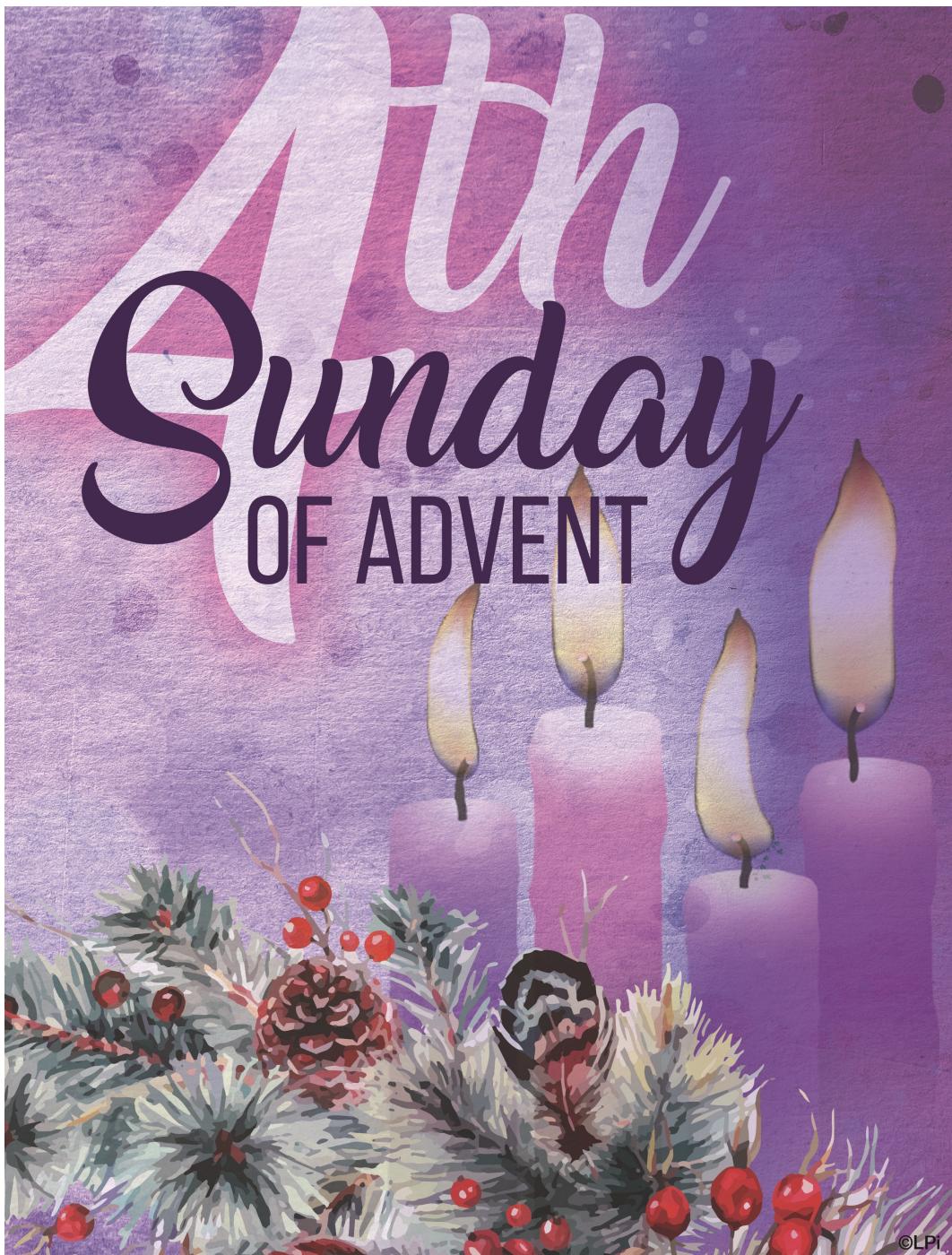




Sunday, December 21, 2025  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

**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.



# Parish Information

## CONTACT US

**Website:** [WWW.Divinesaviorparish.net](http://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.

## CONFESIONS

**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 nuestras 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](mailto:bulletin@divinesavior.net)**  
**10 days** before the publication.

# Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

## December 24th through December 28th

Wednesday:	8:30am	For the Parishioners
Thursday:	8:30am	For the Parishioners
Friday:	8:30am	For the Parishioners
Saturday:	4:00pm	Krissy Baniewitz
Sunday:	8:00am	Krissy Baniewitz
	10:00am	In Thanksgiving for Vega Agmcamaran
	12 noon	Jose Guadalupe Preciado, Jose Estrada, Socorro Arellano & salud Hilda Preciado

# PRAYER REQUEST

## 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.
	Carolyn Heinrich

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.



If you would like to have the  
Tabernacle Candle lit in memory, or  
for someone, please contact the  
Parish office. 630-969-1532

## Announcements:

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

New Years Eve Mass  
December 31st 4pm.



It is time to celebrate the birth of Christ with joyful hearts and in the presence of our loving family and friends. The divine life of Christ finds a dwelling place in our human nature, Emmanuel!!!!

God is with us.

Let us continue being a blessing for each other and may the Love of God our Father help us to recognize the presence of Christ in those in need.

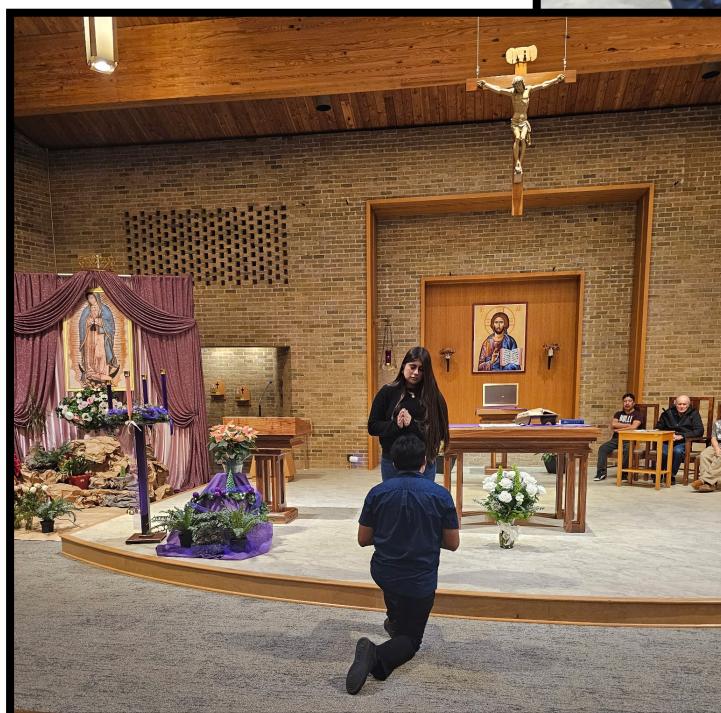
The Greatest gift is now within us, Christ's love. On behalf of myself and my staff here at Divine Savior, we want to wish you a loving and peaceful Christmas. May all those loving gatherings around food, drink, music, gifts and good memories of our past experiences help us to have a very special and bright Christmas!!!!!!

PEACE ON EARTH, EMMANUEL!!! God is with us.

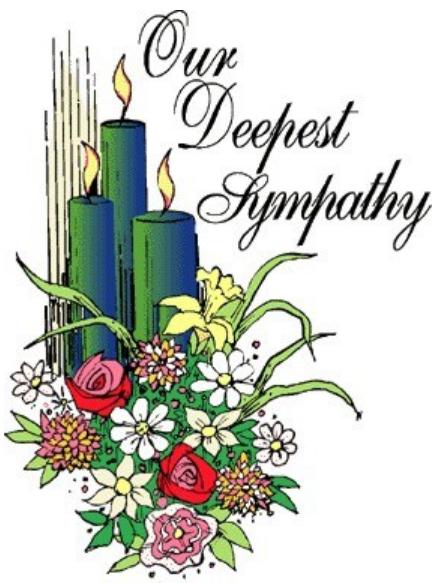
*Merry Christmas, Padre Agustin*



**Behind the scenes for the celebration of our Lady of Guadalupe!**



Youngest attendee at 4 months old at the 5:30am Mañanitas! What an early bird!



In Sympathy  
Elizabeth Colello  
July, 1930 – December, 2025

Elizabeth was a kind and deeply loving woman who touched every person she met. She was famous for her handmade Christmas ravioli.

## Sponsor an Individual or Family for Christmas

This Christmas season, Catholic Charities invites you to make a meaningful difference through our annual **Gift of Christmas** program. Your support helps fulfill wish lists for individuals and families served by Catholic Charities.

You may choose to support a specific individual or family by reading their story, or you can make a general gift that will be directed to someone still waiting to be sponsored.

### Giving is easy:

- Visit [catholiccharitiesjoliet.org](http://catholiccharitiesjoliet.org) and click *Donate*
- Call **815-724-1140** to give by phone
- Mail a check (please note “*Gift of Christmas*” in the memo) to:

Catholic Charities  
16555 Weber Rd., Crest Hill, IL 60403

Questions? Call **815-724-1140** or  
email [msnow@cc-doj.org](mailto:msnow@cc-doj.org).



**Maggie Snow**  
Director of Communications  
and Advancement

[msnow@cc-doj.org](mailto:msnow@cc-doj.org)  
815-274-6107  
16555 Weber Road  
Crest Hill, IL 60403

Thank you for helping bring hope and joy to our neighbors this Christmas. God bless you!

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

## Music Director – St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Naperville, IL

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish is seeking to hire a Music Director to facilitate the planning and leading of the music for all liturgical celebrations. This position is part-time unbefited, up to 29 hours per week. Requires flexibility during weekdays to attend meetings, sacred music selection and preparation for weddings and funerals, evening choir/cantor practices, and other duties as needed. Weekends are required for providing sacred music during the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday and the 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses on Sunday. Education and qualifications include experience in organ, piano, and vocal skills is highly preferred. A college degree in music, music performance or a related field preferred. Strong communication skills for written communications and verbal interactions with staff, parishioners, volunteers, and guest musicians. Demonstrate the knowledge and proficiency of Microsoft Office products. Must support the mission, philosophy, objectives and policies of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet. To view a full job description, visit: [The Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet in Illinois](http://The Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet in Illinois). If interested in this amazing opportunity, please send a cover letter and resume to Gloria Kapsa, business manager at [businessmanager@sescatholic.org](mailto:businessmanager@sescatholic.org).

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of December 21, 2025

### Sunday:

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

### Monday:

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Lk 1:46-56

### Tuesday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and  
14/Lk 1:57-66

### Wednesday:

Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps  
89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

### Thursday:

*Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29  
(2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or  
1:18-25

*Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13  
(Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

*Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/  
Lk 2:15-20

*Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/  
Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

### Friday:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and  
8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

### Saturday:

1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

### Next Sunday:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/  
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly ten years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks:

**"Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home"**  
**(Matthew 1:20).** When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

— Father John Muir

## 2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Weekly Dashboard Parish Report

Results through 11/23/2025

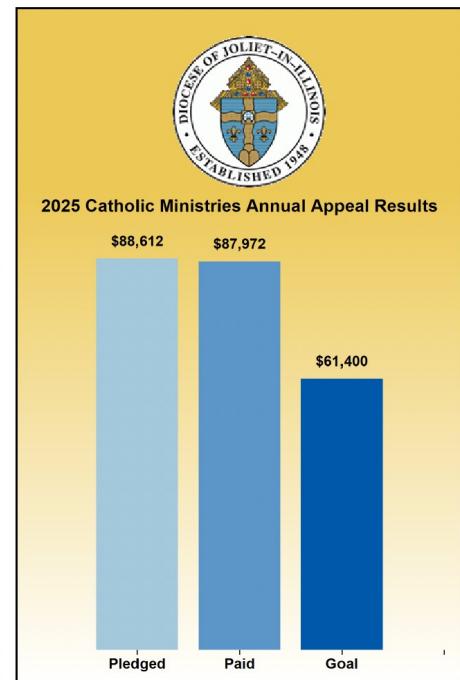
152 - Divine Savior Parish - Downers Grove

	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	
2,119	9%
# of Registered Parishioners	Participation Rate
\$449.81	1,922
Average Gift	Nonparticipants

Number of LYBUNTs (Last Year But Not This Year)	
50	

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



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AMERGENT



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

## December Stewardship



2025	Envelopes	Loose Curren- cy	E-Giving	Sub Total	Blue Enve- lopes	Special Col- lection	Total
7th	\$ 5,910.00	\$ 1,735.00	\$ 2,789.00	\$ 10,434.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 1,833.30	\$ 12,427.30
14th				\$ -			\$ -
21st				\$ -			\$ -
28th				\$ -			\$ -
				\$ -			\$ -
Month Total	\$ 5,910.00	\$ 1,735.00	\$ 2,789.00	\$ 10,434.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 1,833.30	\$ 12,427.30
2025/26 Fiscal Year Total	\$136,388.11	\$ 43,525.04	\$50,002.70	\$229,915.85	\$ 14,117.00	\$28,603.87	\$272,636.72

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



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

## **Retirement Fund for Religious**

Visit [retiredreligious.org/2025photos](http://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.

**Heartfelt gratitude for your generosity!**  
 “Thank you very much for your donations, always,” says Sister Olivia Bellegante, 93, a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Louis, Missouri. Your gift directly impacts thousands of senior religious, providing the support they need in their later years.

## Kids Corner

### Prayer

I am proud that I am your child, Father God.

### Mission for the Week

I will thank my parents for having me and taking good care of me.

### Sharing the Gospel

An angel told Joseph to marry Mary because her baby was through the Holy Spirit of God. They would name the baby Jesus because he would save his people from their sins. God called you by name, too. Before you were born, he could tell you how many hairs would be on your head. He knew how long your feet would be. He knew all the good things you would do for his people.

Now color  
the picture!

Draw a picture of yourself when you were a baby.

