



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.

Sunday, March 29th, 2026
Palm Sunday

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
CUT BRANCHES AND
STREWED THEM ON
THE ROAD.

— MATTHEW 21:8 —

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 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 nuestra clases/programa de Confirmación por 1 año antes de la Quinceañera. Horas de servicio y un retiro

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



April 1st through April 5th



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 |
| Kelly M. | Kathy Hamilton |
| Justin Pratt | Angelica Collazos |
| Julie K. | Melissa Weidner |
| Karen L. | Rich Parent |

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 will be lit for Alex Bratuljevich

Announcements:

Divine Savior Parish will be holding a traditional Blessing of Food on Holy Saturday, April 4th at noon in the church. Please join us in this Blessing with your baskets filled with your Easter favorites.



WE ARE HIRING!

Join our team

Position Needed – Parish Secretary

Divine Savior Parish, 6700 Main St. Downers Grove IL, is seeking a Part-time Bilingual Parish Secretary (20 hours a week) to provide a variety of general administrative duties for the parish, including but not limited to:

- coordinating arrangements for funerals, baptisms and weddings, sacramental record keeping,
- parish database record keeping,
- coordinating the parish calendar and assisting the needs of the pastor, parishioners and parish staff, as needed.

This position requires one to be fluent in English and Spanish. Please send a resume to luis@divinesavior.net or call the Business Manager, Luis Gonzalez at 630-574-9734.

Divine Savior

PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Every **Tuesday during Lent**, the church will be open from **noon to 6pm** for personal prayer and reflection. Come and spend some minutes with Christ during this holy season.

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." – Psalm 150:6



MASS SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK



Holy Thursday, April 2nd - 7pm
There will be no morning mass.

Good Friday, April 3rd at 2pm
Live Stations of the Cross.

Good Friday Service, April 3rd- 3pm
There will be no morning mass.

Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 4th - 7pm
THERE IS NO 4PM MASS ON THIS DAY.

Easter Sunday - 8am, 10am, 12pm (Spanish,
Church and Parish Center)



Easter Sunday Message from Bishop Dennis E. Spies April 2026



Happy Easter everyone! This is the greatest of all the celebrations. Everything we celebrate all year culminates Easter Sunday. Have you ever considered that the whole point of Christmas is that Easter Sunday needs to happen?

Sometimes we forget in our life that Easter Sunday is real. We think a lot about the passion that Jesus had to go through on Good Friday and how we participate in it. When life is difficult and we're struggling, we sometimes forget about Easter Sunday during the year. It's important for us to remember that any time we're going through something and we're struggling, and then somehow we get through it, and it's extraordinary afterwards—that's Easter Sunday in your life.

Our Lord Jesus participated in Easter Sunday to let us know that he has power over life and death. His life wasn't taken from him. He gave it away—the same with rising from the dead. He chose to rise from the dead. Why would he do that? To let us know that we're next. We get to participate in this resurrection when we follow Him throughout our whole life. And the whole point of the resurrection is the proclamation of eternal life, that we will rise from the dead when we die. Thanks be to God that He saw fit to give us such an example.

This witness is apparent as we enter into this Easter season when we see the apostles boldly testifying to the resurrection from the dead—most of them with their lives. They were martyred on account of their testimony, so it's not just an expression. Jesus actually rose from the dead, and they gave their lives to testify to it.

So, this year, remember that celebrating Easter is about celebrating Jesus' rising from the dead, and the hope that he gives us. Rather than filling up on chocolate Easter bunnies and eggs because you gave up chocolate for Lent, celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus in your life, rising out of the many challenges you face to give you hope in this life and in the life to come. Thanks be to God.





Mensaje del Domingo de Pascua del obispo Dennis E. Spies Abril de 2026



¡Feliz Pascua a todos! Esta es la mayor de todas las celebraciones. Todo lo que celebramos durante el año culmina el Domingo de Pascua. ¿Alguna vez has pensado que el objetivo de la Navidad es que el Domingo de Pascua debe ocurrir?

A veces olvidamos en nuestra vida que el Domingo de Pascua es real. Pensamos mucho en la pasión que Jesús tuvo que atravesar el Viernes Santo y en cómo participamos en ella. Cuando la vida es difícil y estamos luchando, a veces nos olvidamos del Domingo de Pascua durante el año. Es importante recordar que cada vez que estamos pasando por algo y estamos luchando por algo, y de alguna manera lo superamos y es extraordinario después—ese es el Domingo de Pascua en tu vida.

El Señor participó en el Domingo de Pascua para hacernos saber que tiene poder sobre la vida y la muerte. No le arrebataron la vida. Lo delató. Lo mismo ocurre con resucitar de entre los muertos. Eligió resucitar de entre los muertos. ¿Por qué haría eso? Para que sepamos que somos los siguientes. Participamos en esta resurrección cuando seguimos a nuestro Señor Jesús a lo largo de toda nuestra vida. Y el objetivo de la resurrección es la proclamación de la vida eterna, que resucitaremos de entre los muertos cuando muramos. Gracias a Dios que consideró oportuno darnos tal ejemplo.

Este testimonio es evidente al entrar en esta temporada de Pascua, cuando vemos a los apóstoles testificando con valentía sobre la resurrección de entre los muertos, la mayoría con sus vidas. Fueron martirizados por su testimonio, así que no es solo una expresión. Jesús realmente resucitó de entre los muertos, y ellos dieron su vida para dar testimonio de ello.

Así que, este año, recordad que celebrar la Pascua consiste en celebrar la resurrección de Jesús y la esperanza que nos da. En lugar de llenarte de conejos de Pascua de chocolate y huevos de chocolate porque renunciaste al chocolate en Cuaresma, celebra la resurrección del Señor Jesús en tu vida, superando los muchos desafíos que enfrentas para darte esperanza en esta vida y en la que viene. Gracias a Dios.





Aurelia and Martin Britt's 40th Wedding Anniversary



Thank you for supporting the Mission of Love and Fr. Miguel.
We wish him well on his new Pre-School Project.
Safe travels back to Ethiopia.



Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of March 29, 2026

Sunday:

Mt 21:1-11 (37)/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

Monday:

Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday:

Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday:

Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday:

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday:

Is 52:13-53:12/Ps 31:2 and 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17 and 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday:

Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15-15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

Next Sunday:

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 Or Lk 24:13-35

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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Just prior to this week's Passion narrative in St. Matthew's Gospel, there is a small, striking story describing a woman's scandalous action toward Jesus: **"A woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of costly perfumed oil, and poured it on his head" (Matthew 26:7)**. The ointment was pure nard, worth more than 300 denarii. A year's wages. Maybe a dowry, maybe a family inheritance. In any case, she breaks it. She does not measure or ration. She pours it all out, irreversibly, over Jesus. Why does this image begin Holy Week?

Because what she does with the jar, Jesus will soon do with his life. The jar must be broken so the fragrance can be released. Jesus' body will be broken so his priceless divine and human love can be poured out. She gives everything, just as he is about to give everything. And He sees it: **"She has done a good thing for me" (Matthew 26:10)**. Her act is lavish, impractical, scandalous in its apparent wastefulness. And he loves it. It is what Holy Week is all about.

What jar are you still holding onto? Your time? Your comfort? Your plan for how life should go? Don't just wave palms today. Let yourself be broken open so your love, too, can be poured out.

Lenten Challenge: Offer something costly to Jesus this Holy Week — not out of guilt, but love. Your attention. Your forgiveness. Your time. Break the jar. Trust that nothing poured out for him is ever wasted.

— *Father John Muir*

2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Weekly Dashboard Parish Report

Results through 1/4/2026

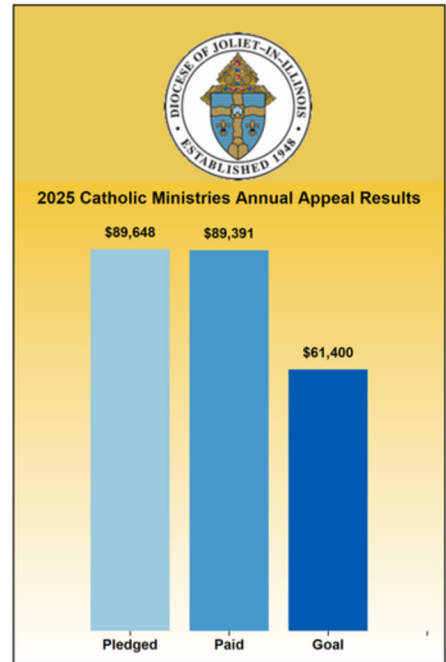
152 - Divine Savior Parish - Downers Grove

	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	
2,119	9%
# of Registered Parishioners	Participation Rate
\$448.24	1,919
Average Gift	Nonparticipants

Number of LYBUNTs (Last Year But Not This Year)
48

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
Total Donors	200	224	-24

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Page 1 of 14



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

March Stewardship



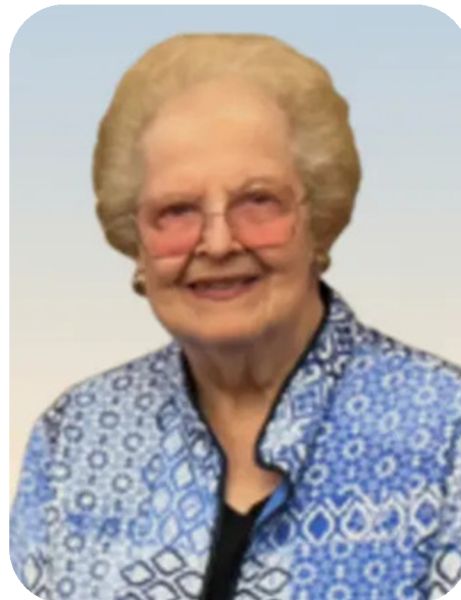
2026	Envelopes	Loose Currency	E-Giving	Sub Total	Blue Envelopes	Special Collection	Total
1ST	\$14,318.00	\$2,236.77	\$2,405.14	\$18,959.91	\$285.00	\$585.85	\$19,830.76
8TH	\$5,534.00	\$2,269.00	\$2,809.00	\$10,612.00	\$415.00	\$533.75	\$11,560.75
15TH	\$5,755.00	\$2,315.00	\$1,789.00	\$9,859.00	\$1,526.00	\$360.65	\$11,745.65
22ND	\$6,964.00	\$2,040.00	\$2,434.00	\$11,438.00	\$333.00	\$10,300.49	\$22,071.49
29th							
Month Total	\$5,755.00	\$2,315.00	\$1,789.00	\$9,859.00	\$1,526.00	\$360.65	\$11,745.65
2025/26 Fiscal Year Total	\$5,755.00	\$2,315.00	\$1,789.00	\$9,859.00	\$1,526.00	\$360.65	\$11,745.65

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. 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
Edgar Nava Lopez - Marine

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
Gabryel Barrera - Marine Corp



In Sympathy
Carolyn Heinrich
March 1940 - March 18, 2026

Carolyn was a woman of profound faith was called to eternal rest on March 18, 2026. Carolyn and her husband had been parishioners for 50 years. She proudly served our parish in many capacities including Altar Server, Eucharistic Minister for the sick; prayer chain, funeral ministry and parish council. May she rest in peace.

Kids Corner

Prayer

Jesus, help me to treat you like my king.

Mission for the Week

Make your own palm branch to wave for Jesus at home. Cut an oval out of green construction paper. Then make cuts toward the middle (but not all the way through) for leaves.

Sharing the Gospel

Many years earlier, God's prophets had written about the Savior. He would heal the blind, he would raise the dead, and he would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey as a gentle king. The people knew Jesus was the Savior they had been waiting for. They treated him like a king.

Now color the picture!



Help Jesus get to Jerusalem.

