



Sunday, January 4, 2025  
First Sunday in Ordinary Time

### **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*

**Bianca Jimenez**, ReligiousEducationCoordinator  
*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

## 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** 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

**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 nuestras clases/programa de Confirmación por lo menos antes de la Quinceañera. Horas de servicio y un retiro



# Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

*January 7th through January 11th*

Wednesday: 8:30am Bertille Klein  
 Thursday: 8:30am Eugene & Irene Nowak  
 Friday: 8:30am For the Parishioners  
 Saturday: 4:00pm Nora Ortanez  
 Sunday: 8:00am George Yoksas  
 10:00am Edith Thomas  
 12 noon For the Parishioners



## Prayers for the sick:

Rafaela Botello	Herb G.
Maureen C.	John Robinson
Mark. C.	Anthony Gnutek
Terry R.	Norbert Wierzbicki
Sherry Toman	Besty
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.



The Tabernacle Candle will be lit for Don Griffith

## COME AS YOU ARE, LEAVE WITH PURPOSE

ST. RAPHAEL'S PARISH  
 1215 MODAFF RD, NAPERVILLE, IL 60540  
 JANUARY 10, 2025 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
 (VIGIL MASS INCLUDED)

GRADES 9-12

# RECHARGE

## FEATURED SPEAKERS

KATIE CHOUDHARY FR. ALEX LOHANG



FR. JEREMY LEGANSKI



THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET INVITES ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS (GRADES 9-12) TO A 1-DAY RETREAT TO HELP YOU FIND AND GAIN FOCUS ON THE VOICE OF THE LORD SO THAT YOU CAN LEARN WHERE HE IS CALLING YOU

COST: \$25 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

ADULT LEADERS CAN REGISTER A GROUP USING THE QR CODE OR THE LINK BELOW



TINY.GG/TPNT001

FOR ANY QUESTIONS  
 VOCATIONS@DIOCESEOFJOLIET.ORG  
 PHONE: (815) 881-6171

**Diocese of Joliet**  
**Office of the Bishop**[www.dioceseofjoliet.org](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org)**Blanchette Catholic Center**  
1655 Weber Rd.  
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403

December 18, 2025

Dear Friends,  
Peace be with you.

Today, December 18, 2025, it was officially announced that I will be installed as the 11th Archbishop of the Archdiocese of New York on Friday, February 6, 2026.

I want to begin by expressing my heartfelt gratitude to Pope Leo XIV for this appointment. Growing up in the south suburbs of Chicago, just a stone's throw from where he grew up, and having spent part of my priesthood in missionary work in Latin America, I feel a deep connection to him. His leadership is a guiding light for me, and I accept this new role with humility and an open heart.

I am also grateful to Cardinal Christophe Pierre, our apostolic nuncio, for his trust. When he called to share this news, I told him I simply wish to do God's will. Receiving his phone call on the feast of Saint Juan Diego is a reminder that sometimes God calls us to things that feel beyond us, but with grace and faith, we can answer yes.

I also want to offer a heartfelt thank you to Cardinal Timothy Dolan for his more than 17 years of leadership in New York. I have been touched by his gracious support and encouragement.

These past five years in Joliet have been a true blessing for me. I have felt grateful, happy, and deeply blessed to serve as your bishop. Together we have catechized, evangelized, and put our faith into action. The relationships we have built, the faith we have shared, and the journey we have walked together are treasures I will carry with me to New York.

As you continue to read, share, and embrace my pastoral letter, "MAKE," I ask you to let it keep guiding you. Please do not let it sit on a shelf, gathering dust. Instead, continue to implement it as a living, breathing call to be disciples who MAKE disciples.

I have much to learn in New York, and I will serve there as I have served here, with all my heart. I trust in God's will and count on your prayers. Know that as you pray for me, I am praying for you, with immense gratitude and love.

With good wishes, may God bless you this Advent season as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

As I remain --  
Sincerely Yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks

Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet and Archbishop designate of the Archdiocese of New York

**Office of the Bishop**815.221.6100 | 815.722.6632 (f) | [officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org)



**Diocese of Joliet**  
**Office of the Bishop**[www.dioceseofjoliet.org](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org)**Blanchette Catholic Center**  
**16555 Weber Rd.**  
**Crest Hill, Illinois 60403**

18 de diciembre de 2025

Queridos amigos:  
La paz esté con ustedes.

Hoy, 18 de diciembre de 2025, se anunció oficialmente que seré instalado como el 11.º Arzobispo de la Arquidiócesis de Nueva York el viernes 6 de febrero de 2026.

Quiero comenzar expresando mi más sincero agradecimiento al Papa León XIV por este nombramiento. Al haber crecido en los suburbios del sur de Chicago, a solo unos pasos de donde él creció, y tras haber pasado parte de mi sacerdocio en trabajo misionero en América Latina, siento una profunda conexión con él. Su liderazgo es una luz que me guía, y acepto esta nueva responsabilidad con humildad y con el corazón abierto.

También agradezco al Cardenal Christophe Pierre, nuestro nuncio apostólico, por su confianza. Cuando me llamó para compartir esta noticia, le dije que simplemente deseo hacer la voluntad de Dios. Recibir su llamada telefónica en la fiesta de San Juan Diego es un recordatorio de que, a veces, Dios nos llama a cosas que parecen ir más allá de nosotros, pero con gracia y fe podemos responder que sí.

Quiero también ofrecer un sincero agradecimiento al Cardenal Timothy Dolan por sus más de 17 años de liderazgo en Nueva York. Me ha conmovido profundamente su apoyo y su aliento tan generosos.

Estos últimos cinco años en Joliet han sido una verdadera bendición para mí. Me he sentido agradecido, feliz y profundamente bendecido al servir como su obispo. Juntos hemos catequizado, evangelizado y puesto nuestra fe en acción. Las relaciones que hemos construido, la fe que hemos compartido y el camino que hemos recorrido juntos son tesoros que llevaré conmigo a Nueva York.

Mientras continúan leyendo, compartiendo y acogiendo mi carta pastoral, "MAKE", les pido que permitan que siga guiándolos. Por favor, no la dejen en un estante acumulando polvo. Más bien, continúen implementándola como un llamado vivo y dinámico a ser discípulos que HACEN discípulos.

Tengo mucho que aprender en Nueva York, y serviré allí como he servido aquí: con todo mi corazón. Confío en la voluntad de Dios y cuento con sus oraciones. Sepan que, así como ustedes oran por mí, yo oro por ustedes, con inmensa gratitud y amor.

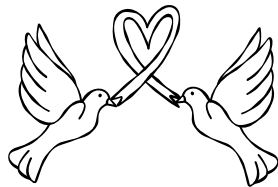
Con mis mejores deseos, que Dios los bendiga en este tiempo de Adviento, mientras nos preparamos para celebrar el nacimiento de Jesús.

Mientras permanezco —  
Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,  
Monseñor Ronald A. Hicks

Obispo de la Diócesis de Joliet y Arzobispo designado de la Arquidiócesis de Nueva York

**Office of the Bishop**815.221.6100 | 815.722.6632 (f) | [officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org)

*Congratulations Jess and Orfa Jaen Lagman on your  
50th wedding anniversary*



Thank you to the volunteers who helped decorate for Christmas!



Fr. Augustine on  
Christmas Day





Join us for this online

## Poetry Workshop Series

This series, our third poetry workshop, will invite you to read, write, and reflect on the topics of undoing, mindfulness, listen, and gratitude. Together we will read poems from the book *Poetry of Presence: An Anthology of Mindfulness Poems* to remind us to notice God at work in our busy lives, and journal and share about those moments in session. There will be 15-30 minutes of preparation needed for each session.

Presenter:

**Susan Amann, MA**  
**Director of Spiritual Ministry,**  
**Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary**

Sponsored by:

***Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary***

**WHEN: Thursday, January 22, 2026**  
**Thursday, January 29, 2026**  
**Thursday, February 12, 2026**  
**Thursday, February 19, 2026**  
**6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**



**MAKE**

A Pastoral Letter for the People  
of the **Diocese of Joliet**

## Learn How to MAKE Disciples!



Join us for a conversation with Bishop Ron Hicks as he unpacks the details of his pastoral letter, MAKE, and discusses how to make disciples for Jesus in the Diocese of Joliet.

MAKE is a call to action—rooted in Catechesis, Evangelization, and Faith into Action—to follow Jesus' Great Commission: Go and make disciples

**Where:** Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 36 N. Ellsworth St., Naperville, IL (630) 355-1081

**When:** Tues., January 20th, 6:30-8:00 pm

Learn more about the bishop's pastoral letter, MAKE, by visiting: [make.diojoliet.org](http://make.diojoliet.org)



## Catholic Charities is Seeking an Experienced Executive Director

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet, is seeking an experienced, mission-driven professional to serve as its Executive Director. This is a senior-level leadership role requiring a Bachelors degree from an accredited college or university, extensive professional experience and a strong background in managing large teams and complex organizations. Preference will be given to those who reside in the Diocese. The annual salary range for this position is \$140,000–\$160,000, based on qualifications and experience. Catholic Charities offers the opportunity to participate in a group health plan, 403(b) retirement plan and a short-term disability plan to eligible individuals.

Qualified candidates should email their résumé to Beka Deja at [bdeja@cc-doj.org](mailto:bdeja@cc-doj.org)

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Maggie Snow



**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

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of January 4, 2026

### Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

### Monday:

1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/  
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

### Tuesday:

1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/  
Mk 6:34-44

### Wednesday:

1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/  
Mk 6:45-52

### Thursday:

1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/  
Lk 4:14-22a

### Friday:

1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/  
Lk 5:12-16

### Saturday:

1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and  
9b/Jn 3:22-30

### Next Sunday:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/  
Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17



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

When I was 22, I went on a pilgrimage to Rome for the Jubilee Year of 2000. I was traveling light with just a backpack, one blue shirt and black pants, little money, and no Italian. I had a few close friends and one goal: to reach the Eternal City. Despite the challenges and deprivations, I felt alive in a way I had never known before.

When do you feel most alive? I'd wager it's not when you're most comfortable or surrounded by stuff. Rather, it's when your life is aimed at something great; when you're on a meaningful and challenging journey with good friends.

That's the image the Magi give us in today's Gospel. They set out from the East not with certainty, but with hope. They study the signs, discipline their attention, and journey together, offering the best they have when they find the newborn King.

The Church gives us their story at the start of the year to reawaken something in us. We are not meant to drift. We're meant to journey as pilgrims. The Jubilee Year of 2025 may have ended, but our pilgrimage has not. Like the magi, the closer we get to Christ, the more alive we become.

— Father John Muir



**2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Weekly Dashboard Parish Report**

Results through 11/23/2025

152 - Divine Savior Parish - Downers Grove

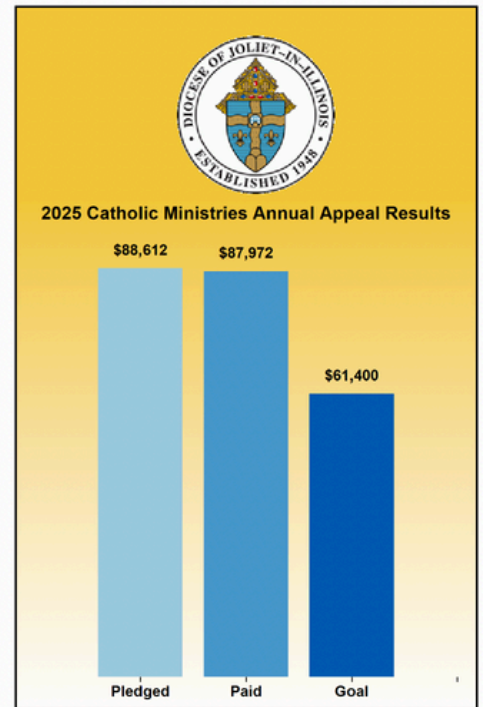
	2025	2024	Inc/Dec	2024 (Final)
Parish Goal	\$61,400	\$56,800	\$4,600	\$56,800
Amount Pledged	\$88,612	\$67,055	\$21,557	\$70,294
Amount Paid	\$87,972	\$65,990	\$21,982	\$69,774
Balance Due	\$640	\$1,065	(\$425)	\$520
Donors	197	214	-17	224
2025 Rebate	\$18,600			

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>



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

December Stewardship							
2025	Envelopes	Loose Currency	E-Giving	Sub Total	Blue Envelopes	Special Collection	Total
7th	\$5,910.00	\$1,735.00	\$2,789.00	\$10,434.00	\$160.00	\$1,833.30	<b>\$12,427.30</b>
14th	\$7,300.00	\$1,856.00	\$2,369.00	\$11,525.00	\$140.00	\$3,470.73	<b>\$15,135.73</b>
21st	\$11,368.00	\$2,325.00	\$2,374.00	\$16,067.00	\$3,364.00	\$2,040.02	<b>\$21,471.02</b>
28th				\$ -			<b>\$ -</b>
Month Total	\$24,578.00	\$5,916.00	\$7,532.00	\$38,026.00	\$3,664.00	\$7,344.05	<b>\$49,034.05</b>
<b>2025/26 Fiscal Year</b>	<b>\$155,056.11</b>	<b>\$47,706.04</b>	<b>\$54,745.70</b>	<b>\$257,507.85</b>	<b>\$17,621.00</b>	<b>\$34,114.62</b>	<b>\$309,243.47</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  
RayRoberto, Jr. - Navy  
Lt.Jack O'Sullivan MD - Navy

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



## **FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR**

A Holy Hour before the Most Blessed Sacrament so pleases the Heart of Jesus, that every man, woman, and child on earth receives a new effect from God's goodness and love, all because of a single hour of adoration in His Presence.

You are invited to pray and be in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament during First Friday Holy Hour on Friday afternoon, **January 9, 2026, in the Church from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM.** There will be time for silent meditation; then at 3:00, the Hour of Mercy, together we'll pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Litany and Prayers. We will bring all our personal intentions to Jesus, give thanks for all the goodness and love God has give to us, pray for poor and homeless people, and for peace in our troubled world. Come and receive great grace from the Lord during this holy hour. "Jesus, I Trust in You!"





## Kids Corner

### Prayer

Lord, I offer you my words, my actions, and my thoughts.

### Mission for the Week

I will remember that each day of my life is a gift.

### Sharing the Gospel

It may be hard to find the star in the east, but God will always show you how to find him. Bow before the altar of God and give the baby Jesus three presents of your own. For gold, share your goodness with others. For frankincense, send your prayers up to God for yourself, your family, and your friends. For myrrh, follow God's words like a sweet perfume.

**Now color the picture!**



Inside the box, draw a gift that you would like to get some day!

