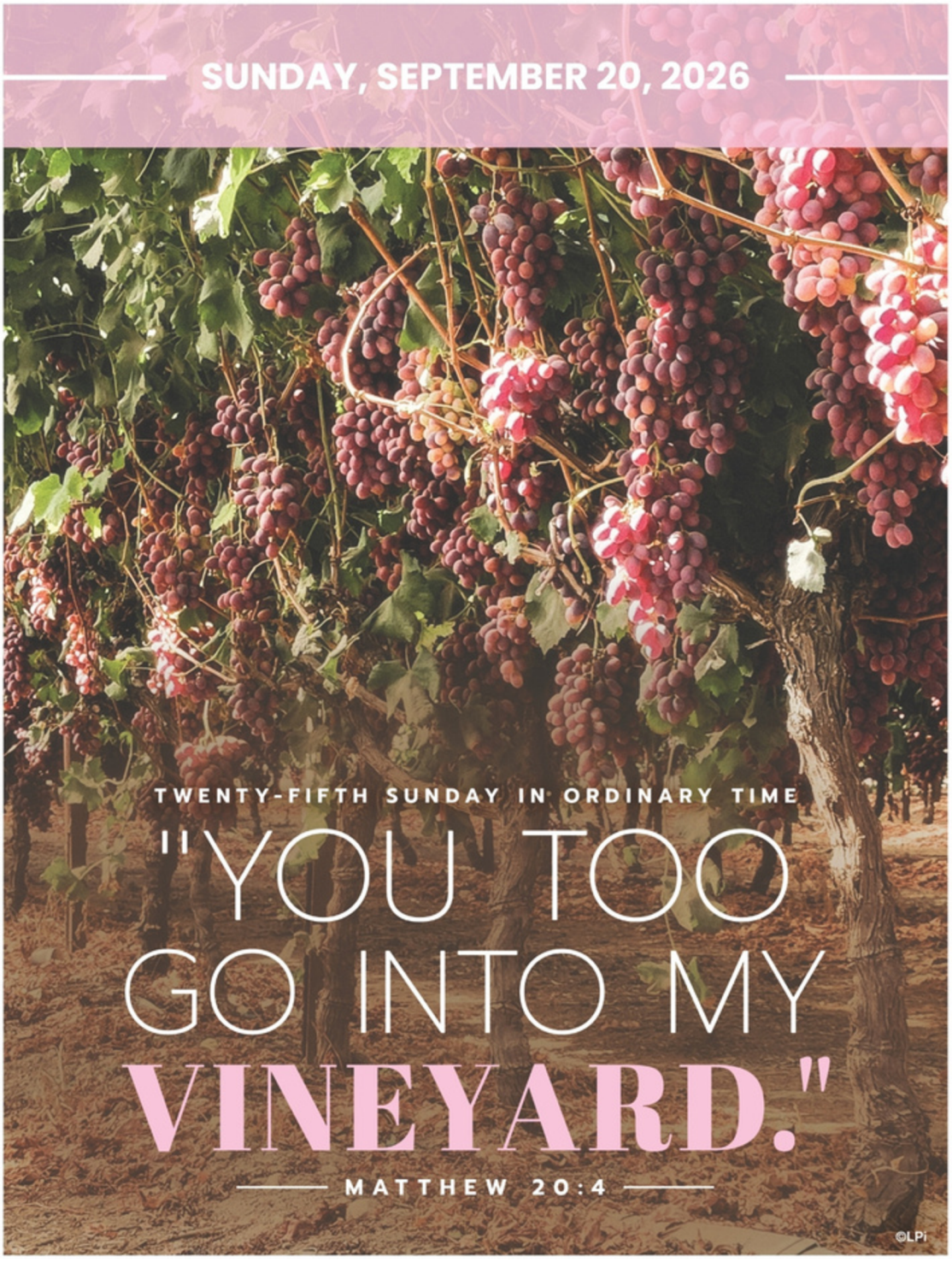
DIVINE SAVIOR PARISH
Downers Grove, Illinois
Diocese of Joliet

Sunday, September 20th, 2026
25th 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

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

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

Alma Jimenez , Parish Secretary, *ext. 121*
secretaryes@divinesavior.net 630-969-1532

Linda Vicha, Parish Secretary, *ext.121*
Secretaryen@divinesavior.net

Lauretta Sterner, Music Director
630-574-9738

Ray Vicha, Maintenance
maintenance@divinesavior.net

JOIN THE PARISH!

Stop in the parish office during business hours to register.

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.

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: 8:30 a.m.Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8 a.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 deuna 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

September 23rd through September 27th

Wednesday:	8:30am	For the Parishioners
Thursday:	8:30am	Ray Walters
Friday:	8:30am	Jean Nessinger
Saturday:	4:00pm	Godofredo Ferrer & Jesus Estanislao
Sunday:	8:00am	Ann & Paul Mulvey
	10:00am	Diana Janik
	12:00pm	Alejandro Ramirez Sr. & Alejandro Ramirez Jr.



Prayers for the sick:

Rafaela Botello	John Robinson	Joann Costa
Maureen C.	Anthony Gnutek	Frederick Costa
Mark. C.	Norbert Wierzbicki	Janice Sinnick
Terry R.	Besty	Cynthia Jara
Sherry Toman	Pete Cushion	Rachel Vicha
Steven G.	Bev. G	Bernetta Kolar
Joann Costa	Emri R.	Geri Parker
D. Woods	Elsie Bestvina	Donna Bratuljevich
Ellaine Gialogo Jimenez	Paul Czech	Bob J.
Grace P.	Kathy S.	Rosa Plazola
Herb G.	Erna Eubanks	
Justin Pratt	Kathy Hamilton	
Friar Johnpaul Cafiero	Angelica Collazos	
Rose Kraemer	Louise Casillas	

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 memory of Marge Cushion.



A Note From Fr. Tony

Well, one week down and 3 1/2 months to go. And I am truly looking forward to it. Last weekend turned out to be quite wonderful. Truth be told, I was a little nervous about my Spanish, having not used it in a year, but the Hispanic community is so loving and forgiving that you could tell by their smiles, they didn't mind my gringo accent.

In my note last week, I wrote about the gentle letting go of the warmth of summer and entering into the cold of winter. I had forgotten how prescient that note was because back to back this past Monday and Tuesday the church celebrated both the exaltation of the cross of Christ as well as Mary, our sorrowful mother.

It seems the church wants us to take one hard look at the dark side of life. And as difficult as that may be, there is something good, noble, and holy about it.

I remember when I taught in the seminary, a young man came for counseling and in the midst had a terrible charlie horse. It was obvious he was in great pain but he didn't move a muscle. I asked him why he wasn't dancing around to loosen it up. His response floored me, "Father, if I look at it right in the eye and don't flinch, I can get through it." And the only way is through.

Not bad advice from a 15-year-old. And this week the church advises us to take a good hard look at the pain and suffering in the world in which we are living.

On the feast of the Holy Cross, we remember that Jesus took on all the pain and suffering of the world, the brokenness of humankind and hung it on a tree, returning life and love for death and destruction. This is the great mystery and paradox of our faith. We live in a world of upward and onward... we are all taught to believe that more is always better.

Jesus's teaching is the utter paradox that if you want to find your life, you will have to lose it. If you want to be first, you will need to be last. The rational mind cannot absorb this. But the spiritual soul intuits it, just knows it. In our own lives, when did we grow the most? When we had it all together? No, usually when things fell apart, when we found ourselves unable to control the situation.

And another word for being out of control is... suffering. On Tuesday we celebrated the feast of the Sorrowful Mother standing at the cross of her dying son, feeling His suffering and pain. She felt it as surely as any mother feels the pain when her child is seriously sick or in pain. Whatever her child is going through, she goes through and if she could take his place, she would.

This last week we were invited to look at the pain of the world and not run away from it. We are asked to allow ourselves to experience the hunger of a starving child in the Sudan; the terror of the children in Gaza. We are asked not to look away because there is no way over it, around it, or under it. There is only one way and that is through it. It is the way of Jesus, of returning love for hate, life for death.

In Jesus, our Paschal mystery, Fr. Tony



Catechetical Sunday Message from Bishop Dennis E. Spies

September 20, 2026

Happy Catechetical Sunday, everyone!

We begin the preparation for our school year, and as we learn our catechesis, which is the passing on of our faith to our younger generation, we ourselves can grow in our understanding of our faith—and as we do, please teach it to your children.

And I want to offer gratitude for Directors of Religious Ed in every parish—gratitude and thanks to all the teachers of every age level that teach our catechism week after week after week. It's a beautiful thing to see the different age levels learning about their faith and learning about it at their own level.

We are all called to become saints, and one of the ways we learn how to become saints is to learn the ways of the Lord, to learn the teachings of the church. The best way to grow in the image and likeness of our Lord Jesus is to know all about him, all that he did and that he said and that he taught. The example he had of growing up in a family—realizing that we are all growing up in a family—and to make the connection of what we're learning in class to our life at home.

So, parents, please continue to ask your children what they're learning and answer their questions. If you don't know, ask them to ask their teachers, ask your pastor when you see them and allow your children to learn and reflect about the Lord Jesus and growing up in his life.

One other thing I want to make sure I share is we can learn a lot about Jesus, but the really important part of our Catechesis, of handing on our faith, is learning how to pray—realizing that God is available to his saints whenever we call upon him. Teach your children to pray. Teach them how to pray and show them the heart of prayer in union with our Lord Jesus as he prayed to His Father.

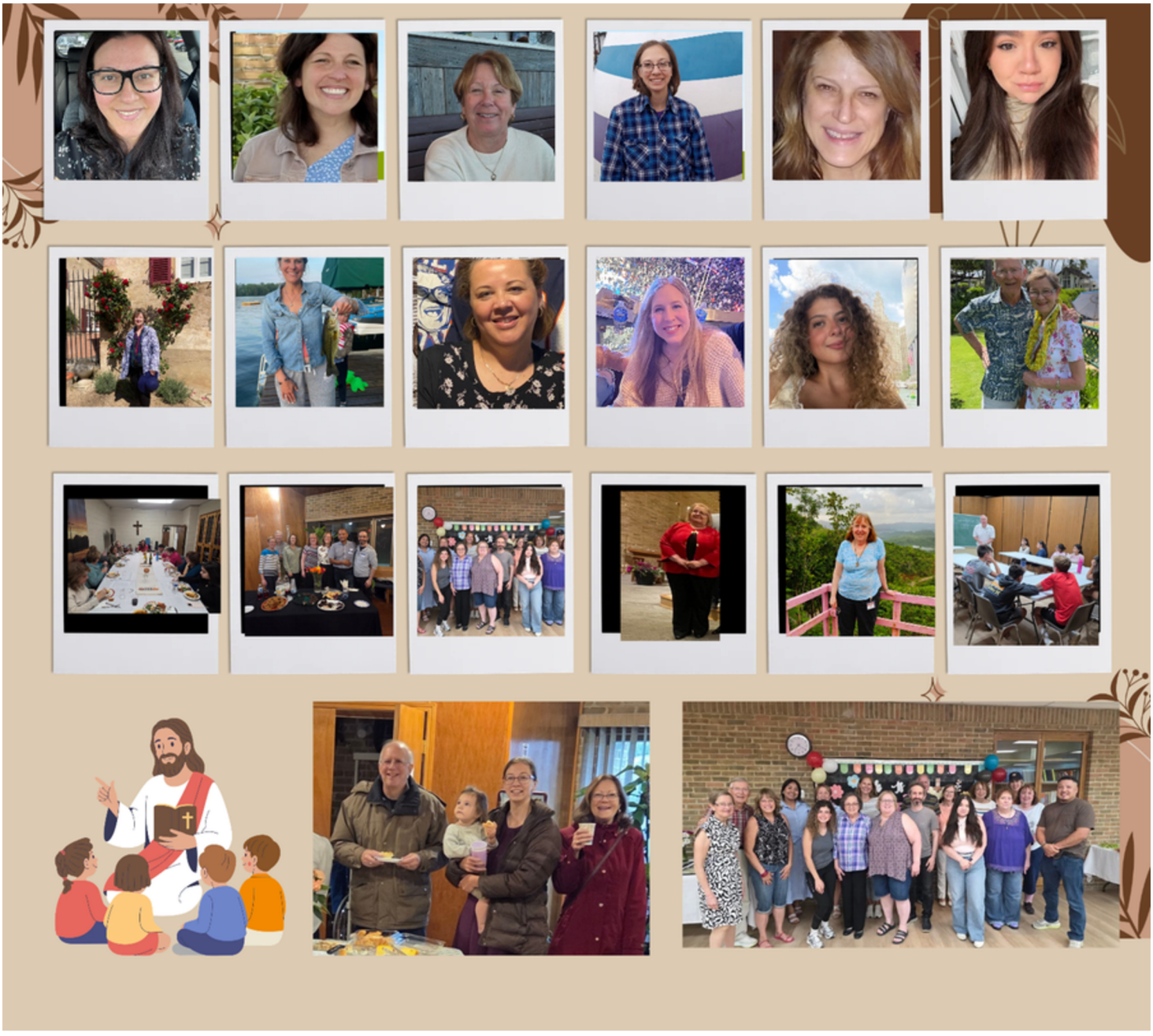
+ Dennis E. Spies

Sincerely in Christ,
Bishop Dennis E. Spies

Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Joliet

With Grateful Hearts, Thank You!
Dear Catechists, Assistants, Aides, and OCIA/RICA Leaders,
Emily Matucca, Candelaria Llamas, Maureen Chmel, Michelle Scheibe, Kelly Mackie, Sheila Cuzak, Amanda Perez, Sandy Franke, Sonya Gutierrez, Rita Joyce, Sarah Demos, Ashley de Anda, Mary Nessinger, Marla Hoffmeyer, Bob and Debbie Spiewak, David Gallahger, Nicholas Dangles, Jamie Alegria, Charlene Patelski.

Divine Savior Parish is truly grateful to have you as part of our faith community. Thank you for generously sharing your time, faith, talents, and love with those you serve.Your dedication makes a difference and helps plant seeds of faith that will continue to grow.
May God bless you abundantly for all that you do!
With gratitude and blessings,
Divine Savior Parish





Readings for the Week of September 20, 2026

Sunday
Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/ Mt 20:1-16a

Monday
Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13

Tuesday
Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday
Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday
Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17bc/Lk 9:7-9

Friday
Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4/Lk 9:18-22

Saturday
Eccl 11:9-12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17/ Lk 9:43b-45

Next Sunday
Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/ Mt 21:28-32



Gospel Meditation



Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Matthew 20:1-16

Every December, the priests of my diocese gather for a Christmas dinner with our bishop. Nearly 200 of us in one room: newly ordained and long retired, pastors of large parishes and quiet confessors, men full of energy and others moving more slowly. Some carry visible success; others bear hidden wounds. It is a tapestry of vocations and lives. When the bishop thanks us, I am always moved. For a moment, none of our differences matter. What matters is that we belong to one another.

I usually leave that evening with a deep sense of peace, but also with a sober realization. Nothing drains joy from the vineyard of the Lord faster than comparison. The quiet habit of measuring, ranking, and resenting can creep in even among those who sincerely serve God.

That is what Jesus exposes in today's parable of the workers in the vineyard. The early laborers are not upset because they were treated unjustly; they are angry because others were treated generously. Their resentment blinds them to the gift already in their hands. When the landowner asks, "Are you envious because I am generous?" he names the real wound.

This tension echoes throughout salvation history: the elder brother resenting the prodigal, the faithful servant scorning the latecomer. Jesus does not deny the labor of those who have borne the heat of the day, but he refuses to let God's mercy become a zero-sum game.

In the end, the vineyard's reward is not about fairness but belonging. The joy offered is communion with a generous Father, who delights in gathering early and late, strong and weak, into one household of grace.

— Father John Muir

2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Weekly Dashboard Parish Report

Results through 8/30/2026

152 - Divine Savior Parish - Downers Grove

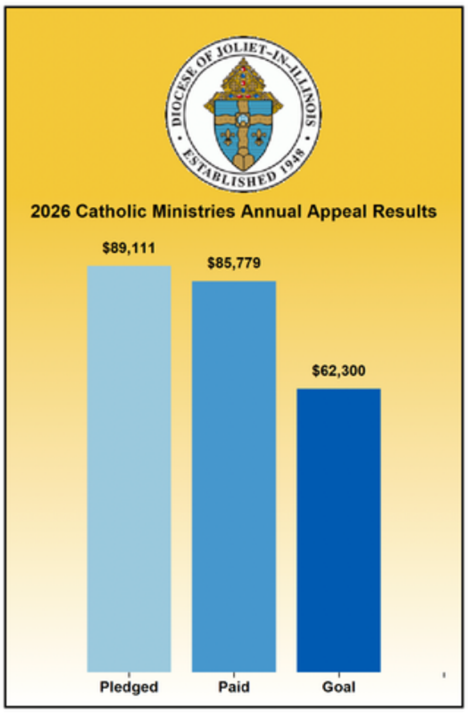
	2026	2025	Inc/Dec	2025 (Final)
Parish Goal	$62,300	$61,400	$900	$61,400
Amount Pledged	$89,111	$84,299	$4,812	$90,123
Amount Paid	$85,779	$81,963	$3,816	$89,923
Balance Due	$3,332	$2,336	$996	$200
Donors	162	191	-29	202
2026 Rebate	$16,435			

2026 Parishioners	
2,119	8%
# of Registered Parishoners	Participation Rate
$550.07	1,957
Average Gift	Nonparticipants

Number of LYBUNTs (Last Year But Not This Year)
57

For full LYBUNT listing view last page of report

Giving Circles	2026 Donors	2025 Donors	Difference
Queen of Peace Circle ($25,000+)	1	1	0
Xavier Circle ($10,000 - $24,999.99)	0	0	0
Bishop's Circle ($5,000 - $9,999.99)	2	2	0
Patron Circle ($2,500 - $4,999.99)	2	3	-1
Sponsor Circle ($1,000 - $2,499.99)	11	9	2
Circle of Hope ($0.01 - $999.99)	146	187	-41
Total Donors	162	202	-40





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

September Stewardship



2026	Envelopes	Loose Currency	E-Giving	Sub Total	Blue Envelopes	Special Collection	Total
6th	$5,938.00	$2,314.01	$2,904.00	$11,156.01	$473.00	$279.90	**$11,908.91**
13th	$4,811.00	$2,366.00	$2,026.50	$9,203.50	$275.00	$239.00	**$9,717.50**
20th							
27th							
Month Total	$10,749.00	$4,680.01	$4,930.50	$20,359.51	$748.00	$518.90	**$21,626.41**
2026/27 Fiscal Year Total	$63,891.00	$22,814.44	$25,210.46	$111,915.90	$6,903.00	$4,212.54	**$123,031.44**

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
Morgan Demos - US Navy
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
Jesus Garcia - Marines

Kids Corner

Sharing the Gospel

Your Father says, "Will you work eight hours in my garden for one hundred dollars?" You answer, "Yes." You work hard for seven hours. Then your Father says to two other people, "Will you work one hour in my garden for one hundred dollars?" You shout angrily, "Father, you are not fair." He says, "You agreed to work eight hours for one hundred dollars. That is fair."

Now color the picture!

Prayer

When I am first or when I am last, thanks for giving me what I need, Father.

Mission for the Week

I will do chores and give the money that I earn to the poor.



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