

January 21, 2024

ST. PAUL the APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

511 N. Conrad Street
Peotone, IL 60468-9290

CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE: 708 258-6917

CHURCH OFFICE FAX: 708 258-3061

CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL: StPaulOffice@att.net

PASTOR: Rev. Roger D. Kutzner
708 989-0565

DEACON: Mr. James Kelly
708 373-0311

DEACON E-MAIL: jimk3163@sbcglobal.net

PARISH BUSINESS MANAGER: Paula Prium

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON:

CCW PRESIDENT: Maura Culver

GRAND KNIGHT of K of C: Patrick Frencl

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Steve Maltese

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON:

WORSHIP COMMISSION: Paula Prium

CHRISTIAN FORMATION / EDUCATION COMMISSION:

SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR: Mary Ann Battermann

MINISTERS OF CARE: Barb Egelski

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Dcn Jim Kelly

RE OFFICE E-MAIL: StPaulRE@att.net

RE OFFICE PHONE: 708 258-9580

FAITH FORMATION (RELIGIOUS ED) CLASSES:

Grades K through 8: Sunday from 8:45am-10:15am

Find us—

Facebook: "St. Paul the Apostle Peotone"

Website: StPaulPeotone.org

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: By appointment
RECONCILIATION: Thursday: 7:30pm to 8pm
Saturday: 3pm to 3:45pm
Any time by appointment

FIRST RECONCILIATION: Sunday, March 17, 2024

FIRST COMMUNION: Sunday, April 28, 2024

CONFIRMATION: Saturday, May 11, 2024

MARRIAGE: By appointment only
Please call at least 6 months in advance

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Call anytime

Please call the parish office to inform us of an illness or hospitalization of a parishioner or family member. Privacy laws prohibit hospitals from releasing information to clergy about hospitalized church members without the specific consent and request of the patient or their immediate family.

ORDINARY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4pm

Sunday: 10:30am

Daily Mass: Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri 7:15am

Communion Service: Tuesday 7:15am

Holy Days of Obligation: Please see the bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 6pm to 8pm

Communion Calls: If you or someone you love is ill or homebound and would like to receive Communion, please call the parish office to make arrangements for regular visits.

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 12:30pm to 5pm
Regular time to make appointments, registrations, etc.

Regular bulletin deadline: Wednesday by 12pm

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: If you wish to receive a statement of your 2023 contributions, please complete a form found in the lobby or contact the parish office by phone (708 258-6917) or email (stpauloffice@att.net).



The Mission Statement of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
As disciples of Jesus Christ, we strive to grow in relationship with Him,
live the Faith, and share His Good News with others.

COLLECTION SUMMARY: January 13—14, 2024

Sunday Offertory*	\$2,207.00
Budgeted	\$3,365.38
Minus	\$1,158.38
Envelopes used / distributed	51 / 528
<i>*Includes 6 Online Givers</i>	
First Offering	\$ 107.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 52.00



Secure and convenient
ONLINE GIVING is available at

GiveCentral.org

Please put in zip code 60468 to find the St. Paul portal.

Are you a Catholic man 18 or older? Do you want to volunteer for your church and community? Are you ready to put your Faith into Action? Come learn about the Knights of Columbus! You can obtain information by contacting Membership Coordinator Dan Mott at 708 277-7086 or mottdd@rushenterprises.com; contacting Grand Knight Patrick Frencl, visiting with any current member of the Knights or visiting our website at www.kofc.org.

**JANUARY 2024 RAFFLE WINNERS**

\$150.00	#583	Keith Phelar
\$100.00	#104	Council 745
\$ 50.00	#261	Tess Zych
\$ 50.00	#305	Robert and Sue Janeck
\$ 25.00	#507	Craig Newmes
\$ 25.00	#17	Timothy Claxton

To those of you that have made donations in 2023 to **Helping Hands Food Pantry**, Thank You! We have reached 350 pounds of food and \$70 donated. With Lent approaching, the needs of others haven't diminished.

Your generosity is needed to reach our goal of 1000 pounds and \$500 between now and the end of the Easter season. Boxes for food and envelopes for monetary donations are in each entryway. Cash donations earn \$8 of value for each dollar donated.



Tom Skill, Scott Rosenberg, Betty Knickrehm, Arline Clark, Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiaco, Julie Szudarski, Joe Ladislav, Owen Ruhbeck, Sharon Andrews, Sue Gomez, Joan Olsen, CJ Ogalla-Areballo, Aris Tomac, Joe Rojas, Terry & Mary Urbanek, June O'Flynn, Bob Johnson, Pete Henrisey, Claudia Merrifield, Harry & Pam Carpenter, Ray Romito, Francesca Librera Biondo, Mike Wilczynski, Fran Rewers, Harry & Geri Mokry, Carole Reichert, Pastor Richard Young, Joseph Terri, John Fahs, Jeanne Vinezeano, Frances Librera, Mary Ann Librera, the Adamsick Family, Cassidy Novak, Lavergne Sigrist, Charlie Kooy, Rita Hall, Rose Bailey, Julie Hayes, Emily Klamkin, Lorianne Mihelic, Irene Manning, the Robert Polacek family, Rich Harms, TJ Stefanski, Linda Galica, all affected by COVID-19 and those that go unnamed.

Please note that only names given with permission of the person or family member will be added to the list.



Next week we will take up the **Collection for the Church in Latin America**.

For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of

ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.

To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit

www.usccb.org/latin-america



Mass Intentions

Sat	1/20	3:00 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u> 4:00 pm— + <u>Arnold Henning</u> req by Marsha Henning
Sun	1/21	10:30 am— <u>Health Intentions of Scott Rosenberg</u> and <u>People of the Parish</u> <u>Day of Prayer for the Legal</u> <u>Protection of Unborn Children</u>
Mon	1/22	7:15 am— <u>Communion Service</u>
Tue	1/23	7:15 am— + <u>Bernard Powers</u> req by Arnie & Julie Szudarski
Wed	1/24	7:15 am— + <u>Irvin Weiss</u> req by the James Kelly Family
Thr	1/25	7:15 am— + <u>ADORATION</u> 7:30 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	1/26	7:15 am— + <u>Bernard Powers</u> <i>(rescheduled from 1/15/24)</i> req by Steve & Linda Kottmeyer
Sat	1/27	3:00 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u> 4:00 pm— + <u>Bernard Powers</u> req by Claude & Etta Werner and <u>People of the Parish</u>
Sun	1/28	10:30 am— + <u>Alice Marie Kotel</u> req by the James Kelly Family

If you are attending a Mass that you requested an intention to be said for, please sign the gift bearer book in the rear of the church and let an usher know you are here if you wish to bring up the gifts.

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for JANUARY 2024: For persons with disabilities:



We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Would you like to remember your living or deceased loved ones at one of our Masses? Perhaps for the anniversary of their death, to celebrate their birthday, wedding anniversaries or for their health. We have Mass cards, on request. For more information, please call the office at 708 258-6917.

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The Conversion of St. Paul

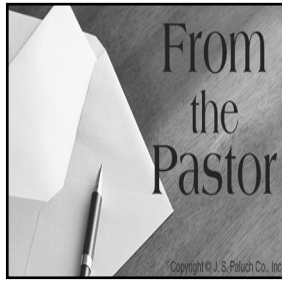
January 25—
Paul is converted and becomes the apostle sent to proclaim to all the nations the saving gospel.

The Coldest Night of the Year is a winterrific family-friendly walk to support local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness. Join us **February 24 at 5PM** in downtown Joliet as we raise funds for Catholic Charities' Daybreak Center.

Daybreak Center provides programs and services to those who are experiencing poverty. The facility includes an emergency homeless shelter, a daily soup kitchen, and many supportive services to help individuals and families who are working toward self-sufficiency. To learn more, visit: <https://cnoy.com/location/joliet> or call 815-724-1140. It's FREE to participate, so team up, fundraise, walk, and take a moment to look closer... because it's cold out there.



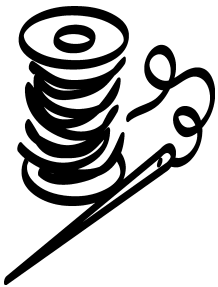
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.



Many Christian theologians divide our history into three ages. The first age was the era of creation. During this period, mankind lived in the fullness of communion with God. It was when Adam and Eve lived in paradise and in unspoiled friendship with God. This ended with original sin and the subsequent fall from grace: evil entered the world. Then the second age began, the age of the Promise. God promised Adam and Eve that he would send a Savior to free the human family from domination by the devil. In this second age God gradually prepared the world, through the education of his chosen people, Israel, for the arrival of Jesus Christ, His only-begotten Son. With him, the third age began, the "time of fulfillment," fulfillment of the promise of salvation. In this age, the Christian age, God actually entered into time and space in order to rescue it from sin and destruction. He did so at first through the Incarnation, and he continues to do so through the activity of the Church, which is gradually expanding into every corner of the globe. At the end of this third age, Christ will come again, ushering in the fourth and final age, the age of glory, when evil, death, and sorrow will be banished from his Kingdom forever. Can we all see things from the perspective of these four stages of history? Because if we do, it will fill us with wisdom, interior peace, and a sense of purpose, because things make sense.

There is no doubt that when Jesus Christ came onto the scene it was a turning point in the history of the world. God is guiding our history towards the age of glory, and he doesn't want us to be left in the dust of sin and selfishness. Nor does he want us to stand around as idle spectators. He wants to give us the thrill and honor of helping him conquer the forces of evil and redeem the world - that's what we, Christians, do. Let's echo in our hearts throughout this week the simple and beautiful prayer of a psalmist: "Teach me your ways, O Lord,"

+ Rev. Roger D. Kutzner

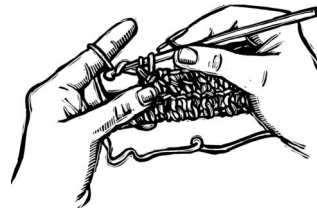


The *Clothe God's Children Group* would like to invite everyone to a workshop **this Wednesday, January 24** from 10am–Noon, no skills required!

We'll be measuring and cutting fabric for walker bags, shoulder wraps, clothing protectors and blankets for both men and women in Vitas Hospice. Bring scissors if you have them.

Lunch will be provided. Patterns will be given to anyone wanting to knit or crochet at home.

Please contact Laure Sander (708 258-9779 or 708 638-9779) with questions.



COUNCIL of CATHOLIC WOMEN NEWS

To start the Lenten season, a **PARISH POTLUCK** will be held on **Sunday, February 11** following 10:30am Mass. The CCW will provide baked and fried chicken, rolls and salads. All will be asked to bring a dish to share. **Sign-up sheets are in the lobby.**

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

February 7-14, 2024:

We will be celebrating all married couples during ***Love Beyond Words National Marriage Week*** from February 3/4 to February 11/12. Because love never ends, **CCW is asking all married couples and those that have lost their beloved husband or wife to bring a framed wedding day photo.** Please put your names and the day of your wedding on the back of the frame. Bring your frame and place it on the marriage display in the church foyer the weekend of February 3/4 when you come to Mass. There will also be valentines available for you to include with your frame.



The 2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun!

As the Diocese of Joliet launches the 2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we are humbly asking all parishioners to pledge their support for this important effort, as together we can make a profound difference.

This year's CMAA theme is *For the Glory of God*. Through our support, we ensure that the mission and ministries of Christ's Church are available to everyone. Together, we can help provide safe shelter for the homeless, feed the physical and social needs of those who are hungry, inspire those discerning a life of vocation, and aid in the education of our next generation of Catholics. Our parish could not accomplish all of this on its own, but together through the appeal we can do so much more.

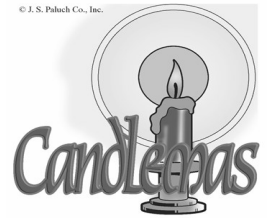
Our parish's goal for the 2024 CMAA is \$16,100, and 70% of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us and used fruitfully within our own parish. Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet this month and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal.

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

CANDLEMAS is a Christian holiday celebrated annually on February 2. It celebrates three occasions according to Christian belief:

- the presentation of the child Jesus;
- Jesus' first entry into the temple;
- the Virgin Mary's purification

The weekend of **February 3—4** you are invited to bring candles to be blessed for personal and family use. Examples of when blessed candles can be used at home—during prayer or spiritual reading, during severe weather, when undergoing a trial or hardship and Divine guidance is wished, during a Communion call or when death is near.



The ***Sacrament of Reconciliation*** is offered on Saturday from 3—3:45pm, on Thursday from 7:30—8pm **or** by other arrangements with Father. Please call the parish office at 708 258-6917 or e-mail **StPaulOffice@att.net**.

The EUCHARISTIC MINISTER / LECTOR schedule up to February 24-25 is in the rear of the church. Please sign-up where you can!



COME ONE, COME ALL!

If you enjoy crocheting, needlepoint, knitting, cross-stitch, sewing, or any other DIY-like crafting, then you will want to join us for a pop-up sale.

St. Liborius will have a pop-up sale on this Saturday, January 27, from 11am—2pm in our Parish Hall, 3440 Halsted Blvd (Steger). (Weather permitting.) All items will be sold for a free will donation. All proceeds will benefit St. Liborius Church

We have an abundance of yarn, supplies, and kits for creating beautiful pieces. All items are still in their original packaging. Items that are normally very pricey. Truly a crafter's delight!! Come get a project to beat those Winter doldrums. So save the date and mark your calendars now!

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children



Monday, January 22, 2024

Other than priests and deacons, no one else is closer to the sacrifice of Christ on the altar than those ministering as **ALTAR SERVERS**.

Serving at Mass is a unique ministry that requires dedication, discipline, and devotion. Not only does a server assist the priest and deacon in the celebration of the Mass, but they themselves encounter Christ in His sacrifice in a particular way. Devoted altar servers play an important role for the entire St. Paul faith community, and through their service can help draw others to the Lord. Altar servers, in a very real and visible way, are an extension of the clergy at Mass. In general, our servers should be just that, servants. They model Christ's words, "*I came not to be served, but to serve.*"

TRAINING FOR NEW ALTAR SERVERS will be held this **Saturday, January 27 at 9am.**

Anyone who has received the Sacrament of First Communion is invited to attend.

We also invite interested **ADULTS** to attend.

Questions—please contact Deacon Jim after Mass or at 708 258-9580 for more information.

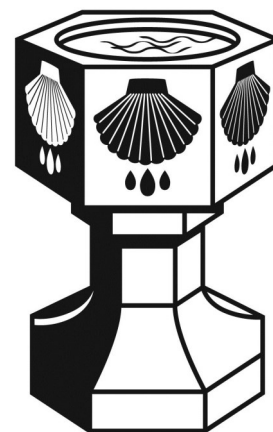
CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Respect for Life Prayer

O God, our eyes behold the beauty of your creation, and our ears catch the sounds of your power. We hold our lives sacred because they are your gift. Bring us to greater awareness of the sanctity of human life and to sorrow for the times we have ignored or offended it. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Our next **BAPTISMAL CLASS** is scheduled for **Thursday, February 15 at 6pm.** Parents and godparents are required to attend a class before making arrangements for the baptism of their child. If parents and godparents have attended a baptismal class within the last two years, there is no need to attend again. We encourage you to attend the class during your pregnancy so there will be no delay in your child's baptism. If you plan to attend, please call the parish office.



2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

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Bishop Hicks' Column

January 2024

BENEFITS OF A PAPER CALENDAR IN THE DIGITAL AGE



IN AN ERA DOMINATED BY SMARTPHONES AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY, the traditional paper calendar may seem like an antiquated relic from a bygone era. In 2011, I officially switched from my five-year calendar/planner, which sat with heavy prominence on my desk, to a digital

calendar that automatically syncs with my phone. Admittedly, the digital calendar is much more convenient and efficient, and once I made the move, I had no regrets. Yet, I still miss some of the nuances of using a paper calendar.

One thing I miss about writing an event down is the ability to impress my friends or family by telling them that I'm going to write down our appointment "in ink" — a nod to the importance and value of our upcoming gathering. I also miss the act of flipping through the pages of a physical calendar, as it evokes so many memories and emotions. Esthetically, a paper calendar — especially those that hang on the wall — also provides a wide array of styles to display, like artwork, in our homes and offices.

I am delighted that the Diocese of Joliet has partnered with Catholic Extension to publish a 2024 Anniversary Calendar for our 75th Jubilee. Catholic Extension, since 1905, has been effectively building up and strengthening Catholic faith communities in the United States, especially those in economically disadvantaged or geographically isolated areas.

As we mark our 75th anniversary, this calendar beautifully expresses a narrative woven together as a tapestry of a vibrant Catholic Community. It superbly highlights key milestones with historical photographs and anecdotes that chronicle our extraordinary history and evolution. Each month unfolds with an invitation to revisit moments of significance: from the establishment of the diocese to the growth of parishes to the contributions of the clergy, religious, and laity.

This calendar also bridges different generations. It connects those who have witnessed the diocese's transformative journey with the younger Catholics who may be fascinated to learn about their roots. At the same time, it encapsulates the collective memory of our diocese, fostering a sense of community and shared heritage. Graphically, the calendar allows us to see that the diocese is much larger than only our own parish experience.

Moreover, the calendar serves as a practical guide offering information on liturgical seasons, feast days, and holy days, along with reminding us about special liturgies, ordinations, and events. It also gives us the opportunity to remember former bishops and sets aside a specific date to pray for each of our parishes. By seamlessly integrating the sacred and the secular, our calendar becomes a daily and monthly companion, enhancing our connection to our faith, heritage, and the sense of belonging to God and each other.

Our calendar further highlights the contributions of individuals, movements, and organizations that have shaped and continue to shape our diocese. Through profiles, stories, and brief history lessons, it celebrates all those heroes, both popular and unsung, whose dedication, faith, and service embody the spirit of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Joliet.

The calendar's inclusion of key events, Masses, service opportunities, and milestones for the upcoming year not only keeps us informed but also invites active participation. It hopefully will inspire and motivate us to come together and contribute our time, talents, and gifts to ensure that our diocese remains strong and alive for generations to come.

These calendars are so beautiful and informative, serving as a keepsake for years to come. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the businesses, companies, and service providers who sponsored the 2024 Anniversary Calendar at their local parishes.

If you were not able to procure a calendar for yourself, please scan the QR code or go to this link to view it electronically: bit.ly/3tE94m0



Like so many of you, I will continue to use my digital calendar that syncs with my computer and smartphone. However, I also will proudly consult daily our paper calendar as a companion to navigating the folds of time in the digital age. By honoring the past, embracing the present, and hoping for the future, may we continue to pray for each other.

Happy New Year! And with every passing day and each monthly move to the next calendar page, may God bless you and yours.

Due to problems with our calendar order from Catholic Extension, we did not receive the Diocese 75th Anniversary calendar. A few copies were sent and they can be viewed in the sacristy, Red Room, Parish Office and RE Office.

Columna del Obispo Hicks

Enero de 2024

VENTAJAS DE LOS CALENDARIOS DE PAPEL EN LA ERA DIGITAL



EN UNA ERA DOMINADA POR LOS TELÉFONOS INTELIGENTES Y LA TECNOLOGÍA DIGITAL, el tradicional calendario de papel puede parecer una reliquia anticuada de una época pasada. En 2011, cambié oficialmente mi calendario/planificador quinquenal, que ocupaba un lugar destacado en mi escritorio, por un calendario digital que

se sincroniza automáticamente con mi teléfono. Hay que reconocer que la agenda digital es mucho más cómoda y eficaz, y una vez que hice el cambio, no me arrepentí. Sin embargo, sigo echando de menos algunos de los matices de utilizar un calendario en papel.

Algo que echo de menos de anotar un acontecimiento es la posibilidad de impresionar a mis amigos o familiares diciéndoles que voy a escribir nuestra cita “con tinta”, un guiño a la importancia y el valor de nuestro próximo encuentro. También echo de menos el acto de hojear las páginas de un calendario físico, ya que evoca tantos recuerdos y emociones. Estéticamente, un calendario en papel —especialmente los que se cuelgan en la pared— también ofrece una amplia variedad de estilos para exponer, como obras de arte, en nuestros hogares y oficinas.

Estoy encantado de que la Diócesis de Joliet se haya asociado con Catholic Extension para publicar un Calendario del Aniversario 2024 para nuestro 75.º Jubileo. Desde 1905, Catholic Extension forma y fortalece eficazmente comunidades religiosas católicas en Estados Unidos, especialmente en zonas económicamente desfavorecidas o geográficamente aisladas.

Con motivo de nuestro aniversario número 75, este calendario expresa en forma maravillosa una narración tejida como un tapiz de una vibrante comunidad católica. Destaca de manera magnífica los principales hitos con fotografías históricas y anécdotas que relatan nuestra extraordinaria historia y evolución. Cada mes se desarrolla con una invitación a revisar momentos significativos: desde la fundación de la diócesis hasta el desarrollo de las parroquias, pasando por las contribuciones de los clérigos, los religiosos y los laicos.

Este calendario también tiende puentes entre distintas generaciones. Pone en contacto a quienes han sido testigos del camino transformador de la diócesis con los católicos más

jóvenes, a quienes puede fascinar conocer sus raíces. Al mismo tiempo, encierra la memoria colectiva de nuestra diócesis, promoviendo un espíritu de comunidad y tradición compartida. En materia gráfica, el calendario nos permite ver que la diócesis es mucho más grande que solo nuestra propia experiencia parroquial.

Además, el calendario es una guía práctica que ofrece información sobre los tiempos litúrgicos, las festividades y los días de observancia religiosa, y nos recuerda liturgias, ordenaciones y acontecimientos especiales. También nos brinda la oportunidad de recordar a antiguos obispos y reserva una fecha concreta para rezar por cada una de nuestras parroquias. Al integrar completamente lo sagrado y lo secular, nuestro calendario se vuelve una compañía diaria y mensual que refuerza nuestra conexión con nuestra fe, tradición y sentido de pertenencia a Dios y a los demás.

Nuestro calendario destaca además las contribuciones de personas, movimientos y organizaciones que han dado y siguen dando forma a nuestra diócesis. A través de perfiles, relatos y breves lecciones de historia, celebra a todos aquellos héroes, tanto populares como anónimos, cuya dedicación, fe y servicio encarnan el espíritu de la Iglesia Católica en la Diócesis de Joliet.

La inclusión en el calendario de acontecimientos importantes, Misas, oportunidades de servicio e hitos para el próximo año no solo nos mantiene informados, sino que también invita a la participación activa. Es de esperar que el calendario nos inspire y motive para unirnos y contribuir con nuestro tiempo, talento y dones a garantizar que nuestra diócesis siga siendo fuerte y se mantenga activa para las generaciones futuras.

Estos calendarios son tan bonitos e informativos que servirán de recuerdo durante muchos años. Quiero expresar mi más sincero agradecimiento a todas las tiendas, las empresas y los prestadores de servicios que patrocinaron el Calendario del Aniversario 2024 en sus parroquias locales. Si no ha podido conseguir un calendario para usted, escanee el código QR o acceda al siguiente enlace para verlo por Internet: bit.ly/3tE94m0



Como muchos de ustedes, seguiré utilizando mi agenda digital que se sincroniza con mi computadora y mi teléfono inteligente. Sin embargo, también consultaré con orgullo y a diario nuestro calendario en papel como compañero para navegar por los pliegues del tiempo en la era digital. Honrando el pasado, abrazando el presente y esperando el futuro, sigamos rezando unos por otros.

¡Feliz año nuevo! Y con cada día que transcurre y cada paso de un mes a la siguiente página del calendario, que Dios te bendiga a ti y a los tuyos.

Diócesis de Joliet

