

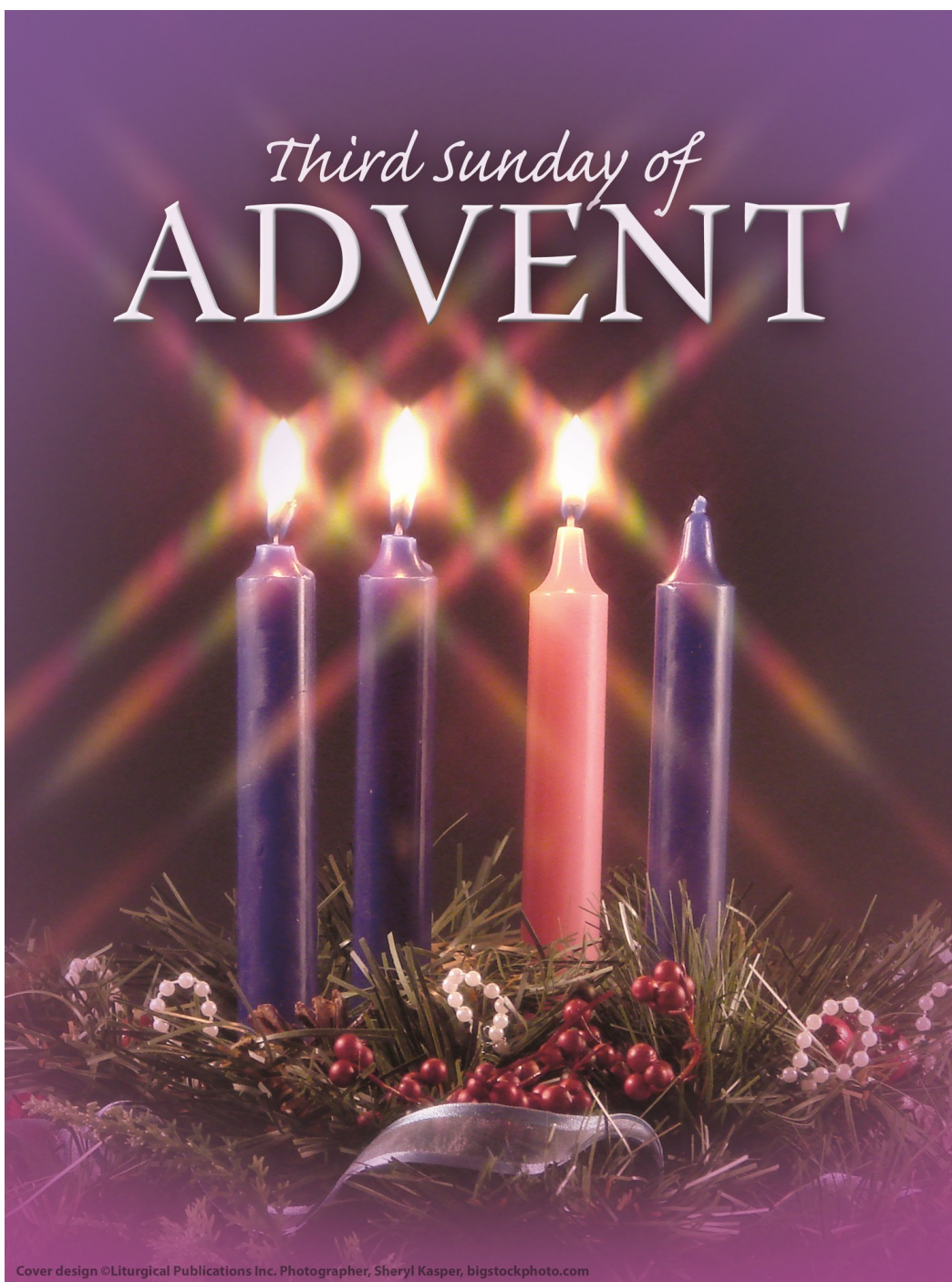


Sunday, December 14, 2025  
Third Sunday of Advent

### ***THE MISSION STATEMENT***

*We, the members of Divine Savior Parish,  
called in Baptism by the Holy Spirit  
to be a people grounded in  
Word and Sacrament,  
strive to reach out to all peoples.  
Through collaboration and sharing of  
talents and gifts we are dedicated in  
prayer and in the works of justice  
to making the Kingdom of God present  
among all peoples, races and cultures.*

## *Third Sunday of* **ADVENT**



# Parish Information

## CONTACT US

**Website:** WWW.Divinesaviorparish.net

**Address:** 6700 Main Street,  
Downers Grove, IL 60516-2799

**Phone:** 630-969-1532

## STAFF

**Fr. Agustin Ortega**, Pastor, 630-574-9751

**Luis Gonzalez**, Business Manager, 630-574-9734  
*Luis@divinesavior.net*

**Bianca Jimenez**, Religious Education Coordinator  
*dre@divinesavior.net* 630-574-9740

**Lupita Plazola**, Parish Secretary, ext. 121  
*Lupita@divinesavior.net* 630-969-1532

**Linda Vicha**, Parish Secretary, ext. 121  
*Secretaryen@divinesavior.net*

**Paul Berardi**, Music Director  
*musicdirector@divinesavior.net* 630-574-9738

## COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Ministers of Care are available to bring Communion to the homebound. Please call the parish office.

## BAPTISMS

Once a month at a Baptism service. Arrangements must be made one month in advance. Parental preparation requires registration in the Parish, active Saturday or Sunday participation in Parish Worship and attendance at a Baptismal Preparation meeting. Please call the office to make arrangements.

## MARRIAGES

Arrangements for celebration of marriage must be made with the pastor at least six months to one year in advance and before all other arrangements are made. Weddings are not scheduled on Sundays.

## CONFESSIONS

**PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE FOR AN  
APPOINTMENT FOR CONFESSIONS. 630-969-1532**

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Weekdays:** 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

**Saturday:** 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday:** 8 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. (Spanish)

**Holy days:** Check the bulletin or website

## BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS

**Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Closed on Weekends and Holidays

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Phone:** 630-574-9740

**E-mail:** dre@divinesavior.net

**Office hours:** Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

## JOIN THE CHURCH!

Are you interested in becoming a fully participating member of the Catholic faith? Contact the Religious Education office at 630-574-9740.

## JOIN THE PARISH!

Stop in the parish office during business hours to register.

## QUINCEAÑERAS

Cualquier persona interesada en la celebración de una Quinceañera debe comunicarse con la Sra. Plazola al menos 6 meses antes la fecha deseada. Todas las familias deben ser miembros activos dentro de la parroquia y las señoritas deben haber recibido el sacramento del Bautismo, la reconciliación, la primera comunión y el sacramento de la confirmación o estar asistiendo en nuestra clases/programa de Confirmación por 1 año antes de la Quinceañera. Horas de servicio y un retiro

## BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please e-mail submissions to **bulletin@divinesavior.net**  
**10 days** before the publication.

# Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

*December 17th through December 21st*

Wednesday: 8:30am	Joseph & Josephine Vilt
Thursday: 8:30am	Nora Ortanez
Friday: 8:30am	Romy De Lumen
Saturday: 4:00pm	Alex Bratuljevich
Sunday: 8:00am	Angelo Caldarazzo
10:00am	Eugene Heinrich
12 noon	Jose Guadalupe Preciado, Jose Estrada, Socorro Arellano & salud Hilda Preciado



## Prayers for the sick:

Rafaela Botello	Herb G.
Maureen C.	John Robinson
Mark C.	Anthony Gnutek
Terry R.	Norbert Wierzbicki
Sherry Toman	Betsy
Steven G.	Pete Cushion
Joann Costa	Bev G.
D. Woods	Janice Sinnick
Fr. Bill Conway	Emri R.
Ellaine Gialogo Jimenez	Elsie Bestvina
Jennifer Sinnick	Paul And Helen Czech
Grace P.	Kathy S.

Please call the office at 630-969-1532 if you would like the parish to pray for someone. Please secure his/her permission prior to being included in the prayer request.



The Tabernacle Candle will be lit in thanksgiving for blessings received for the Robinson Family


## Announcements:

Avent Reconciliations will be held on Tuesday, December 16 at 7pm

Oplatki Christmas wafers (\$3.00 or donation) are available upon request after mass.

Simbang Gabi December 20th  
6:30pm mass with Bishop Conlon

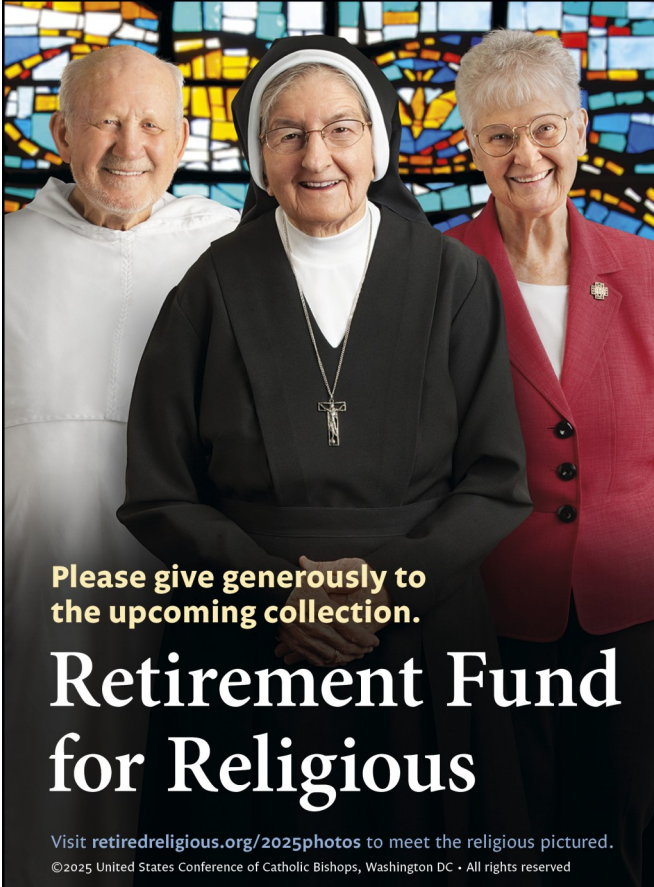




**A REFLECTION ON THE NATIVITY STORY**

Much of our understanding of the Nativity Story comes from only two sources, the gospels of Matthew and Luke. In an evening of reflection, parishioner and former Director of Religious Education and Youth Minister, Mark Hoffmeyer, will review these gospels and discuss how certain events relate to the Old Testament, why there could be problems with what the Bible presents, but also how we may be able to reconcile these problems. Please come to learn about and appreciate the wonderful Nativity Story, and stay for treats and fellowship afterwards.

**THURSDAY DEC. 18 7-8 PM**  
Divine Savior Parish



**Please give generously to the upcoming collection.**

**Retirement Fund for Religious**

Visit [retiredreligious.org/2025photos](https://retiredreligious.org/2025photos) to meet the religious pictured.

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**They gave their lives in service—  
now they need your help.**

For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying, and serving those in need. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings.

Your support ensures they receive the care and dignity they deserve. Let us now offer them the dignity they have so selflessly granted to others. Your generosity today is not just a donation—it's a way of thanking them for their lifelong service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.





# Schedule of Masses

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS	December 24 3:00 PM
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS	December 24 5:00 PM
MISA DE NOCHE BUENA	Diciembre 24 7:00 PM
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS	December 25 10:00 AM





## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS Decorating

MONDAY  
DECEMBER

22

AT

11 AM

BRING YOUR HOLLIDAY CHEER  
FOR AN AFTERNOON OF  
FELLOWSHIP!



TO VOLUNTEER,  
PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH  
OFFICE AT 630-969-1532



Jose Julian Esqueda

Your baptism is a treasure.  
May your life always shine  
with God's light.





Happy Birthday  
Pat Finn!



# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of December 14, 2025

### Sunday:

Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10  
(see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

### Monday:

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

### Tuesday:

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

### Wednesday:

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/  
Mt 1:1-17

### Thursday:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/  
Mt 1:18-25

### Friday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

### Saturday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/  
Lk 1:26-38

### Next Sunday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/  
Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in  
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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was 11, I was riding my bike on a Friday night in Scottsdale, Arizona. I saw giant spotlights swirling in the sky. Something amazing had to be happening. I pedaled after them with excitement. Sweaty and tired, I arrived, only to find a used car lot. Bright lights, flapping banners, inflatable balloon men swaying wildly in the wind. I stood there, heart sinking. All that spectacle, and all my effort ... for this?

As life proceeds, we learn what it is like to pursue promising but fruitless searches. This week we hear Jesus ask the crowds regarding John the Baptist: **“What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?” (Matthew 11:7).** He’s not just describing the crowd’s mis-aimed pursuit. He’s naming our tendency to chase after what’s flashy but flimsy.

What are our swaying reeds? For me, it is endless video reels on my phone, worldly pleasures, entertainment in sports, and the good opinion of others. Inflated distractions that bend whichever way the wind blows. But they can’t satisfy my soul. What are your flimsy reeds?

John the Baptist wasn’t a swaying reed. He was rooted, grounded, unafraid to speak the solid truth. The people went to see him because, deep down, they were starving for something real.

This Advent, the Church asks us to reassess: What are we really looking for? Are we chasing the dazzling but hollow? Or are we seeking what is solid and lasting — that which points to Christ?

— *Father John Muir*

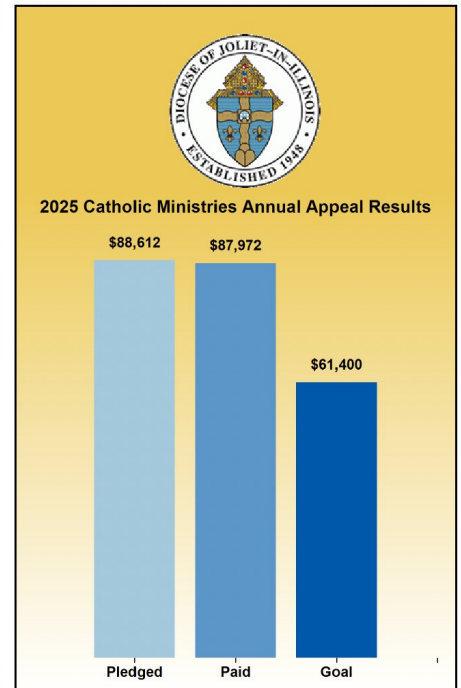


## 2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Weekly Dashboard Parish Report

Results through 11/23/2025

152 - Divine Savior Parish - Downers Grove

	2025	2024	Inc/Dec	2024 (Final)
Parish Goal	\$61,400	\$56,800	\$4,600	\$56,800
Amount Pledged	\$88,612	\$67,055	\$21,557	\$70,294
Amount Paid	\$87,972	\$65,990	\$21,982	\$69,774
Balance Due	\$640	\$1,065	(\$425)	\$520
Donors	197	214	-17	224
2025 Rebate	\$18,600			



2025 Parishioners	
<b>2,119</b>	<b>9%</b>
# of Registered Parishioners	Participation Rate
<b>\$449.81</b>	<b>1,922</b>
Average Gift	Nonparticipants

Number of LYBUNTs (Last Year But Not This Year)
<b>50</b>

\*\*\*For full LYBUNT listing view last page of report\*\*\*

Giving Circles	2025 Donors	2024 Donors	Difference
Queen of Peace Circle (\$25,000+)	1	0	1
Xavier Circle (\$10,000 - \$24,999.99)	0	1	-1
Bishop's Circle (\$5,000 - \$9,999.99)	2	1	1
Patron Circle (\$2,500 - \$4,999.99)	3	2	1
Sponsor Circle (\$1,000 - \$2,499.99)	9	11	-2
Circle of Hope (\$0.01 - \$999.99)	182	209	-27
<b>Total Donors</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>-27</b>

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Page 1 of 13

AMERGENT



**Fr. Agustin  
and the staff of  
Divine Savior Parish  
thank you for  
your generosity.**

## November Stewardship



2025	Envelopes	Loose Curren- cy	E-Giving	Sub Total	Blue Enve- lopes	Special Col- lection	Total
2nd	\$ 6,059.00	\$ 2,489.00	\$ 1,925.14	\$ 10,473.14	\$ 170.00	\$ 2,264.55	\$ 12,907.69
9th	\$ 7,087.00	\$ 1,651.00	\$ 2,594.00	\$ 11,332.00	\$ 245.00	\$ 459.51	\$ 12,036.51
16th	\$ 7,920.00	\$ 2,507.00	\$ 1,719.00	\$ 12,146.00	\$ 1,863.00	\$12,533.79	\$ 26,542.79
23rd	\$ 5,257.00	\$ 2,615.25	\$ 2,224.00	\$ 10,096.25	\$ 605.00	\$ 1,318.52	\$ 12,019.77
30th	\$ 3,350.00	\$ 1,206.00	\$ 2,480.14	\$ 7,036.14	\$ 140.00	\$ 1,914.00	\$ 9,090.14
Month Total	\$ 29,673.00	\$ 10,468.25	\$ 10,942.28	\$ 51,083.53	\$ 3,023.00	\$18,490.37	\$ 72,596.90
<b>2025/26 Fiscal Year Total</b>	<b>\$130,478.11</b>	<b>\$ 41,790.04</b>	<b>\$47,213.70</b>	<b>\$219,481.85</b>	<b>\$ 13,957.00</b>	<b>\$26,770.57</b>	<b>\$260,209.42</b>

If you have family members currently serving in any branch of the Armed Forces, we would like to include their names in our weekly bulletin so that parishioners may include them in their prayers. Please submit their names with branch of service to [Bulletin@divinesavior.net](mailto:Bulletin@divinesavior.net). Please notify us when the service person returns home.

### ***WE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS***

Jeremiah Curtis - Taji, Iraq  
Elisabeth Carrillo - National Guard, Iraq  
David Blazin - US Army, Qatar  
Kevin Przybocki - US Army, Afghanistan  
Anthony Vicha - National Guard, Springfield  
Rachael Vicha - Navy  
Madison Demos - US. Coast Guard, New York  
Ray Roberto, Jr. - Navy  
Lt. Jack O'Sullivan MD - Navy

Lynsey M. Gabrielson - Navy, San Antonio  
Major Jose E. Perez - US Army, Chicago, IL  
Eric Jones - Army Reserves  
Michal Kazmierczak - US Navy  
Jon Black, US Army - Okinawa, Japan  
Juanita Iris Mejia - Marines, CA  
Christopher Bianchi - Army, Middle East  
Capt. Brendan O'Sullivan, MD - Air Force





## Kids Corner

### Prayer

Dear God, show me ways to help my friends follow God, too.

### Mission for the Week

If you have any videos that tell Bible stories, watch one or two together with your family.

### Sharing the Gospel

Name someone that you think is very important. Jesus said that John the Baptist was the greatest man ever born. John the Baptist did not live in a big house or wear nice clothes. He was not the president, and he did not own a huge company. You would probably think he was very poor. But John the Baptist was truly great because he loved and trusted God with his whole heart. He helped other people follow God, too.

**Now color the picture!** →

Fit this Gospel Message into the empty squares:

**Tell John what you have heard and seen.**

