

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST



WHY TRUST A GOD I CANNOT SEE?

The Catholic Response to Faith and Trust in the Invisible

One of the most fundamental questions in human experience is why we should trust in God, especially when we cannot see Him with our physical eyes.

In a world driven by tangible evidence, instant gratification, and visible proof, the idea of trusting an unseen God may feel counterintuitive.

However, from a Catholic perspective, trust in God is not only reasonable but deeply rooted in the understanding of God's nature, His revelation, and the lived experience of faith throughout history.

1. FAITH AS A VIRTUE BEYOND SIGHT

The Catholic Church teaches that faith is a theological virtue—a supernatural gift that enables us to believe in God and all that He has revealed, even though we cannot see Him.

Hebrews 11:1 offers a profound definition of faith: "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.'

In other words, faith gives us a kind of certainty, not based on physical evidence, but on the trustworthiness of God who

reveals Himself in various ways.

The demand that God must "earn" our trust is, in essence, a call to understand why we should believe in Him in the first place.

Unlike human relationships where trust is often earned through observable actions, our trust in God is built on His revealed character and the testimony of His works throughout salvation history.

The Catholic perspective teaches that trust in God is both a response to His invitation and an acknowledgment of His perfect nature, which surpasses human limitations.

2. THE INVISIBLE GOD WHO MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN

Although we cannot see God with our physical eyes, the Catholic faith holds that God continually reveals Himself in many ways.

A. Revelation Through Creation

St. Paul writes in Romans 1:20, "For since the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." Creation itself is a reflection of God's existence, power, and beauty.

The complexity of the universe, the order of nature, and the moral law within us all point toward a Creator.

The visible world, then, becomes a "book" through which we can encounter the invisible God.

B. Revelation Through Jesus Christ

The ultimate revelation of God comes through the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. In Christ, God made Himself visible and approachable.

As the Gospel of John affirms, "No one has ever seen God; but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known" (John 1:18).

Jesus' life, death, and resurrection are the fullest expressions of God's love for humanity, and His teachings continue to provide a roadmap for living in trust.

The historical reality of Jesus' life on earth, documented in Scripture and attested to by countless witnesses, offers a tangible sign of God's desire to be in relationship with us.

To trust God, then, is to trust the person of Jesus, who not only lived among us but also demonstrated God's love through sacrificial actions.

3. TRUST ROOTED IN GOD'S CHARACTER AND PROMISES

From a Catholic perspective, God does not need to "earn" our trust in the same way humans do, because His character is perfect, unchanging, and completely trustworthy.

Trusting God is not an arbitrary leap but is rooted in His fidelity and His promises throughout history.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

A. God's Covenant with Humanity

One of the defining characteristics of God in the Bible is His covenantal faithfulness.

From the Old Testament to the New, God enters into covenants with His people, promising to be their God and to protect and bless them if they remain faithful to Him. . These covenants (e.g., with Ńoah, Abraham, Moses, and ultimately through Jesus) reveal a God who keeps His promises and desires a relationship with humanity. When we look at salvation history, we see a God who has repeatedly acted for the good of His people, even when they have failed Him.

B. Trust in God's Providence

Catholics believe that God's providence—His guiding hand in the world—continues to operate in all things, even when we cannot see it.

We may not always understand why things happen, but we trust that God, in His infinite wisdom, is guiding history and our lives toward ultimate good.

This trust does not eliminate suffering or hardship, but it provides a deeper assurance that God is at work, even when His presence is not immediately visible.

4. TRUST BASED ON PERSONAL EXPERIENCE AND THE TESTIMONY OF SAINTS

Faith is not just an abstract concept but is deeply personal and experiential.

Many Catholics come to trust God through personal encounters, prayer, and the sacraments.

God often reveals Himself in the quiet moments of life—in prayer, in the Eucharist, in the lives of others—where His presence can be felt, even if not seen.

The Catholic Church also looks to the saints as models of faith and trust in God.

These men and women, who lived ordinary lives marked by extraordinary trust in God, offer powerful testimonies of how God can be trusted even in the darkest moments. Saints like St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, and St. Therese of Lisieux all experienced profound periods of spiritual dryness, where they felt distant from God, yet they continued to trust in His love and faithfulness.

Their witness encourages Catholics to trust in God, even when He seems hidden.

Example:

St. John of the Cross speaks of the "dark night of the soul," a period of intense spiritual trial where the soul feels abandoned by God.

Yet, he teaches that this "dark night" is actually a form of purification, where God is drawing the soul closer to Himself by stripping away attachments. Trusting God in this time leads to deeper intimacy with Him

5. THE EUCHARIST:

The Visible Sign of the Invisible God

For Catholics, the Eucharist is the "source and summit" of

the Christian life (CCC 1324). In the Eucharist, Catholics believe that the bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ, even though they retain their appearance.

The Eucharist is a profound mystery where the unseen God makes Himself present in a tangible, sacramental way.

It is a reminder that God is always with His people, nourishing them and inviting them to deeper trust in His love and mercy

Example:

The Eucharist is a moment where faith and trust come together.

Although the transformation of the bread and wine into Christ's Body and Blood is unseen, Catholics trust in Christ's words: "This is my body... This is my blood" (Matthew 26:26 -28).

This act of faith in the Eucharist reinforces the broader trust in God's unseen presence in our lives.

6. TRUST IS A RELATIONSHIP, NOT A TRANSACTION

It is important to recognize that trust in God is not a transactional demand that He must fulfill before we believe in Him.

Trust, from a Catholic perspective, is a relational response to the God who has already proven His love through the Incarnation, the Cross, and the Resurrection.

Like any relationship, trust grows over time, through prayer, reflection, and the lived experience of God's faithfulness in our lives.

God invites us into a relationship of love and trust, but He does not force it.

Trust is a free response to His grace, one that deepens as we grow in our understanding of His goodness, mercy, and care for us.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church affirms that "faith is a personal adherence of man to God" (CCC 150). It is an ongoing act of trust, not based on sight, but on love and fidelity.

CONCLUSION:

Trusting the God We Cannot See

Trusting in a God we cannot see may be challenging in a world that values the tangible and the visible, but the Catholic faith offers profound reasons for this trust. God's revelation through creation, Scripture, the Incarnation, and the Eucharist provide ample testimony to His trustworthiness.

His faithfulness in salvation history, the witness of the saints, and our personal experiences of grace all point to a God who is not distant but intimately involved in our lives. In the end, trust in God is not about waiting for Him to "earn" our confidence; it is about responding to the love He has already shown us. It is a relationship of faith, hope, and love that leads to peace and fulfillment, even in the midst of

uncertainty. As Catholics, we are called to trust that the unseen God is always with us, auidina us toward eternal life in His presence.



DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES



MAKE: A PASTORAL LETTER FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET

In October, Bishop Hicks released his Pastoral Letter: MAKE to the people of our Diocese. Your Discipleship Team here at Holy Ghost are carefully reading the

document to identify areas we are already tending to and areas we need to expand as disciples.

In the coming months I will quote sections of the letter in the bulletin and newsletter so that all parishioners can become familiar with it and know how our parish is responding. As you read these articles, please feel free to reach out to me with additional ideas for the staff and discipleship team to consider.

From Bishop Hicks: "If we are to grow as a thriving vibrant Church, one serious about passing on the faith to future generations, we must move from maintenance to mission. To make this shift, I have invited everyone to follow a vision focused on three essential paths summarized in five words: Catechesis, Evangelization, and Faith into Action.

The discipleship team began with **CATECHESIS** to name how we are currently supporting it in our parish. We need to remember that catechesis puts us in touch with the person of Jesus and is a lifelong journey which engages our heads and our hearts. The parish has a responsibility to support growth and knowledge in one's faith from womb to tomb.

At Holy Ghost, we have Faith Formation for grade school children as well as sessions for their parents; OCIA for those wanting to become full members of our church; a yearly Parish Mission; Soup and Scripture; Vacation Bible School; seasonal Prayer Services; distribute books on the faith at Christmas and a huge variety of courses for adults and teens over the past 5 years:

Discovering Christ Following Christ Sharing Christ Metanoia Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life Be Formed

No Greater Love

Mary...a Biblical Journey with the Blessed Mother

Boundless Compassion

When You Pray

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass

The Rescue Project.

While it seems like we may be offering quite a bit, we know that we need many different offerings to meet the needs of our diverse community. Many parishioners join us during the Fall and Lenten courses. We encourage everyone to join with your fellow parishioners to grow in faith and community through catechesis! What would you like to see offered in the future? One suggestion was a weekly scripture study on the Gospel of the week. What would you like offered? We look forward to your suggestions as we implement Bishop Hicks' Pastoral Letter: MAKE

Questions for Reflection on this first part of the letter:

- How have I personally experienced God's love for me?
- Has my understanding of God's love changed over the years? How?

..."Go and make disciples of all nations..."

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

FAITH FORMATION

November is the month we celebrate All Saints Day and All Souls Day. The All Saints Day feast is celebrated on November 1. All Saints Day had its beginnings in the fifth and sixth centuries and it celebrates all those Saints, canonized or not, who enjoy the happiness of heaven. This may include not only those declared Saints by the church, but also our relatives and friends. By the 10th-11th century, St. Odilo of Cluny, a French abbot, officially established November 2 as a day to pray for the faithful departed. All Soul's Day isn't just about sadness for our losses, it's a time to pray for the souls of our loved ones and all the faithfully departed. Catholics believe in the power of prayer, charity and Mass to help souls on their journey to eternal life. On this day try to attend Mass and offer the Eucharist for the souls of the departed, visit cemeteries, perform acts of charity and offer prayers for the deceased.



As we draw close to Thanksgiving Day we need to thank God for all of our blessings and reach out to those in need. Our food drive is ongoing and can use your help to "assist" those in need. The items are

taken to "The Center" at 206 N. Wood Dale Rd. by the Holy Ghost Knights of Columbus. Non-perishable canned, boxed and bagged food items may be placed on the shelving unit in the gym. Please bring items such as tuna, canned meat, canned vegetables, peanut butter, jelly, pasta or noodles, spaghetti sauce, cereal, oatmeal, canned soup, canned vegetables, mac and cheese, pancake mix, pancake syrup, canned fruit, flour, salt, sugar, cooking oil, crackers, brownie mixes, cake mixes, dried beans, rice, noodle or rice sauce packages, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, bottled salad dressing, paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, etc. Just imagine if everyone reading this just brings one or two items each week, our bins will be over flowing! To the extent you are able to "assist" those in need, please remember to bring items and place them in the bins in the gym.

"Men lose all the material things they leave behind them in this world, but they carry with them the reward of their charity and the alms they give. For these, they will receive from the Lord the reward and recompense they deserve." -St. Francis of Assisi

Nancy Siemers Director of Faith Formation







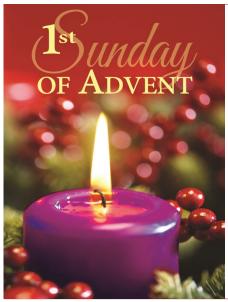
COLUMBUS

Holy Ghost Council 10325 is offering Achatz pies for Thanksgiving. ACHATZ Pies are rated by the Food Network as "Best Handmade Pies in America." Make you Thanksgiving special with a delicious pie and support the charitable work of the Knights of Columbus.

Fill out the form at the Holy Ghost Welcome Center pay by cash or check payable to: K of C #10325. Order online with credit/debit card with the QR code All orders must be received by 5pm, Friday, Nov. 14th.

Pies will be ready for pick up Tuesday, Nov. 25 between 3pm and 6pm.





Stay Connected This Advent!

Advent is just around the corner! Be sure to follow our parish on social media for updates on upcoming events, reflections, and ways to prepare your heart for Christmas. Don't miss important announcementscheck our Facebook. website and future bulletins for all the latest Advent information.

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS



Rainy day fund for repairs C.O.R.E (Catholic Outreach) Maintenance & Care of Worship Plants

Seminarian Education Catholic Campaign for Human Development







Second collections can be made online at we share on our website holyghostparish.org or by scanning the QR code.



We're kicking off our **Fannie May Fundraiser** to support our Faith Formation program—and we need **every parishioner** to get involved!

Fannie May flyer and order forms are available in the vestibules, welcome center and the parish office. Use the forms to help gather orders from friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors. This is a simple (and sweet!) way to help raise funds for our program, including materials, retreats, and special events that help our children grow in faith.

Why This Matters:

For every sale made, our Faith Formation program receives 30% back—that's a big impact with each box of chocolate sold! Although these items may occasionally be available at a lower price in stores, purchasing through our fundraiser ensures that 30% of each sale directly supports our parish Faith Formation Program.

- •All order forms and payments are due by Sunday, November 16.
- •Orders will arrive just in time for the holidays—perfect for gift-giving!
- •Pick up is Sunday, December 14.

Your participation truly makes a difference, and we're grateful for your continued support. Let's make this fundraiser a success for our kids and our parish community! If you have any questions, feel free to contact the parish office.



⚠ The Giving Tree – Share the Joy of Christmas!

Our parish **Giving Tree** will be up the weekend of **November 29 & 30!** Each tag on the tree represents someone in need within our community this Christmas season. We invite you to **take a tag that weekend** and return

your wrapped gift with the tag attached by December 6 & 7.

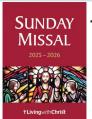
Your generosity helps bring the light of Christ to families who might otherwise go without. Together, we can make this Advent season one of hope, love, and joy for others. Thank you for being part of this beautiful tradition of giving!

A Prayer to Come Home to Mass

Loving God, You never stop calling us to be close to You. Open our hearts to hear Your gentle invitation to return to Your table. Heal whatever keeps us away, and remind us that there's always a place for us in Your house. May we find peace, hope, and belonging as we gather again in the celebration of the Mass. Amen.



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



The new Sunday Missals are for sale in the church office for \$5.



Every gift card you purchase from the SCRIP program benefits Holy Ghost with no additional cost to you. Skip the mall, save your gas and your mileage by buying SCRIP!

We carry hundreds of stores, and we also have VISA gift cards with NO ACTIVATION FEE! There are order forms in the vestibules of the church or stop by the parish office.

For more information call the parish office at 630-860-2975 or email: hgsecretary@holyghostparish.org



You can buy online at https://www.raiseright.com/enroll/ and use enrollment Code: 59555D1L5432



Eastern DuPage Deanery's

JUBILEE



Day of Prayer

Visit St. Peter's in Itasca, our deanery's specially designated parish, to receive a plenary indulgence* during the 2025 Jubilee

SCHEDULE

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM - Holy Mass

8:30 AM - 8:00 PM - Adoration

3:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Confessions

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Holy Hour with

Vespers and Benediction



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

St. Peter Catholic Church 551 N. Rush Street Itasca. IL 60143

For more information, call (630) 773 - 1272

(630) 773 - 1272

* "All the faithful, who are truly repentant and free from any attachment to sin, who, during the Holy Year, purified through the sacrament of Penance and refreshed by Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of the

Pope, will be able to obtain from the treasury of the Church a plenary indulgence, which can be applied to souls

in Purgatory" (Decree on the Granting of the Indulgence during the Jubilee Year 2025)



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Join the Knights of Columbus

- ♦We have more than 2,100,000 men in more than 16,900 councils headquartered in Catholic parishes around the world.
- ♦ Knights put their faith into action every day to make life better in their parishes and communities.
- ♦ We offer men the opportunity to grow in their faith while helping others and supporting the Church, and to become better Catholics, husbands and fathers.
- ♦ The Knights of Columbus annually contributes nearly \$190 million to worthy charitable causes around the world, and our members donate nearly 47 million hours of their time.
- ♦ Our founder Blessed Michael McGivney has been beatified by the Church. People around the world seek his intercession through prayer.
- ♦ All practicing Catholic men 18 years or older are invited to join.
- ♦ Call Grand Knight Warren Wawczak for more info. 630-487-7925

HOLY GHOST CALENDAR

All Saints Day Mass -Nov 1 at 8:30am Baptisms –Nov 1 at 1:00pm Knights of Columbus Pie Sale -Nov 1 & 2 Faith Formation Class –Nov 2 at 9:00am Faith Formation Parents -Nov 2 at 9:00am The Rescue Project (Virtual) -Nov 2 at 7:00pm When You Pray –Nov 3 at 10:00am Caring Connection –Nov 3 at 1:00pm Biblical Walk Through Mass -Nov 3 at 7:00pm Jesus, The Way, The Truth & The Life –Nov 4 at 12pm Parent Baptism Meeting -Nov 4 at 7:00pm The Rescue Project –Nov 5 at 7:00pm Core Board Meeting –Nov 6 at 6:45pm Rosary in Church -Oct 9 at 7:00pm Knights of Columbus Pie Sale –Nov 8 & 9 Seminarian Education Second Collection -Nov 8 & 9 CCW Christmas Bazaar -Nov 8 & 9 CCW Blood Pressure Screening -Nov 8 & 9 Faith Formation Class –Nov 9 at 9:00am KofC Rosarv in Church –Nov 9 at 11:30am When You Pray -Nov 10 at 10:00am Biblical Walk Through Mass –Nov 10 at 7:00pm Jesus TWTTTL -Nov 11 at 12:00pm The Rescue Project –Nov 12 at 7:00pm Rosary in Church -Nov 13 at 7:00pm

KofC Pie Sale –Nov 15 & 16 Baptisms –Nov 15 at 1:00pm Core 2nd Collection -Nov 15 & 16 Faith Formation Parents -Nov 16 at 9:00am Faith Formation Class -Nov 16 at 9:00am The Rescue Project (Virtual) -Nov 16 at 7:00pm When You Pray –Nov 17 at 10:00am Caring Connections –Nov 17 at 1:00pm Discipleship Meeting -Nov 17 at 5:00pm Biblical Walk Through Mass –Nov 17 at 7:00pm Jesus TWTTTL -Nov 18 at 12:00pm CCW Board Meeting –Nov 18 at 7:00pm Knights of Columbus Meeting –Nov 19 at 7:00pm The Rescue Project –Nov 19 at 7:00pm Rosary in Church –Nov 20 at 7:00pm Faith Formation Parents –Nov 23 at 9:00am Faith Formation Class -Nov 23 at 9:00am Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass –Nov 23 at 10:30am The Rescue Project (Virtual) -Nov 23 at 7:00pm Knights of Columbus Pie Pick up –Nov 25 at 3:00pm Office Closed –Thanksgiving –Nov 27 Giving Tree Tag Distribution –Nov 29 & 30 Knights of Columbus Pie Sale –Nov 29 & 30 Donut Sunday -Nov 30

*dates and times are subject to change. Please check the parish website for updated information or call the office.

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.











			Q.P.
Name:	 		
Address:			
Phone:			
Email:			
Date of Birth:			
Please circle the sacraments needed:		Confirmation	

WITH JOYFUL HEARTS, WE WELCOME OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED.

LILY ROSE DUDEK MICHAEL ANTONIO VALADEZ GABRIEL ALEXANDER KELLY ELENA CROWLEY

WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY



DEARLY DEPARTED

GREGORY FRANCIS BRUNSBERG 9/5/1948 - 9/25/2025

MICHELE PECORA

9/25/1940-10/3/2025

EDNA LOU STAHL

6/3/1942-10/3/2025

KATHRYN NAUGHTON 11/10/1952-10/9/2025

STEFANIA LINARD LARSON 4/21/1964-10/2/2025

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may the perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

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, and Holy Days of Obligation.

No other intentions will be taken for the Masses on these days.

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 THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TO PRAY THE ROSARY AFTER THE 10:30 AM

MASS ON SUNDAY, NOV 9, 2025

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PLEASE JOIN US
TO PRAY THE ROSARY
MONDAY THROUGH
THURSDAY
AT 9 AM AND ON
THURSDAY
EVENINGS AT 7PM.

Lord, we ask you to bless all those who serve; grant your heavenly protection to these brave men and women. Please give them and their loved ones strength and peace.

Amen.

AIR FORCE:

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

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

NAVY:

LCDR Nicholas Lucania Ryan James Ruizol

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Bianca Marie Borowski
Micah Casey
Aldegunda Diego
Thomas Franzen
Izcoatl Garcia Gonzales
Jerad Klint
Therese Kotecki
Michael Malek
Jose Joaquin Negrete Paz
Cindi Shea
Frank Staggs
Feliciano Vero
Gloria Villanueva
Salvatore Vivo
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!



The parish office will close at noon on Wednesday, Nov 26 and will reopen at 8:00am Monday, December 1.



Giving Tuesday — Support Our Parish!

This Giving Tuesday, consider making a gift to our parish. Your generosity helps sustain our ministries, faith formation, outreach, and daily parish needs. Every donation—big or small—makes a difference in keeping our faith community strong and vibrant. Thank you for your continued support!