



# St. Joseph Catholic Parish

416 N. Chicago St.  
Joliet, IL 60432

Parish office: (815) 727-9378  
Website: [www.stjosephjoliet.org](http://www.stjosephjoliet.org)

**Fr. John Hornicak, Pastor**  
**Fr. Roger Kutzner, Parochial Vicar**  
Deacon Emeritus, Dave Raskowski  
**January 25, 2026**

## Mass Times

Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM  
Saturday Vigil, 4:00 PM  
Sunday, 8:30 AM. 10:30 AM &  
7:00 PM

## Confessions

Saturdays from 3:00-3:30 PM

## Holy Days

Please see the Parish Bulletin

## Rectory Hours

Monday — Thursday,  
7:30AM—3:30PM

Friday,  
7:30AM—1:00PM

## Rectory Staff

**Elizabeth Bravo,**

*Dir. of Religious Education*  
[ebravo@stjosephjoliet.org](mailto:ebravo@stjosephjoliet.org)

**Judy Halsne,**

*Business Manager*  
[jhalsne@stjosephjoliet.org](mailto:jhalsne@stjosephjoliet.org)

**Scott Pucel,**

*Facilities Manager*  
[spucel@stjosephjoliet.org](mailto:spucel@stjosephjoliet.org)

**Kim Sefcik,**

*Coord. of Parish Services*  
[ksefcik@stjosephjoliet.org](mailto:ksefcik@stjosephjoliet.org)

## Park/Cemetery

**Richard Cabay,**

*Cemetery Sexton/ Park Mgr.*  
[rcabay@stjosephjoliet.org](mailto:rcabay@stjosephjoliet.org)  
**Cemetery: 815-722-6016**



## 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." - Mt 4:17

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, January 24—Vigil

4:00 p.m. For the People of St. Joseph Parish, Living & Deceased (Pro Popolo)

### Sunday, January 25— 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Maria Gutierrez (Nunez Family)

8:30 a.m. Frances M. "Babe" Sefcik (B) (Son, James)

10:30 a.m. Lou Schmidberger (Family)

10:30 a.m. Dolores & Mark Valentino (B) (Family)

7:00 p.m. Bernice Nemanich (Huston Family)

7:00 p.m. Bernardine Russ (Mary Fran Smaron)

### Monday, January 26— St. Timothy and St. Titus, Bishops

8:30 a.m. Jack Facinelli (Denise & Rick Ramos)

8:30 a.m. Louis & Mari Zepeda (Family)

### Tuesday, January 27— Weekday

8:30 a.m. Dorothy Juricic Brown (Family)

8:30 a.m. Vincent & Rose Paver (Family)

### Wednesday, January 28— St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:30 a.m. Elaine Mackley (B) (David & Karen Mackley)

8:30 a.m. Steven P. Pucel (A) (Family)

### Thursday, January 29— Weekday

8:30 a.m. Panagiota Giannoulas, Special Intention (Bill & Lisa Vertin)

8:30 a.m. The Giannoulas Family (Bill & Lisa Vertin)

### Friday, January 30— Weekday

8:30 a.m. Jim Olznoi, Sr. (Fenoglio Family)

8:30 a.m. Bob Vicich (Judy Halsne & Family)

### Saturday, January 31—Vigil

4:00 p.m. George Herman (Agnes Dobczyk)

4:00 p.m. Bill Laken (A) (Wife & Family)

### Sunday, February 1— 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Francis Cepon (A) (Kaluza Family)

8:30 a.m. Bob Vicich (James Sefcik)

10:30 a.m. Bob Figuirowski (Wife & Family)

10:30 a.m. Families of Joseph Matkovic & Joseph Belom (Lorraine Belom)

7:00 p.m. For the People of St. Joseph Parish, Living & Deceased (Pro Popolo)



### Flame of Faith

In Memory Of

Angel Arias, Sr.

Fran Mali

Sharon Planinsek,

Special Intention

**"WE MUST USE MERCY FOR THE PRESENT AND HAVE  
HOPE FOR THE FUTURE." ~ ST. JOHN BOSCO**

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### January 24 & 25

#### Mass

#### Lector

#### Extraordinary Ministers

4:00 PM S. Vanisko

J. Halsne, L. Michalak, K. Sefcik

8:30 AM C. Goetze

M. Bruno, A. Koncar, S. Walters

10:30 AM H. Snyder

N. Churnovic, R. Churnovic,  
N. Szalinski

7:00 PM P. Draksler

B. Strahanoski

### January 31 & February 1

#### Mass

#### Lector

#### Extraordinary Ministers

4:00 PM D. Dodson

D. Dodson, C. Kadela, K. Sefcik

8:30 AM M. Budzinski

C. Goetze, A. Koncar, S. Walters

10:30 AM S. Orozco

L. Engelman, D. Mackley, J. Orozco

7:00 PM C. Gimbel

B. Gimbel

## OUR WEEKLY OFFERING

### January 18, 2026

*Offertory figures were not available at the  
time of the bulletin submission.*

*Figures will appear in a future bulletin.*

***May God bless you always for your generosity  
and unwavering support of St. Joseph Parish!***

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

### Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

On Saturdays from 3—3:30 PM. Other times upon request. Please call the rectory.

### Sacrament of Baptism Guidelines

Must be an active registered parishioner of St. Joseph Parish. Call the rectory to set up Baptismal appointment. Baptisms scheduled at the Baptismal class.

### Sacrament of the Sick

Celebrated individually upon request. If someone is seriously ill, the person should be anointed. Please call the rectory.

### Sacrament of Marriage

Must be an active registered parishioner of St. Joseph Parish; please make arrangements at least six months in advance.

### New Parishioners

Are most welcome and are asked to register at the rectory or online through the parish website.

## ***Book of the Innocents: Remembering Children Who Have Passed Away in Infancy***

In conjunction with the Pro-Life Mass on January 22nd, the St. Joseph Pro-Life Committee has placed the ***Book of the Innocents*** in front of the altar of the Blessed Mother. In this ***Book of the Innocents***, you are invited to list the name of the child you lost, their lifespan, along with any thoughts, prayers or yearnings you may have. The entire St. Joseph Family joins with you in sharing your sorrow and celebrating the love you have for your child.

***The book will remain in church throughout the month of January.***

"The death of every relative and friend diminishes the world and robs us of something wonderful in our lives. To lose a child, however, is to plumb the depths of human sorrow. Grief is magnified by the rupture of the strong physical and emotional bonds that exist between parent and child. A child's death deprives their parents of a *lifetime* of love, joy, shared experiences, and pride in their achievements."

~Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua, Archbishop of Philadelphia,  
June 28, 2023



**Fr. Roger Kutzner**  
**January 30th**

## **REQUESTED MASS INTENTIONS CELEBRATED BY RETIRED PRIESTS**

**Saturday, January 31, 2026**

4:00 p.m. Matthew Kochevar (B) (A) (Family)

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**



### **Prayer for Catechism Students**

Dear God,  
You never stop drawing us closer to You.  
Pour Your grace upon these young disciples as they learn about You.

Attract them.  
Challenge them.  
Love them.  
Guide them.  
Bless them.  
Amen.

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**I ENCOURAGE YOU,  
DEAR STUDENTS,  
TO MAKE  
YOUR TIME  
OF FORMATION  
AN UNREMITTING  
QUEST FOR GOD**

*St. John Paul II | Catholic Schools Week*

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## ***A Prayer for Life***

O Most Holy Lord, Creator of heaven and earth,  
from Your gentle hand flows the gift of life.

To Your sons and daughters  
You have given the role of stewards to care  
for all of Your creation from womb to tomb.

Hear us as we pray for a greater respect  
for all of life throughout our world:

- that the unborn may be born.
- that the child may be safe.
- that the teen may be prepared.
- that the young adult may be other-centered.
- that the adult may be selfless.
- that the aged may be revered.
- that the dying may have dignity.
- that the deceased may rest in peace.
- that the resources of creation may be used well.
- that all Your creation may be blessed.

Having served You loyally on earth,  
may we obtain the rewards of everlasting life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Rev. Michael Pavlakovich  
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## The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun!

The Diocese of Joliet invites all parishioners to support the 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Together, we can make a profound difference.

This year's theme is *Beyond all Expectations: Faith that Elevates!* Through the CMAA, we ensure Christ's mission and ministries reach everyone. We provide shelter for the homeless, feed the hungry, support vocations, and educate the next generation of Catholics. Our parish cannot accomplish this alone. As a diocese, we can do so much more.

Our parish goal is **\$44,700**. We receive 70% of any amount raised over goal to use within our parish. Please review your mailing from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's appeal.

If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

### Prayer to MAKE Disciples

Ever loving God, maker of all good things, you made us in your image and called us through baptism.

Give us now the grace to be made into your disciples, and grant that in being so made, we will do as you have commanded to go and make other disciples as we catechize, evangelize, and put our faith into action. Through the intercession of our patron, St. Francis Xavier, St. Joseph, the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, we humbly make our prayer.

Amen.

*"Having fallen in love with Jesus, we are impelled by a sense of mission to share His unfathomable love with everyone we meet and to serve others. He now sends us to put our faith into action."*



**MAKE**

A Pastoral Letter for the People  
of the Diocese of Joliet



## COMMISSION

We return again to the mountainside at the moment when the Risen Jesus commissions His apostles to go and make disciples. Nourished by the transformative power of Jesus in the Eucharist, they would not be sent on their journey alone. They would be bringing Jesus with them, the Incarnate Word, now alive in them, His Body, given "for the life of the world" (John 6:51).

Every Eucharistic celebration concludes with a sending. In fact, the word Mass derives its meaning from the Latin word *missa*, meaning "dismissal."

**The liturgy does not simply come to an end.**

Those assembled are sent forth to bring the fruits of the Eucharist to the world: "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!" This sending at the end of Mass is, for each of us, our personal participation in the disciple-making mission of the Church.

As we go forth, we are called to put our faith into action each day through our good works, our commitment to service, our moral integrity, and our dedication to justice and peace in the world. Yet none of this is possible without first knowing and loving Christ and being nourished by Him. It is from this deep, personal relationship with Jesus that all our efforts flow, helping others to come to know and love Him as well.

Our Patron, St. Francis Xavier lived out his mission by travelling the world to share the Gospel and baptize converts in India, Japan, China, and Goa. He learned to adopt the dress and customs of the local cultures in order to be welcomed into their communities to share the Gospel.



HELP SUPPORT  
THE ASH WEDNESDAY FISH FRY

# Bakery Needed!

Bakery can be dropped off at St. Joe's Park  
Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> 8am-1pm &  
Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 8am-11am



## St. Joseph Church *Fish Fry*

**Ash Wednesday**  
February 18, 2026

**Good Friday**  
April 3, 2026

11am - 6:30pm



**CASH ONLY**

Dine In or  
Carryout

Hand Breaded Fried Cod  
2 piece \$16

Golden Shrimp Basket  
6 piece \$15

Mac 'n Cheese  
\*Potato not included \$7

Hand Breaded Fried Cod  
1 piece \$12

Combo  
1 Cod 3 Shrimp \$17

Extra Piece of Cod  
\$6

\*all dinners include Slovenian potatoes or baked potato, homemade coleslaw, bread & butter

St. Joe's Park 700 Theodore St., Joliet

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**



**Students  
needing  
Service  
Hours are  
most  
Welcome!**



**SignUpGenius®**

**Ash Wednesday  
Fish Fry**

Hello everyone! It is that time of year where we begin preparing for our Ash Wednesday Fish Fry. Please take a look through our Sign Up Genius link below to sign up for your volunteer experience. We can't do this without you, our favorite volunteers.

Visit the [www.stjosephjoliet.org](http://www.stjosephjoliet.org) website to click our link to SignUpGenius or call the rectory.

**"VOLUNTEERING IS AT THE VERY CORE OF BEING A HUMAN. NO ONE HAS MADE IT THROUGH LIFE WITHOUT SOMEONE ELSE'S HELP." ~ HEATHER FRENCH HENRY**

**SPEND AN HOUR IN HIS PRESENCE  
MONTHLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION  
AT ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**

**First Tuesday  
of every Month**

**February 3rd  
6:00-7:00 PM**

*"Every Time We Look  
at The Blessed  
Sacrament Our Place  
in Heaven is Raised  
Forever."*

*~St. Gertrude the  
Great*



**St. Joseph Church  
416 N. Chicago St.  
Joliet, IL 60432  
[www.stjosephjoliet.org](http://www.stjosephjoliet.org)  
815.727.9378**



## Bishop Hicks' Column January 2026



### One Last Column, Ever Grateful

For more than five years, I have been blessed to share my thoughts with you in this monthly column. When I first began writing, it took me a very long time to craft each reflection. I often wondered if anyone was reading them or if they would make any difference at all.

But at parish visits and events, many of you told me that you read these reflections and that they helped you understand my mind and my heart. Some of you offered positive comments and others offered constructive suggestions. All of that feedback helped me grow in gratitude. I stopped seeing these columns as a task and started seeing them as a privilege. They became one of the ways we shared our faith journey together.

Now I write my final column. It is a bittersweet moment. I am excited for my next steps to New York. At the same time, I am going to miss this ongoing exchange with you.

As we come to the conclusion of this written dialogue, I would like to reflect with you on a few thoughts [I shared at my farewell Mass on January 11, 2026.](#)

In my homily, I expressed my sincere gratitude for the faith and love you have shown me throughout my years as your bishop. Together we have shared significant moments. We have celebrated the sacraments. We have strengthened our mission to be a vibrant and evangelizing Church. Through Confirmations, ordinations, graduations, the Chrism Mass, baptisms, funerals, community service, and our care for the most vulnerable, I saw Jesus Christ revealed in you. And each time we gathered for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, you strengthened my faith and drew me closer to God. And I pray that I have done the same for you.

I am deeply grateful to our priests who faithfully serve with pastoral hearts and leadership. To our deacons, wives, and families, thank you for your steadfast ministry of charity and your service. To our religious women and men and consecrated virgins, your prayerful presence and collaborative ministry have been a constant blessing. I am grateful for every sacrifice and every quiet act of love that often goes unseen but never goes unnoticed by God.

I also want to thank our diocesan staff and all employees who work as a vocation to ensure that the Church continues its mission. Our administrators, teachers, catechists, and youth ministers form disciples in classrooms and parish halls. Our musicians, liturgical ministers, and countless volunteers give life and beauty to our worship and mission. And to every parishioner across our seven counties, please know how grateful I am for your generosity and witness to faith in your homes, parishes, and workplaces.

Through baptism, we are all called to continue living the mission of Jesus Christ. I now move forward to serve in New York, trusting that the good work we have begun together will continue to bear fruit here in the Diocese of Joliet.

Many have asked who will become the next bishop. Soon, an administrator will be appointed who will continue to guide and govern the diocese while the apostolic nuncio and the Dicastery of Bishops offer recommendations to our Holy Father, Pope Leo. In due time, he will appoint the seventh Bishop of Joliet. Please join me in prayer for that discernment process.

Even though my ministry will continue in another place, I believe that prayer keeps us close. Every time we pray for one another, we remain closely united in Christ. So let us keep lifting each other up before God. I will carry you with me in my heart and in my daily prayer, and I humbly ask you to remember me in yours.

I also encourage you to be disciples who make disciples. Please continue to embrace my pastoral letter entitled MAKE. Pray with it. Reflect on it. Share it. Put it into practice every day. The Church grows when every one of us answers the call to live the Gospel with conviction and joy.

You remain in my heart and in my prayers with great love and deep gratitude. May God bless you and bless us always with His Spirit of peace and all good things. Paz y bien.

*[Scan the QR code below to listen to the bishop's homily from his January 11<sup>th</sup> Mass of Thanksgiving.]*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Saturday, January 24—Vigil**

Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Litany, & Rosary, 3—3:45 PM  
Confessions, 3:00-3:30 PM  
Mass, 4:00 PM  
St. John the Baptist Food Pantry

### **Sunday, January 25— 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Masses, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM  
Baptism, Noon  
OCIA, following 10:30 AM Mass @ OLPH  
St. John the Baptist Food Pantry

### **Monday, January 26— St. Timothy & St. Titus, Bishops**

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM  
Adoration Chapel, 9:00 AM—10:00 AM

### **Tuesday, January 27— Weekday**

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM  
Adoration Chapel, 9:00 AM—10:00 AM  
Religious Education Classes, 5:30 PM, School

### **Wednesday, January 28— St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM  
Adoration Chapel, 9:00 AM—11:00 AM

### **Thursday, January 29— Weekday**

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM  
Adoration Chapel, 9:00 AM—Noon

### **Friday, January 30— Weekday**

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM  
Adoration Chapel, 9:00 AM—11:00 AM

### **Saturday, January 31—Vigil**

Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Litany, & Rosary, 3—3:45 PM  
Confessions, 3:00-3:30 PM  
Mass, 4:00 PM

### **Sunday, February 1— 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Masses, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM  
OCIA, following 10:30 AM Mass @ Ferdinand Hall

## Pancake Breakfast

*hosted by*

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish**  
**201 S. Briggs St., Joliet**

**Sunday, February 15, 2026**  
**8:00 AM until 12:30 PM In the Gym**

Donations: Adults \$10.00  
Kids and Veterans \$6.00

Fresh and Delicious All You Can Eat Pancakes with  
Biscuits & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Coffee,  
Milk & Orange Juice



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

01/25/26 Is 8:23-9:3/ 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/ Mt 4:12-23  
01/26/26 2 Tim 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/ Mk 3:22-30  
01/27/26 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/ Mk 3:31-35  
01/28/26 2 Sm 7:4-17/ Mk 4:1-20  
01/29/26 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/ Mk 4:21-25  
01/30/26 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/ Mk 4:26-34  
01/31/26 2 SM 12:1-7a, 10-17/ Mk 4:35-41

### **End of Year Tax Statements**

Donation letters for 2025 contributions to St. Joseph Parish will be mailed upon request toward the end of January. Please call the rectory or email [jhalsne@stjosephjoliet.org](mailto:jhalsne@stjosephjoliet.org) to request your statement for taxes.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

### **Our Sick**

Fr. Joe Atcher, O. Carm., Joe Babich, Anthony Bendy, Jen Bendy, Judy Bolte, Stephanie Cavanaugh, Erica Ceballos, Tyler Centorbi, Markie Cerda, Joe Cimfe, Vijay Devadas, Genevieve Dumyahn, Bruce Eagglhoff, Linda Evans, Veronica Fairman, Walter Ferguson, Sharon Boris Fonck, Lois Geary, Roger Gerwatowski, Irene Gordan, Carolyn Grady, Jean Haas, Carrie Harth, Andy Honiotes, Janet Horvath, Ray Horvatin, Jake Jakovich Jr., Bob Keca, Joan Kernc, Patricia Koefoed, Gail Kolenc, Michael Kuhel, Richard Lenzen, Ann Marie Linko, Mary Loucks, Todd Lukas, Bettie Lustick, Frank Markun, Mary Ann Mavrin, Terry Meyer, Greg Munich, Andy Nunez, Judy Philbert, Sharon Planinsek, Rafael Quiroz, Deacon Dave & Jo Raskowski, Raymond Reinke, Lorraine Rolih, Nathan Roszyk, George Rozman, Julia Sarcletti, James Sefcik, Gavin Springsteen, Nancy Sraj, Kathryn Tamayo, Gerald Tezak, Nasciana Thompson, Diana Tyda, Kristina Valentino, Joyce Vicich, Ann Wojnarowski, Terry Ziesmer, for those in need of prayers, and those who have no one to pray for them.

### **Those Who Serve**

Spec. Rafael Arias, Andrew Bender,  
Sgt. Nikolas Borrego, Lindsey Carroll,  
Matthew Carroll, Cpt. Peter Collins, COL David  
M. Conner, Dylan Crotty, Michael A. Elmore, Michael J.  
Elmore, Mitchell Elmore, LTC Donald Erickson, Holly Erickson-  
Gresens, Anthony Gayton, Melissa Gonzalez, Sgt. John M.  
Khandzhayan, Sgt. Mariela Sanchez-Khandzhayan, Wyatt  
Lawson, Jared Anthony Mason, Kannen Mosher, Andres  
Nunez, Charles B. Ritzler IV, Augie Spoto





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