



St. Joseph Catholic Church

The background of the entire page is a religious painting. On the left, Jesus, with a halo and wearing a blue robe over a red tunic, stands on a rocky shore, gesturing towards two men in a wooden boat. The man in the boat on the left wears a blue tunic and has his hand raised. The man on the right wears a red tunic and holds a fishing net. The scene is set against a warm, golden-brown background.

3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will
make you fishers of men." - Mk 1:17

Directory

St. Joseph Parish Business Center

4824 Highland 630.964.0216

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. Nestor Lopez nlopez@sjpdg.org

Deacons Frank Kozar and Greg Ouska

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

Religious Education Director

Emmanuella Otiono eotiono@sjpdg.org

Youth Ministry & Parish Administrative Assist.

Cindy Jagielo cjagielo@sjpdg.org

Music Director/Liturgist

Robert Valle bvalle@sjpdg.org

Liturgy Assistant

Chris Tyl ctyl@sjpdg.org

Parish Council

Christy Yeo yeochristy515@gmail.com

School Principal

Beth Cunningham bcunningham@sjsdg.org

Assistant Principal

Jessica Ranquist jranquist@sjsdg.org

School Office Manager

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.

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2024

He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him .

– Mk 1:19-20



Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sunday, January 21

7:00 AM Father's Spiritual Bouquet
9:00 AM Thomas White and
Thomas & Alice Corcoran
11:00 AM Thomas White
5:00 PM Shirley Stonich and
Richard Guzior (L)

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

Monday, January 22

7:00 AM Susan Hoadley

Tuesday, January 23

7:00 AM Martha Hammerschmidt (L)

Wednesday, January 24

7:00 AM Desmond Kimber

Thursday, January 25

7:00 AM Michael Wencel Sr.

Friday, January 26

7:00 AM Barbara Lynch

Saturday, January 27

8:00 AM Jack Himpler and
Jim Himpler
5:00 PM Marion Hurley

Sunday, January 28

7:00 AM The Souls in Purgatory
9:00 AM Richard Guzior (L) and
Frank Stava Jr.
11:00 AM Elizabeth Grochowski
5:00 PM The People of the Parish

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	\$24,730
Sunday January 14th Gifts	\$27,985
Year-to-Date Sunday Goal	\$717,170
Year-to-Date Gifts	<u>\$682,407</u>
Total Short of Goal to Date	\$34,762

Seniors Invited to Defer Property Taxes

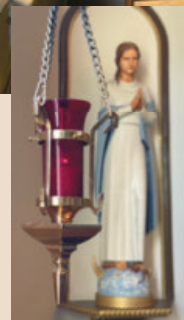
Qualified senior citizens, aged 65 years and older are invited to apply for the **Senior Citizen Real Estate Tax Deferral Program**. The program allows participants to defer property tax payment until the property is sold. The deferral is treated as a loan and accrues 3% simple interest until paid. To qualify, the applicant's household income cannot exceed \$65,000. Additionally, the property must be used exclusively for residential purposes.

The application period closes March 1, 2024. For more information, **contact the DuPage County Treasurer's Office at 630-407-5900 or www.dupageco.org/treasurer**



"COME TO ME..."

all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."
-Matthew 11:28



Ever wish the church was open during the day for prayer, a quiet moment or just a chance to be with Jesus? Our Parish Center (formerly the convent) has a chapel ready to serve our community.

Chapel is open MON-FRI 9AM-4PM
Located at 4824 Highland Avenue

Ring the front bell to be buzzed in and directed to the second floor chapel. The chapel is not handicap accessible and requires a total of 23 stairs.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way,
he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them;
he did not carry it out. (Jon 3:10)

Psalm:

Teach me your ways, O Lord. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

For the world in its present form is passing away. (1 Cor 7:31)

Gospel:

Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:
"This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mk 1:14-15)

Readings for the week of January 21, 2024

Sunday:

Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/
1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Monday:

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/
Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday:

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/
Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday:

2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/
Mk 4:1-20

Thursday:

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc,
2/Mk 16:15-18

Friday:

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3,
7-8a, 10/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday:

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/
Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday:

Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/
1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays St. Joseph Church
3:30 - 4:30 pm

Observances for the week of January 21, 2024

Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Tuesday: St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

Wednesday: St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Thursday: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Friday: Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops

Saturday: St. Angela Merici, Virgin

The Next Monthly St. Peregrine Prayer Service Thursday, January 18, 7 pm

Please see the St. Joseph Parish website for more information and future dates.



Eucharistic Adoration St. Joseph Church

Mondays

7:00 to 8:30 pm

Tuesdays

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

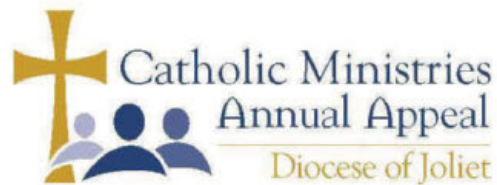


St. Joseph Parish Community would like to recognize and remember in prayer, **ALL ACTIVE DUTY** military personnel serving our country here and throughout the world.

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
Put Brandon Skenandore
Vincent Wroblewski
SPC Abigail Baran, US Army

To include/remove a name, contact the Parish Center



Dear Parishioner,

In today's world, we often find ourselves seeking approval and acceptance from those around us. We yearn for recognition from our friends and colleagues, spending our time, energy, and attention on building an image that will give "us" glory instead of giving God glory.

Saint Paul reminds us in his letter to the Corinthians, "Whatever you do, do everything *for the glory of God!*"

As Catholics we are called to embody the theme of our 2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), that in whatever we do, do everything *for the Glory of God*. When we live a life aimed to glorify God, we live differently. Every action we extend, becomes a testament to God's splendor and majesty in our lives. The glory of God is His Church and His people fully alive.

When you give to the CMAA, you breathe life into the mission of our diocese, which supports our poor, vulnerable, homeless, hungry, unborn, children, adults, seniors, disabled, marginalized, and so many more. You make the ministries of Catholic Charities, Seminarians' formation, and the education of our children and young people a reality.

I invite you to join me in prayerfully making a gift to the CMAA. Every contribution will make a difference in the lives of all we serve. Please take a moment and read about the life-changing impact your gift makes in the enclosed brochure.

Thank you for your generous and prayerful support. May God bless you always as together we do everything *for the Glory of God!*

Peace,

+ Ronald A. Hicks

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

PS- please return the enclosed pledge card by February 10 or go to JolietDioceseAppeal.org to give online.

Encounter Jesus Night FOR THE EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL



January 25 7pm - 8:15pm

Encounter Jesus with "The Running Nun"

Sister Stephanie is originally from Rockford, IL. Sister started running when she was 9 years old and quickly found out she was a gifted runner. She won 18 conference championships in high school and was recruited to run for University of Illinois and was also valedictorian of her high school class.

At U of I, she was very successful. She was the 6th fastest freshman in the US as well as part of the 8th best team in Division I. Everything was going great- on the surface. However, she really was beginning to understand that her life couldn't be completely defined by running. Something was missing.

As God always does, He reveals Himself to us in mysterious ways. Sister's original encounter with God was through an injury and subsequent calling of relationship with Him. Her sophomore year in college in track her foot spontaneously fractured. In approximately 15 minutes she went from being in the best shape of her life to on crutches in a boot.

This became much more than an injury- it was a call for her to re-evaluate what her life was all about. Sister realized that she wasn't happy and that she didn't really have an actual meaning to her life. She started to think about people that she knew that were happy and she remembered the people that she saw at Mass. They were really happy. So, she decided to go spend more time with them.

These new friends invited her on a retreat. On this retreat she had a very powerful experience at Eucharistic Adoration, where people pray in front of the Eucharist, which Catholics believe is the actual body and blood of Jesus. She knew that Jesus was really there and that He was calling her to be His.

She didn't know exactly what this meant at first. Eventually after learning how to pray, going to Mass more, and reading scripture she realized that God was calling her to be a sister- someone completely dedicated to Him and His Church.

She discerned to join a new community called the Franciscans of the Eucharist of Chicago in West Humboldt Park. Her community works at a place called Mission of Our Lady of the Angels. The Mission is a miracle. It shouldn't exist. Through the direction of Bishop Bob Lombardo and the grace of God, the campus of the former Our Lady of the Angels parish has gone from ruins to a beautiful sanctuary in the midst of arguably the most violent, poor, and drug infested neighborhood in the City of Chicago.

The sisters pray and work in West Humboldt Park and feed about 4,400 families a month as well as provide household goods to that same group. They also have afterschool and evening programs for 100s of at-risk youth. They provide a safe haven for senior citizens who are raising their grandchildren or great grandchildren. They also allow families to come together to pray together and eat together to help build up their community that has been so broken by violence and poverty.



Confessions Available
Fellowship in the Narthex after



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.

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



BE FORMED at St. Joseph Parish

**Groups for Men, Women and Mixed Groups
of Men and Women Available**

**Meetings are 7:30pm Sunday in-person
or Thursday over Zoom**



FEBRUARY 14 THROUGH MAY 13 2024

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Fellowship
- Prayer
- Scripture
- Small Groups
- Weekly content videos to help you gain a deeper understanding of Catholicism

*Join a small group and
reignite your zeal for
living the virtuous life!*

*USCCB Eucharistic Revival
material to be included in
weekly emails!*

SEASON 8
EUCCHARISTIC
REVIVAL



Questions?

Please contact
Michele Geragh
(michelegeraghty62@gmail.com)
or Patrick Harbauer
(patrickharbauer@gmail.com)

**To Register scan the QR Code above
or go to <https://stjosephdg.org/beformed>**

Game starts at:
7PM

MARCH 18TH, 2024
Chicago Bulls vs Portland Trailblazers

ticketmaster

\$80 PER PERSON!

PAY HERE:

Tickets will be
emailed the week of:
Feb 19th - March 1st

*Transportation & Parking
are on your own*

*Autographs are
not permitted*

**SE
RED**

BENCHWARMERS!
Our group has exclusive access to enter the
bowl early (5:00-5:30 pm) and watch pre-game warmups from the 100 level!

Additional Info: Experience expected for approximately 30 minutes / Timing is subject to change based on
factors that arise day of game / Participants will sit in sections 110 +113 / They must stay behind the hockey dasher boards

Thank you, Thank you!

As of January 9, St. Joseph's has raised \$129,960 from 175 donors through our *Running on a Prayer Campaign* to ensure we can enjoy reliable, energy-efficient comfort for many years into the future!

With donations ranging from \$15 to \$20,000, I am most grateful for each and every gift received. Thanks to you we have already reached 40% of our \$320,000 goal.

If you are still considering a gift, please know that **any size donation will help us achieve 100% of our goal!**

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Al

Please note that the dollar amount shown in the January 7th bulletin was incorrectly reported. We apologize for the error.

St. Joseph Church Air Conditioning *Running on a Prayer!*

Approximate Replacement Cost **\$320,000**

To donate, visit stjosephdgd.org/giving

or scan this QR Code



Giving



WARMS THE HEART

DONATE BLOOD

BLOOD DRIVE TO HONOR LYNN ROVENS

The Knights would like remember and honor the soul of one of our longtime parishioners, Lynn Rovens who passed away at age 67 this past year. Lynn was a devout Catholic and served in the youth ministry, attended weekly rosary services, service trips, and participated in World Youth Day. She was a dedicated wife, mother, grandma, aunt, cousin and sister.



THURSDAY
February

15

3:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal
and drink plenty of water
before donating.
PHOTO ID IS REQUIRED.



Lynn and her husband Rick were frequent donors at our Blood Drives. We ask that you help us honor Lynn by donating life at our upcoming blood drive. Please sign up to donate today.

Blood Drive is sponsored by the St. Joseph's Parish Knights of Columbus and will be in the Lower Level of the Church at 4801 Main St. in Downers Grove.

3:30PM TO 7:30PM

To schedule your donation, scan the QR Code >>>>>>>>
visit www.versiti.org/IL or call/text Camille from
Versiti at 847-305-9998.

Appointments encouraged; walk-ins welcome.



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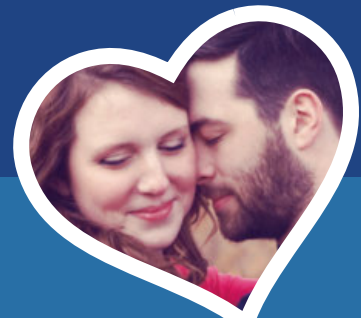
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