

CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH

JULY 26, 2026

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#1242

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 it's own Facebook page?



Follow us to get information on upcoming events and more.



Knights of Columbus Council #10325

Website: kofc10325.org
Facebook: facebook.com/kofc10325

Come Spend an Hour with the Lord

Jesus invites us to spend time in His presence through **Eucharistic Adoration**. Join us **Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.**, concluding with **Benediction**.

In Eucharistic Adoration, we worship Christ truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. It is a time to pray, listen, reflect, and entrust our joys, concerns, and loved ones to the Lord. Whether you come with many intentions or simply to sit quietly with Jesus, He is always ready to welcome you.

The blessings of Adoration are abundant. Time before the Blessed Sacrament deepens our relationship with Christ, strengthens our faith, brings peace amid life's challenges, and renews our hope. It is an opportunity to receive the grace and strength needed to live as faithful disciples each day.

Everyone is welcome. Come for the entire hour or just a few moments. Jesus is waiting for you!



17th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."
Matthew 13:44

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

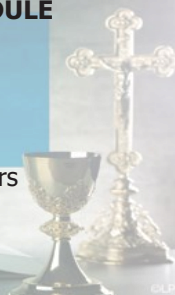
4 pm Saturday
8 am Sunday
10:30 am Sunday

DAILY MASS

8:30 am Mon-Thurs

FIRST FRIDAY

8:30 am

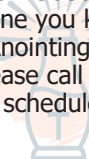


Please join us for **Adoration** from 7AM to 8AM before the 8:30AM weekday morning Mass.



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.



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



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

WELCOME

JULY 26, 2026

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 25

4PM Mass

+Angelo Shibona

For the Parishioners of Holy Ghost Parish Living & Deceased

Sunday, July 26

8AM Mass

+Joey Tomczak

10:30AM Mass

+Joseph DiCiolla



Weekday 8:30AM Mass

Monday, July 27

Melissa Thoms

Tuesday, July 28

+Kathleen & Francis Schmidt

Wednesday, July 29

Lorriane & Paul Kmiecik

Thursday, July 30

**Health & Blessings for
Krystyna Olszanecka**

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 hgbulletin@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. 630-766-4509

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 the wedding coordinator, Fran Hargadon, 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. 630-860-2975

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 Vigil, Easter Sunday, & Holy Days of Obligation.

THANK YOU

for your generosity

July 8 - July 14, 2026

Sunday Collection \$8,454.73

26-27 Budgeted Weekly Collection
\$11,150.00

CORE Collection \$180.00



**Catholic Ministries
Annual Appeal**

Diocese of Joliet

	2026
Parish Goal	\$54,200
Amount Pledged	\$61,458
Amount Paid	\$49,251
Balance Due	\$12,207
Donors	216
2026 Rebate	\$0

Updated 7/19/2026

UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS

August 15/16 - CORE



We're excited to announce that you can now give using **digital wallets**:

Apple Pay
Google Pay
Venmo
PayPal



Simply **scan the QR code** or visit our website to give securely from your smartphone. Thank you for supporting our ministries and mission!

Holy Ghost Family Faith Formation

Holy Ghost Family Faith Formation Program for children ages 4 through Parish 8 **will begin on September 13, 2026**. Forms can be found on the Holy Ghost web site at www.HolyGhostparish.org or in the church vestibules.



Pray for the Sick

PRAYER & WORSHIP
JULY 26, 2026
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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
SRA Nicholas Pfeifer
A3C 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 Schauchuk

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
SGT Jeremy Ames

NAVY:

LCDR Nicholas Lucania
Ryan James Ruizol
CTT2 Kurtis Ames

Military and Prayer List

Please email: hgbulletin@holyghostparish.org
or call the parish office at 630-860-2975
to add or remove a name from the list.

Thank you!



Cathy Alcozer	Cindi Shea
Bianca Marie Borowski	Frank Staggs
Michael Brann	Holly Staggs
Micah Casey	Nancy Townsend
Ron Catalano	Larry Venere
Ady DeLargarza	Feliciano Vero
Aldegunda Diego	Gloria Villanueva
Thomas Franzen	Salvatore Vivo
Izcoatl Garcia Gonzales	Matt Vocino
Mike Kaiser	Bernadette Watson
Sarah Kasab	James Wilk
Jerad Klint	Phil Yanez
Therese Kotecki	Joseph Yello
Michael Malek	Cyndi Zwadlo
Jose Joaquin Negrete Paz	Colin

And for those listed in our parish book of prayers.



We welcome Alejandro Manuel Sandoval Bailon & Celeste Gutierrez who were recently baptized into the family of God and into the faith community of Holy Ghost.

Please pray for them and their families.



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, 254 N Wood Dale Road, Wood Dale IL 60191.



Please include your choice of date from the list below.

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

August 1/2, 8/9, 15/16, 22/23, 29/30
September 5/6, 12/13, 19/20, 26/27

(*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
Edward Cecylia Siwinski**

From the Meyer Family

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



THE HEALING POWER OF CONFESSION

Confession, or the Sacrament of Reconciliation, is a profound gift of healing that the Catholic Church offers to its members. This sacrament addresses not only the moral and spiritual consequences of sin but also brings about a transformative restoration of the individual's relationship with God and the Church. Through Confession, we experience the abundance of God's grace, which surpasses even the weight of our sins. This essay explores how Confession heals, supported by biblical verses, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Apostolic Tradition, and Early Church Fathers.

THE ABUNDANCE OF GRACE

In the midst of human sinfulness, God's grace abounds all the more. This principle is beautifully expressed in Romans 5:20: "Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more." This verse underscores the Catholic belief that no matter how grave our sins may be, God's grace is more than sufficient to heal and restore us. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a tangible manifestation of this divine grace, offering forgiveness and renewal through the priest's absolution.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church affirms this by stating, "The sacrament of Reconciliation is the sacrament of healing. It offers sinners the grace of forgiveness, reconciliation with God and the Church, and the peace of conscience" (CCC 1422). This sacrament heals not only the soul but also restores the dignity and blessings of the life of the children of God, enabling them to experience a true spiritual resurrection.

The sacrament's power lies in its ability to channel God's boundless grace to the penitent. As Saint Thomas Aquinas observed, "The sacrament of Penance is the second plank after the shipwreck of baptism" (Summa Theologica, III, q. 84, a. 3). This imagery emphasizes how Confession acts as a means of spiritual recovery, ensuring that the faithful remain connected to the grace initially received through Baptism.

THE SPIRITUAL RESURRECTION AND RESTORATION

Confession brings about a profound spiritual resurrection. Through this sacrament, believers are not merely forgiven but are elevated to a state of grace that is even more profound than if they had never sinned. This concept is deeply rooted in early Christian teachings. Saint Augustine famously said, "The confession of evil works is the first beginning of good works" (Sermon 28). His words highlight the transformative nature of Confession, which does not just remove sin but also enhances our spiritual state.

The Catechism reinforces this idea: "The sacrament of Penance is a way to bring back to grace those who have been lost and to help them to be restored to the grace of God" (CCC 1468). Through Confession, believers are granted a fresh start, renewed dignity as God's children, and restored friendship with Him. This sacrament, therefore, not only removes the guilt of sin but also reinstates the individual to a higher state of grace and communion with God.

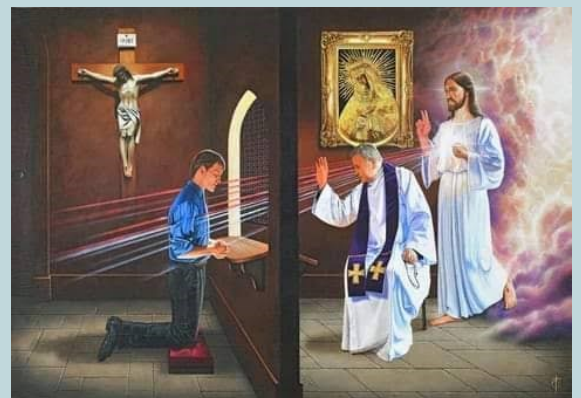
Saint John Chrysostom echoed this sentiment, stating, "Just as a man who has been in prison and then is released returns to his former dignity and freedom, so too does a penitent who has been forgiven return to a state of grace" (Homily 19 on Matthew). This comparison highlights the profound restoration that occurs through Confession, likening it to a return to a state of spiritual freedom and dignity.

PEACE AND SERENITY OF CONSCIENCE

The peace and serenity that follow Confession are a testament to its healing power. After receiving absolution, many experience a profound sense of relief and tranquility. This inner peace reflects the restoration of a cleansed conscience and the joy of reconciliation with God. The Catechism describes this peace as a spiritual consolation: "The forgiveness of sins is the restoration of the sinner's peace" (CCC 1468).

Biblical support for this peace can be found in Psalm 32:5: "I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the guilt of my sin." This verse illustrates the inner peace and liberation that come from confessing sins and receiving God's forgiveness.

Saint Gregory the Great also recognized this aspect of Confession, noting, "The soul that has been cleansed by





confession receives the grace of the Holy Spirit, and thus finds peace and tranquility" (Homily 33). This observation highlights the spiritual calm that follows the sacrament, a sign of the soul's restored harmony with God.

TEMPORAL CONSEQUENCES AND ATTACHMENT TO SIN

While Confession heals the spiritual consequences of sin, temporal consequences and attachment to sin remain challenges. The temporal effects of sin, such as personal habits and inclinations, often persist even after absolution. The Catechism notes that while the guilt of sin is removed through Confession, "there may still be some temporal consequences" (CCC 1463).

Saint John Chrysostom acknowledged this when he remarked, "Repentance is a long road to healing, a healing that requires not only forgiveness but also transformation of life" (Homily 10 on Acts). This transformation involves ongoing efforts to overcome sinful attachments and grow in virtue.

The Church's tradition also emphasizes the need for continued penance and spiritual growth. The practice of penance, as outlined in the early Church, was not merely about acknowledging sin but also about striving to amend one's life. This is reflected in the teachings of Saint Ambrose, who wrote, "Penance is not a mere ritual; it is a profound transformation of the heart and a reformation of life" (Letters 63).

CONCLUSION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a profound means of spiritual healing, offering a restoration of grace, peace, and renewed friendship with God. Through Confession, the believer receives an outpouring of divine grace that not only forgives sins but also elevates the soul to a state of grace surpassing that of one who has never sinned. This sacrament provides the peace and serenity of conscience and a true spiritual resurrection, even as it acknowledges the ongoing challenge of overcoming temporal consequences and attachments to sin. Rooted in biblical teaching, supported by the Catechism, and enriched by the wisdom of the Early Church Fathers, Confession remains a vital and transformative aspect of Catholic life, continually drawing believers closer to God's loving embrace.



Knights of Columbus Vocations Support Program

Founded by a parish priest, the Knights of Columbus has always worked hard to encourage young men and women to consider God's call to service in the priesthood or religious life.

Support money is needed by seminarians for tuition and books, car insurance and maintenance, emergency expenditures, and other living expenses.

You can help to support our Religious of Tomorrow with raffle tickets

\$20,000 IN CASH AWARDS

1st PRIZE \$10,000

2nd PRIZE \$2,500

4 PRIZES OF \$1000

4 PRIZES OF \$500

5 PRIZES OF \$200

5 PRIZES OF \$100

RAFFLE TICKETS are \$20.00 a Book for 5 chances

Each Raffle Ticket is \$5.00

Raffle tickets are available at the
Church doors

August 1-2, 8-9 & 15-16.

Bring your return address labels to church to attach to the stubs or take a book home to fill in stubs. Turn in the book with the cover attached with \$25.

Make Checks Payable to:

Knights of Columbus Council 10325

Deadline Sunday 11/8/26.

Drawing will be December 4, 2026

Our Council will help support Joliet Diocese Seminarians with the raffle proceeds.

Please join Pope Leo in praying his July 2026 intention:

For respect for human life. Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

Inviting all Crafters and Vendors...

to participate in this year's

Holy Ghost Parish Holiday Bazaar

Tables are available for rent
one or both days -

One day-\$50 per table

Two Day - \$80 per table

Application available online:

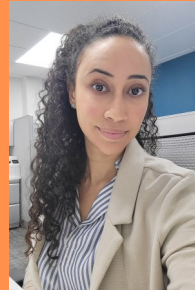
*Holyghostparish.org under the
Parish Events tab*



Holy Ghost Parish
254 N. Wood Dale Rd.
Wood Dale, IL 60191

*For more info contact Frannie
@ 630-860-2975 ext. 121 or
email: fran@holyghostparish.org
text - 708-218-6511*

MAKE CONVERSION: ENCOUNTERING THE SACRED VERONICA TORRES



I grew up in a Catholic family and attended Catholic schools in Chicago. But it wasn't until years after stepping away from the Church that I realized while I knew Jesus, my understanding of Him had not yet taken root in a deeper, personal way. I received my sacraments and attended Mass, but I was only going through the motions. I heard the Word in church, and that's where it stayed. I knew Jesus with my mind, but I didn't know Him with my heart.

Occasionally, my mother would take me to different faith services, exposing me to different perspectives. While unconventional to some, she wanted me to

grow up with a love and appreciation for those who held different beliefs. She deeply believed loving your neighbor was central to Jesus' teachings. That lesson stayed with me, and my exposure to other faiths would later guide me through a spiritual journey that deepened my relationship with Jesus.

I have an inquisitive mind and a rebellious spirit; there were Bible passages I found disturbing and practices I struggled to understand, particularly Confession. As I grew older, questioning deepened. My resistance came from feeling I was expected to believe simply because I was told to, rather than being invited to understand. Eventually, with the controversies surrounding the Church, I made the decision to walk away, convinced I would never return.

My mother was not pleased, but she knew me. She knew I needed to search for truth in my own way and trusted I would find my way. There were seasons I explored different faiths, and others where I drifted without direction. That freedom to question and explore was important to my journey and ultimately deepened my faith.

After nearly 15 years, I found myself back in a Catholic Church for a funeral Mass. During that Mass, something shifted. The priest's homily opened my eyes and softened my heart in ways I didn't expect. It made me realize I had been too quick to dismiss something I didn't fully understand. In the years that followed, I found myself attending Mass again, and as my hunger for time with God grew, I was drawn into prayer.

It was during a Lenten prayer service that I felt a quiet pull; there was one thing left to do: go to Confession. Confession was something I always resisted; I didn't trust it. It felt as though I was placing someone between myself and God. It never sat right with me; it felt like an overstep of the Church. Still, with an open mind and a heart full of mixed emotions, I went.

What I experienced there was deeply profound. I left the confessional and cried, not tears of despair, but peace, joy. It felt as if my battered, bruised, and broken soul was gently mended and healed. In that moment, the very thing I had resisted became the place where I encountered something real and deeply personal.

Decades later, I can look back and see what I had been searching for all along was connection. I had a deep yearning for something I had never fully experienced, yet somehow always knew was missing. That longing was shaped by what my mother taught me, not just about faith, but about love, openness, and the courage to seek truth. She gave me the space to wander, and in doing so, helped lead me back.

Catholicism has been a part of my life since the beginning, and yet I've come to realize how much there is still to understand. What has changed is this: the more I seek with an open mind and heart, the more I find myself drawn in. And I've found that seeking with an open heart can lead us somewhere deeper than we ever imagined.

Children's Bulletins Weekly Children's Bulletins, containing pictures, puzzles and information about the Sunday Scriptures are available in the vestibules. Children are welcome to take them home each week and Grandparents are invited to pick them up for their grandchildren.

NEWS & EVENTS

JULY 26, 2026

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Plan Today
for
Peace of Mind Tomorrow*

It's difficult to think about, but pre-planning your Catholic cemetery arrangements today protects your family from the heartbreak and financial worry of having to make these decisions tomorrow.

Look for special savings in your mailbox soon and visit diojoli.org/cemeteries for more details.

We're here to help!

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION



Holy Ghost Family Faith Formation

Holy Ghost Family Faith Formation Program for children ages 4 through Parish 8 **will begin on September 13, 2026**. Forms can be found on the Holy Ghost web site at www.HolyGhostparish.org or in the vestibules.

Do you know any older teens or adults that want to learn more about the Catholic faith, or may want to receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation? If you know anyone needing Baptism, Communion and/or Confirmation have them contact Nancy Siemers at 630-766-4509.

For all seeking Baptism, Communion and/or Confirmation or for anyone that wants to learn more about the Catholic faith, classes will begin in the fall. Please sign up now. For more information, contact Nancy Siemers at 630-766-4509 or at: nsiemers@holyghostparish.org. Complete this form and return it to the Faith Formation Office or drop it in the collection basket.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Please circle the sacraments needed:

Baptism

Communion

Confirmation