

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

Judy Halsne,

Business Manager jhalsne@stjosephjoliet.org

Scott Pucel.

Facilities Manager spucel@stjosephjoliet.org

Kim Sefcik,

Coord. of Parish Services ksefcik@stjosephjoliet.org

Park/Cemetery Richard Cabay,

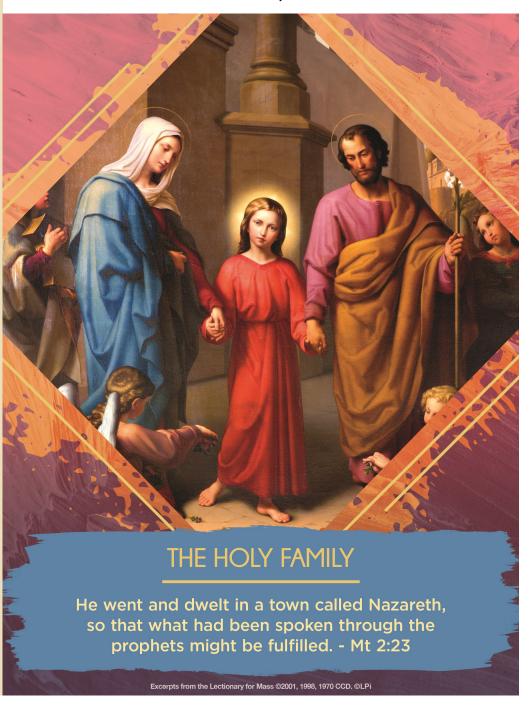
Cemetery Sexton/Park Mgr. rcabay@stjosephjoliet.org
Cemetery: 815-722-6016

St. Joseph Catholic Parish

416 N. Chicago St. Joliet, IL 60432

Parish office: (815) 727-9378 Website: www.stjosephjoliet.org

Fr. John Hornicak, Pastor
Fr. Roger Kutzner, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Emeritus, Dave Raskowski
December 28, 2025



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 27—Vigil, Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

4:00 p.m. Raul Bravo, Sr. (Raul Bravo Family) 4:00 p.m. Stephen L. & Frances M. Sefcik (Family)

Sunday, December 28— The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30 a.m. For the People of St. Joseph Parish, Living & Deceased (Pro Popolo)

8:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Brulc Family (Dragovan Family)

10:30 a.m. Angel Arias, Sr. (Family) 10:30 a.m. Irene Planinsek (Family)

7:00 p.m. Jerome Levandowski (Ann Levandowski)

7:00 p.m. Anthony & Doris Tadey (Family)

Monday, December 29— Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:30 a.m. Joseph Kanta (A) (Marie Kanta & Family)

8:30 a.m. Rudolph Klancher (B) (Family)

Tuesday, December 30— Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:30 a.m. For the Poor Souls in Purgatory

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

Wednesday, December 31— Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:30 a.m. Louis Clavenna (Wife & Family)

8:30 a.m. Donald Walker (Mark Starasinich Family)

4:00 p.m. Marjorie Kesich (Family)

Thursday, January 1—The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:30 a.m. Lou & Karen Schmidberger (Family)

8:30 a.m. Gerald Tezak (A) (Family)

Friday, January 2— Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Altar & Rosary Society

8:30 a.m. Char & Willie Barnett (Marlene Dehm)

Saturday, January 3—Vigil, Christmas Weekday

4:00 p.m. Robert Dobczyk, Sr. (A) (Wife & Family)

4:00 p.m. Eunice Ward (Tom Kijowski)

Sunday, January 4— The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 a.m. Tony Kaluza (Family)

8:30 a.m. Joseph & Emerzia Shroba (Barello Family)

10:30 a.m. Diane Dennis (Husband, Christopher)

10:30 a.m. Daniel E. Stock (Christopher Dennis & Jody)

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



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 27 & 28

<u>Mass</u>	<u>Lector</u>	Extraordinary Ministers
4:00 PM	S. Vanisko	A. Camacho, J. Halsne, K. Sefcik
8:30 AM	G. Walters	M. Bruno, A. Bruno, S. Walters
10:30 AM	C. Kadela	N. Churnovic, R. Churnovic, G. Dau
7:00 PM	C. Gimbel	V. Gale

December 31

<u>Mass</u>	<u>Lector</u>	Extraordinary Ministers
4:00 PM	B. Zelinski	D. Zelinski, E. Zelinski, O. Zelinski

January 1

<u>Mass</u>	<u>Lector</u>	Extraordinary Ministers
8:30 AM	C. Kadela	C. Kadela, B. Strahanoski

January 3 & 4

<u>Mass</u>	<u>Lector</u>	Extraordinary Ministers
4:00 PM	M. Mijan	J. Halsne, K. Sefcik, B. Strahanoski
8:30 AM	M. Budzinski	V. Gale, C. Goetze, O. Zelinski
10:30 AM	S. Orozco	G. Dau, C. Kadela, J. Orozco
7:00 PM	P. Draksler	L. Engelman



Flame of Faith

In Memory Of

Mary Babich Barbosa, Knezetic, Bajay Families Alfrieda Kuhajda

OUR WEEKLY OFFERING

December 14, 2025

Weekly Offering	\$ 7,598.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 1,118.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 2, 126.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 1,779.00
Christmas	\$ 5,455.00

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

Qualified Charitable Distribution to St. Joseph Church

If you are looking to make a non-deductible donation to St. Joseph Parish, you may want to consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA, payable directly to a qualified charity, such as St. Joseph Church. If you are age 72 or older, IRS rules require you to take required minimum distributions (RMDs) each year from your tax-deferred retirement accounts. Amounts distributed as a QCD can be counted toward satisfying your RMD for the year, up to \$100,000. The QCD is excluded from your taxable income. This is not the case with a regular withdrawal from an IRA, even if you use the money to make a charitable contribution later on. Speak with your financial advisor for additional info.



New Parishioners

We welcome the following individuals into our parish family. May the Holy Spirit guide them throughout their lives and may our gracious and loving God bless them always.

The Campbell Family Gregory, Phyllis, and Desmond



Parish Events

A Celebration of the Three Kings

December 30th, 6:30 PM

New Year's Eve

December 31st, 4:00 PM

New Year's Day

January 1st, 8:30 AM



Solemnity of the Mary, the Mother of God

A Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Day Mass, Thursday, January 1st 8:30 a.m.

Religious Education & OCIA

- OCIA returns Sunday, January 4th following 10:30 AM Mass at St. Joseph Ferdinand Hall.
- **St. Joseph Religious Education** returns **Tuesday, January 6th** at 5:30 PM.

Adoration Chapel will be closed until January 4th.
Chapel re-opens, Monday, January 5th.



Monday, Dec. 29th open 7:30 am—3:30 pm Tuesday, Dec. 30th open 7:30 am—3:30 pm

Wednesday, Dec. 31st Closed
Thursday, January 1st Closed
Friday, January 2nd Closed

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 to request your statement for taxes.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

She Kept All of These Things in Her Heart

"What was my first word? Who was there when I was born? When did I start to walk? Which toys did I play with? What made me cry when I was a baby?"

My oldest has reached the age where she has started to ask questions like this. As she grows up, she is realizing that, in order to understand the world around her, she must first understand herself. This makes her insatiably curious about her own identity, her history — her "origin story," as they say in the movies.

I've got most of it documented either in writing or in photos, but even if it's a detail that wasn't scribbled in a baby book or saved to my digital cloud, it's a memory that I can quickly summon and make real for her as we snuggle and talk about who she was, who she is, and who she may become.

I'm the mom. I have kept all of these things in my heart.

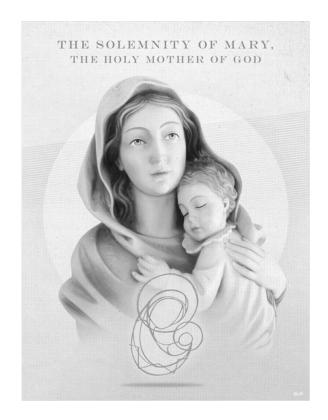
The Blessed Mother knew more about God before opening a book than most of us could discover after a lifetime of study and prayer. There is no one whose knowledge of Christ was so intimate, so deep, so simultaneously ordinary and extraordinary, as the human woman who bore him, birthed him, nursed him, raised him and eventually gave him up.

In the way that I can tell my daughter everything there is to know about the part of her life she cannot recall, Mary can tell us everything we need to know about Christ. All we have to do is ask.

Mary kept all of these things in her heart. ~Luke 2:19

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Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of seasons, Sundays, and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on January 1. It is also a day in our calendar as a World Day for Peace.

Let us pray...

God of heaven and earth, you came to us and took our earthly flesh through the gift of Mary's yes.

She is our Mother in faith, as she is your earthly mother.

We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you for the gift of her Son as our brother and savior. Through her self-giving, we have been reconciled to you.

Bless us as we begin this New Year and endow us with the desire and ability to create a world of peace.

We ask all this, through the intercession of Mary to you, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Remember St. Joseph Parish in your Estate Plans

As stewards of God's gifts, we have opportunities to provide lasting legacies. Imagine the possibilities if every parishioner remembered St. Joseph Church, whatever the gift amount, in their estate plans. We are often solicited by our alma maters, area museums, zoos, nationwide non-profit health related organizations, and many other non-profit organizations to remember them in our estate plans. The Church and its ministries, as an important part of our parishioners lives, should be at the forefront of their thoughts when designing their estate plans. Your gift to St. Joseph Church is appreciated and will be used in accordance to your wishes. For more information, call the Rectory at 815-727-9378.

Altar & Rosary Invites You

to **First Friday Mass, January 2nd,** at 8:30 AM. Following Mass, we will lead the congregation in prayer of the Rosary.

STOMP! STOMP! To Help Save Our Carpet

When the snow flies, salt is put down on the sidewalks and parking lots around Church. Help save our carpet by **Stomp-Stomping** your feet when you first enter the Church. This will help the salt to stay near the entries and not get tracked throughout the Church.

Reporting Incidents of Sexual Abuse

Sexual Abuse is a sin and a crime. Victims of sexual abuse, in addition to contacting civil authorities, are asked to come forward in the order to receive pastoral assistance. The Church has a responsibility to help victims of sexual abuse and to ensure that offenders are brought to justice. Reports may be made to any pastor or to the director of the office of child and youth protection, 815-221-6116. Contact DCFS at 1-800-25-ABUSE.

We at St. Joseph Parish, along with the Diocese of Joliet, affirm that we are **Keeping Our Promise to Protect**. Additional information can be found at the Diocese of Joliet website, www.diojoliet.org, under the Child Protection tab.

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE A PERSONALIZED HOLIDAY GIFT

St. Joseph Prayer Garden

The Prayer Garden was built in memory of past and present parishioners, friends, and supporters of our Church. The garden is open daily during rectory hours as well as during the weekend Mass times. It is a center of quiet meditation, prayer, and peace.

Brick Orders placed by January 30th will be installed in Spring 2026.

Order forms are available at all entrances, website, or in the rectory. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call the rectory at 815-727-9378.

Parking Announcement

When parking along the north side of Church on Clay Street, please do not pull forward onto the sidewalk. Many parishioners use the sidewalk to enter through the front doors of Church. It is difficult to use the sidewalk when cars pull up too far. Please be courteous and allow room for the sidewalk to remain clear. Thank you.



Living out Christmas in the New Year

- How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments?
- Each year, the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.
- Her open heart and courageous "yes" to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.
- One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow Our Lady's example is to join 9 Days for Life, a novena for the protection of human life, taking place January 16 - January 24. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life.
- Join today at 9daysforlife.com!

~ USCCB

ProLife January

January is a month dedicated to pro-life events across the United States, with significant gatherings and activities aimed at raising awareness and advocating for the protection of human life. Here are some key pro-life events scheduled for January 2026:

- March for Life: the 53rd annual March for Life will take place on January 23rd, in Washington, D.C., celebrating the lives of the unborn children and supporting their mothers.
- Nathion Prayer Vigil for Life: This vigil will be held on January 22-23, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., with various prayer events through the day.

"Dear St. Joseph, help us to imitate your faithful trust and courage." ~ USCCB Image Gallery

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 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



Holy Innocents Day, also known as the Feast of the Holy Innocents, is commemorated on December 28 every year. On this day, the Catholic Church honors the first martyrs. These were the children of Israel killed by King Herod in his quest to find baby Jesus. This day is also known as Childermas. According to the Bible, Herod was afraid of the prophesied King of Jews and was angry that he hadn't heard from the Magi who had come to him initially seeking a newborn king. Furious that Jesus had escaped, Herod ordered the killing of all baby boys under the age of two in Bethlehem and the surrounding areas, hoping to kill Jesus.



Pro-Life Mass

Thursday, January 22, 2026 6:00 PM Pro-Life Chaplet at 5:45 PM at St. Joseph Church, Joliet

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 27— Vigil, Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

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

Sunday, December 28— The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Masses, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM OCIA, No classes, Christmas Break

Monday, December 29— Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM Adoration Chapel, Closed

Tuesday, December 30— Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM Adoration Chapel, Closed No Religious Education Classes, Christmas Break A Celebration of Three Kings, 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 31— Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM New Year's Eve Mass, 4:00 PM Adoration Chapel, Closed Rectory, Closed

Thursday, January 1— The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Day Mass, 8:30 AM Adoration Chapel, Closed Rectory, Closed

Friday, January 2— Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

Daily Mass, 8:30 AM Adoration Chapel, Closed Rectory, Closed

Saturday, January 3— Vigil, Christmas Weekday, The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Litany, & Rosary, 3—3:45 PM Confessions, 3:00-3:30 PM Mass, 4:00 PM 2nd Collection is for Maintenance & Repair

Sunday, January 4—The Epiphany of the Lord Masses, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM OCIA, Ferdinand Hall, following 10:30 AM Mass 2nd Collection is for Maintenance & Repair

The Second Collection next weekend, January 3 & 4 is for Maintenance & Repair.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

12/28/25 Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17/ Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

12/29/25 1 Jn 2:3-11/ Lk 2:22-35

12/30/25 1 Jn 2:12-17/ Lk 2:36-40

12/31/25 1 Jn 2:18-21/ Jn 1:1-18

01/01/26 Gal 4:4-7/ Lk 2:16-21

01./02/26 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28

01/03/26 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/ Jn 1:29-34



JOIN US AS WE PRAY
THE ROSARY
Sunday, January 11th
after 10:30 AM Mass
St. Joseph Church
Presented by the Pro-Life Committee

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Our Sick

Fr. Joe Atcher, O. Carm., Joe Babich, Anthony Bendy, Jen Bendy, Judy Bolte, Patrick Briscoe, 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, Kendall Jackson, Jake Jakovich Ir., Bob Keca, Joan Kernc, Patricia Koefoed, Gail Kolenc, Michael Kuhel, Richard Lenzen, Ann Marie Linko, Mary Loucks, Todd Lukas, 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, 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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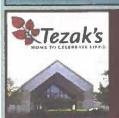
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815-722-4652



BURRITOS Y MUCHO MAS.

Lunes a jueves: 8 a.m. a 1 a.m. Viernes y sábado: 7 a.m. a 3 a.m. Domingo: 7 a.m. a 1 a.m.



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