosen and engaged. Hell is not a destination prepared for human beings, but a terrible and sad acknowledgment of an opting out which God never intends for us. Jesus' role as judge proclaims to us: "Heaven only works if you actually want to love." How do we know if we want it? How we serve the hungry, the sick, the imprisoned, and the forgotten. These acts of mercy are not arbitrary tests. They are the very shape of divine life. There is no better game to play than this. We ought to begin playing it right now. The King will come to judge us. --Fr. John Muir

Liturgical Ministers for Nov. 28 & 29, 2026

Sat. Nov. 28 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas

Reader: Marce Tebbe
Euch. Min.: Karen Kalous & Joyce Schlemper
Server: Pat Kalous
Ushers: Dean & Michelle Reynolds

Sun. Nov. 29 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude

Reader: Brenda Knackstedt
Music: Nick Worman & Randy Eckstein
Sacristan: Brenda Knackstedt
Euch.Min.:Zach Lewis, Jane Deiters & Karen Knackstedt
Ushers: Terry Dickman & Bryan Rutz
Servers:Teagan Barr & Elizabeth Schwarz

Sun. Nov. 29 @10:00AM @ IC

Reader: Mary Bergman
Servers: Avery Gilomen & Emma Winte
Euch. Min.: Rick & Ruth Zurliene & Amy Gilomen



Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day,and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues. John Alberternst, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Teresa Dickman, Garland Edwards, Jean Fields, Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Karen Grabowski, John Grubb, Eugene Henson, P.J.Hereford, James Hodge, Gene Jolliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Barrett Korte, Cindy Korte, Denny Korte, Gerry Korte, Randy Korte, Steve Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Luber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill Schroeder, Suzanne Steinbring, Brenda Usher, Rich Weis, Ginny Werner, Dean Wernle, Melanie Wernle, Paige Wernle

For Our parishioners in nursing homes:

Delmar Knebel, Harold Schwarz, Barbara Weiss, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

For those currently serving in the military:

Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Ensign Eli Jones, Chad Knebel, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerritt Mettler, Jimmy O'Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Ford, JosephSchatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.

If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.



Catechumens Reagan and Grant Voss with parents Khrysten and Brandon Voss



Candidate Daniel Hollopeter with sponsor Dawn James



Candidate Alex Yanosko with sponsor Clare Foppe



What is the nature of God? God is love. God created us out of love. He continually invites us to our origin love. What is the nature of a scorpion? To sting. Even when a scorpion is in distress and desires help, anyone who makes an attempt to help, what such a person gets is a sting. That is the nature of a scorpion. Christ reechoes again "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you" love is our calling, love our origin, love will be our final goal in heaven. Let love flow like a river among us.

† Mass Intentions †

Mon.	(Nov.23)		**No Mass**
Tues.	(Nov.24)	8:00am (St.G)	† **Orville Liening** – Int. of Bruce & Karen Kovach
Tues.	(Nov.24)	7:00pm (IC)	† **Jeff Moss** – Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
Wed.	(Nov.25)	8:00am (IC)	† **All Souls**
Thur.	(Nov.26)	8:00am (St.N)	† **Mike & Toni Fisher --** Int. of Frank & Barb Zaloga
Fri.	(Nov.27)	8:00am (IC)	† **Pete Stoll** — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
Sat.	(Nov.28)	4:30pm (St.N)	† **Ken & Betty Wagner** —Int. of Sharon Dillow
			For the People of St. Nicholas, St. Gertrude, & Immaculate Conception
Sun.	(Nov.29)	8:00am (St.G)	† **Ruth Korte** — Int. of St. Gertrude Altar Society
			† **Patricia Sullivan** — Int. of Mary Sullivan
Sun.	(Nov.29)	10:00am (IC)	† **Kevin Korte** — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
			† **Weakie, Ellie, & Tammy Potthast** — Int. of Skip & Jean Gall

Readings for the Week of November 22, 2026

Sunday
Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2a, 2b-3, 5, 6/ 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

Monday
Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday
Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday
Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday
Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 21:20-28

Friday
Rv 20:1-4, 11-21:2/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday
Rv 22:1-7/Ps 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7ab/Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday
Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Prayer - Blessing for Thanksgiving

Dear Lord,
We thank You for the gifts of the season.
We ask Your blessing upon this Thanksgiving meal.
Bless each of us gathered,
hold the prayers we carry within us,
anoint our conversations and company with Your light and hope.
Amen.

Advent Penance Services
Immaculate Conception on December 2nd at 7PM and St. Gertrude on December 16th at 7PM.

You Are Not Forgotten: An Advent Journey – In a world where it's easy to feel overlooked or alone, Advent reminds us that God sees us, loves us, and calls us closer to Him. Beginning November 29, embark on **You Are Not Forgotten**, a free four-week Advent journey inspired by the coming of Christ and the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe. You are seen. You are loved. You are called. You are not alone. Sign up at go.dio.org/adv26(opens in new tab) and prepare your heart for Christmas!

STN Collection	11/14/26
Envelopes/Loose	$1,277.00
Budget Goal	$1,276.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	$1.00
Support Needed (budget)	$25,520.00
Support Actual	$25,941.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	$421.00

"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me." – MATTHEW 25:40
Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, real generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient to us, when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's timeline.

The core team for 40 Days for Life of Granite City is looking for a Vigil Coordinator(training will be provided) for the Spring Campaign 2027.
150 babies have been saved through 40 Days for Life in the past 15 campaigns which confirms prayers and fasting work!
Please dig deep in your hearts to use your talents to help with this very valuable ministry! If not the upcoming spring campaign will cease.
Contact Rose Wascher at (847)274-3916



November HACSM Pantry Needs: Saltine Crackers, Pasta Sides

All are encouraged to give thanks to God for all of our blessings! Please join us for the Thanksgiving Mass on Tuesday, November 24th at Immaculate Conception at 7PM. and on Thanksgiving Day, November 26th at St. Nicholas 8AM.



STG Collection	11/15/26
Envelopes/Loose	$4,200.00
Cemetery	$1,040.00
Maintenance Fund	$1,025.00
Budget Goal	$1,524.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	$2,676.00
Support Needed (budget)	$30,480.00
Support Actual	$26,878.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	$-3,602.00



Observances for the Week of November 22, 2026

Sunday
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Monday
St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St. Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr

Tuesday
St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

Wednesday
St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

Thursday
Thanksgiving Day

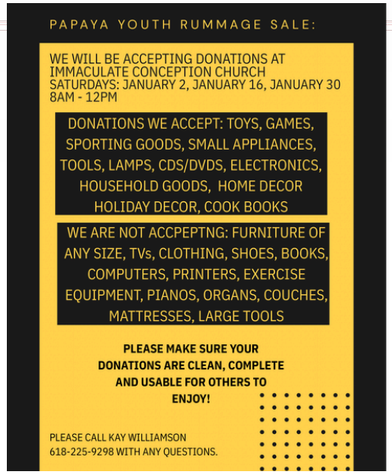
Next Sunday
1st Sunday of Advent

HOLY LAND GALA — DECEMBER 5, 2026

Join us for the Holy Land Gala with His Beatitude Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, on Saturday, December 5, 2026, from 6:00–10:00 p.m. Central Time, at Drury Lane, 100 Drury Lane, Oak Brook Terrace, IL 60181.
Hosted by Our Lady of the Holy Land – Chicago and the Christian Foundation for Jerusalem, the evening includes dinner, conversation and Q&A with Cardinal Pizzaballa, and live and silent auctions supporting families, schools, and parishes in the Holy Land.
Visit HOLYLANDGALA.givesmart.com or scan the QR code on the flyer for event information and registration updates. Become a Champion for the Holy Land Gala by sharing the event with family, friends, and your community. Even if you cannot attend, you can help make this fundraising evening a success.
Information: Captainbader@gmail.com
Text only: (708) 667-6666

IC Collection	11/15/26
Envelopes/Loose	$2,631.00
Building Fund	$250.00
Candles	$95.00
Cemetery	$230.00
Budget Goal	$2,920.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	$-289.00
Support Needed(budget)	$58,400.00
Support Actual	$51,181.85
Surplus/Deficit YTD	$-7,218.15









Collection Boxes are at the back of each church.
Last day to donate is Dec. 6th.



St. Gertrude Adopt A Family

The tags are up in the back of church at St. Gertrude for our Adopt a Family this year. Please return gifts, along with a gift receipt if possible, and the red tag by Sunday, November 29th. Gift cards can be given directly to Jamie Dressler if preferred to leaving at the back of church.

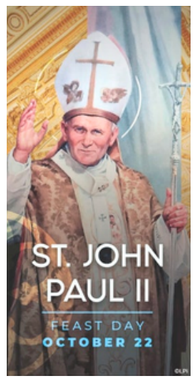
Gifts will be wrapped during PSR, Wednesday December 2nd, for anyone that would like to assist.

Thanks to all that are willing/able to help this family out this Christmas.

The Grantfork UFO Group will be hosting the HHS Madigral Singers. This event will be held on December 13th at the Grantfork UCC Hall starting at 11:30. A light lunch will be provided for those attending. All donations will support the Madigral singers.

Christ Our King
Thy Kingdom Come

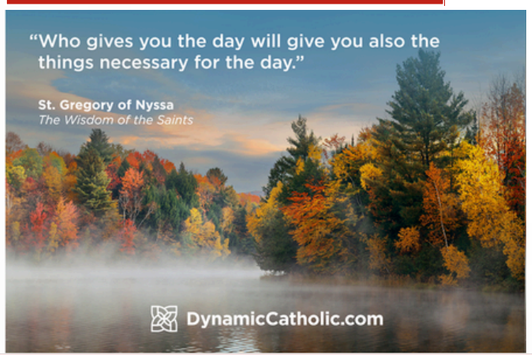




St. John Paul II was born Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland. During World War II, he secretly studied for the priesthood and was ordained in 1946. He became Archbishop of Krakow in 1964, a cardinal in 1967, and in 1978 was elected pope, taking the name John Paul II.

St. John Paul II made evangelization a key part of his papacy and made pastoral visits to all parts of the world. In 1981, he was shot twice in an assassination attempt. Following Jesus' example of compassion, he later met with his would-be assassin in his prison cell, where he forgave him for what he had done.

An active hiker and skier, he continued his ministry despite declining health from Parkinson's disease. Near the end of his papacy, his poor health and physical suffering made public appearances difficult. Still, he continued his pastoral work. He died April 2, 2005 and became a saint on April 27, 2014.





Joseph Tuttle
Configuration III
Saint Meinrad Seminary



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE NOVEMBER 21 & 22, 2026



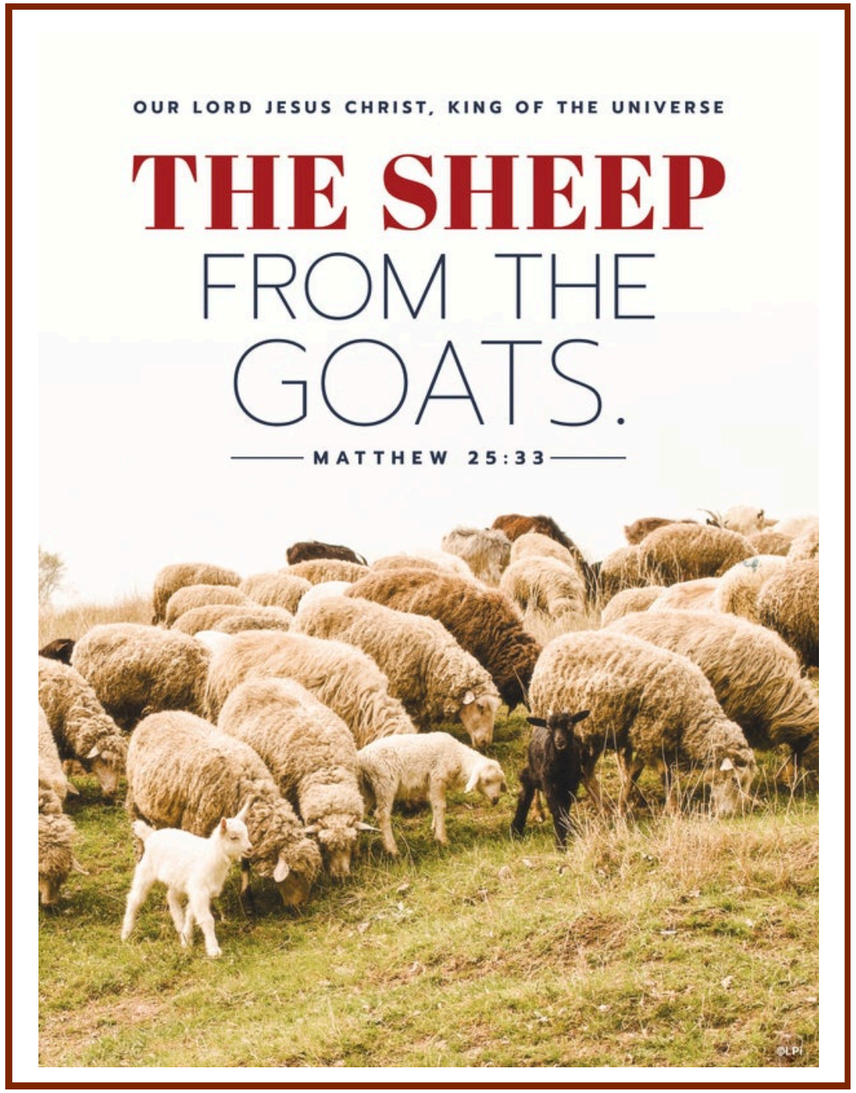
Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF
SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
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Office Hours:
Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm
Fridays 9am to 1pm

MassTimes

ImmaculateConception
Wed.& Fri.—8:00am
Sunday —10:00am

Saint Nicholas
Thursday — 8:00am
Saturday — 4:30pm

Saint Gertrude
Tuesday — 8:00am
Sunday — 8:00am