



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

DOWNERS GROVE, IL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those
who persecute you." - Mt 5:44

Directory

St. Joseph Parish Business Center

4824 Highland 630.964.0216

Religious Education 630.964.0216 x1106

Youth Ministry 630.964.0216 x1210

St. Joseph School 630.969.4306

www.stjosephdg.org

Weekend Masses: Saturday 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Sunday: 7:00 am 9:00 am 11:00 am and 5:00 pm

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: (Confession)
Saturday: 3:30 - 4:30 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 aheidecke@sjpdg.org

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Michael Groth mgroth@sjpdg.org

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

Parish Service Coordinator

Frank Kozar fkozar@sjpdg.org

Business Manager

Beth Harbauer bharbauer@sjpdg.org

Assistant to the Business Manager

Mary Ann Pattanayak mpatta@sjpdg.org

Director of Religious Education

Jacqueline Lackaff jlackaff@sjpdg.org

Youth Ministry Director

Marta Spiezio mspiezio@sjpdg.org

Youth Ministry & Parish Administrative Assist.

Cindy Jagielo cjagielo@sjpdg.org

Music Director/Liturgist

Robert Valle bvalle@sjpdg.org

Liturgy Assistant

Julie Visher jvisher@sjpdg.org

Parish Council

Michele Geraghty michelegeraghty62@gmail.com

School Principal

Beth Cunningham bcunningham@sjsdg.org

Assistant Principal

Jessica Ranquist jranquist@sjsdg.org

School Secretary

Julie Wojciechowski jwojciechowski@sjsdg.org

Systems Administrator

Mike Mazurkiewicz mmazurkiewicz@sjsdg.org

Facilities Manager

Al Kramerich akramerich@sjpdg.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society

630-964-0216 x1011



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.

For 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

Visit www.stjosephdg.com/admission for registration information. Registration accepted throughout the school year. For school tours, please call the school office at 630-969-4306.

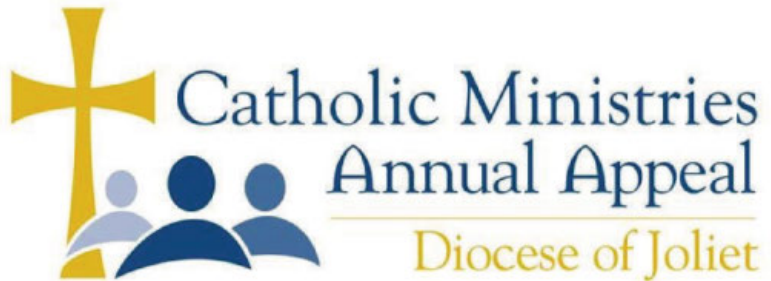
Your Gift to the CMAA Makes a Difference

The opening report for the 2023 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) in today's bulletin reflects how we belong to God because we are part of Christ's Church.

Through the CMAA, we care for the most vulnerable members of our community. We also benefit, as a parish, from the many ministries the CMAA supports, like vocations, Catholic education and faith formation.

Our parish's goal for the 2023 CMAA is \$119,000. The diocese will return 70 percent of any amount we raise over this goal to us. You should have received a packet about the CMAA, including a pledge card, in January.

Please review this information and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's CMAA.



As Catholics, we are called to plan ahead and share the blessings of our lives with our loved ones and future generations. To help you be a steward of everything God has entrusted to your care, the Diocese of Joliet is sharing a free, online will-writing tool. It is cost-free and takes 20 minutes or less to protect your family and your assets, and create a gift to pass the Catholic faith onto future generations. Get started at **FreeWill.com/DiocesefJoliet**



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 19, 2023

"You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."
(Mt 5:43-44)

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, February 19

- 7:00 AM Russell Massaro
- 9:00 AM Richard & Chris Guzior (L)
- 11:00 AM Janina Kuciel and Urszula Niezbecka
- 5:00 PM Fathers Spiritual Bouquet and Maria Fisher

9:00 am Sunday Mass is LIVE -STREAMED. Visit www.stjosephdg.org and click on Livestream.

Monday, February 20

- 7:00 AM Jack Himpler and Jim Himpler

Tuesday, February 21

- 7:00 AM London Lotarski and Michael Wencel Sr.

Wednesday, February 22

- 6:30 AM Barbara A. Bruggemeyer
- 12:00 PM Guy Murphy (L)
- 4:00 PM Prayer Service with Ashes
- 7:00 PM The Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, February 23

- 7:00 AM Jim Stern

Friday, February 24

- 7:00 AM Mary Helen Cox
- 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 25

- 8:00 AM Kevin Paul Chojnacki
- 5:00 PM Virginia Burbidge & John Spokas Jr. & John Spokas Sr.

Sunday, February 26

- 7:00 AM People of the Parish
- 9:00 AM Georgiana Binder Struble
- 11:00 AM Tom & Beth Hicks (L) and Raymond Labuda
- 5:00 PM The Souls in Purgatory

Praying From Sunday to Sunday

Today's Readings

First Reading: "Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD." (Lv 19:18).

Psalm — The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103).

Second Reading — All belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God. (1 Cor 3:22-23).

Gospel — You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Mt 5:43-44)

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48

Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/ Mt 4:1-11

Saints and Special Observances

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Presidents' Day

Tuesday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday

Thursday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Joe Arnold
(Father of Lori
Balsamo)



Please pray for our beloved deceased

Sick List

Mark Dahl, Fran Rheintgen, Kelly Obbish
Brummet, Ed Skibinski, Chris Kapus & Mike
Kapus, Rosemary Fanta, mother of Catherine
Stich

The food pantry continues to
serve the needs of local
families and individuals.

The donations from
St. Joseph's parishioners
continue to keep the pantry
stocked. Thanks for your
generosity during these winter
months. You have helped many needy families!

This month St Joseph's Food Pantry served 45-
50 families each week. Our ministry to Chicago Soup
Kitchens and pantries helped serve countless others.

Most needed items are juice boxes, brown rice,
bagged beans, bar soap, flour, cans of ravioli, cans of
beef stew, packs of nuts, bags of peanuts, small boxes
of raisins. We are always in need of paper bags.

Thank you to all our friends of the pantry.

**Pantry hours are Thursday mornings
from 8 AM to 10:15 AM**

**Thanks from all the members of
the St. Vincent DePaul Society!**



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
P.O. 1 Emily C. Behrel
Cpt. Ian Correll
Sailor Steven Derdzinski
Matt Dickey
Teddy Evans
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 Wroblewski
SPC Abigail Baran, US Army

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

**Let us pray together for the
victims and all suffering
from the earthquakes that
devastated Turkey and Syria.**

Lent - Holy Week - Triduum - Easter Sunday 2023

St. Joseph Church, Downers Grove

Ash Wednesday (February 22)

Masses: 6:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes: 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross (Fridays)

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7 (Good Friday)

7:00 p.m.

Solemnity of Saint Joseph (transferred to March 20)

Masses, 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The Saint Joseph's Table follows the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

No adoration

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Individual Confessions, Saturdays, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Parish Reconciliation Service, Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.

Individual Confessions, Tuesday, April 4, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Lenten Evening Retreats

Thursdays—March 2, 23, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Come one or both nights for prayer, reflections by one of our priests and parishioners, and retreat.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, April 1, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 2, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday (April 6)

7:00 a.m., Morning Prayer

7:30 p.m., Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Time of prayer (vigil-keeping) before the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel following Mass.

10:45 p.m., Night Prayer

Good Friday (April 7)

9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer

3:00 p.m., Celebration of the Lord's Passion

7:00 p.m., Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday (April 8)

9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer

1:00 p.m., Blessing of the Easter Food

8:00 p.m., Easter Vigil

No 5:00 p.m. Mass

Easter Sunday (April 9)

7:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. (Church and Overflow Mass in School Gym)

11:00 a.m. (Church and Overflow Mass in School Gym)

No 5:00 p.m. Mass

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

life is precious -defend it

Spring Campaign
February 22nd - April 2nd



Put your faith in action by joining your fellow parishioners for the Spring 2023 *40 Days for Life* prayer vigil to end abortion.

Please consider committing to a specific hour of prayer at the Access Health abortion clinic in Downers Grove during the hours of 7AM to 7PM from February 22nd to April 2nd, and bring a friend. Another option would be to sign up your church for an entire day or even half a day to pray.

For more information and to sign up, go to www.40daysforlife.com/downersgrove. Access Health Clinic is located at 1700 W. 75th Street, Downers Grove.

PRAY TO END ABORTION

Eucharistic Adoration

Our Lord Invites Us All
to Eucharistic Adoration

St. Joseph Church
Mondays
from 7:00 to 8:30 pm
Tuesdays
from 9:00 am to 12 pm



Stop in the church for a few minutes of Adoration or however much time you wish to spend with Our Lord. He is waiting for you!

"Blessed are they who do not see and yet believe"
John 20:29

From Palm Branches to Ashes

Bring your palm branches from last year to the narthex by Monday, February 20th so that they may be burned in preparation for Ash Wednesday, February 22.

A Call to Stewardship

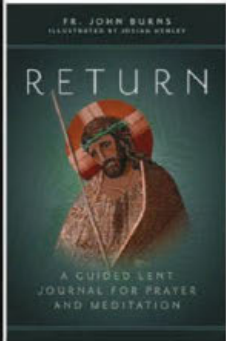
You have not forgotten
"to do good and to share, for with such
sacrifices God is well pleased."

Hebrews 13:16

Weekly Sunday Goal	\$24,930
Sunday February 12 Gifts	\$28,907
Year-to-Date Sunday Goal	\$797,760
Year-to-Date Gifts	<u>\$767,380</u>
Total Short of Goal to Date	\$30,379

RETURN

RETURN: The Book



Ash Wednesday's First Reading from the Prophet Joel proclaims, *Even now, return to me with your whole heart.* In addition to the other Lenten practices and disciplines in which you will enter, join other parishioners reading *Return* by Father John Burns. Reorient your mind and heart this Lent so you can more fully experience the joy of Easter—Christ's victory over sin and death. In this beautiful guided journal for prayer and meditation, Fr. John Burns—author of the bestselling and award-winning book *Adore*—invites you to strip away your confusion, attachments, and sin so you can return to the Lord and undergo real and lasting conversion. Each day of *Return* includes the Collect (the Opening Prayer from each day's Mass from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday), an inspiring meditation, thought-provoking reflection questions, space to write your own reflections and thoughts, and a concluding prayer.

Return features free weekly companion videos available on our website at:
stjosephdg.org/return

Books are available in the Narthex for \$10.

RETURN: The Lenten Evening Retreats



Join us for one or both of two evening retreats in the church based on the book *Return*, though you do not have to read the book in order to come to this event! We will gather for communal prayer and song, reflections offered by Father Michael and other parishioners, and time for silent meditation. *Wish you could get away and rest, but can't?* This is a “mini-retreat” at your Parish Church for refreshment with and connection to the Lord.

Registration not required.

Thursday, March 2 at 7:00 PM

Walk the Talk: Following through on Your Lenten Resolutions

We will reflect and pray that if we've not begun our Lenten practices, or if we've started and slipped, there's still time to begin again and follow through on our resolutions for this holy season: “Behold, now is a very acceptable time!” (2 Corinthians 6:2)

Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 PM

From Casual Spectator to Engaged Believer: Returning to God with Your Whole Heart

Each Sunday, even though we come to Mass, we may realize that we are simply observing and yet failing to fully enter into the Sacred Mystery. We will gather communally to reflect on how we can move from being merely physically in the room as a casual spectator to being fully present as an engaged believer!



This Lent, our Parish will participate in CRS Rice Bowl, a program that invites us to reflect on the challenges of global hunger—and our Gospel call to care for our global human family. The simple cardboard rice bowls are a way to set aside money that you might spend on a meal, coffee, or other food, throughout the entire season of Lent, and share it with the hungry in the world. Use your CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar each day to guide your prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Visit stjosephdg.org/rice-bowl for links to CRS Rice Bowl's Stations of the Cross videos, to read stories of hope, for family Lenten recipes and to donate online.



Rice Bowls are in the Narthex. Please take one for your family.

Rice Bowls will be collected during the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 6th at 7:30pm. You can also return your Rice Bowl to the Parish Center by Thursday, April 6th.



















Diaconate's Corner

It's February. That means at least one aisle of every grocery store is covered in all things red and pink! It's the time of year to talk about candy and chocolate. That four letter 'I' word is in the air. Lent. Yes, that's right--Lent. So, hurry up and finish off the contents of that heart shaped box of chocolates before you "give it up." But thinking about Lent should not make you stop thinking about love. Lent is a season of love. The focus of these forty days is sacrifice—prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is easy to think of these things as negative when we focus on them from our own point of view. They all involve not doing something for ourselves. But, if we look at them from an external point of view, they are all ways in which we are doing something for someone else—for God or for our brothers and sisters in Christ. These small acts have a much greater effect than anything we could do for ourselves in their place. Throughout Lent, God is preparing to do something very special for us to show us how much he loves us. He is preparing to make the ultimate sacrifice. How are you planning to show God you love him? When Jesus opens his arms on Good Friday, will you be ready to run and embrace him and say "I love you" in return?

Want to go deeper? Read more here: <https://www.stjosephdg.org/diaconate>

Rob Visher is a candidate for Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate (Class of 2025) and parishioner at St. Joseph Parish.



2023 Lenten Care for Creation Calendar				Created by Laudato Si' Ministries of the Diocese of Joliet		 Follow us on Facebook!	
Sabbath Sunday	Meatless Monday	Trim Trash Tuesday	Waste Not Wednesday	Thankful Thursdays	Fasting Friday	Sustainable Saturday	
 <p><i>This Lent we are giving you an opportunity to follow the call of Pope Francis to protect our common home. During these 40 days of Lent, let us open our hearts and minds through prayer and action to care for God's creation.</i></p>			Feb 22 Ash Wednesday Americans throw away up to 40% of food (NRDC Study). Reflect on how to prevent this in your own home.	23 Appreciate the parks and forest preserves. Take a walk and say a Rosary while walking.	24 Not only fast from meat today but also fast from electronics. 	25 Research how you can create a vegetable garden in your backyard or patio. 	
26 Leave your car at home. Walk or bike to Church. Rest in the Lord.	27 Do not eat meat for lunch today. 	28 Do not use any paper towels. Instead use dishcloths or sponges to clean.	March 1 Research how to make a compost bin. 	2 Say Grace before each meal. Thank God for the all the gifts he has given you.	3 Turn your heat down by two degrees. 	4 Replace the light bulbs in your home with LED bulbs. Remember to recycle the old light bulbs.	
5 Design a prayer corner outside using secondhand materials	6 Do not eat any meat all day. 	7 Use reusable containers instead of plastic wrap.	8 Check out the SCARCE website to find out all the ways to reuse or recycle items in your home.	9 Plant a tree or donate to "One Tree Planted" which focuses on Global Reforestation.	10 Take a shorter shower and fewer showers. 	11 Sign up to attend a Community Solar Information Session.	
12 Read 5 to 10 pages of a religious book. 	13 Try a new plant-based recipe. http://livingthechange.net/	14 Freeze leftovers instead of throwing away. 	15 Use the leftovers in your refrigerator to create a meatless meal.	16 Begin reading Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si'. 	17 Look around your home. Decide how you can use less plastic in your daily activities.	18 Shop at secondhand stores and go to the library to get a book.	
19 Make today a family day. Play games and talk about the gifts God has given you.	20 Continue to practice meatless Monday and promote this idea to others.	21 Research swapping bamboo for paper products at your next large gathering.	22 Buy only what you need at the stores, even if the item is on sale.	23 Be thankful for the green spaces in the area around you by keeping them clean.	24 Reuse instead of recycling. Research how you can practice this more in your home.	25 Research bird feeder and house installation. Put out strips of yarn or string for bird nesting materials.	
26 Get a book on birds at the local library. Go for a nature walk and reflect on the beauty you see.	27 Donate to a local food pantry. 	28 Research the do's and don'ts of recycling in your area. Share this information with others.	29 Research and use detergent strips to reduce your plastic. 	30 Go on a Gratitude Walk. Thank God for all the beauty He has given to us in Creation.	31 Fast or abstain for a cause. 	April 1 Fossil Fools Day: Use Public transportation, carpool or walk to where you need to be.	
2 Palm Sunday Take time to pray outside. 	3 Learn ways you can help be more involved in ways to help the poor.	4 Begin only using reusable grocery bags. 	5 Take your own containers to restaurants to take your leftovers home.	6 Holy Thursday Spend time with someone who is homebound or call a person who is struggling.	7 Good Friday Today is a day of fasting. 	8 Holy Saturday Take time to reflect on continuing the changes you've made during Lent.	

SPRING WILL ARRIVE!

St. Joseph Youth Apostolate is happy to announce that we have secured a local and reputable greenhouse to host our St. Joseph Parish 2023 Spring PLANT/FLOWER Sale!

It's time for happy Spring thoughts about your flower beds, gardens and patio pots! Watch upcoming St. Joseph bulletins and our website for more information and order forms.

Our turn-around-time for ordering these quality plants is only about 3 weeks, hence this notice to plan your flower beds, gardens and "patio beautifying" early!

Questions? Contact Michele Geraghty michelegeraghty62@gmail.com and Christy Yeo yeochristy515@gmail.com



Girl Scout Cookies! Only \$5 per box

Support St. Joseph 2nd Grade
Brownie Troop #56411

February 18th after 5pm Mass
February 19th 9 & 11am Masses

In the Narthex

You can also buy boxes to donate to the
St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry



ST. ISAAC JOGUES MASS AND SACRAMENTAL ANOINTING

Wednesday,
March 1, 2023
Healing Mass
with Anointing
at 11:00 AM
Boxed Lunch
served at Noon
Fr. Masters'
Reflection
following lunch

Fr. Burke Masters



“Healing”

Please join us!
R.S.V.P. by February 22
\$10.00 per person

Bring your check for \$10 with you to the Lunch.

Reservations are required - Call or Email.

630-655-5918, jane@sijhinsdale.com

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