St. Joseph Church

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 27, 2020

Which of the two sons
did his father's will?

— *Matthew 21:31*

Directory

St. Joseph Parish Business Center
4824 Highland
630.964.0216 • 630.964.0867 fax

Religious Education: 630.964.0216 x1106
Youth Ministry: 630.964.0216 x1210
St. Joseph School: 630.969.4306

www.stjosephdg.org

Weekend Masses: Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Weekday Masses:
7:00 am (Monday-Friday)
Weekday Holy Days: Call for schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation: (Confession)
Saturday: 3:00—4:00 pm

Registration: We are happy to welcome new members to our community. Please contact Deacon Frank Kozar at 630.964.0216 x1107.

Pastor:
Rev. Al Heidecke • fr.alheidecke@att.net

Weekend Assistant: Fr. James Radek

Deacons:
Frank Kozar, Greg Ouska, Robert (Pat) Sullivan & Carl Schumacher

Parish Service Coordinator:
Frank Kozar • fkozar@sjpdg.org

Music Director/Liturgist:
Robert Valle • bvalle@sjpdg.org

Liturgy Assistant:
Julie Visher • jvisher@sjpdg.org

Director of Religious Education:
Jacqueline Lackaff • jlackaff@sjpdg.org

Religious Education Assistant:
Mark Lackaff • mlackaff@sjpdg.org

Youth Apostolate Director:
Marta Spiezio • mspiezio@sjpdg.org

Youth Apostolate Program Assistant:
Toni Rapach • trapach@sjpdg.org

Business Manager:
Beth Harbauer • bharbauer@sjpdg.org

Parish Administrative Assistant:
Gail Granby • ggranby@sjpdg.org

School Principal:
Rita Stasi • rstasi@sjsdg.org

Assistant Principal:
Mary Ann Feeney • mfeeney@sjsdg.org

School Secretary:
Julie Wojciechowski • jwojciechowski@sjsdg.org

Spiezio & Affiliates Counseling Service:
Joanna Avignone • Joanna.avignone@gmail.com

Facilities Manager:
Dave Ortman • maintenance@sjsdg.org

St. Joseph Catholic Church • 4801 Main Street, Downers Grove

God's Call to Us

(The St. Joseph Parish Mission Statement)

St. Joseph Parish is a community chosen and called by God to be sent and directed by the Holy Spirit.

It exists to provide the People of God the pastoral care and spiritual nourishment they need to proclaim the good news of Christ in their lives and to the world.

Our Response to God's Call

(The St. Joseph Parish Vision Statement)

St. Joseph Parish is a community of God's People empowered by the Holy Spirit to promote God's reign in the world. Nourished by Word and Sacrament, we will grow together in faith, hope, and in a passionate love of God and neighbor. In our families, we will teach and learn the love of Jesus Christ. In our various occupations we will make decisions and set priorities in accordance with the values of the Gospel. And in the world around us we will stand always for justice, compassion and peace.

Sacraments

Baptisms: We celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism every Sunday. Parents are required to attend a Baptismal formation meeting. Baptisms are scheduled at this meeting. Please call the Parish Center for reservations and further information.

Marriages: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance to provide ample time for preparation of this sacrament. Please call the Parish Center for more information.

Sick or Homebound: If you or a member of your family is hospitalized or homebound and would like a priest to visit, please notify the Parish Center.

Parish Boundaries: North: Tollway; South: 59th St. East: Prospect Avenue and extensions north and south; West: Belmont Avenue

To Register Your Child at St. Joseph School

Email register@sjsdg.org and you will receive instructions how to register a new student or returning student online. Registrations accepted anytime throughout the school year. For school tours, please call the school office.

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from the Pastor

ANGELS AND SAINTS: GOD'S MESSENGERS AND OUR COMPANIONS ON THIS JOURNEY

Throughout the liturgical year, from the first Sunday of Advent to the 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time, better known as the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King, the calendar is filled with the feasts of Saints, many of them martyrs, as well as angels and archangels. This week is particularly rich in such liturgical recognition of the triumph of God's ways over our own ways.

In this 26th Week in Ordinary Time, we celebrate saints as well as some angels between Sunday and Friday. Many of you will recall singing about "good King Wenceslaus" who "went out on the Feast of Stephen" (December 26) during the Christmas season. King Wenceslaus was indeed good. Did you know he is also a martyr? St. Wenceslaus' feast is on September 28. On Tuesday we honor the Archangels, three of whom are named in Sacred Scripture. Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are three biblical messengers signifying God's transcendence and loving care: Michael (whose name means "Who is like God?"), Gabriel ("God's Strength") and Raphael (meaning "God's Remedy"); St. Michael is the patron of security forces and of the sick; St. Gabriel of telecommunications and the postal service; St. Raphael is patron of travelers and the blind.

On Wednesday, the Church honors and prays to St. Jerome who died in the year 420 at Bethlehem. He was a devoted monk and ascetic. He is best remembered for having authored the definitive translation of the Bible into Latin. St. Jerome is one of the four great doctors of Latin (i.e. Western) Church. He is the patron of scripture scholars who reminded all believers that "ignoratio Scripturarum ignoratio Christi est" (Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ).

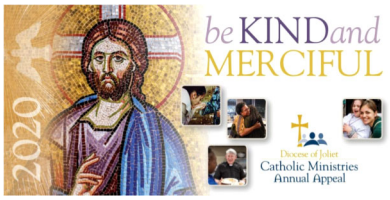
On the 1st of October we celebrate and are thus reminded to imitate the beloved St. Therese of the Child Jesus in her example of "the Little Way" to love God in all circumstances. In 1888, at age 15, Therese entered the Carmelite order of contemplative nuns at Lisieux in France. Perfecting her love for God by prayer, penance and many other acts of love for others near and far, she died in 1897 of tuberculosis at age 24. A short amount of time from our perspective, but a time of tremendous growth in love of God which she shared in her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, written down under obedience to her superiors in the convent. This worldwide spiritual classic continues to inspire thousands to live her little way of selfless love. In the centenary year of her death, St. Therese of the Child Jesus was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope John Paul II, on October 19, 1997.

On Friday, October 2, we honor The Guardian Angels. This is truly a feast for everyone, because, as the Church teaches, we each have the protection of our own Guardian Angel. They are not in any way, however, to be thought of as a kind of "good luck charm", who will prevent our being confronted with the consequences of our own sins. They're sent to support us in doing God's will and thus protect us from dangers both moral and physical.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our defense 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, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Albert



2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

A big thank you to our parishioners who have already pledged their support to the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal. Please continue to fulfill your pledges, as we are counting on your commitment.

Parish Goal	$ 117,300.00
Amount Pledged	$ 102,821.00
Amount Paid	$ 95,331.00
Remaining Balance	$ 7,490.00
Donor Count	369

Your support will help provide to so many through the 30 ministries our annual appeal benefits.

St Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is located in the lower level of St. Joseph Parish Center. The food pantry is open every Thursday from 8:15 –10:30 am for residents of Downers Grove, Westmont and parts of Woodridge.

The food pantry needs the following items:

Chicken and beef broth, chicken noodle and chicken rice soup, canned salmon, stewed and diced tomatoes, black or red bagged beans, ketchup, pancake mix, candy, toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, and dish soap.

Donations can be dropped off at the church on Sunday or at the Parish Center, Monday-Thursday, from 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

Thank you for your support and generosity!

www.vocations.com

The Joliet Diocese Vocation Office web pages are a confidential way to learn more about priesthood and religious life vocations.

Information is also available by calling Deacon Frank Kozar at 630.964.0216 x1107.

Guardians for Valuable Souls

So valuable to heaven is the dignity of the human soul that every member of the human race has a guardian angel from the moment the person begins to be.

- St. Jerome

A Call to Stewardship
Fiscal Year Stewardship Information
Sunday, September 20

Year-to-Date Goal	$304,800.00
Actual Year-to-Date Gifts	$232,085.10
Amount Short of Needed Goal	$ 72,714.90
Weekly Sunday Goal	$ 25,400.00
Sunday Contributions	$ 11,744.00
Electronic Contributions	$ 14,554.00
Gifts from September 20	$ 26,298.00

Thanks for Giving First Fruits and Taking a Step!

A Stewardship Moment

Saint Augustine, a doctor of the church, once wrote that the first, second, and third most important attitude in Christianity is humility. In today's second reading, Saint Paul is concerned with how we conduct ourselves in our community of faith. He urges us to let our conduct be worthy of the Gospel we say that we believe; and that it all begins with humility. He asks us to consider others better than ourselves, and to serve them by looking out for their best interest, not ours. Consider how Saint Paul's appeal to imitating Christ's humility can enhance your relationships.

Your Giving Matters and is Greatly Appreciated!

Over 85% of our operating budget comes from your donations. We need your support.

For many of you, your weekly donations traveled with you as you attended Sunday Mass. We encourage you to either mail in your weekly donation, drop it through the mail slot at the Parish Center front door, or better yet, visit www.stjosephdg.org to sign-up for recurring giving through direct debit or online. I realize we live in difficult times, however, I ask you to continue your generous support of St. Joseph Parish.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation today to support your Church. Always remember—You are the Church. You are the Body of Christ.

With profound gratitude,

Fr. Al

Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you. - Luke 6:38

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 27, 2020

Have in you the same attitude that
is also in Christ Jesus.

— Philippians 2:5

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, September 27
7:00 AM Edward & Victoria Bartkowiak
9:00 AM The Correll Family
11:00 AM Thomas & Alice Corcoran
5:00 PM Sarah Paradise

MONDAY, September 28
7:00 AM Joan Dillon

TUESDAY, September 29
7:00 AM Chester Paluchniak

WEDNESDAY, September 30
7:00 AM Tommy Aguayo (L)

THURSDAY, October 1
7:00 AM Florence Guderley

FRIDAY, October 2
7:00 AM Abigail O'Connor
Lance Nogle (L)

SATURDAY, October 3
5:00 PM Eugene C. Jagielo

SUNDAY, October 4
7:00 AM People of the Parish
9:00 AM Sister Francine Harbauer
11:00 AM Anne & Jack Graham
One Year Wedding Anniversary
5:00 PM Hugh Ryan

Please note: Scheduled Saturday 8:00 am Mass intentions will be fulfilled at the 7:00 am Friday Mass.

You do NOT need to register to attend daily Mass.

Visit www.stjosephdg.org to register for Sunday Masses.

Stewardship

Feel the need to help those who are hurting? Phone Counselors Needed!!

Contact Executive Director Dr. Terry Smith 630-988-7395

www.Catholichotline.org ~ Catholichotline@gmail.com

If you are a Catholic who would like to provide spiritual and emotional support to our callers that need undivided attention, especially during this time of crisis, you can be trained to become one of our phone counselors and work remotely.

The Upper Room Hotline is a ministry in the Catholic Tradition where our phone counselors are acting to extend Jesus' care and compassion through the guidance of the Holy Spirit using active listening, empathy, and prayer when requested.

Our phone counselors receive free training on private Zoom meetings. They cover various areas by credentialed university instructors and clinical professionals that will specifically prepare you to assume responsibilities on the hotline.

Hurry and Sign-up Now! ~Classes begin October 4 thru November 24~ Call 630-988-7395

Feed Your Spirit

America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally

Let Us Pray for God's Mercy

Saturday, October 10 • 12 Noon

Divine Savior Catholic Church
6700 Main Street, Downers Grove

Please bring a chair • Masks are required.

Eucharistic Adoration

Mondays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm
St. Joseph Church

Come spend time with Our Lord. Whether for a few minutes or a Holy Hour, your time of stillness offered is a cherished gift in this busy, noisy world of ours.

Registration will not be required but masks, hand sanitizing and social distancing will be practiced.

Spiritual Act of Communion

My Jesus I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

&

RCIC

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Children)

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW

- coming to Mass but never made the "jump" to join the Catholic Church?
- thinking of becoming Catholic but weren't sure what to do?
- feel God leading you to become Catholic?
- a Baptized Catholic Adult but have not received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and/or Confirmation?
- a Baptized Catholic Child or Young Adult, but have not received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and/or Confirmation? (there will be a separate program for those ages eight through seventeen led by the Director of Youth Ministry - Marta Spiezio).

Then contact Deacon Frank Kozar or Marta Spiezio to "COME AND SEE" what following Christ in the Catholic tradition is all about! St Joseph's RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) & RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children) might just be what you are looking for.

We will discuss what is involved and answer any questions that you may have to determine if this might be the next step in your relationship with Christ. No expectations, just a simple time to explore, ask and discern.

Deacon Frank Kozar: 630.964.0216 x1107 ~ fkozar@sjpdg.org

Marta Spiezio: 630.964.0216 x1210 ~ mspiezio@sjpdg.org

"COME AND SEE"

St. Joseph Church

Contemplative Prayer Group

Meditation in the Christian Tradition

Resuming via ZOOM

Wednesdays, 1:00—2:00 pm

Be still and know that I am God (Psalm 46:10).

The person who practices meditation in the Christian tradition – praying in silence and stillness - seeks to be present and open to God who is always present and open to his beloved. Practicing meditation enables us - with the grace of God - to be present and open to each moment, to others in daily life, and to God's presence in all of life.

Many people practice various forms of meditative prayer such as *Lectio Divina* (Sacred Reading), Centering Prayer, the Jesus Prayer, Christian Meditation, or the Prayer of Recollection of Saint Teresa of Avila. Whatever practice engaged during the prayer period, it is important to remember that any form of meditation or contemplation in the Christian tradition complements our other forms of prayer. It does not replace them.

This ongoing weekly gathering group is intended for adults to pray communally with other adults in silent meditation, and to receive mutual encouragement and support in their own contemplative practice. We meet Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 until 2:00 pm. During the current period, as we live with the pandemic, we will not meet in person, but via ZOOM, a free app for online groups.

Each session begins with a welcome followed by a time of formation (an appropriate reading) to help prepare and guide us to a twenty-minute period of meditation. After the meditation period, a brief time in discussion helps to integrate and reflect on the experience. You may wish to participate each week, or when you are able. Contact Bob Valle at bvalle@sjpdg.org for more information and be placed on an email reminder list. You will receive a Meeting ID number and a passcode to enter the online group.

Bible Basics

The East DuPage Deanery Invites you to...

Join Us Online for an Amazing New Series of Presentations Hosted by Holy Ghost Parish...

Select dates September thru January ~ 7:00—9:00 p.m.

Introduction to the Bible
September 24th, 2020

Everyday Life in Biblical Times
October 22nd, 2020

Introduction to the Old Testament
November 10th & 17th, 2020

Introduction to the New Testament
January 19th & 21st, 2020

Presenter: Dr. Joan Gorski

Director of the Biblical Institute of Joliet

Join us for one or all of these presentations. Dr. Joan Gorski is a biblical scholar and will be our presenter for all of the sessions. Each session will be 7-9pm

Dr. Joan Gorski grew up in Naperville and has made it her life's work introducing others to the many aspects of Scripture, and sharing her knowledge with those interested in obtaining a deeper understanding of the Bible.

Join us at 7:00 pm by watching Dr. Joan's presentation on Holy Ghost's website.

www.holyghostparish.org

Questions? Contact Holy Ghost at 630-860-2975 or email: stutaj@holyghostparish.org

"Because you were there, I changed my mind. I was looking for a sign from God"… and baby David was born!

You can be that sign from God! Join us to pray for moms and their babies during a 40 day prayer vigil. Select the same hour to pray each week or different hours whenever you can. Or if you can't join us on-site during this Fall season, pray from home.

Wednesday, September 23 to Sunday, November 1

7:00 am to 7:00 pm daily

Access Health Center, 1700 W. 75th Street, Downers Grove

Sign-up anytime online at: www.40daysforlife.com/downersgrove

Click on "Log in/Signup" then "Register"

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. - *Proverbs 31:8*

Be a HERO for Life!

St. Joseph Parish will be participating in a special campaign; the Waterleaf Virtual Baby Bottles for Life Team Challenge to benefit, support and educate pregnant women facing crisis or unintended pregnancies. The funds collected through the Bottles for Life campaign support the life-affirming programs and services of the Waterleaf Medical Clinic and their Aspire Education and Resource Center located in Aurora. Participation is as easy as 1…2…3

1. Visit www.onechoiceonelife.org
2. Click on the events tab and the virtual baby bottle link.
3. Find our church/team virtual "baby bottle" and donate in support of Waterleaf. Our team page link is: http://www.fundeasy.com/m/4969357. Our church/team goal is $3,000!

One "bottle" holds $30; two bottles $60; and three bottles $90. How many "bottles" can you fill today?

The Virtual Campaign runs from October 1 through November 15, 2020. Join us today and be a hero for life!

Waterleaf
PREGNANCY | STD | EDUCATION | COUNSELING

Baby Bottles For LIFE

Praying from Sunday to Sunday

Today's Readings

First Reading — When the wicked turn away from their wickedness they have committed and do what is right, they shall surely live (Ezekiel 18:25-28).
Psalm — Remember your mercies, O Lord (Psalm 25).
Second Reading — Consider others as better than yourselves; look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others (Philippians 2:1-11 [1-5]).
Gospel — Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you (Matthew 21:28-32).

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Jb 1:6-22; Ps 17:1bcd-3, 6-7; Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday:	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
Wednesday:	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Ps 88:10bc-15; Lk 9:57-62
Thursday:	Jb 19:21-27; Ps 27:7-9abc, 13-14; Lk 10:1-12
Friday:	Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Ps 139:1-3, 7-10, 13-14ab; Mt 18:1-5
Saturday:	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130; Lk 10:17-24
Sunday:	Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Day for Migrants and Refugees; Priesthood Sunday; Yom Kippur (Jewish day of atonement) begins at sunset
Monday:	St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions; St. Wenceslaus
Tuesday:	Ss. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels
Wednesday:	St. Jerome; Sukkot (Jewish harvest festival) begins at sunset
Thursday:	St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus
Friday:	The Holy Guardian Angels; First Friday
Saturday:	Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

The CONFESSION of evil works is the first beginning of good works.

Saint Augustine

Sacrament of Reconciliation
EVERY Saturday at St. Joseph Church
3:00 –4:00 pm
No registration is necessary
Masks must be worn

Gospel Reading for Sunday, October 4
Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures:
The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes?
Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit."

St. Joseph Parish Community would like to recognize and remember in prayer, ALL ACTIVE DUTY military personnel serving our country here and throughout the world.

Lt. Julia M. Anderson
PO2 Emily C. Behrel
1 Lt Ian Correll
Cpt Thomas Correll
Sailor Steven Derdzinski
Matt Dickey
Lynnea K. Jensen
Austin Kus, US Navy
Sheila Perazal Kus, Air Force
Jack McGuire, US Navy
Maeve McGuire, US Navy
S Sgt Ian A. Nogle
Lt. Bruce Penny
Pvt Brandon Skenandore
Vincent Wrobleski

To include/remove a name, contact Julie Visher at 630.964.0216 ext. 1202 or jvisher@sjpdg.org.

Sick List

John Hurley, Richard Kus, Bob LeMay, Donna Likens, Lance Nogle, Maurine Taylor and Keith Venard

Tree of Light Blessing
(ON-LINE VIDEO)

Sponsored by The Office of Family Ministry
Diocese of Joliet

This special Tree Blessing Ceremony remembers infants lost through miscarriage, stillbirth, other pregnancy losses, and infant or early childhood death.

Sunday, November 1, 2020

In order to help all families through the grieving process, The Office of Family Ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Joliet is offering a **Tree of Light Blessing (Online Video)** to honor all infants available online **Sunday, November 1, 2020 in lieu of an in-person mass this year.**

In the pre-recorded video, each baby will be acknowledged giving each family the opportunity to have their loss acknowledged.

We hope that you can join us!

****

TREE OF LIGHT BLESSING ONLINE

(ON-LINE VIDEO)

Sponsored by the Office of Family Ministry, Diocese of Joliet

Please RSVP by October 5 to receive the online video link

Babies being honored: ____ Baby's name(s)_____

(Please spell out the names with pronunciation)

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ ZIP_____

PHONE _____ PARISH _____

E-MAIL (confirmation) _____

Return information by email, return form by mail or fax, call or register online at: **https://bit.ly/2zWNhtY**

The Office of Family Ministry
16555 Weber Rd.
Crest Hill, IL 60403

Phone: 815-838-5334
Fax: 815-221-6089
Email familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org

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WHY IS IT
A man wakes up after sleeping
under an ADVERTISED blanket
on an ADVERTISED mattress
and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas
bathes in an ADVERTISED shower
shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
brushes his teeth
with ADVERTISED toothpaste
washes with ADVERTISED soap
puts on ADVERTISED clothes
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