CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH

OCTOBER 25, 2026 | **THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** | **#1281**

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
Event Director x121

Kelly Scardina
App & Web Manager x122

John Daily
Buildings & Grounds

Tracy Monteleone
Director of Music

Nancy Siemers
Director of Faith Formation 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



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." - Mt 22:37

Excerpts 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

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

Home-bound:
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.

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

Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 3 to 3:45PM.

WELCOME

OCTOBER 25, 2026

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 24

4PM Mass

+Sarah Pauscher

Sunday, October 25

8AM Mass

+Patricia Majcan

For the Parishioners of Holy Ghost Parish Living & Deceased

10:30AM Mass

+Silvia Heuser
+Aldegunda Diego

Weekday INTENTIONS

Monday, October 26

+Edward H. Gisburne

Tuesday, October 27

+Stephanie & Eugene Rafa

Wednesday, October 28

+Fr. Bede McGuire

Thursday, October 29

Robert & Mary Ziaja's 60th Wedding Anniversary

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.

Baptismal prep classes:
Our baptismal preparation classes are held on the first Tuesday evening at 7:00pm. Please call us to register.
630-766-4509

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

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

Annulments:
If you have questions about an annulment or are interested in starting the process with the Matrimonial Tribunal of the Diocese of Joliet, please contact Susan Tutaj 630-536-7427 or stutaj@holyghostparish.org

Funerals:
To schedule a funeral or memorial service for a loved one, please contact Fran Hargadon at 630-860-2975. Our parish community is here to support and comfort you during this difficult time.

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 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.

Home-bound:
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.

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

October 7 - October 13, 2026
$8,085.03

26-27 Budgeted Weekly Collection
$11,150.00

Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal
Diocese of Joliet

	2026
Parish Goal	$54,200
Amount Pledged	$67,121
Amount Paid	$62,471
Balance Due	$4,650
Donors	220
2026 Rebate	$5,790

Updated10/18/2026

UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS

October 24/25 - CORE
Nov. 7/8 - Seminarian Education
Nov.14/15 - Campaign for Human Development
Nov. 21/22 - CORE

WeShare by Ministry Brands

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!

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





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
Bianca Marie Borowski
Michael Brann
Micah Casey
Ron Catalano
Joan Cattinari
John Davies
Rosemarie Davies
Thomas Franzen
Mike Kaiser
Sarah Kasab
Jerad Klint
Therese Kotecki
Michael Malek
Jose Joaquin Negrete Paz
Georgia Schroeder
Cindi Shea
Frank Staggs
Holly Staggs
Nancy Townsend
Matt Vocino
Bernadette Watson
James Wilk
Phil Yanez
Joseph Yello
Cyndi Zwadlo
Colin
Special intention for Family GP

And for those listed in our parish book of prayers.

VOCATION PRAYER CALENDAR (OCT.)

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that You inspire young people whom You call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

17 Fr. John Sebahar, Fr. Greg Skowron
18 Very Reverend Richard Smith, Fr. Danilo Soriano
19 Sr. Laura Filipas OSF, Sr. Rosemary Fonck OSF
20 Dcns. John Rex, John Ripoll, David Ritter, Timothy Roberts
21 Sr. Sharon Frederick OSF, Sr. Ann Freiburg OSF
22 Fr. Robert Schoenstene, Fr. James Schwab
23 Fr. John Sponder
24 Seminarian David Molfese
25 Fr. Maciej Stelmach, Fr. Daniel F. Stempora
26 Dcns. Thomas Ross, Michael Ruddle, Kevin Ryan, Terry Safko, Thomas Sagenbrecht, Luis Saltigerald
27 Sr. Verene Girmscheid OSF, Sr. Mary Jane Griffin OSF, Sr. Mary Ann Hamer OSF
28 Seminarian Sean Czaplewski
29 Fr. Gerald Nicholas O.S.A., Fr. John Ohner O.S.A., Fr. John Sotak O.S.A.
30 Dcns. Thomas Rachubinski, Donald Randolph, David Raskowski, Thomas Rehak, Philip Rehmer
31 Sr. Barbarine Houdek OSF

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.



In Memory of the deceased members of the Mersch Family

From Ed & Marge Thomka

Please include your choice of date from the list below.

***The following dates are open for donations:**
October 31/1
November 14/15, 21/22
December 12/13, 19/20
January 2/3, 9/10, 16/17, 23/24, 30/31

(*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 acknowledgment 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 the Richard & Family

From the Barbara Rerych

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

CATHOLIC FOUNDATIONS WITH FR. SAM





DEBUNKING THE MYTHS: What the Great Tribulation is Not

The Great Tribulation is a concept that arises from Christian eschatology, particularly from the Book of Revelation and the Gospels (e.g., Matthew 24).

It is described as a period of intense suffering and trials before the Second Coming of Christ.

However, throughout history, various interpretations and misunderstandings have arisen around this event, often leading to confusion or sensationalism.

Let's explore what the Great Tribulation is not, clearing up some common misconceptions to provide a more grounded understanding, particularly from a Catholic perspective.

1. THE GREAT TRIBULATION IS NOT THE SAME AS THE FINAL JUDGMENT

Many people mistakenly conflate the Great Tribulation with the Final Judgment, but they are distinct events in Christian eschatology.

The Great Tribulation refers to a period of unprecedented hardship on earth, characterized by widespread suffering, persecution, and turmoil.

According to the Catholic Catechism, this period precedes the return of Christ, but it is followed by the Second Coming and Final Judgment.

The Final Judgment is when Christ will judge the living and the dead (Matthew 25:31-46), determining the eternal destiny of each soul based on their faith and actions.

While the Tribulation is a time of testing and purification, the Final Judgment is the moment when God's justice and mercy will be fully realized.

2. IT IS NOT A LITERAL 7-YEAR EVENT

A common misconception, particularly influenced by dispensationalist interpretations, is that the Great Tribulation will last exactly seven years.

This idea often comes from a literal interpretation of the Book of Daniel (Daniel 9:27), where a "week" is understood as seven years.

However, Catholic teaching does not require a strict, literal timeframe for the Tribulation.

The Church views apocalyptic language in the Bible as symbolic rather than prescriptive of exact durations.

Rather than focusing on whether the Tribulation will last a literal seven years, Catholics are encouraged to understand it as a period of profound spiritual trial and upheaval, during which the faithful must remain steadfast in their hope and trust in God.

3. IT IS NOT ONLY ABOUT PERSECUTION BY GOVERNMENTS OR INDIVIDUALS

While persecution of Christians will likely be a prominent feature of the Tribulation, especially in light of texts like Matthew 24:9, the Tribulation is not limited to political persecution or individual hostility. It encompasses much more, including:

Spiritual deception: False prophets and teachers will arise to mislead even the faithful (Matthew 24:24).

- Natural and cosmic disasters:

The Tribulation may involve environmental and cosmic upheavals, often described in apocalyptic terms like earthquakes, famines, and signs in the heavens (Revelation 6:12-17).

- Moral decay:

Widespread moral decline, lawlessness, and the rejection of Christian virtues (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

The Great Tribulation, therefore, is a multifaceted event, not confined to overt political or religious persecution, but also characterized by deception, chaos, and the deterioration of moral order.

4. IT IS NOT THE "RAPTURE" EVENT AS UNDERSTOOD BY SOME CHRISTIAN GROUPS

One of the most persistent misunderstandings about the Great Tribulation comes from the idea of the Rapture—a belief held by some Protestant groups that Christ will secretly remove true believers from the earth before the Tribulation.

This interpretation is based on a particular reading of 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 and is central to dispensationalism, which views the Rapture as a separate event from the Second Coming.

However, the Catholic Church does not endorse this view of the Rapture.

Instead, the Church teaches that all believers will undergo the final trials leading up to the Second Coming.

The idea that Christians will be spared from the suffering of the Tribulation by being "raptured" into heaven is not consistent with Catholic theology, which emphasizes endurance through suffering and faithfulness even in times of great trial (Matthew 24:13).

5. IT IS NOT MERELY A FUTURE EVENT FOR SPECULATION

Another error is thinking of the Great Tribulation purely as a future event.

While Catholic eschatology affirms that a final period of tribulation will precede the return of Christ, the Church also recognizes that trials and tribulations are a part of Christian life in every age.

The Early Church experienced intense persecution under Roman emperors, leading many early Christians to believe they were living through the Tribulation.

Similarly, in later centuries, wars, plagues, and anti-Christian movements have led many to speculate whether these times were the final Tribulation.

Instead of viewing the Tribulation as something entirely future-focused, Catholics are encouraged to live in vigilance and readiness for Christ's return at any time, recognizing that tribulations—both small and large—are part of the Christian journey.

6. IT IS NOT A RANDOM OR ARBITRARY PUNISHMENT FROM GOD

Some people imagine the Great Tribulation as a random punishment sent by God to make humanity suffer for no specific purpose.

However, this perspective is misguided. The Catholic Church teaches that, while suffering during the Tribulation will be intense, it serves a purpose in God's salvific plan.

The Tribulation is meant to purify and test the faith of believers, as well as to prepare the world for Christ's return.

It is not God's desire to see humanity suffer, but rather for people to repent and turn toward Him.

2 Peter 3:9 says, "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

The suffering experienced during the Tribulation is not arbitrary but is allowed by God as part of His divine plan to bring about redemption and salvation.

7. IT IS NOT CONTROLLED BY THE ANTICHRIST ALONE

While the Antichrist plays a significant role in the events of the Great Tribulation (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4), he is not the ultimate force behind it.

Many people mistakenly think the Antichrist will have complete control over the world during the Tribulation, but this view overlooks a critical truth:

God remains sovereign throughout all of history, including during the Tribulation.

The Antichrist, often understood as a figure of ultimate evil who will deceive many and wage war against God's people, is permitted to act, but only within the limits set by God.

The Tribulation serves a divine purpose, and ultimately, it will culminate in the defeat of the Antichrist and all evil forces. Christ will return in glory to bring about the new heaven and new earth (Revelation 21:1).

8. THE GREAT TRIBULATION IS NOT A TIME FOR HOPELESSNESS

Many people view the Great Tribulation as a period devoid of hope, filled with despair and chaos.

This perception can lead to fear and anxiety about the future, making it seem as though God has abandoned His people during this time.

However, Catholic teaching emphasizes that the Tribulation is not an end without hope but a means of purification and preparation for the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises.

In the midst of trials, Scripture encourages believers to remain hopeful.

Romans 5:3-5 states, "Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit."

The Great Tribulation is not a period of hopelessness; instead, it is an opportunity for the faithful to deepen their reliance on God, strengthening their faith and character in preparation for His return.

9. IT IS NOT EXCLUSIVELY ABOUT END TIMES EVENTS

While the Great Tribulation is often associated with the end times, it is crucial to recognize that tribulation is a reality that Christians face throughout history.

Many interpret the Great Tribulation solely as a future event characterized by apocalyptic phenomena, neglecting the fact that believers have experienced trials and persecutions throughout the ages.

For example, the early Christian community faced significant tribulations under Roman rule, with many martyrs enduring persecution for their faith.

The Catholic Church teaches that suffering and trials are a part of the Christian experience, as seen in John 16:33, where Jesus states, "In this world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

Thus, while the Great Tribulation may have a future aspect, it also serves as a reminder that Christians are called to endure trials and tribulations as part of their faith journey at all times.

10. IT IS NOT A TIME FOR DIVISION AMONG CHRISTIANS

Another misconception is that the Great Tribulation will lead to widespread division among Christians, causing believers to turn against one another.

While the Tribulation may reveal and challenge the authenticity of faith, it should not be seen as a cause for division.

The Catholic perspective emphasizes unity among believers, even amid suffering.

Scripture often calls for unity in the body of Christ, particularly during challenging times.

Ephesians 4:3 urges believers to "make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

The Great Tribulation is a time when Christians are encouraged to come together, support one another, and maintain their faith in God.

Rather than succumbing to division or fear, believers are called to rely on the strength of their community and their shared faith, fostering love and support amidst trials.

CONCLUSION:

Clarity Amid the Chaos

The Great Tribulation is often misunderstood, leading to sensationalized or inaccurate interpretations. It is not synonymous with the Final Judgment, nor is it merely a seven-year event. It is not just political persecution or moral decay, nor does it signal a "rapture" that spares Christians from suffering. The Tribulation serves a profound purpose in God's redemptive plan, preparing the world for Christ's return while purifying and strengthening the faith of believers.



By understanding what the Great Tribulation is not, Catholics and other Christians can avoid falling into fear or speculative thinking, remaining instead in the hope of Christ's promises. As believers, we are called to vigilance, knowing that even in the face of tribulation, Christ is victorious, and His kingdom will prevail.

Please join Pope Leo in praying his October 2026 intention:

For mental health ministry. Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

The CCW special event,

A Town Hall for Later in Life Decisions,

that was held on October 13, was a great success. It showcased 5 experts in medicine, law, and funeral services and answered questions from the audience. It was MC'd by Gina Reckard, President of the CCW and Hospice Nurse.

We thank all those who attended.











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.





This past week Fr. Sam blessed our new tabernacle. "The tabernacle, from the Latin tabernaculum (meaning "tent"), is the little house in the sanctuary where Jesus resides sacramentally -Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity-in each consecrated Host. Any consecrated Hosts remaining after Holy Communion are stored in the tabernacle, which is locked to protect the precious gift of Jesus inside. The tabernacle is preferable in the center of the sanctuary. There is a special candle in a holder near the tabernacle called the sanctuary lamp that remains lit when Jesus is present inside." -taken from The Sacred That Surrounds Us by Andrea Zachman

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, 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.

Fannie May
PREMIUM CHOCOLATIER SINCE 1920
FUNDRAISING 2025

- **All order forms and payments are due by Sunday, November 15.**
- **Orders will arrive just in time for the holidays—perfect for gift-giving!**
- **Pick up is Sunday, December 6.**

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.