

CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

#1309

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Sam Conforti
Pastor

Deacon Robert A. Lasica
Permanent Deacon

Parish Staff

Tammy Campeotto
Business Manager x123

Joanne DeZur
Receptionist x120

Frances Hargadon
Funeral Ministry/Event Director x121

Kelly Scardina
App & Web Manager x122

Dennis Bero
Sacristan

John Daily
Buildings & Grounds

Tracy Monteleone
Director of Music

Nancy Siemers
*Director of Faith Formation/
Human Resources x130*

Susan Tutaj
Coordinator of Discipleship x132

Theresa Bero
Veronica Borowski
*Faith Formation Administrative
Assistants 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.



THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:17

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

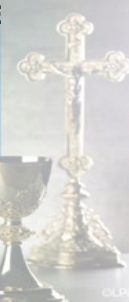
4 pm Saturday
8 am Sunday
10:30 am Sunday

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.



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

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



Homebound:

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

WELCOME

September 14, 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



Saturday, September 13

4PM Mass

**The Parishioners of Holy Ghost
Living and Deceased**

+Joseph & Lucille Mastro

Sunday, September 14

8AM Mass

**Health & Blessings for
Sarah Pauscher**

10:30AM Mass

+Jacek Lew



8:30AM Mass

Monday, September 15

**+Geri & Ron West
+Rosemary & Gene Beyak**

Tuesday, September 16

+Michael Blossak

Wednesday, September 17

+Socorro Gonzalez

Thursday, September 18

**The living & deceased members
of the Joseph Monaco Family**

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.

Baptismal prep classes:

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

Marriages:

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

Religious Education:

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

Reconciliation, Eucharist & Confirmation

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

Mass Intention Information \$10 stipend per Mass Intention.

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

THANK YOU

for your generosity

Sunday Collection
August 28—September 3, 2025
\$7,846.10

YTD Budget thru August 2025
\$89,167

YTD Actual thru August 2025
\$80,706

YTD Difference thru August 2025
-\$8,461



**Catholic Ministries
Annual Appeal**
Diocese of Joliet

	2025
Parish Goal	\$58,200
Amount Pledged	\$65,456
Amount Paid	\$59,300
Balance Due	\$6,156
Donors	224
2025 Rebate	\$770

Updated 9/7/2025

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION



Holy Ghost Family Faith Formation

Holy Ghost Family Faith Formation Program for children ages 4 through Parish 8 **began on September 7, 2025**. Its not too late to register. Forms can be found on the Holy Ghost web site at www.HolyGhostparish.org or on the Welcome Center.

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.



Prayer List Update

As we work to keep our records up to date, **starting September 15** we will be clearing all names currently on the parish prayer list. If you would like a name to remain or be added to the updated list, please contact the parish office.

Thank you for helping us ensure our prayer intentions are current and meaningful.

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
CAPT Jeremy Shimanek
1st LT Joshua Jalowiec
SSGT Robert W. Dones
SSGT Timothy Latvis
SRA Randall Petrbock
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

Domenico Albergo

Cathy Alcozer

Hilde Alt

Joan Atkins

Mary Bacci

Ron Bacci

Carrie Baran

Bianca Marie Borowski

Gaetano Bottalico

Michael Brann

Joel Calderone

Micah Casey

Ron Catalano

James Cumo

John Davis

Rose Marie Davis

Ady DeLargarza

Bernadine DeMichele

Rosalia DiGirolano

Ryan Fish

Tom Franzen

Phil Goulding

Evelyn Hickman

Michael Hoeing

Special Intention

Mike Kaiser

Sarah Kasab

Paul Kmiecik

Adam Kocik

Joyce Kordas

Therese Kotecki

John Kwarcinski

Marilyn Lambros

Bill LaPonte

Steven Leeson

Donald Lesmeister

Noel Lopez

Michael Loss

Julie McKay

Ange Mikuls

Robert Pauss

Jose Juaguin
Negrete Paz

Gloria Paz

Lisa Perez

Laverne Peterson

John Pettineo

Pat Pitello

Linda Plesh

Rose Powers

William Powers

Joseph Prince

Elvira Prine

Karen Reedus

Sue Robertson

Andrew Rosinski

John Rossi

Paul Runyon

Izzy Santiago

Cindi Shea

Wanda Slupik

Fred Sobieski

Tony Szabelski

Nancy Townsend

Jackie Vanjoske

Diamond Vega

James Paul Vega

Steve Vega

Larry Venere

Tina Wallace

Carol Williams

Blake Wishnow

Jordan Jr—Witold
Dudziak

Maria Yanez

Cyndi Zwadlo

Meg

Meaghan

Paolo

And for those listed in our parish book of prayers.

PRAYER & WORSHIP

September 14, 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Memorare

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

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

Food for the Banquet

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



In Memory of Nancy Cernauske

From Her Children

Please include your choice of date from the list below.

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

November 1/2, 8/9, 22/23, 27, 29/30

December 6/7, 27/28

January 2026 3/4, 10/11, 17/18, 24/25, 31/1

(*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 Nancy Cernauske

From Her Children

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



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.

NEWS & EVENTS

September 14, 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES



DISCOVERING CHRIST: This course begins between our two Sunday Masses next week on September 21st at 9am in Gym. If you missed the previous sessions or want to attend again to glean even more information, please register on the parish website

(holyghostparish.org); click on SIGNUPGENIUS and select this course. All we need is your name, email and cell phone to sign up. If you need help in signing up, please call Theresa: 630-766-4508 and she would be glad to help you.

We are offering this course between the masses to make it easier for you to attend before or after mass. Donuts and coffee will be available at each session. Be sure to register so we have enough materials.

CARING CONNECTIONS is our grief support group. We will meet over refreshments on Monday, October 6 at 1pm in Room 9. (please park outside door #12)

Please come and meet us and help us to plan our year to best serve YOU! Please leave a message with Susan: 630-860-3691 if you plan to attend. It will be good to gather again!

FALL COURSES: Last call to register for any of our courses beginning the first week of October. 9 weeks of classes: Biblical Walk Through Mass; When We Pray; Jesus, The Way, the Truth and the Life; The Rescue Project. All their descriptions are on our parish website under SIGNUPGENIUS. If your need more information, please call Susan. Going to miss some weeks? Sign up anyway as the books and videos are rich in content.

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



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

An Invitation to join the Knights of Columbus

We Knights of Columbus invest our time, our efforts, and our resources into our values:

Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. We do it to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors, and Catholics. We do it to assist the sick and disabled, to protect those who can't protect themselves, to help the hungry and the persecuted. We come from many places and backgrounds and different stages in our lives. But we are all one faith. If you are a practicing Catholic man, 18 years of age, and older, you are invited to put your faith in action. Join us on life's adventure to discover the man God calls you to be.

Become a Knight! Call Grand Knight Warren Wawczak for more info 630-487-7925

CCW & MORE
 September 14, 2025
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Please join Pope Leo in praying his September 2025 intention:
 Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

Save the Date

Holy Ghost Parish will participate in the

**CITY-WIDE
GARAGE
SALE!**

SEPTEMBER
Sat, 20th & Sun, 21st, 2025
9am—2pm

Want to be a seller?
 The cost is \$30 to rent a table
 (which includes 1 - 8' table and 2 chairs)

Please contact Frannie @
 Phone—630-766-4508
 Or text—708-218-6511
 Or Email fran@holyghostparish.org



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A ROSARY RALLY
 IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA**

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 11, 2025
9AM
HOLY GHOST CHURCH
SOUTH DOORS

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY OF FATIMA HAS ASKED US TO
 PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY.



Join us for the
 Diocese of Joliet

JUBILEE MASS FOR GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY

Pilgrims of Hope

Saturday, October 4, 2025

11:00 AM

Cathedral of St. Raymond

604 N Raynor Ave, Joliet, IL

RSVP by scanning the
 QR code or by calling
 815-221-6192



Questions? Call Jim Elias 815-221-6134

The Holy Ghost **Council of Catholic Women**
 cordially invites interested women of the parish
 to our next Board Meeting on **Tuesday, September 23**
at 7 PM in the Koinonia Room. Please enter through the
 north Farrell Faith Formation door. Come
 and get to know us and to help us plan our
 activities. **We hope to see you there!**



For More information call or text
 Gina Reckard—630-536-7427
 Scan the QR Code to see our CCW website page.



We welcome
Nicolas Matias Valdes
Ismael Ines Penaloza
Francisco Reyes
Easton Johnsen
Alexandra Kotowski
Marrico Anthony Marsico III

who were recently
baptized into the family
of God and into the
faith community of
Holy Ghost.

Please pray for them
and their families.



No matter how much
you're hurting

No Marriage is Beyond Hope

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES
RETRouvaille
OF JOLIET ILLINOIS

There is a light at the
end of the tunnel.

#blessedinRETROspect
#RetrouvailleJoliet

Retrouvaille is a program designed to help married couples who are struggling. We will help you learn to communicate on a deeper level, approach conflict constructively, build a stronger marriage, and rediscover the love you once had for each other.

Our Joliet area weekend is coming this September 19th – 21st, 2025

HelpOurMarriage.org

For more information, call us at 815-246-2080
or visit us at HelpOurMarriage.org



815-246-2080

Never Miss Our Bulletin!

Have it emailed to you
automatically every week.

1

Go to ParishesOnline.com
and enter our parish in the
search.

2

Click the **Subscribe**
button on our parish page.



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

