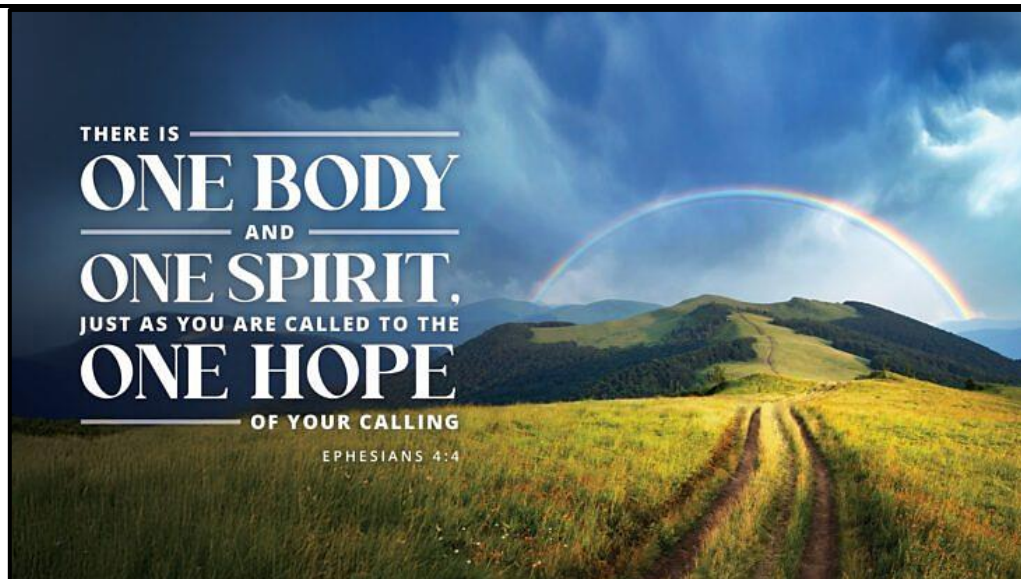


# *St. Patrick, Kankakee ~ A Viatorian Parish*

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 18, 2026



## *Today Begins the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an ecumenical Christian observance in the Christian calendar that is celebrated internationally.

*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.*

This verse (Ephesians 4:4) is the theme for this year.

Every year, Christian communities and churches join together in prayer for the visible unity of the Church. Remaining faithful to the will of the Lord, let us pray:

God of light, you have called us out of darkness into your light.

May our response to your call lead us to seek reconciliation and to share your light.

May the light you have shined on our path lead us towards unity and help us heal the wounds of division and indifference that often break communities apart.

Strengthen the bond of peace among us and in our troubled world.

Change the hearts of all who make war; touch the wounds of all who are afflicted by war.

Let the light of your love shine in all the dark places of our world and hasten the day when all peoples may dwell in peace with justice.

You brought us together in all our diversity as your family and church.

Renew our hope in the Holy Spirit's work of changing the world.

Grant us now the willingness to fully appreciate the richness of our diverse gifts and use them to further the spread of the Gospel.

In your name we pray. Amen.

*Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute (Adapted)*

Almighty God and Father,  
We honor Jesus, your Son in our midst, with wonderful names:  
Jesus our Lord, Lamb of God, servant of God and people.

Let these names not merely be empty titles of honor  
but words full of meaning that commit us to become like him.  
And to be his presence in today's world.

Help us to live for one another and to bear each other's burdens,  
that we may be servants with him  
who is our Lord forever and ever. Amen.

*Liturgy Alive*



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*Be with them, Lord, and keep them safe!*

Katie Benoit	Will Benoit
Hannah Chaney	Sean Contreras
Scott Riegel	Daniel Ryan Erik Schultz

**Find Your Envelope Number!** Read the Bulletin each week. Envelope Number 101. If you find your number, call the Rectory Office at (815) 932-6716 – during regular Office hours (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) – and win a prize.

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## Reflection

♦ What do the words *Lamb of God* mean to you? ♦ How can you bring God's light to others in your daily life? ♦ How can remembering Jesus' sacrifice change the way you treat others? ♦ What is one step you can take to follow God's call more closely this week? ♦ *Will you?*

**In an age of division,  
be a bridge between people.**

### *Stewardship Report* **Sunday, January 11, 2026**

Envelopes – 56	\$4,017.00
Loose cash and checks	\$ 590.00
Online Giving – 17 families	\$ 440.50
Total collection	\$5,047.50

Amount needed each week to have a balanced budget:	\$8,135.00
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*Thank you for your  
generous and consistent support.*





*With the first prayer intention of the year,  
Pope Leo XIV invites us  
to rediscover  
the transforming power of God's Word,  
the Word in which  
"we find the light that guides our steps."*

Lord Jesus,  
Living Word of the Father,  
in you we find the light  
that guides our steps.

We know that the human heart lives restless, hungry for meaning,  
and only your Gospel can give it peace and fullness.  
Teach us to listen to you each day in the Scriptures,  
to let ourselves be challenged by your voice,  
and to discern our decisions from the closeness to your Heart.  
May your Word be nourishment in weariness,  
hope in darkness, and strength in our communities.  
Lord, may your Word never be absent from our lips or from our hearts –  
the Word that makes us sons and daughters, brothers and sisters,  
disciples and missionaries of your Kingdom.  
Make us a Church that prays with the Word, that is built upon it and shares it with joy,  
so that in every person the hope of a new world may be born again.  
May our faith grow in the encounter with you through your Word,  
moving us from the heart to reach out to others, to serve the most vulnerable,  
to forgive, build bridges, and proclaim life. Amen.

Produced by: Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network: <https://www.popesprayer.va/>  
In collaboration with Vatican Media [www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va)

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**Please pray daily for VOCATIONS  
to the priesthood and to vowed religious life!**

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***Friendly Visiting Program Volunteers Needed:***

Catholic Charities is seeking volunteers to provide free friendly visits, virtual calls, and phone calls to older adults who are homebound or socially isolated, experiencing loneliness, and seeking companionship. As a volunteer you will • Build friendly and caring connections. • Make a positive impact on the lives of older adults. • Share common interests and have good conversations. • Be the reason someone smiles today!  
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**To learn more about Catholic Charities and its programs, please visit:  
<https://catholiccharitiesjoliet.org/>**



## **Una última columna, eternamente agradecido**

Durante más de cinco años, he sido bendecido al poder compartir con ustedes mis reflexiones en esta columna mensual. Cuando comencé a escribirla, me tomaba mucho tiempo preparar cada texto. A menudo me preguntaba si alguien los leía o si realmente hacían alguna diferencia.

Sin embargo, en mis visitas a las parroquias y en distintos eventos, muchos de ustedes me dijeron que leían estas reflexiones y que les ayudaban a conocer mejor mi mente y mi corazón. Algunos compartieron palabras de aliento y otros ofrecieron sugerencias constructivas. Todo ese diálogo me ayudó a crecer en gratitud. Dejé de ver esta columna como una tarea y comencé a verla como un verdadero privilegio. Se convirtió en una de las maneras en que caminamos juntos en la fe.

Hoy escribo mi última columna. Es un momento agri dulce. Me entusiasma el siguiente paso que Dios me pide al ir a Nueva York, pero al mismo tiempo voy a extrañar profundamente este intercambio continuo con ustedes.

Al llegar al final de este diálogo escrito, quisiera reflexionar con ustedes sobre algunas ideas que [compartí en mi Misa de despedida el 11 de enero de 2026](#).

En mi homilía expresé mi sincero agradecimiento por la fe y el amor que me han mostrado durante mis años como su obispo. Juntos hemos vivido momentos muy significativos. Hemos celebrado los sacramentos. Hemos fortalecido nuestra misión de ser una Iglesia viva y evangelizadora. A través de las Confirmaciones, las ordenaciones, las graduaciones, la Misa Crismal, los bautismos, los funerales, el servicio comunitario y el cuidado de los más vulnerables, he visto a Jesucristo reflejado en ustedes. Y cada vez que nos reunimos para el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa, ustedes fortalecieron mi fe y me acercaron más a Dios. Y oro para que yo haya hecho lo mismo por ustedes.

Estoy profundamente agradecido con nuestros sacerdotes, que sirven fielmente con corazón pastoral y liderazgo generoso. A nuestros diáconos, a sus esposas y a sus familias, gracias por su constante ministerio de caridad y servicio. A nuestras religiosas, religiosos y vírgenes consagradas, su presencia orante y su ministerio colaborativo han sido una bendición constante. Doy gracias por cada sacrificio y por cada acto silencioso de amor que muchas veces pasa desapercibido, pero que nunca pasa inadvertido ante Dios.

Quiero agradecer también a nuestro personal diocesano y a todos los empleados que viven su trabajo como una verdadera vocación, asegurando que la Iglesia continúe su misión. Nuestros administradores, maestros, catequistas y ministros de pastoral juvenil forman discípulos en las aulas y en los salones parroquiales. Nuestros músicos, ministros litúrgicos y tantos voluntarios dan vida y belleza a nuestra oración y misión. Y a cada feligrés de nuestros siete condados, sepan cuánto agradezco su generosidad y su testimonio de fe en sus hogares, parroquias y lugares de trabajo.

Por el bautismo, todos estamos llamados a continuar viviendo la misión de Jesucristo. Yo avanzo ahora para servir en Nueva York, confiando en que la buena obra que hemos comenzado juntos seguirá dando frutos aquí en la Diócesis de Joliet.

Muchos me han preguntado quién será el próximo obispo. Pronto se nombrará a un administrador que continuará guiando y gobernando la diócesis mientras el nuncio apostólico y el Dicasterio para los Obispos presentan sus recomendaciones a nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Leo. A su debido tiempo, él nombrará al séptimo Obispo de Joliet. Les pido que se unan a mí en oración por este proceso de discernimiento.

Aunque mi ministerio continuará en otro lugar, creo firmemente que la oración nos mantiene unidos. Cada vez que oramos unos por otros, permanecemos profundamente unidos en Cristo. Sigamos presentándonos mutuamente ante Dios. Los llevaré conmigo en mi corazón y en mi oración diaria, y humildemente les pido que también me recuerden en la suya.

Los animo además a ser discípulos que hacen discípulos. Por favor, continúen acogiendo mi carta pastoral titulada HACER (MAKE.) Oren con ella. Reflexionen sobre ella. Compártanla. Pónganla en práctica cada día. La Iglesia crece cuando cada uno de nosotros responde al llamado de vivir el Evangelio con convicción y alegría.

Permanecen en mi corazón y en mis oraciones con profundo cariño y sincera gratitud. Que Dios los bendiga y nos bendiga siempre. Paz y bien.

[Notar: El texto completo y la grabación en video de mi homilía de despedida pueden encontrarse a través de este enlace y código QR.]







## 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 11<sup>th</sup> Mass of Thanksgiving.]*



### **This Week:**

Tuesday, January 20– **Staff Meeting** at 5 p.m.

Thursday, January 22 – **Finance Committee Meeting** at 1:30 p.m.

### ***The Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary Invite You to ...***

☞ A great program starting on Thursday, January 22 is the first meeting of our **Poetry Workshop Series**, **four** Thursday evenings of listening and sharing through the exploration of contemporary poetry.

☞ You are invited to the **Watercolor Monthly Group** that gathers to paint together in Kankakee is having our first Artist Exhibition. Please join us Friday, January 30th to meet the artists and enjoy their work!

☞ Starting on February 4th, Sr. Kathleen Mulchay, sscm, and Sr. Myra Lambert, sscm, will facilitate a **Seven-Part Watch-And-Discuss Series on the first season of Martin Scorsese's: The Saints**. This will be a morning (9-10:30am) hybrid program with participation in-person at Nazareth Spirituality Center and online via the Zoom meeting app.

Please feel free to call with questions or to register for events and programs over the phone. Contact Susan Amann at (708) 790-8141, or email her at (samann@sscm-usa.org). Or, for a listing of offerings, please visit [www.sscm-usa.org/Workshops-Retreats.html](http://www.sscm-usa.org/Workshops-Retreats.html)

**The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal** theme is **Beyond all Expectations: Faith that Elevates!** As Catholics, we are called to elevate our faith beyond all expectations in service to those in need. The Diocese is mailing information to registered parishioners this month. Please take a moment to read about the impact the CMAA has on our parish and community and prayerfully consider your pledge to the CMAA. Thank you!



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*Liturgical Ministers Schedule. Please arrange for a substitute if needed.*

JANUARY 24 / 25	4:00 P.M.	7:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.	4:00 P.M. (Spanish)
CANTORS	M. Finks		D. Worth / Choir	Coro
SERVERS	K. Johnson A. Arrocha		B. Bean Z. Niba	D. Medira / T. Chaca L. Conreras / D. Franquiz
LECTOR	M. Spilsbury	L. Born	T. Worth	E. Mora / O. Mora
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	J. Wesoloski J. Menard M. Finks	J. Boyd C. Olofsson	J. Yohnka C. Antognoli R. Bond	R. Chavez E. Dominguez I. Bolivar
WEEKDAY LECTOR	J. Boyd			
SACRISTANS	M. Jones		T. Schultz	

*Please pray for the sick and the dying, and for all those who mourn the loss of a loved one.  
Also, let us remember in prayer the homebound, those in nursing homes or hospitals,  
and those who have asked for our prayers!*

***Prayer Line ... please call (815) 932-9423.***

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 19

7:15 Bessie Born (Ann.) (*Born Family*)

Tuesday, January 20

***St. Fabian, St. Sebastian***

7:15 Boris Family (*Born Family*)

Wednesday, January 21

***St. Agnes***

7:15 Timothy Rodeghero (*Rodeghero Family*)

Thursday, January 22

***Day of Prayer for***

***the Protection of Unborn Children***

7:15 Parishioners and Benefactors

Friday, January 23

7:15 Evelyn McNew

(*Bruce and Judy Conway*)

Saturday, January 24

***St. Francis DeSales***

4:00 Don Buck (*Judy Buck*) /

Rich Schultz (*Kankakee Valley*

*Symphony Women's Guild*)

Sunday, January 25

***The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time***

7:00 Antonio Dominguez

(*Enedina Dominguez*)

10:00 Raymond Mulholland

(*Kankakee Valley Construction Co.*)

4:00 (Sp.) Ashur Toma (*Toma Family*)



#### MEMORIAL CANDLES

*The Blessed Sacrament Candle*  
burns in thanksgiving for Bishop Ronald Hicks  
(by St. Patrick Parish).

*The Holy Family Candle*  
burns in memory of Len Mulcahy  
(by Marilyn Mulcahy).

♦ ***Human life is sacred*** at every moment and in every circumstance. The vulnerability of new life, the frailties of old age, and the challenges we face in between never diminish our God-given dignity.  
♦ ***The life each of us has been given is always worth living.*** It is a gift that we are called to cherish and protect because God has willed us to exist through His love. And the same is true for the lives of others. ♦ ***Understanding our own goodness and dignity*** helps us see the sacredness of every human person. ♦ In response, ***we are called to treat each person accordingly – to welcome, care for, protect, and defend the gift of every person's life from its very beginning to its natural end.***

*United States Conference  
of Catholic Bishops*

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For those who see no future: hope

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Parish E-mail ..... [stpatkan@ameritech.net](mailto:stpatkan@ameritech.net)  
Parish Website ..... [stpatrickkankakee.com](http://stpatrickkankakee.com)

### CLERICS OF ST. VIATOR

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Fr. Patrick Render, CSV

Administrative Assistant..... Denise Schiel  
Pastoral Associate ..... Marilyn Mulcahy  
Director of Music ..... Amy Schneider  
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### MASS SCHEDULE

Daily..... 7:15 a.m.  
Saturday ..... 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday ..... 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.  
Spanish Mass ..... Sunday 4:00 p.m.  
Reconciliation ..... Saturday 3:00-3:30 p.m. and by appt.

Appointments..... Please call to schedule appointments  
Reconciliation ..... Please call for an appointment  
Baptism..... Parent Session required  
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Marriage ..... Appointment should be made at least six months prior to desired date of wedding



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