

CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH

MAY 3, 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

#1174

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:

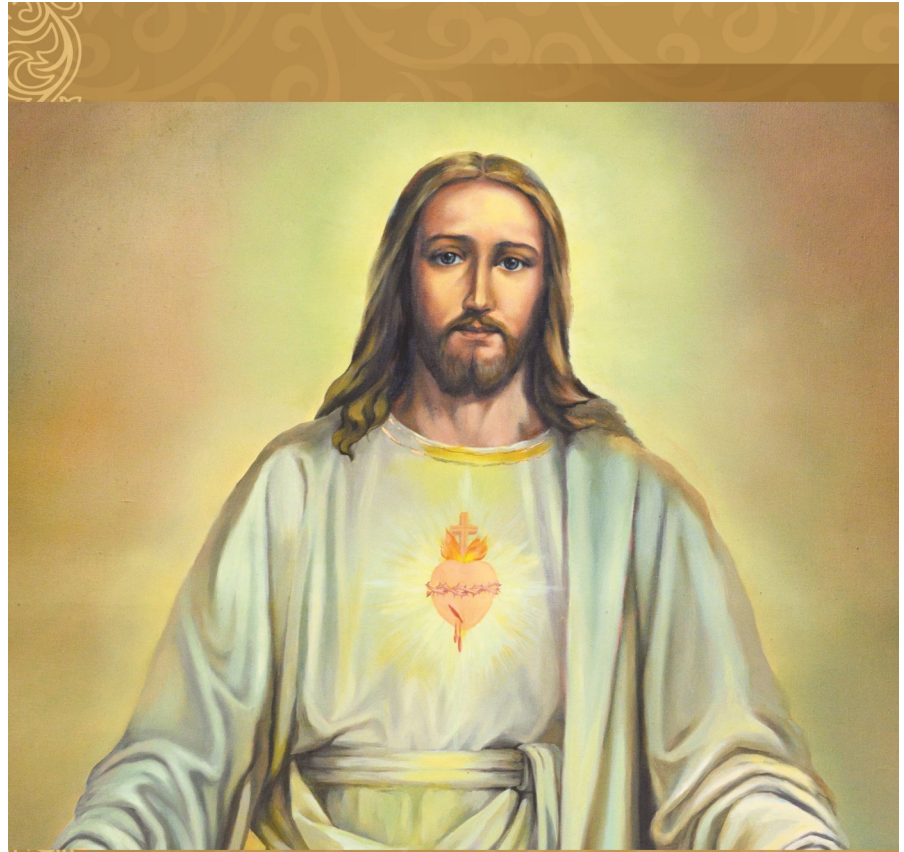
Tues - Thurs 9am - 2pm
630-766-4509

*(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.



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me." John 14:1

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

©LPI

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.

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



WELCOME

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter



Saturday, May 2

4PM Mass

+Helen Sosnowski

For the Parishioners of Holy Ghost Parish Living & Deceased

Sunday, May 3

8AM Mass

+Dorothy & Bill Peters

10:30AM Mass

+Louise Capuani

Weekday 8:30AM Mass

Monday, May 4

+Sylvia & Anthony Tomczak

Tuesday, May 5

+Joan Gniech

Wednesday, May 6

+Tim Mackey

Thursday, May 7

+Raffa Anntufinski

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

April 15 –April 21, 2026

Sunday Collection \$8,636.55

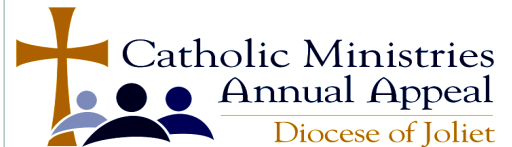
YTD Budget thru March 2026
\$401,250

YTD Actual thru March 2026
\$380,387

YTD Difference thru March 2026
-\$20,862



We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for your generous and thoughtful Easter offerings.
Easter Collection thru 4/21/26
\$26,001.57



	2026
Parish Goal	\$54,200
Amount Pledged	\$50,137
Amount Paid	\$35,593
Balance Due	\$14,544
Donors	195
2026 Rebate	\$0

Updated 4/26/2026

UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS

May 2/3 – Kankakee County
May 16/17 – CORE
June 13/14 – CORE
June 20/21 – Infirm & Retired Priests
June 27/28 – Peter's Pence

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 appreciated.





Pray for the Sick

PRAYER & WORSHIP

May 3, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter

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 Petrbock
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 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



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

And for those listed in our parish book of prayers.

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!



Congratulations to Dave Campeotto as Knight of the month for April 2026.

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.

April 25 & 26

In Memory of Cecylia Edward Swinski

From the Meyer Family

May 2 & 3

In Memory of Edward Golowacz Sr & Edward Golowacz Jr

From Katie Golowacz

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



April 25 & 26

In Memory of Grzegorz Anszczak

From Anszczak Family

May 2 & 3

In Memory of Jerry O'Rourke

From Katie Golowacz



SUFFERING, DISEASE, AND DIVINE DESIGN:

A Catholic Response to Atheist Objections

Atheists often point to the existence of diseases and human suffering as evidence against the concept of an intelligent and benevolent Creator.

From a Catholic perspective, however, suffering, including illness, does not

contradict God's design but can be understood within a larger framework of faith, redemption, and the mystery of God's plan for humanity.

1. THE ROLE OF FREE WILL AND THE FALL

Catholic theology begins with the understanding that God created the world good, but with human freedom came the possibility of moral failure. According to the doctrine of *original sin*, humanity's first disobedience introduced disorder into the world, affecting not only human relationships but all of creation (Genesis 3:17-19). The presence of diseases and other forms of suffering are seen, in part, as consequences of this original disorder.

However, it is crucial to note that this disorder is not an indication of a flawed design but rather a reflection of the way God respects human free will. Had God not allowed humans the possibility of choosing evil, free will itself would not be authentic. In this view, diseases and suffering are part of the broader experience of life in a fallen world, and they do not negate God's original design or goodness.

2. SUFFERING AS A PATH TO REDEMPTION

Catholics view suffering, including suffering caused by disease, not merely as a punishment or a meaningless accident but as an opportunity for spiritual growth and participation in the redemptive work of Christ. Jesus himself experienced profound suffering and death, which Catholics believe was a necessary part of God's plan for the salvation of humanity. The Cross, a symbol of suffering and death, was transformed into a symbol of hope and resurrection.

In the same way, personal suffering, including illnesses, can be united to Christ's suffering, offering believers a way to grow in holiness, humility, and compassion. Pope John Paul II, in his apostolic letter *Salvifici Doloris*, emphasized that suffering has a redemptive quality when it is joined to Christ's own suffering. The Catholic Church does not glorify suffering for its own sake but sees in it a path to deeper union with God and a means through which divine grace can work.

3. THE MYSTERY OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

The problem of disease and suffering is often viewed through the lens of God's providence, which refers to God's

ongoing care and guidance for all creation. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that while suffering is part of the human condition, it is not beyond God's providence. God can bring good out of suffering, even when the reasons for such suffering are not immediately apparent (CCC 309-314).

One of the key examples in the Bible is the story of Job, a righteous man who suffers greatly despite his innocence. Job's suffering leads him to question God's justice, but in the end, God does not provide Job with a direct explanation for his suffering. Instead, Job is invited to trust in God's wisdom and the mystery of His plans. This story highlights that, from a Catholic perspective, humans may not always understand the reasons for suffering, but they are called to trust in God's ultimate goodness and design.

4. SCIENCE, MEDICINE, AND HUMAN COLLABORATION WITH DIVINE WISDOM

Catholicism does not reject science or medicine. On the contrary, the Church recognizes them as part of God's gift of reason and human ingenuity. The development of medicine and technology is seen as a participation in God's creative power. Rather than seeing diseases as a contradiction to divine design, the Catholic perspective encourages believers to work actively to alleviate suffering, discovering new treatments and cures as part of their calling to love and serve one another.

In fact, many of the world's greatest advances in healthcare have been initiated by Catholic institutions. For instance, the Catholic Church runs numerous hospitals and clinics worldwide, and historically, many religious orders, such as the Sisters of Mercy or the Alexian Brothers, were founded to care for the sick. The example of saints like St. Damien of Molokai, who ministered to lepers, and St. Teresa of Calcutta, who cared for the poor and dying, underscores the Catholic commitment to alleviating suffering through compassionate care and medical intervention.

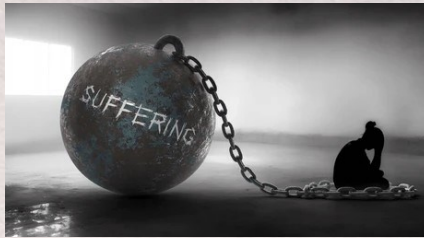


5. GOD'S ULTIMATE PLAN: ETERNAL LIFE

Catholicism teaches that the suffering and disease experienced in this life are temporary and must be understood in light of the eternal life that God promises to those who believe in Him. The pain and limitations of the present world are not the end of the story. As St. Paul



writes in his letter to the Romans: *"I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us"* (Romans 8:18).



This hope in eternal life is grounded in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which Catholics see as the ultimate answer to human suffering. Through Christ's resurrection, believers are assured that death and disease do not have the final word. While suffering is a real and painful part of human experience, it is transient, and in the end, it will be transformed into glory. This hope allows Catholics to face suffering with courage and trust in God's plan, even when it remains mysterious.

6. EXAMPLES OF SAINTS WHO EMBRACED SUFFERING

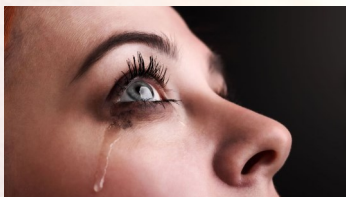
Throughout history, many saints have offered profound examples of how Catholics are called to view suffering within the divine plan. St. Thérèse of Lisieux, for instance, suffered from tuberculosis and died at a young age. Yet, she viewed her illness as a way to unite herself more deeply with Christ's suffering and to offer her pain for the salvation of souls. St. John Paul II, who endured Parkinson's disease in his later years, often spoke about how his own suffering allowed him to draw closer to God and empathize with the suffering of others.

These examples show that suffering, including illness, can have a purpose when embraced with faith. Far from being evidence against God's intelligent design, suffering can be a profound experience of God's love and redemption.

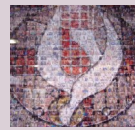
CONCLUSION:

Suffering as Part of God's Loving Plan

From a Catholic perspective, diseases and suffering do not disprove God's intelligent design but are part of the broader reality of a fallen world redeemed through Christ. Human suffering can lead to spiritual growth, deeper trust in God's providence, and ultimate union with Him in eternal life. While atheists may view disease as evidence of a chaotic or indifferent universe, Catholics see suffering as a path to divine grace, shaped by God's love and eternal plan. Through science, medicine, and compassionate care, believers collaborate with God's wisdom to alleviate suffering, always looking forward to the day when all pain will be transformed in the resurrection.



DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES



SURVEY

As part of our parish's response to the Pastoral Letter MAKE, the Discipleship Team is asking for your surveys to be returned no later than this Sunday, May 3. They may be returned to the baskets on top of the hymnal holders. Many thanks to all who took the time to fill out the surveys and return them. We will be compiling your responses shortly.

CONVERSION: ENCOUNTERING THE SACRED

Beginning next Sunday, we will begin sharing stories of people you know in the parish. They will share how they know God and when or where they have encountered the Sacred. Next week, we will begin with Fr. Sam's Vocation story and how God got his attention.

SMALL GROUPS ARE ENDING

Our small groups are completing their classes for Lent/Easter. They will resume in late September. WHEN YOU PRAY just completed. Here are a few quotes from the participants. Consider joining the When You Pray course in the Fall.

"I pray more intentionally – I make more time to schedule prayer, quiet time to talk to God. I have more confidence in my prayer time and my connection with God and the Holy Spirit."

"I learned that God appreciates my effort to pray regardless of how I do it or for how long." Persistence in prayer even when prayer is difficult, we can give God that "nothing."

"This course was helpful to learn about the Saints and their own experiences in prayer, and gave practical ideas and suggestions on how to develop and continue regular prayer in our own lives."

Susan Tutaj, Coordinator of Discipleship
stutaj@holyghostchurch.org 630-860-3691

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

Apple Pay
Google Pay
Venmo
PayPal

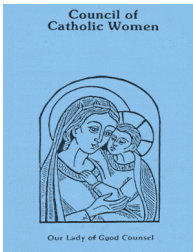


Simply scan the QR code or visit our website to give securely from your smartphone.

Thank you for supporting our ministries and mission!

CCW & MORE
 May 3, 2026
 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Please join Pope Leo in praying his May 2026 intention:
That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



The Holy Ghost CCW will hold their 65th Anniversary Celebration Mass

on May 17th at the 10:30 AM Mass



Installation of Officers for 2026-2028 will take place after Mass. Immediately following the Installation we will have lunch, catered by Fran Hargadon, in the Koinonia Room.

Tickets are \$30 and will be on sale at the Welcome Center following masses on the weekends of May 2, and May 9.

Please join us.


Join Us

For a presentation on the cause for the canonization of Venerable Augustus Tolton





6:30-8 pm, Tuesday, May 5
 at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus
 604 N Raynor Ave, Joliet, IL 60435
 Parish Commons - Door 26

Join **Bishop Perry** from the Archdiocese of Chicago for his presentation on the cause for the canonization of Father Augustus Tolton



KINDLY RSVP

Sponsored by  Diocese of Joliet Black Catholic Ministry

For more information, contact blackcatholicministry@dioceseofjoliet.org

OPERATION ANDREW DINNER



Young men and their fathers are invited to join Bishop Dennis Spies and several area priests for dinner, conversation, and testimonials about their own vocation stories.

There will be opportunity for a question-and-answer session and meeting other young men open to the priesthood.

St. Raphael Parish
 1215 Modaff Rd
 Naperville, IL 60540

MAY | 27TH | 6PM

Open to high school and young adult age men and their fathers

SCAN ME 

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 dijoliet.org/cemeteries for more details.

We're here to help!



Congratulations to Holy Ghost Parish Communicants who celebrated their
First Holy Eucharist on April 25.

Rylee Aguilera
Lydia Behounek
Emmanuel Camarillo
Juliana Dougherty
Olivia Dudek
Jesus Flores
Ricardo Frontier
Donny Hanns

Owen Henaghan
Jayden Hernandez
Cristiano Herrera
Ethan Hunt
Maya Krueger
Matthew Lopez-Pinedo
Cole Lukis
Mickey Melone

Jazmine Miranda
Juliana Miranda
Christian Monarrez
Julious Ochoa
Yago Pinedo
Kaylee Sanchez
Steven Sanchez
Amiya Serrano

David Smith
Camila Vasquez
Elle Vasquez
Sara Vazquez
Jacob Wagner
Emma Zamora

May God bless you as you grow in love and communion with Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Vacation Bible School



We invite all children ages 4 years to 8th Grade to join us for Vacation Bible School **Monday, June 8th – Friday, June 12th, 2026 9:00AM-12:00 NOON.** We are looking forward to a fun, faith filled week with crafts, games, snacks, music and learning about our Catholic faith; and we are excited for your child(ren) to participate in SONSURF BEACH BLAST! As kids explore the wonders of the beach, they'll also discover the Big Answers to their Big Questions about Jesus. Five life-changing Bible verses—including John 14:6—will help them understand who Jesus is and why they need Him. At SonSurf Beach Blast VBS, kids learn that there is only one truth: Jesus!

It will be \$35 per child for the week. There are forms in the vestibules, the parish office or call Nancy Siemers (630) 766-4509 to register.