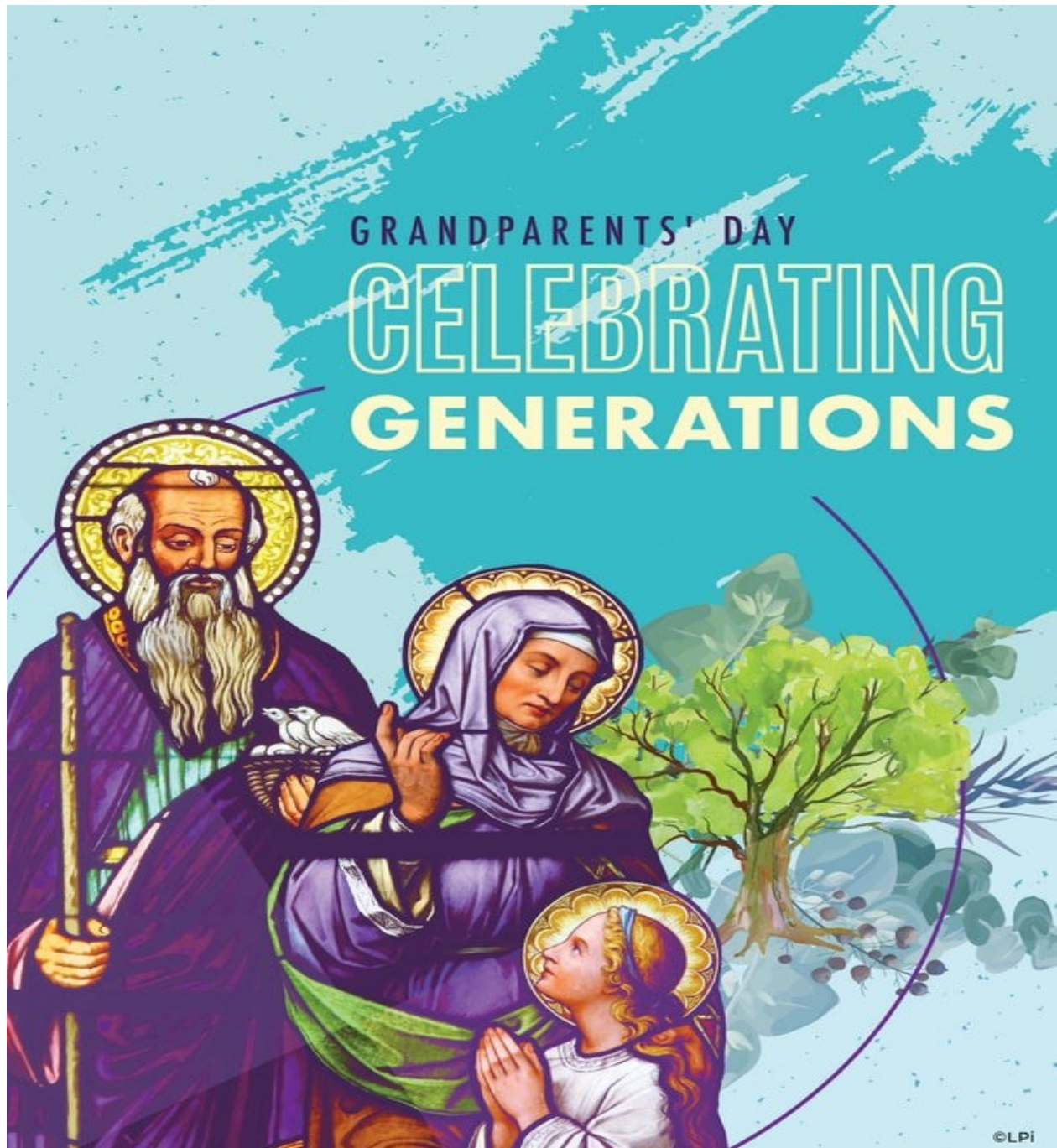




Sunday, September 7, 2025
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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,
Downers Grove, IL 60516-2799

Phone: 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

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

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.

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**

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 se requerirán también.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

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

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



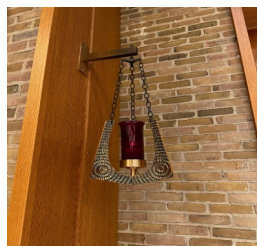
September 10th through September 14th

| | | |
|------------|---------|--|
| Wednesday: | 8:30am | Tom Vilt |
| Thursday: | 8:30am | For the Parishioners |
| Friday: | 8:30am | Thomas E. Sullivan |
| Saturday: | 4:00pm | Jesus Estanislao and Godofredo Ferrer |
| Sunday: | 8:00am | For the Parishioners |
| | 10:00am | Nora Ortanez |
| | 12 noon | Sammy Alegria |

ATTENTION!

For the safety of all of those who attend our masses, we will be locking the doors after the mass begins. Thank you for your understanding!

A partir de este Domingo las puertas del Templo se cerraran al comenzar la Misa(12 mediodia).



The Tabernacle Candle will be lit for Bev Goste.



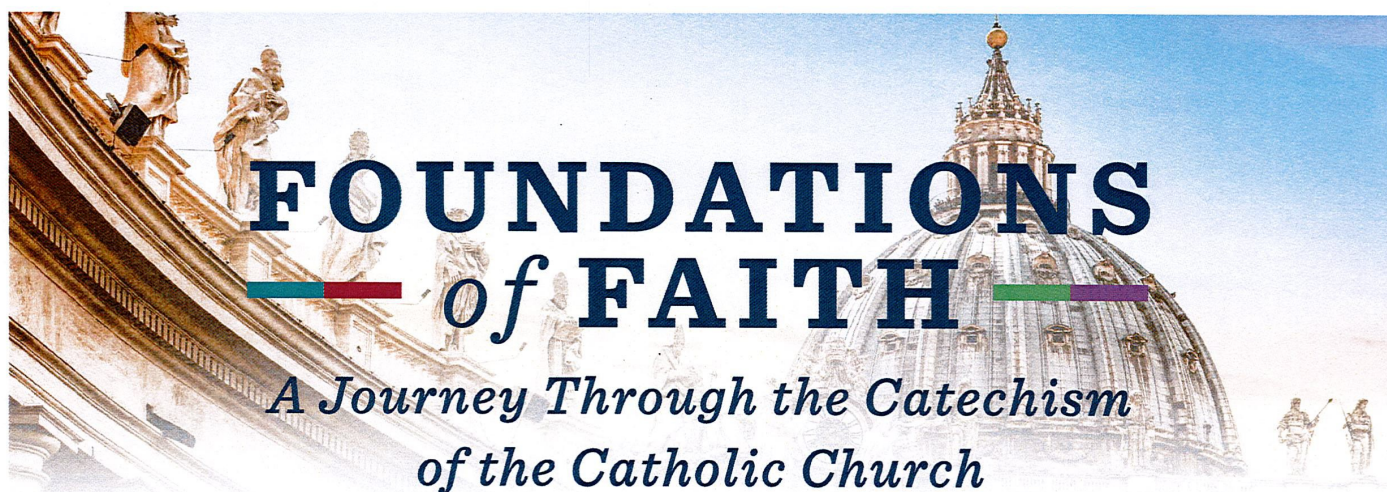
Fr. Miguel
in his new
Parish!



Prayers for the sick:

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Rafaela Botello | Grace P. |
| Maureen C. | Herb G. |
| Mark C. | John Robinson |
| Terry R. | Anthony Gnutek |
| Mike N. | Norbert Wierzbicki |
| Sherry Toman | Marge Cushion |
| Steven G. | Betsy |
| Joann Costa | Edith Kubas |
| D. Woods | Pete Cushion |
| Fr. Bill Conway | Bev G. |
| Ellaine Gialogo Jimenez | Janice Sinnick |
| Jennifer Sinnick | Emry R. |

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.



Dates – Time – Location

Tuesdays @ 9:00 AM in the
Divine Savior Parish Center or via
Zoom @7:00 PM (different groups &
lively discussions, but same video)

Sessions 1-9: October 7th thru
December 2nd (2025)
Sessions 10-20: January 13th thru
March 24th (2026)

For More Information

Registration before & after all Masses
September 27th & 28th and October
4th & 5th

You will need a Workbook from
Ascensionpress.com (\$39.95 +
tax/shp), a Catechism and a Bible
(RSVCE preferred)

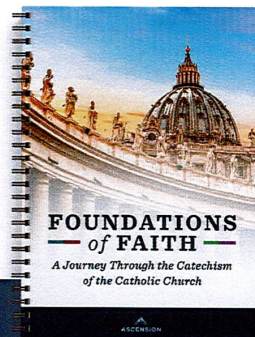
Contact Paul Jara 630-776-2987 or
ptj2763@gmail.com

Discover the heart and soul of your Catholic beliefs with ***Foundations of Faith: A Journey Through the Catechism of the Catholic Church***. This engaging, 20-part series was filmed across 40 locations, spanning 4 continents and 10 countries, showing you the universal beauty of the Church.

Foundations of Faith offers a comprehensive exploration of the *Catechism*, unpacking its rich theological insights and helping you apply them to your everyday life. Learn from some of the most renowned Catholic educators of our time, including the following:

- Dr. Edward Sri
- Jeff Cavins
- Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio
- Fr. Mike Schmitz

Whether you're just beginning to explore your Catholic Faith or are seeking a deeper understanding, ***Foundations of Faith*** provides a thoughtful yet approachable way to explore the breadth of Catholicism. Strengthen your connection to the truth, beauty, goodness, and fullness of the Catholic Faith!



Visit AscensionPress.com/CatechismStudy for more details.



O.C.I.A Announcement!

Come one, come all! The O.C.I.A. journey will begin on Tuesday, September 9th at 7pm in the Church! Now is the perfect time to begin this journey.

Vengan, vengan todos! La preparacion para adultos que necesitan algún sacramento, está por comenzar. La cita es el Martes 9 de Septiembre a las 7pm en el Templo. Ya es tiempo de comenzar esta jornada.



Bishop Hicks' Column
September 2025
The Leo Effect: Reflecting After 100 Days



In the world of leadership, there is a common practice: after the first one hundred days in office, we pause to reflect. What direction is this new leader taking us in? What tone has been set? Where might we be headed?

In these early months, we are beginning to see the kind of shepherd God has given us. The "Leo Effect," as I like to call it, is the fruit of his presence. It is the blessings, the new stirrings, and the hopeful signs already emerging in our Church and in our world.

At a recent Presbyteral Council meeting, one of our [Augustinian](#) priests told me that, since Pope Leo is himself an Augustinian, they have noticed a marked increase in young men expressing interest in the priesthood. That is the Leo Effect in action. These are ripples of inspiration that move from Rome all the way to local parishes and communities like ours.

Another question I have been asked many times in recent weeks is this: will Pope Leo XIV choose Chicagoland as the first place he visits? People have wondered if he might return to his roots in the south suburbs, visit his old neighborhood in [Dolton](#), grab a slice of his favorite pizza, or even celebrate Mass at White Sox Park. As wonderful as that would be, and as much as I would personally love to see it, I usually remind people that his first stop is more likely to be a place in urgent need of healing, reconciliation, or peace. Perhaps the Holy Land, perhaps Ukraine, or perhaps another corner of the world that needs his pastoral presence. But who knows? The Holy Spirit guides these journeys, and for now we simply wait in joyful anticipation.

[of the mozzetta](#), a traditional papal vestment symbolizing continuity with history. He also revived [the ancient practice of personally bestowing the pallium](#) on new archbishops. These gestures remind us that while Pope Leo leads the Church into new challenges, he remains anchored in her history and symbols. His leadership balances continuity with creativity.

Many have also noted his warmth and relatability. He is approachable, enjoys simple pastimes like [baseball](#), [tennis](#), and [word games](#), and speaks plainly from the heart. These touches of humanity remind us

People close to Pope Leo have said, "He listens more than he talks." That in itself is part of the Leo Effect. In an age of noise and constant headlines, the witness of a leader who listens deeply is striking. His way of leadership is not rooted in quick soundbites but in steady gestures of closeness and compassion. Early in his pontificate, [he celebrated Mass with the homeless](#) and then shared a meal with them. He has spoken often of the ["fire of love" that must burn within us](#), not a fire that remains hidden, but one that spreads outward in compassion, justice, and peace.

Another sign of the Leo Effect is his bridge-building across cultures. Born in the United States, [formed as a missionary in Peru](#), and shaped by the Augustinian spirit of community and humility, Pope Leo embodies the universality of the Church. His very life story unites North and South America, English and Spanish, tradition, and modernity.

Pope Leo has also expressed concern about pressing global issues. He has spoken about the [moral questions surrounding artificial intelligence](#), reminding us not to allow technology, money, or power to displace God. [He has called for peace in conflict zones](#), urging the world to pursue reconciliation. He has also reminded us that the greatness of the Church is not measured in status or wealth, but in holiness and service. Recently, he approved a new [Mass for the Care of Creation](#), highlighting his commitment to safeguarding our common home and encouraging all believers to pray and act for the protection of God's earth.

At the same time, he has shown deep respect for tradition. When he walked out onto the balcony of St. Peter's, [he reclaimed the use](#)

that the pope is not a distant figure but a pastor walking with his flock.

The Leo Effect is nothing less than the Holy Spirit reminding us that God is alive and active in His Church. And just as the world pauses after one hundred days to reflect on a leader, let us pause to recognize the Spirit's work through Pope Leo XIV. As we pray for our new Holy Father, let us also commit ourselves to being open to the impact the Leo Effect can have on our own lives, to become people of unity, compassion, and love that set the world aflame.



Columna del Obispo Hicks
Septiembre 2025
El Efecto Leo: Reflexión después de 100 días



En el mundo del liderazgo, hay una práctica común: después de los primeros cien días en el cargo, nos detenemos a reflexionar. ¿En qué dirección nos está llevando este nuevo líder? ¿Qué tono se ha establecido? ¿Hacia dónde nos dirigimos?

En estos primeros meses, estamos comenzando a ver el tipo de pastor que Dios nos ha dado. El "Efecto Leo", como me gusta llamarlo, es el fruto de su presencia. Son las bendiciones, los nuevos impulsos y los signos esperanzadores que ya están surgiendo en nuestra Iglesia y en nuestro mundo.

En una reunión reciente del Consejo Presbiteral, uno de nuestros [sacerdotes agustinos](#) me dijo que, dado que el Papa León es agustino, han notado un aumento en los hombres jóvenes que expresan interés en el sacerdocio. Ese es el Efecto Leo en acción. Estas son ondas de inspiración que se mueven desde Roma hasta las parroquias y comunidades locales como la nuestra.

Otra pregunta que me han hecho muchas veces en las últimas semanas es esta: ¿elegirá el Papa León XIV Chicago como el primer lugar que visite? La gente se ha preguntado si podría regresar a sus raíces en los suburbios del sur, visitar su antiguo vecindario en [Dolton](#), tomar una rebanada de su pizza favorita o incluso celebrar misa en el parque de los White Sox. Por maravilloso que sea, y por mucho que personalmente me encantaría verlo, generalmente le recuerdo a la gente que es más probable que su primera parada sea un lugar con necesidad urgente de sanación, reconciliación o paz. Tal vez Tierra Santa, tal vez Ucrania, o tal vez otro rincón del mundo que necesita su presencia pastoral. Pero, ¿quién sabe? El Espíritu Santo guía estos viajes, y por ahora simplemente esperamos con gozosa anticipación.

[mozzetta](#), una vestimenta papal tradicional que simboliza la continuidad con la historia. También revivió [la antigua práctica de otorgar personalmente el palio a los](#) nuevos arzobispos. Estos gestos nos recuerdan que, si bien el Papa León lleva a la Iglesia a nuevos desafíos, permanece anclado en su historia y símbolos. Su liderazgo equilibra la continuidad con la creatividad.

Muchos también han notado su calidez y capacidad de relación. Es accesible, disfruta de pasatiempos simples como [el béisbol](#), [el tenis](#) y los [juegos de palabras](#), y habla claramente desde el corazón. Estos toques de humanidad nos recuerdan que el Papa no es una figura distante, sino un pastor que camina con su rebaño.

Personas cercanas al Papa León han dicho: "Escucha más de lo que habla". Eso en sí mismo es parte del efecto Leo. En una era de ruido y titulares constantes, el testimonio de un líder que escucha profundamente es sorprendente. Su forma de liderazgo no se basa en frases rápidas, sino en gestos constantes de cercanía y compasión. Al principio de su pontificado, [celebró misa con las personas sin hogar](#) y luego compartió una comida con ellos. Ha hablado a menudo del ["fuego del amor" que debe arder dentro de nosotros](#), no un fuego que permanece oculto, sino uno que se extiende hacia afuera en compasión, justicia y paz.

Otro signo del efecto Leo es su construcción de puentes entre culturas. Nacido en los Estados Unidos, [formado como misionero en Perú](#) y moldeado por el espíritu agustiniano de comunidad y humildad, el Papa León encarna la universalidad de la Iglesia. La historia de su vida une América del Norte y del Sur, el inglés y el español, la tradición y la modernidad.

El Papa León también ha expresado su preocupación por los problemas globales urgentes. Ha hablado sobre las [cuestiones morales que rodean a la inteligencia artificial](#), recordándonos que no debemos permitir que la tecnología, el dinero o el poder desplacen a Dios. [Ha pedido la paz en las zonas de conflicto](#), instando al mundo a buscar la reconciliación. También nos ha recordado que la grandeza de la Iglesia no se mide en estatus o riqueza, sino en santidad y servicio. Recientemente, aprobó una nueva [Misa para el Cuidado de la Creación](#), destacando su compromiso de salvaguardar nuestra casa común y animando a todos los creyentes a orar y actuar por la protección de la tierra de Dios.

Al mismo tiempo, ha mostrado un profundo respeto por la tradición. Cuando salió al balcón de San Pedro, [recuperó el uso de la](#)

El Efecto Leo es nada menos que el Espíritu Santo recordándonos que Dios está vivo y activo en Su Iglesia. Y así como el mundo hace una pausa después de cien días para reflexionar sobre un líder, hagamos una pausa para reconocer la obra del Espíritu a través del Papa León XIV. Mientras oramos por nuestro nuevo Santo Padre, comprometámonos también a estar abiertos al impacto que el Efecto Leo puede tener en nuestras propias vidas, para convertirnos en personas de unidad, compasión y amor que incendien el mundo.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of September 7, 2025

Sunday:

Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17
(1)/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

Monday:

Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Tuesday:

Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday:

Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/
Lk 6:20-26

Thursday:

Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Lk 6:27-38

Friday:

1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/
Lk 6:39-42

Saturday:

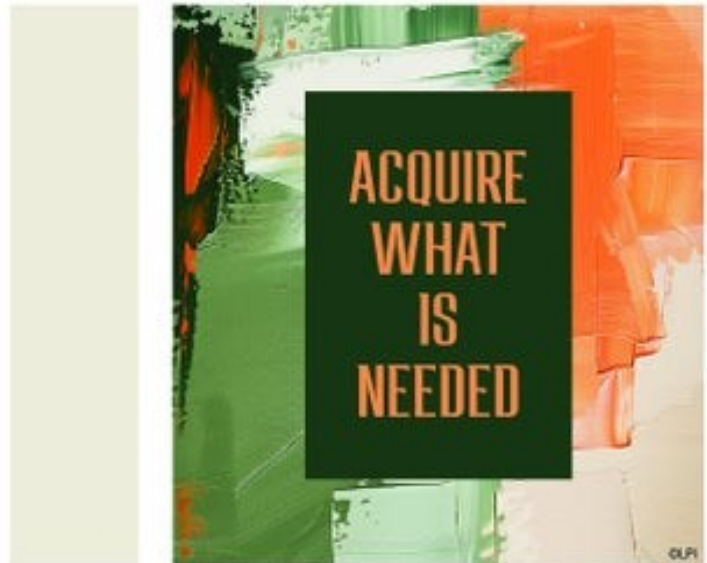
1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/
Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday:

Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37,
38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 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

One hot Arizona summer afternoon my car ran out of gas. I phoned the parish office and begged for help. My secretary came and helped me fill the gas tank. She chided me, "If you can't manage getting your car from A to B, how can we expect you to guide the parish where it needs to go?" Point taken, Julie. I vowed to always make sure I have plenty of gas in my car.

The Lord Jesus chides us in this week's Gospel, too. He uses the two images of a man building a tower and a king marching soldiers into war to make this single point: acquire what is needed to follow him or look ridiculous. We rightly mock the builder who lacks money for his tower and the king with a short-handed army. But our mocking boomerangs back on us. How do we expect to follow Jesus to the end with insufficient detachment from our possessions and divided hearts?

The good news is, there is still time. Jesus is building a great tower to heaven—his own body. So we renounce all and give ourselves to him as his precious stones. Jesus is waging a battle against our enemy. So we forsake all and swear allegiance and march under his banner. In this way, we will finish what has begun in our discipleship. Or better put, our Lord will have the stones and soldiers required to see his great work through.

— *Father John Muir*

2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Weekly Dashboard Parish Report

Results through 8/31/2025

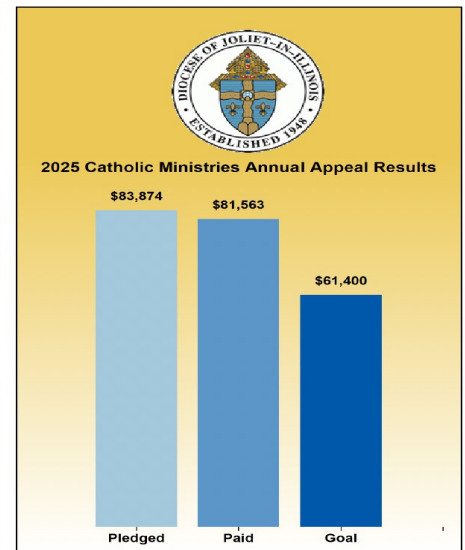
152 - Divine Savior Parish - Downers Grove

| | 2025 | 2024 | Inc/Dec | 2024 (Final) |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Parish Goal | \$61,400 | \$56,800 | \$4,600 | \$56,800 |
| Amount Pledged | \$83,874 | \$63,913 | \$19,961 | \$70,294 |
| Amount Paid | \$81,563 | \$60,790 | \$20,773 | \$69,774 |
| Balance Due | \$2,311 | \$3,123 | (\$812) | \$520 |
| Donors | 190 | 208 | -18 | 224 |
| 2025 Rebate | \$14,114 | | | |

| 2025 Parishioners | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2,119 | 9% |
| # of Registered Parishioners | Participation Rate |
| \$441.44 | 1,929 |
| Average Gift | Nonparticipants |

| Number of LYBUNTs (Last Year But Not This Year) |
|---|
| 56 |

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) | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Sponsor Circle (\$1,000 - \$2,499.99) | 7 | 11 | -4 |
| Circle of Hope (\$0.01 - \$999.99) | 178 | 209 | -31 |
| Total Donors | 190 | 224 | -34 |



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

August Stewardship



| 2025 | Envelopes | Loose Currency | E-Giving | Sub Total | Blue Envelopes | Special Collection | Total |
|---------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 3rd | \$ 5,455.00 | \$ 1,846.00 | \$ 2,494.00 | \$ 9,795.00 | \$ 185.00 | \$ 290.56 | \$ 10,270.56 |
| 10th | \$ 5,947.00 | \$ 1,586.00 | \$ 2,494.00 | \$ 10,027.00 | \$ 355.00 | \$ 293.00 | \$ 10,675.00 |
| 17th | \$ 5,453.00 | \$ 1,584.00 | \$ 1,739.00 | \$ 8,776.00 | \$ 1,490.00 | \$ 2,094.85 | \$ 12,360.85 |
| 24th | \$ 5,388.00 | \$ 2,021.00 | \$ 2,019.00 | \$ 9,428.00 | \$ 477.00 | \$ 391.30 | \$ 10,296.30 |
| 31st | \$ 5,135.00 | \$ 1,789.00 | \$ 1,660.14 | \$ 8,584.14 | \$ 210.00 | \$ 257.40 | \$ 9,051.54 |
| Month Total | \$ 27,378.00 | \$ 8,826.00 | \$ 10,406.14 | \$ 46,610.14 | \$ 2,717.00 | \$ 3,327.11 | \$ 52,654.25 |
| 2025/26 Fiscal Year Total | \$53,049.00 | \$ 17,159.96 | \$19,133.28 | \$ 89,342.24 | \$ 5,568.00 | \$4,505.64 | \$ 99,415.88 |

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, 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

Lord, help me share the things I prize most.

Mission for the Week

I will share part of the money I have with the poor.

Sharing the Gospel

Love God more than yourself. This means you will give up something you dearly love for him. When you have only one candy bar, God wants you to share it with your sister. When you have two pencils and two notebooks, God wants you to share with a student who has none. If your grandmother and grandfather play games and read to you, God wants you to share them with children who have no grandparents.

Now color
the picture! →

Circle the picture that is the **same** as the **first** one.
Then color in all the pictures.

