

CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH

JANUARY 18, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#1197

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Sam Conforti
Pastor

Deacon Robert A. Lasica
Permanent Deacon

Boguslaw Kowalski
Permanent Deacon Candidate

Parish Staff

Tammy Campeotto
Business Manager x123

Joanne DeZur
Receptionist x120

Frances Hargadon
Funeral Ministry/Event Director x121

Kelly Scardina
App & Web Manager x122

John Daily
Buildings & Grounds

Tracy Monteleone
Director of Music

Nancy Siemers
Director of Faith Formation/ Human Resources x130

Susan Tutaj
Coordinator of Discipleship x132

Veronica Borowski
Faith Formation Administrative Assistant x131

Parish Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs 8am - 3pm
Closed Friday - Sunday
630-860-2975

Faith Formation Office Hours:

Tues - Thurs 9am - 2pm
630-766-4509

(Located on the north side of the church in the Farrell Faith Formation Center)

Did you know that Holy Ghost Church has its own Facebook page?

 Follow us to get information on upcoming events and more.



2nd Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

"John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.'" Jn 1:29

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

4 pm Saturday
8 am Sunday
10:30 am Sunday



DAILY MASS

8:30 am Mon-Thurs

FIRST FRIDAY

8:30 am

Pray the **Rosary** with us
Monday through Thursday
at 9 AM
and on Thursday evenings at 7PM

Confessions will be
heard on Saturdays
from 3 to 3:45PM.



Homebound:

If you or someone you know is in need
of sacraments of Anointing,
Reconciliation or Communion please call
the office at 630-860-2975 to schedule a
priest visit.



WELCOME

January 18, 2026

The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 17

4PM Mass

+Aldo Costabile

For the Parishioners of Holy Ghost Parish Living & Deceased

Sunday, January 18

8AM Mass

+Rosa Selvaggio
+Lena Tognocchi

10:30AM Mass

+Frank A Ujka



8:30AM Mass

Monday, January 19

Tuesday, January 20

+Joseph Albergo

Wednesday, January 21

+Josephine Miceli

Thursday, January 22

+Angela Terkowitsch

Parish Membership:

Holy Ghost church welcomes you and your family. Please register by calling, stopping by the office during the week, or download the form from our website and return to the office.

Bulletin Articles:

All articles for the Sunday bulletin must be submitted **at least 10 days before the published Sunday**. This allows time for editing, formatting, and printing. Make sure to plan ahead to meet the deadline and ensure your content is included in the upcoming bulletin! Please email bulletin content for consideration to hbulletin@holyghostparish.org

Baptisms:

Parents or guardians are required to attend a baptismal preparation class prior to the Baptism. Baptisms are held on the first and third Saturdays. Please call us to register.

Baptismal prep classes:

Our baptismal preparation classes are held on the first Tuesday evening at 7:00pm. **This meeting must be attended before setting the date.** Please call us to register. 630-766-4509

Marriages:

It is necessary that all couples desiring to be married at Holy Ghost Church call the parish office to schedule an appointment with a priest at least six months prior to the date of their wedding and BEFORE they set a date with a banquet facility. Please call us to register.

Religious Education:

Our Religious Education Program builds and supports informed, practicing, and faith filled families. The program is held on select Sundays from September through April between 9:00-10:15 AM. Families are then encouraged to attend mass together either at 8 AM or at 10:30 AM. Please call us to register. 630-766-4509

Reconciliation, Eucharist & Confirmation

Instruction for children on these sacraments is currently being offered within the religion curriculum in the Faith Formation programs. It is diocesan policy that a person be in the Faith Formation program for two full years before receiving sacraments. For more information and to register please contact the (RE) Faith Formation Office at 630-766-4509.

Mass Intention Information \$10 stipend per Mass Intention.

Mass Intention requests, in compliance with the Decree on Mass Stipends, began on January 1, 2016: There will be one intention for a Mass. Mass will be offered for all Parishioners in the Parish on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Holy Thursday, Easter

THANK YOU

for your generosity

Sunday Collection

December 31 — January 6, 2026
\$12,664.88

YTD Budget thru December 2025
\$267,499.98

YTD Actual thru December 2025
\$249,804.57

YTD Difference thru December 2025
-\$17,695.41



Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal
Diocese of Joliet

	2025
Parish Goal	\$58,200
Amount Pledged	\$74,151
Amount Paid	\$73,246
Balance Due	\$905
Donors	240
2025 Rebate	\$10,532

Updated 1/11/2026

The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun!

The Diocese of Joliet invites all parishioners to support the 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Together, we can make a profound difference.

This year's theme is *Beyond all Expectations: Faith that Elevates!* Through the CMAA, we ensure Christ's mission and ministries reach everyone. We provide shelter for the homeless, feed the hungry, support vocations, and educate the next generation of Catholics. Our parish cannot accomplish this alone. As a diocese, we can do so much more.

Our parish goal is **\$54,200**. We receive 70% of any amount raised over goal to use within our parish. Please review your mailing from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully consider your gift.

If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS

Jan 17/18 –C.O.R.E
Jan 24/25 –Church in Latin America



Please help. Our food drive is ongoing. Non-perishable canned, boxed and bagged food items may be placed on the shelving unit in the gym.

Your kind support is greatly





Pray for the Sick



Pray for Our Military

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.

AIR FORCE:

LT COL Anthony Calabrese
LT COL Patty Calabrese
MAJ Mary Dones
CAPT Joseph Piscopo
MAJ Jeremy Shimanek
1st LT Joshua Jalowiec
SSGT Robert W. Dones
SSGT Timothy Latvis
SRA Randall Petrbok
A1C Ryan Leider
A1C Nicholas Pfeifer
A2C James Kochanski III

ARMY:

LTC Robert Bowen
LTC Grace Gallagher
CAPT Elizabeth Gonzales
SFC Zack Cieslak
SPC Marco Garcia
SPC David Patcher
CW4 Anderson Mann
CW2 Carlos Contreras
PVT Steven Badgley
PVT Ian Schachuk

MARINE CORPS:

CAPT Edward W. Miller
SGT Nicholas Reid
SGT Jack Rowley
LCPL Michele Giuseppe Bottalico
LCPL Vincent Anthony Eltman
PVT Cameron Andresen
PVT Gabriel Leon
PVT Billy Termine

NAVY:

LCDR Nicholas Lucania
Ryan James Ruizol

PRAYER & WORSHIP

January 18, 2026

The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



Food for the Banquet

A beautiful way to honor your loved ones, living or deceased, is through providing Food for the Banquet. You may mail your request with your \$50 contribution to
Holy Ghost Church at 254 N Wood Dale Road, Wood Dale IL 60191.

In Memory of Sandi Sobieski

From the Sobieski Family

Please include your choice of date from the list below.

***The following dates are open for donations:**

February 7/8, 14/15, 21/22, 28/1

March 7/8, 14/15, 28/29

(*Availability subject to possible change once the bulletin has gone to the printer.)

Our Sanctuary Lamp

Our sanctuary lamp is a 7-day candle that is always lit above the tabernacle. If you would like to contribute \$20 to the cost of the weekly candle, we will include an acknowledgement in the bulletin. You are also welcome to make the donation in memory or honor of a loved one. You may mail your request with your contribution to:

Holy Ghost Church
at 254 N Wood Dale Road,
Wood Dale IL 60191



In Memory of Juaita Gurule & Tyra Ulibarri

From Helen Letnicky

Names will be printed in the bulletin in the order in which they are received.



**THE VALUES OF SAINT AUGUSTINE:**

If St. Augustine were to offer his own thoughts on what an Augustinian community should be like, he might suggest these

themes and values:

INVITATION TO THE INTERIOR LIFE

"Do not go outside yourself, but enter into yourself, for truth dwells in the interior self."

Both Augustine's personal life and his spiritual teaching are dominated by a continual call to interiority.

He contends that it is "inside one's self" where truth is found, and that only in reflection and silence is understanding achieved.

According to Augustine, the visual and the audible of the external world only serve as reminders to the individual, and that learning takes place in the interior world.

The interior activity of contemplation and a search for the Ultimate truth leads us to transcend ourselves to an eventual encounter with God.

CULTIVATION OF HUMILITY

"Unless humility precedes, accompanies, and follows whatever we do, we will find that we have done little good to rejoice in. Pride will bereft us of everything."

Humility is the root of true charity. It calls us to accept the sacred in ourselves and others. It allows us to recognize that we are human, to accept our place in reality neither making oneself more nor less than what one actually is, and to love all things, but in an appropriate way.

Humility teaches us to see others as equals. "Humility induces us to presume on our own strength and to trust in God."

Humility allows us to listen to others and to see the truth in them.

According to Augustine, the only way to reach an "abiding, active knowledge of the truth is through humility."

FORMATION OF COMMUNITY

"An Augustinian community is a place where the search for truth takes place in a climate of love and friendship, where one can experience that the 'truth is neither yours nor mine, so that it can belong to the both of us."

In an Augustinian community, the purpose of life is to search for God, the Ultimate truth, not alone, but among friends, who are committed to the same journey.

In such a community "love is at the center and the heart" of every act and interaction, and respect for each person, as children of God, is primary.

Members strive to live in harmony - in a quest for union of mind and heart, to mutual concern for and assistance to each other in every way possible, including fraternal correction, in a spirit of love and understanding.

Members look upon their work as an expression of one's human nature, not as a burden, but in cooperation with the Creator in shaping the world and serving humankind.

Always conscious of the virtues of honesty, integrity, and compassion as fundamental to the Christian way of life, members seek in every effort to work for unity, making justice and peace, the fruits of love, a reality in the Church and in the world.

CALL TO SACRAMENTAL LIFE

"Every good thing is sealed to us in the celebration of the sacraments."

If "a Catholic community that reflects Augustinian traditions, it nurtures the development of religious faith and practice, develops moral and ethical perspectives and values of its members."

All in this community are invited into the sacramental life that is active participation in an outward expression of one's faith.

Exploration of religion and faith, participation in prayer, liturgy and other forms of communal worship are both respected and encouraged.





CATHOLIC FOUNDATIONS WITH FR. SAM

Those who have a desire to live an Augustinian life seek to make "unity and peace a reality in the Church and in human society."

It requires a particular expression of faith, of Gospel values - putting aside narrowness and selfishness and becoming "attuned to a broader social love, joining ourselves to others in such ways that we may have only 'one mind, the mind of Christ."

OBLIGATION TO STEWARDSHIP

"The degree to which you are concerned for the common good rather than for your own, is the criterion by which you can judge how much progress you have made."

Stewardship of the common good requires that we willingly accept accountability for others through service to them, without control of them.

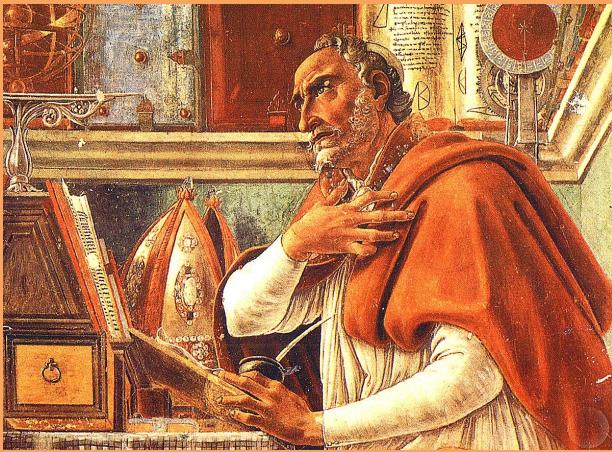
In the Catholic tradition, "the Beatitudes teach us the final end to which God calls us, and confront us with decisive choices concerning earthly goods. They teach us [how] to love..."

"Love, when it is true, is always directed away from oneself. It is transcendent. The two-fold commandment of love, therefore, translates into working for the common good, [and] working for the common good is service."

Service in an Augustinian context is done in the spirit of gratefulness and in recognition that the service owed to God must be rendered to humankind.

Service is love in its dynamic dimension.

Service gives expression to Jesus' command, "Love one another as I have loved you."



NEWS & EVENTS

January 18, 2026

The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Lifesaving Power of Donating Blood We are in a National Blood Shortage

Donating blood is quiet heroism — a small sacrifice with extraordinary impact.

The next Holy Ghost Blood Drive is Sunday, Feb. 15 after Sunday masses. Join us and just roll up a sleeve! Scan the code to schedule. See you there.



Every two seconds, someone in the world needs blood. Whether due to surgery, trauma, cancer treatments, or chronic illnesses, there is a constant need. This is why donating blood is one of the most impactful and selfless acts a person can do. And one donation can help 3 lives!

Donation restrictions have loosened in recent years. If, in the past you were told you cannot donate, it's likely you can now! For example, blood donation is not restricted by ethnicity. Historically if you were born in some European countries, you could not donate blood because some genetic diseases occur more often in some European ethnic groups. Certain blood types and genetic markers common in people of European heritage may better match to local patients with similar heritage.

Also you can donate if you have high blood pressure or diabetes, as long as your blood pressure and blood sugar are well-controlled.

Beyond helping others, donating blood has health benefits for you, the donor, too. It can provide a free mini health check (automatic cholesterol for free) and foster a sense of community. It's a simple process that only takes about 40 minutes, including the pre-check and rest/snack period after.

Who can donate:

Considerations: Age, Weight, Health status, and Lifestyle.

Minimum age: 17 years or 16 with parental consent

Minimum weight: 110 pounds.

Females, see chart.

FEMALE HEIGHT	FEMALE REQUIRED WEIGHT
≥ 4'10"	≥ 146
≥ 4'11"	≥ 142
≥ 5'	≥ 138
≥ 5'1"	≥ 133
≥ 5'2"	≥ 129
≥ 5'3"	≥ 124
≥ 5'4"	≥ 120
≥ 5'5"	≥ 115

You must have a good breakfast, be feeling well, not taking antibiotics, have no fever and a blood pressure under good control. You will be asked several confidential health and lifestyle questions, which protect you as a donor and the recipient of your blood. You will be asked about recent travel, certain medications and vaccinations.

READY TO GET TO WORK ON THOSE RESOLUTIONS?

JOIN US FOR A FREE CHAIR EXERCISE CLASS.

**MEET IN THE HG GYM ON TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 10TH 7PM**

ALL EQUIPMENT FOR THE CLASS WILL BE PROVIDED BUT

FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR PERSONAL BANDS & LIGHT WEIGHTS

STAY FOR FRIENDLY CONVERSATION AND REFRESHMENT AFTERWARDS





Call for Nominations for Woman of the Year

The Holy Ghost Council of Catholic Women will be electing their Woman of the Year for 2026 at a future General Membership Meeting.

Please write a short nomination note about your candidate and the reasons why she should be elected Woman of the Year. This woman should have shown outstanding service to Holy Ghost Parish. Seal it in an envelope and give it to Joanne in the Church Office to put into the CCW Envelope. We look forward to your participation in this event. Nominations will be accepted up to February 15th.

1958	Viola Malcom*	1996	Marge Merchut
1959	Dorothy Langfeld*	1997	Patricia Fattes*
1962	Dolores Arno*	1998	Mary Beth Kurpiel
1963	Jo Kuffel	1999	Joanne Ostrega
1964	Cora (Sally) Brockman*	2000	Karen Kosakowski
1965	Eleanor Sodaro*	2001	Lorraine Miechur
1966	Myrtle Ciesla	2002	Tina Rush
1967	Mary Ann Brabec*	2003	Anita Pollock*
1968	Angela Mikuls	2004	Ginny Brady
1969	Eloise Connolly *	2005	Barbara O'Malley
1970	Pat Stejskal	2006	Marie Scully*
1971	Dorothy Millen*	2007	Pat Rice
1972	Betty Deering	2008	Rosemary Sumang
1973	Helen Creed*	2009	Sabine Petrovic*
1974	Helen Sofka*	2010	Cathy Mudd
1975	Irene Smielewski*	2011	Anita Fischer
1976	Joyce Fredericks	2012	Kelly Scardina
1977	Colleen Caron	2013	Raffaella Franch
1978	Corrine Russo	2014	Patty Jalowiec
1979	Sally Lettenberger*	2015	Marge Thomka
1980	Audrey Youngman	2016	Kathy Grant
1981	Ruth Bono*	2017	Sandi Sobieski
1982	LaVonne Lombardo*	2018	Lorraine Kmiecik
1983	Cindy Daly	2019	Emily Parks
1984	Joan Hanover	2020	Judy Carter
1985	Margaret Smielewski	2021	Ann Scurto
1986	Maureen Cole	2022	Frances Hargadon
1987	Helen Rizzo*	2023	Carole Fitzpatrick
1988	Jeanne (Cunningham) Leix	2024	Peggy Gisburne
1989	Sue Reher*	2025	Mary Lally
1990	Diana Mendez*		
1991	Pat Goldstein		
1992	Lynn Kampas		
1993	Nina Fedorchuk		
1994	Pat Morey*		
1995	Nancy Siemers		



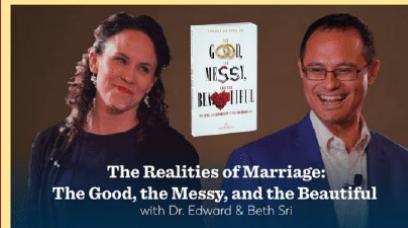
Please join Pope Leo in praying his January 2026 intention:
Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Faith Formation

Supplies are needed for **Service Sunday**. Our Religious Education families will need supplies to assist their Service Sunday event in February.

Please consider donating Blessing Bag supplies which will be given to the homeless. We need monetary donations to purchase snacks and we are looking for **new** adult warm socks, knit hats, gloves, toothbrushes and toothpaste, personal tissue packets, \$5 or \$10 gift cards to McDonalds, Burger King, Wendy's, etc; (you can purchase \$10 gift cards from SCRIP) and a card with words of encouragement. To give dignity to the homeless, we ask that all items are new. Items can be dropped off at the Religious Education Office (door 20) or in the main office **by January 18**.

Thank you.
Nancy Siemers
Director of Faith Formation
630-766-4509



Marriage Ministry Workshop with Dr. Edward & Beth Sri

Come all who are interested in supporting marriage ministry across the Diocese of Joliet. This workshop is for all who want to help with marriage preparation, marriage enrichment or any ministry to marriages and families. We will begin with a presentation by the Sris followed by an introduction to specific offerings for marriage and family ministry. Leave with resources you can put into place at the local level, inspired with others who want to do the same!

Wednesday, 2/4/26
3pm to 4:30pm
Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church
701 S. Eola Road, Aurora, IL 60504

Register for FREE at <https://forms.office.com/r/uRuS8wARba> or by scanning the QR code.





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.]



NEWS & EVENTS

January 18, 2026

The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES



Lent begins on February 18th so be sure to enhance your Lenten Journey by joining a small group for A Scriptural Walk Through the Mass on Sundays at 7pm Virtually; Mondays at 10am I Room 9; The Rescue Project at 7pm on Monday in the Koinonia Room or on Tuesday at Noon in Room 9 or one of the following courses:

WHEN YOU PRAY: A Clear Path to a Deeper Relationship With God

Monday 7pm Room 9 (starts 2/23)

When You Pray meets 7 weeks and includes a familiar format for those who have been in courses facilitated by Edward Sri previously. Included in this study are session summaries, engaging discussion questions, Talk Notes for the videos and short home reading assignments. The 30 minute videos are recorded in Italy by Dr. Sri. They provide comprehensive teaching and commentary on Catholic Prayer.

NO GREATER LOVE: A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH CHRIST'S PASSION

Tuesday 7pm (starts 2/24)

If you missed this class last year or want to take it again, be sure to sign up this year! It will greatly enrich your Lenten journey. This course begins with Jesus in Gethsemane and ends 5 weeks later with the Seven Last Words of Jesus. This is a scripture based course assisted with a video for each session.

Register by using SignUpGenius on the parish website: holyghostparish.org or contact Susan: 630-860-3691 or stutaj@holyghostparish.org

Susan Tutaj, Coordinator of Discipleship

BE FORMED

Season 12

REGISTRATION OPENS:
JANUARY 5, 2026

The Creed (Part 2):
The Son, Jesus Christ

Register online at:
beformed.net

FEBRUARY 13 - MAY 13, 2026

