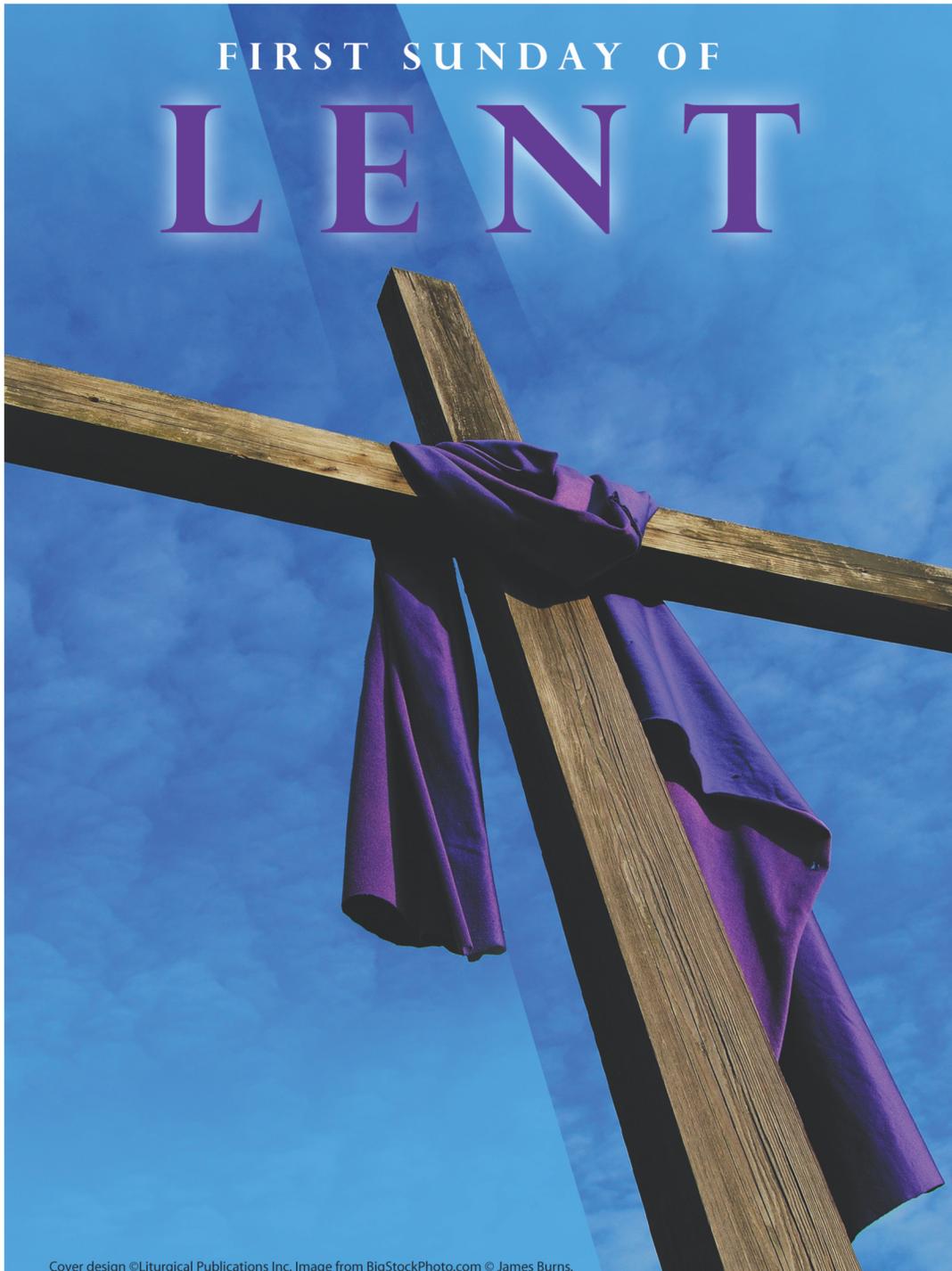




Sunday, February 22nd, 2026  
First Sunday of Lent

### **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

**Address:** 6700 Main Street,  
DownersGrove, 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*

**Marie Borowski**, Pastoral Associate, 630-465-7044  
*pastorala@divinesavior.net*

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

**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

**Ray Vicha**, Maintenance  
*maintenance@divinesavior.net*

## 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.

## CONFESSIONS

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

## COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

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

## BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please mail submissions to [bulletin@divinesavior.net](mailto:bulletin@divinesavior.net) 10 days before the publication.

## MASS SCHEDULE

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

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

**Sunday:** 8a.m.,10:00a.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 8:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.**

Closed on Weekends and Holidays

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Phone:** 630-574-9740

**E-mail:** [dre@divinesavior.net](mailto:dre@divinesavior.net)

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

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

## 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.

## 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 debenser 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

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



*February 25th through March 1st*

- Wednesday: 8:30am For the Parishioners
- Thursday: 8:30am For the Parishioners
- Friday: 8:30am Ken & Arlene Weidner
- Saturday: 4:00pm Marge Cushion
- Sunday: 8:00am Alfred Barbeau
- 10:00am Chuck Zemaitis
- 12:00pm Donna Kuhn

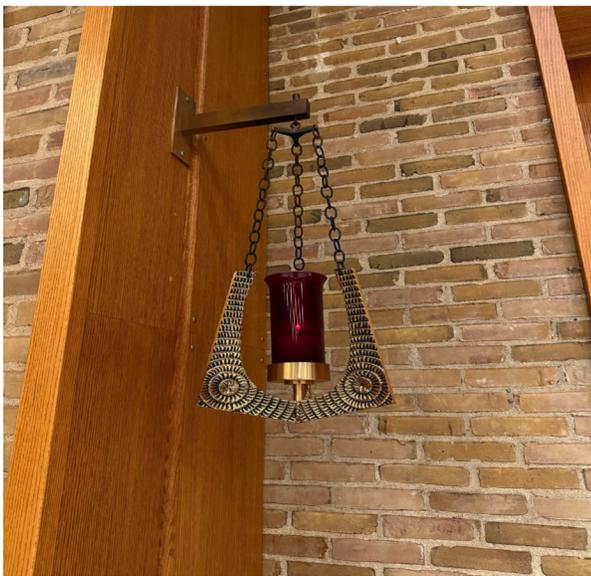
## PRAYER REQUEST



Prayers for the sick:

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Rafaela Botello         | John Robinson      |
| Maureen C.              | Anthony Gnutek     |
| Mark. C.                | Norbert Wierzbicki |
| Terry R.                | Besty              |
| Sherry Toman            | Pete Cushion       |
| Steven G.               | Bev. G             |
| Joann Costa             | Emri R.            |
| D. Woods                | Elsie Bestvina     |
| Fr. Bill Conway         | Paul Czech         |
| Ellaine Gialogo Jimenez | Kathy S.           |
| Grace P.                | Carolyn Heinrich   |
| Herb G.                 | Erna Eubanks       |
|                         | Kathy Hamilton     |

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 of the Pietrucha Family.

### Announcements:

Every Friday during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross at 6:30PM followed by soup and bread in the parish center.





# Valentine's Day Celebration after the 4pm Mass



*Just Married!*  
*Congratulations to Sandra Urban and Chuck Albanese*



*Happy Anniversary*

Congratulations on 50 years together!  
Lori & Michael Hroza



Welcome to our new Altar Servers Charlie and Isiah.



## THE EVENTS OF HOLY WEEK

Parishioner Mark Hoffmeyer will once again be giving a Lenten presentation on the events surrounding Jesus' last days - from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday - on Tuesday, March 10, at 7:00 pm in the Church. Please come and spend a little time this Lent gaining a deeper understanding of what Jesus did, and what happened to Jesus - and why - during Holy Week. We look forward to seeing you there!

# DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

*In the words of Pope Francis*

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of February 22, 2026

### Sunday:

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/  
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

### Monday:

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/  
Mt 25:31-46

### Tuesday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/  
Mt 6:7-15

### Wednesday:

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/  
Lk 11:29-32

### Thursday:

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab,  
2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

### Friday:

Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/  
Mt 5:20-26

### Saturday:

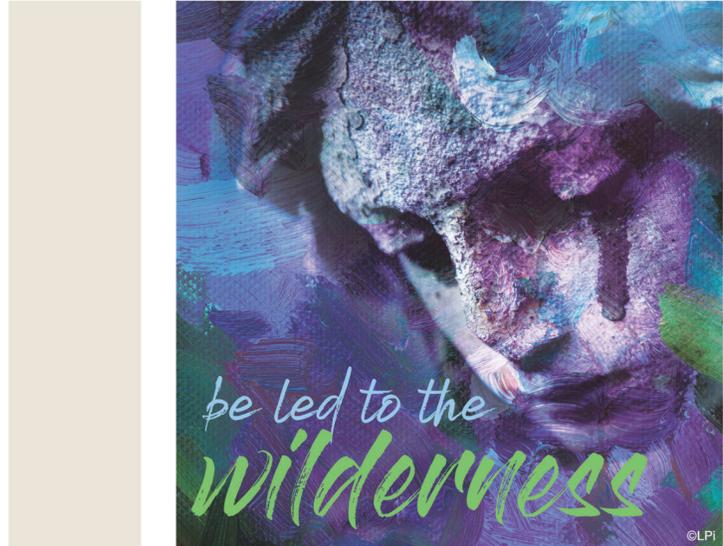
Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/  
Mt 5:43-48

### Next Sunday:

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/  
2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9



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 the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: **"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1).** The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

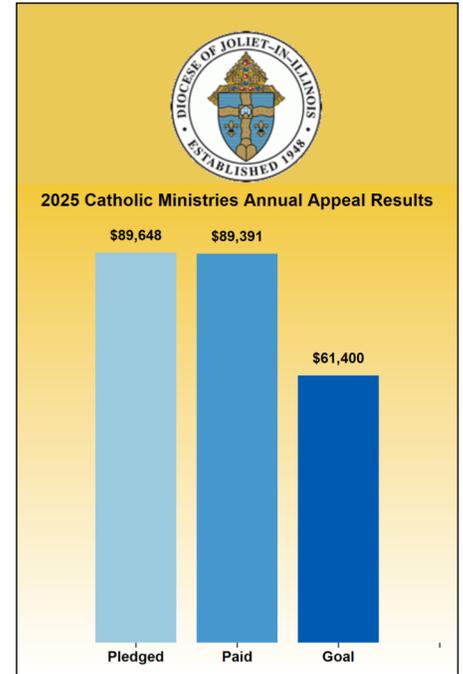
**Lenten Challenge:** This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

— *Father John Muir*

**2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Weekly Dashboard Parish Report**  
Results through 1/4/2026

152 - Divine Savior Parish - Downers Grove

	2025	2024	Inc/Dec	2024 (Final)
Parish Goal	\$61,400	\$56,800	\$4,600	\$56,800
Amount Pledged	\$89,648	\$70,294	\$19,354	\$70,294
Amount Paid	\$89,391	\$69,734	\$19,657	\$69,774
Balance Due	\$258	\$560	(\$303)	\$520
Donors	200	224	-24	224
2025 Rebate	\$19,593			



2025 Parishioners	
<b>2,119</b>	<b>9%</b>
# of Registered Parishioners	Participation Rate
<b>\$448.24</b>	<b>1,919</b>
Average Gift	Nonparticipants

Number of LYBUNTs (Last Year But Not This Year)
<b>48</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)	185	209	-24
<b>Total Donors</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>-24</b>

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AMERGENT



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

February Stewardship							
2026	Envelopes	Loose Currency	E-Giving	Sub Total	Blue Envelopes	Special Collection	Total
2nd	\$11,098.00	\$2,118.96	\$2,255.14	\$15,472.10	\$135.00	\$317.10	<b>\$15,924.20</b>
9th	\$10,913.00	\$1,666.00	\$2,529.00	\$15,108.00	\$995.00	\$402.65	<b>\$16,505.65</b>
15TH	\$6,374.00	\$1,808.00	\$2,364.00	\$10,546.00	\$2,199.00	\$480.00	<b>\$13,225.00</b>
23rd							
Month Total	\$28,385.00	\$5,592.96	\$7,148.14	\$41,126.10	\$3,329.00	\$1,199.75	<b>\$45,654.85</b>
<b>2025/26 Fiscal Year Total</b>	<b>\$211,514.61</b>	<b>\$64,471.10</b>	<b>\$80,663.98</b>	<b>\$356,649.69</b>	<b>\$24,356.00</b>	<b>\$80,866.71</b>	<b>\$461,872.40</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  
Elisabeth Carrillo - National Guard  
David Blazin - US Army  
Kevin Przybocki - US Army  
Rachael Vicha - Navy  
Madison Demos - US. Coast Guard  
Ray Roberto, Jr. - Navy  
Lt. Jack O'Sullivan, MD - Navy

Lynsey M. Gabrielson - Navy  
Major Jose E. Perez - US Army  
Eric Jones - Army Reserves  
Michal Kazmierczak - US Navy  
Jon Black - US Army  
Juanita Iris Mejia - Marines  
Christopher Bianchi - Army  
Brendan O'Sullivan, MD - Air Force



 **DIOCESE OF JOLIET**

# SPIRITUAL DIRECTION



Deacon Tony Clishem, Ed.D.

*What is spiritual direction?  
How do I find a spiritual director?  
Do I hear a call to be a trained spiritual director?*

## COME AND SEE

WHO: Persons of Faith interested in . . .

- Learning about spiritual direction
- Finding a spiritual director.
- Becoming a spiritual director.

WHEN: Wed., March 4, 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church (Fireplace Room)  
306 W. Fourth Street, Hinsdale

HOW: Enter glass doors next to main church entrance.  
Limited space. Register by March 1 here:  
[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/9UNQN3AF3W](https://forms.office.com/R/9UNQN3AF3W)



PRESENTED BY: Deacon Tony Clishem, Ed.D. Catechetical Lead, Diocese of Joliet  
WITH: Spiritual direction panel.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 815-221-6142 OR EMAIL  
[ACLISHEM@DIOCESEOFJOLIET.ORG](mailto:ACLISHEM@DIOCESEOFJOLIET.ORG)



### How Do We MAKE Disciples for Jesus?

**What:** Join us for a conversation with Auxiliary Bishop Dennis Spies on how to make disciples for Jesus in the Diocese of Joliet. Continuing the legacy of Archbishop Ron Hicks of New York, the event will focus on common questions about putting our faith into action and making disciples in our parish communities.

**Where:** St. Mary Immaculate Parish, 15629 Illinois Route 59, Plainfield, IL

**When:** Thurs., March 5, 6:30-8 pm



Scan the QR Code to RSVP



MAKE is a call to action—rooted in Catechesis, Evangelization, and Faith into Action—to follow Jesus' Great Commission to go and make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20).

# Kids Corner

## Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to save me from the devil's tricks.

## Mission for the Week

One really good way to fight the devil's tricks is to pray often. Pray in the morning, at noon, and at night.

## Sharing the Gospel

After Jesus' baptism, Jesus went 40 days without eating. Imagine how weak, hungry, tired and cranky you could be if you went that long without eating. That was the moment the devil chose to try to trick Jesus into using God's power selfishly. But Jesus was still strong. Jesus had been praying those 40 days, getting ready to save you and the whole world from the devil's tricks. Jesus would never give in to his enemy.

**Now color the picture!** →

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

**Worship the Lord your God  
and serve only him.**

