

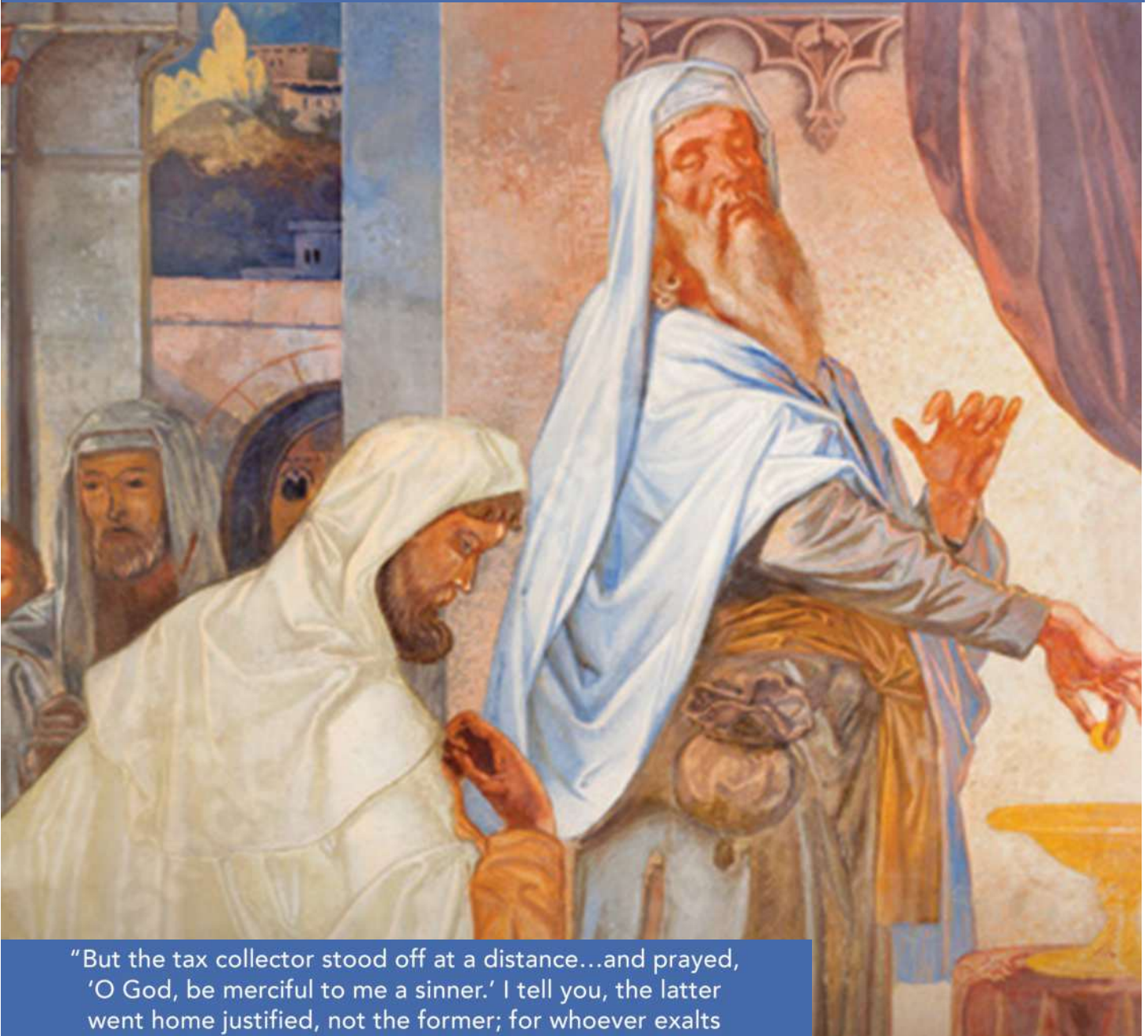


St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

October 26, 2025 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

451 W. Terra Cotta Ave., Crystal Lake, IL 60014

815-455-5400/www.stthomascl.church



"But the tax collector stood off at a distance...and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.' I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." - Lk 18:13a, 13c-14

Mission Statement

We are a Catholic family, living our awareness of Christ's presence through worship, service, evangelization and community for the benefit of all.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Center Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Confessions (Reconciliation - Oak Street Church):

Monday: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am - 9:00 am and 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Locations:

Oak Street Church - 451 W. Terra Cotta Ave.

Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Pierson Street Church - 453 Pierson St.

Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Parish Office - 272 King St. Crystal Lake, IL 60014

St. Thomas School - 265 King St. Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Little Saints Preschool - 454 Lake St. Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Holy Hearts Adoration Chapel:

Monday, 6:15 am - Friday, 9:00 pm

Saturday, 7:15 am - 5:45 pm

Sunday, 7:15 am - 6:45 pm

adorationchapelstthomascl@gmail.com

Resources:

Crystal Lake Food Pantry

42 East St. Crystal Lake, IL 60014

(815) 455-0961

M, W, F - 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Th - 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Sat. - 9:00 am - Noon

St. Vincent DePaul Society: (779) 800-6742

Little Christopher Resale Shoppe:

469 Lake St., Crystal Lake, IL 60014

(815) 459-9442

Wed. & Thur. 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Sat. - 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Donations accepted: During Store Hours

Marian Central High School: (815)-338-4220

www.marian.com

Connect with us:

www.stthomascl.flocknote.com

www.facebook.com/saintthomascl

www.saintthomascatholicchurch.org

www.stthomascl.org

www.instagram.com/st.thomascl

Pastor: Rev. Robert Jones

Parochial Vicars:

Rev. Charles Fitzpatrick

Rev. Aaron Downing

Rev. William Tunarosa

Permanent Deacons:

Mr. Allen Bondi

Mr. Neal Carpenter

Mr. Jose Aguilar

Business Manager:

Sandi DePaul - Ext. 405 sdepaul@stthomascl.church

Administrative Services: (815) 455-5400 Fax-(815) 455-2733

Donna Kothera, Parish Secretary - Ext. 400

dkothera@stthomascl.church

Jeff Sernett, Bookkeeper - Ext. 413

jsernett@stthomascl.church

Director of Youth & Evangelization: (815) 455-9037

Patrick Haviland, Director - phaviland@stthomascl.church

Mary Foerster - Confirmation Asst. - Ext. 418 -

mfoerster@stthomascl.church

Music & Liturgy:

Julie Hermann, Director - Ext. 416

hermannjulieann@gmail.com

Meg Struttman, Administrative Assistant - Ext. 417

Bulletin Editor - mstruttman@stthomascl.church

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mbjordan@stthomascl.church

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kpfeiffer@stthomascl.church

Emily Holland, Assistant - Ext. 415

religiouseducation@stthomascl.church

Receptionists: Renee Lyons, Kris Noonan &

Nancy Leibforth - Ext 406

receptiondesk@stthomascl.church

Hispanic Ministry: (815) 356-0860

Reverend William Tunarosa, Parochial Vicar

Irene Garcia, Hispanic Ministry Secretary

igarcia@stthomascl.church

Jose Guimaray- Hispanic Ministry Faith Formation Dir.

jguimaray@stthomascl.church - (779) 994-4290

VIRTUS

Christina Benkert - Ext. 419 virtus@stthomascl.church

Public Relations - Tricia Carzoli tcarzoli@stthomascl.church

St. Thomas School/Little Saints Preschool: (815) 459-0496

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Colleen Nieckula, Advancement Director

cnieckula@stthomascl.org

Michelle Boppart, Office Manager

mboppart@stthomascl.org

www.stthomascl.org

From the Pastor's Desk...



This year's Respect Life Month is especially meaningful, since this year we mark the 30th anniversary of Pope St. John Paul II's great encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* (*The Gospel of Life*). The landmark encyclical is one of the most important events in the history of the Pro-Life movement. It is nothing less than a comprehensive manifesto for the movement. Not only does it provide a robust and comprehensive philosophical and theological defense of the Pro-Life worldview, but it is also a clarion call to effective action.

Far from being a relic of the 1990's, *Evangelium Vitae* reads almost like it was written for 2025. In the document, Pope St. John Paul II warned of a "conspiracy against life" that manifests itself in abortion, euthanasia, artificial reproduction, assisted suicide, and many other assaults on human dignity, all of which are linked together and are all the fruit of the same rotten tree. Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities said, "Every day we witness the overwhelming disregard for human life: through rising rates of abortion and assisted suicide; the killing of innocent school children, even at prayer; the mistreatment of our immigrant sisters and brothers as they endure an environment of aggression; and political and ideological violence inflicted against unsuspecting victims. These attacks threaten life precisely when it is most vulnerable and in need of protection." When *Evangelium Vitae* was first issued in 1995, it was striking for its comprehensive vision. Pope St. John Paul II was not content to single out abortion or euthanasia in isolation. Instead, he saw them as part of a larger mentality. At its root, he argued, the "culture of death" arises when human beings see themselves not as creatures with a dignity bestowed upon them by God, but as autonomous masters of life and death. When autonomy is raised above the sanctity of life, the strong inevitably impose their will on the weak. He contrasted this with the "culture of life," which recognizes that life is sacred because it is created by God and entrusted to us. "In giving life to man," he wrote, "God demands that he love, respect, and promote life. The gift thus becomes a command, and the command is itself a gift" (no. 52). "Man, as the living image of God, is willed by his Creator to be ruler and lord," he said. Given this, "man is not the absolute master and final judge, but rather – and this is where his incomparable greatness lies – he is the 'minister of God's plan'" (no. 52). So, let us pray that we can all be good and conscientious 'ministers of God's plan' in promotion of the Gospel of Life!

Peace be with you,

Fr. Bob Jones

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, October 20th

6:30 am † Kim Mocerì
12:10 pm † Daniel O'Connor

Tuesday, October 21st

6:30 am † Pastor Larry Vinton
12:10 pm † Scott Lawson

Wednesday, October 22nd

6:30 am Rita and Keith Milner (Special Intention)
12:10 pm † Matthew Dombrow

Thursday, October 23rd

6:30 am The Enright Family (Living & Deceased)
12:10 pm Andrew Gullo (Special Intention)

Friday, October 24th

6:30 am The Raymond Carlsen Family
(Living & Deceased)
12:10 pm † Julie Miklasz

Saturday, October 25th

7:30 am † Aaron Sell
4:30 pm † Joan Robaczewski
Chester Robaczewski (Special Intention)

Sunday, October 26th

7:30 am † Robert Weymouth
9:00 am † Michael Georgy
10:30 am † Marcy Leigel
Bill Leigel (Special Intention)
12:00 pm † Mathilde Benner
5:30 pm The People of St. Thomas the Apostle
Parish (Living & Deceased)



Please visit or call the Parish Center to schedule a Mass Intention.

Parish Calendar

Sunday, October 26, 2025

8:30 am Coffee and Donuts (Community Room)
10:00 am O.C.I.A. Class (Lower Oak)
5:30 pm YM Confirmation - Meal & Class
(Oak St. Church)

Monday, October 27, 2025*

10:30 am MMP Rosary (Oak St. Church)
5:00 pm Confessions (Oak St. Church)
6:30 pm SPRED Group (Parish Center)

Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

9:00 am Bible Timeline Study (Lower Oak)
6:30 pm Parent (RE/School) 1st Reconciliation Mtg.
(Community Room)
7:30 pm Knights Planning Mtg. (Lower Oak)

Wednesday, October 29, 2025*

9:00 am Bible Study (Lower Oak)
4:30 pm Grade R.E. Classes (Pierson St. Church)
7:00 pm High School YM (Community Room)

Thursday, October 30, 2025*

7:00 pm Revelation Bible Study (Lower Oak)
7:00 pm Junior High YM (Community Room)

Friday, October 31, 2025*

Saturday, November 1, 2025

6:00 am That Man Is You (Community Room)
7:30 am Mass (Oak St. Church)
8:00 am Confessions (Oak St. Church)
8:00 am Men's Group (Lower Oak)
9:00 am YM Confirmation Yr. 2 Retreat (Comm. Rm.)
12:10 pm All Saints Mass (Oak St. Church)
3:00 pm Confessions (Oak St. Church)
4:00 pm Deaf Mass (Parish Center)

Sunday, November 2, 2025

8:30 am Coffee and Donuts (Community Room)
8:30 am Blood Pressure Screening (Library)
10:00 am O.C.I.A. Class (Lower Oak)
12:00 pm Family Mass (Oak St. Church)

**6:30 am and 12:10 pm daily Mass at Oak Street*

Adoration Candle Intentions

Oct. 26 - Nov. 8

Baldo Family

Bauer Family

Weymouth Family

Martinec Family



**Daylight Savings time begins
on November 1st!**

Turn your clocks back 1 hour!

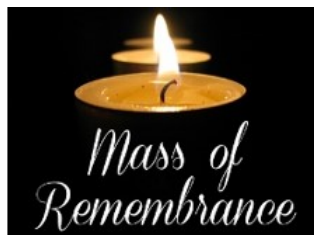


October 26

Coffee & Donuts in
the Community Room after
morning Masses!

Mass of Remembrance – All Souls' Day

All are invited to join us for a Mass of Remembrance and Candle Lighting to be celebrated on All Souls' Day, Monday, November 3, 2025 at 7:00 pm. At this Mass we will remember and celebrate the lives of our deceased loved ones. We invite you to join us for this special Mass and to bring a photo or memento of someone you have lost, which will be placed in front of the Altar before Mass. Please bring photos size 5x7 or smaller and arrive before 6:45 pm to place your photo and light a candle during the prelude music. The Mass of Remembrance will begin at 7:00pm.



Celebrant Weekday Masses		
10/27	6:30 am	Fr. Downing
	12:10 pm	Fr. Jones
10/28	6:30 am	Fr. Downing
	12:10 pm	Fr. Fitzpatrick
10/29	6:30 am	Fr. Fitzpatrick
	12:10 pm	Fr. Downing
10/30	6:30 am	Fr. Downing
	12:10 pm	Fr. Fitzpatrick
10/31	6:30 am	Fr. Fitzpatrick
	12:10 pm	Fr. Jones
11/1	7:30 am	Fr. Fitzpatrick
	12:10 pm	Fr. Jones
Celebrant Weekend Masses		
11/1	4:30 pm	Fr. Downing
11/2	7:30 am	Fr. Fitzpatrick
	9:00 am	Fr. Fitzpatrick
	10:30 am	Fr. Jones
	12:00 pm	Fr. Jones
	5:30 pm	Fr. Downing

If you would like the St. Jude Guild to pray for the special intention of a loved one who is living, please contact Norine Pontarelli - 815-356-1157



All Saints Day



Feast of All Saints

Saturday, November 1, 2025

This year the Feast of All Saints (November 1) is not a Holy Day of Obligation. **In addition to our Saturday 7:30 am morning Mass, we will have a special Mass on November 1, at 12:10 pm, at the Oak St. Church.** All are invited to attend Mass to begin the month of November – a month of prayer for all our loved ones who have departed, and which honors all the saints in Heaven.

Weekly Collection - October 19	
Sunday Envelopes	\$14,862.08
Online Giving	\$8,332.50
Sunday Offering	\$2,540.97
Total Collection	\$25,735.55
Weekly Tithe	First Way Life Center

30th Annual
Great Lakes Catholic Men's Conference
"Hope Does Not Disappoint"
 Romans 5:5
DYNAMIC SPEAKERS • CONFESSION
ADORATION • MASS • EXHIBITS

Featured Speakers


 Steve Ray


 Rev. Francis "Rocky" Hoffman


 Tim Gray

2025 SPEAKERS

Saturday, November 22
8:50 AM - 4:00 PM
at Holmes Student Center
 Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL

REGISTER AT
THETALK.ORG



Readings for the week of October 26, 2025

Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 (7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

Monday: Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21/Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16

Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6/Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Rom 8:31b-39/Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31/Lk 13:31-35

Friday: Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

Next Sunday: Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40

First Reconciliation

Parent Meeting


Please join us for an important meeting for STS parents and Religious Education parents whose children are planning to receive their First Reconciliation in December 2025.

Community Room @ St. Thomas' Oak Street Church



6:30 pm
Tuesday, October 28, 2025



More Information / questions:
religiouseducation@stthomascl.church






COME EXPERIENCE the DIFFERENCE

Inspired by our patron's words, "My Lord and My God", Saint Thomas the Apostle School is committed to embracing the Gospel message of Jesus Christ to go and make disciples of all nations.

Contact
 Colleen Nieckula
cnieckula@stthomascl.org



PreK - 8th Grade
 Catholic
 Education

Pro Life Month

During the month of October, we are asking our parishioners to support 1st Way Life Center (3715 Fairview Avenue, Johnsburg, IL 60051; 815-385-2999) by donating new baby clothes (up to size 4T) and baby wipes. We

have a 'crib' in front of the window in the Narthex in which to place these items.

1st Way Life Center has been serving the community since

1978. They have empowered women by providing them with information and education on prenatal development, child birthing, parenting and child development. They also give the women maternity clothes, baby items, baby food, wipes, and more. All their services are free and confidential.

If you wish to make a monetary donation to 1st Way Life Center, donation envelopes are available on the side of the crib in the Narthex. Please note that, we are only collecting baby clothes and wipes, at this time. If you wish to make other item donations, please donate them directly to 1st Way Life Center in Johnsburg. Thank you for your support and prayers.



THE MISSION OF
COR JESU

ADVENT RETREAT WITH FR. JEROME KOUTNIK

**JOURNEYING WITH MARY:
WAITING, TRUSTING, EXPECTING**

EXPERIENCE A DAY OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL WITH FR. JEROME
ENTER INTO THE QUIET ANTICIPATION OF MARY AS SHE
AWAITS THE BIRTH OF HER SON. THIS ADVENT, WALK WITH
HER IN STILLNESS AND TRUST, PREPARING YOUR SOUL FOR
THE GIFT OF JESUS.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND 12PM-4PM

The Mission of Cor Jesu, 5615 Hamilton Rd., Woodstock, IL

\$30
PER PERSON

INCLUDES AFTERNOON RETREAT, COFFEE, DRINKS, SNACKS.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
LEARN MORE AND REGISTER

For More Information
corjesumission.org

SPECIAL PRESENTATION ON *Be S.A.F.E*

Be secure, aware, free, empowered

**Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at 7:00 pm
Community Room at the Oak St. Church**

Meredith Hodge, Executive Director of Refuge for Women Chicago, will be giving a special presentation on "BE S.A.F.E. – BE SECURE, AWARE, FREE, EMPOWERED"

This presentation will discuss how to be secure in online presence – aware of dangers of sextortion, tech-facilitated abuse (AI-generated), and predator grooming tactics – how to be free to set boundaries and ask for help – and to be empowered to protect yourself and intervene for others.

All parents and junior high and high school students are encouraged to attend this presentation on Tuesday, November 4, at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at the Oak St. Church.

ROOTED & RISING PRESENTS

PLEASE, BRING A FRIEND & SOME COMFY CLOTHES!

KEEPING IT REEL!

NOVEMBER 7

6:30 PM

ST. MARY, HUNTLEY IL

**You're invited to a CHILL FALL evening
FOR YOUNG ADULTS TO STRENGTHEN
COMMUNITY in a low pressure setting,
PLAY GAMES, and RELAX with a movie!**

FOR ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT
STMROOTEDANDRISING@GMAIL.COM

**SCAN THE QR
CODE TO VOTE
FOR THE MOVIE!**



Ministerio Hispano

Dirección: 272 King St. Crystal Lake, IL. 60014

Teléfono: 815-455-5400

Línea Directa: 815-356-0860 Fax: 815-455-2733

Horario de Misas

Martes 6:00 am Miércoles 6:00 am

Jueves 7:30 pm Viernes 7:30 pm

Domingo 9:30 am y 11:30 am

La Adoración al Santísimo es en la Capilla de Adoración ubicada en la esquina de la calle Oak/Ruta 176.

De Lunes 6:15 am a Viernes 9:00 pm

Sábado: 7:15 am a 5:45 pm

Domingo: 7:15 am a 6:45 pm

“Ven y Adora, Él espera por ti”

Coordinador: Reverendo William Tunarosa

Atención al Público: Martes a Jueves de 9:00am a 4:00pm

Llamar a la Oficina Parroquial para hacer su cita:
(815-356-0860)

Oficina del Ministerio Hispano, Atención al Público:



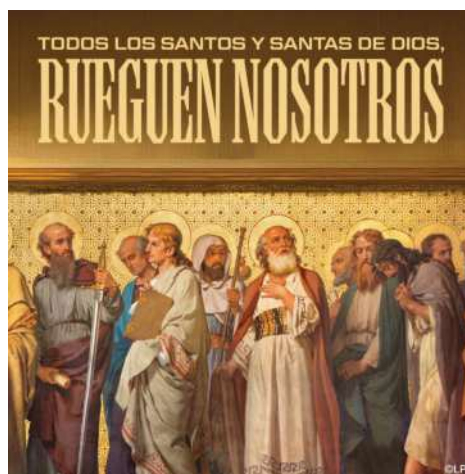
Colecta Semanal - Oct. 19

Pierson St.	\$2,881.25
Pierson Online	\$33.00

Ante Dios no podemos fingir ni aparentar: Él nos conoce profundamente. Por más cara de buenos que pongamos, Él ve más allá: ve nuestro corazón. Tampoco podemos decirle cuán buenos somos, porque nos conoce y sabe perfectamente nuestras acciones. Hoy, Jesús nos cuenta otra parábola: la de dos hombres que fueron al templo a orar. Cada uno lo hace a su manera, y al escuchar el relato, nos damos cuenta de que uno lo hace mejor que el otro. Pero lo más importante es que los dos hablan con Dios. Con este ejemplo podemos aprender a orar y a presentarnos ante Dios tal como somos. “Efectivamente, el fariseo, a pesar de las obras, perdió la justicia; el publicano, en cambio, se granjeó la justicia por la humildad de sus palabras. Aunque, a decir verdad, la del publicano no era propiamente humildad: de hecho, la humildad se da cuando uno que es grande se humilla a sí mismo. La actitud del publicano no fue humildad, sino verdad: sus palabras eran verdaderas, pues él era un pecador”- San Juan Crisóstomo (350–407), Homilía 2 sobre la Penitencia.

“Pero, aunque somos pecadores, no debemos desalentarnos, porque el Señor está con nosotros,

quien nos ha dado todo y nos hará vencer también este pequeño paso de hoy, con la gracia de la fuerza, de la valentía, de la oración, de la vigilancia y de la alegría” (Papa Francisco). En conclusión: puede ser que en cada uno de nosotros vivan un fariseo y un publicano. Ambos necesitan de Dios para ser liberados y perdonados. Ante Dios, oremos con verdad y con sinceridad de corazón.



Misa de: VIGILIA DE TODOS LOS SANTOS

Viernes 31 de octubre 7pm

**Iglesia de la Oak (451 W. Terra Cotta Ave.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014)**

Retreats

Spiritual retreats are an act of removing oneself from one's daily life for a period of prayer and reflection, with the intent of returning to that daily life transformed.

It was Christ himself who was the greatest and earliest advocate of spiritual retreat. In the Gospels, he is constantly depicted as withdrawing from other people to be alone in prayer. Likewise, participants in a modern retreat most often go somewhere like a retreat center to seek silence, solitude and communion with God. There are many different varieties of retreats; they can be guided and take place in a group setting, or they can be undertaken alone by just one person. Some are focused on a specific topic or theme; some are defined by periods of total silence. Though clerics are compelled by canon law to go on retreat regularly, all faithful are encouraged to make retreat part of their spiritual life. ©LPi



SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

You are invited to the third annual St. Thomas' Ladies Advent Program entitled "Reflecting HIS Light" Friday, December 5 at the Oak Street Church.

This beautiful evening will begin with mass, followed by a simple supper, fellowship, music, and an inspirational talk by **Anne Auger, Evangelist and Speaker from Madison, Wisconsin.**

Check the bulletin in the coming weeks for additional program information and table registration.

"Thank you, every woman, for the simple fact of being a woman! Through the insight which is so much a part of your womanhood you enrich the world's understanding and help to make human relations more honest and authentic."

Saint Pope John Paul II



Are you looking for a fresh start to your faith life? Take a weekend to shut out the world and find peace with your brothers and sisters in Christ, while you attend to your relationship with Him. You will sleep in your own bed each night and will be well-fed by your fellow parishioners. Invite someone to come along with you and discover how your faith can bring peace to your life. Join us at our Light of the World Retreat November 14 - 17, 2025. The retreat takes place in the lower level of Pierson Street Church. The retreat is for anyone over the age of 18. To register call the Parish Office or go to the parish website. Don't miss this opportunity to grow closer to God!



Light of the World
PARISH RETREAT

Welcome

Would you like to become a member of our parish community? If you are uncertain if you are already registered or would like to register, you may call the parish office or visit our website. Click "About" and then "Parish Registration" or scan this QR code.



**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
YOUTH MINISTRY**
FALL 2025 CALENDAR
Wednesday: HSYM | Thursday: Jr. High YM
TIME: 7 - 8:30 PM

	High School	Jr. High
OCT	Oct 22: HSYM 7 PM Oct 29: HSYM Pumpkin Carving Nov 5: HSYM 7 PM / Nerf War Nov 12: Combined YM Grade 6-12 Praise and Worship Night Nov 19: HSYM Thanksgiving Dinner (7-9 PM)	Oct 23: Jr. High YM 7 PM Oct 30: Jr. High YM Pumpkin Carving Nov 6: JHYM 7 PM / Nerf War Nov 12: Combined YM Grade 6-12 Praise and Worship Night Nov 20: Jr. High YM / 7 PM Nov 27: No YM / Thanksgiving!
NOV	Nov 26: No YM / Thanksgiving! Dec 3: HSYM / 7 PM Dec 10: Big Brothers Big Sisters Christmas Party 5:30-9 PM *Sign up to volunteer. Numbers Limited.	Dec 4: Jr. High YM 7 PM Dec 10: Big Brothers Big Sisters Christmas Party 5:30-9 PM *Sign up to volunteer. Numbers Limited.
DEC	Dec 17: HSYM / Christmas Party	Dec 18: JHYM / Christmas Party

Save the Date
Jan 24-25, 2026 HS Retreat
June 8-11, 2026 Camp WOW
June 19-21, 2026 Steubenville (HS)

DOUBLE FEATURE WITH JASON EVERT

PURIFIED AND **GENDER**
AND THE THEOLOGY OF YOUR BODY

Let's come together to discover the beauty of God's plan for human love. A life-changing event for teens & adults (ages 13+).

EVENT INCLUDES:
Eucharistic Adoration
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Free resources for every attendee!
Tickets \$25

November 16, 2025 | 2:00 PM - 5:15 PM

St. Mary Catholic Church
10307 Dundee Road
Huntley, IL 60142

Early bird pricing \$22
Ends October 16, 2025

Tickets: chastity.com/purified
Info: eventcoach@chastity.com
Doors open at 1:30pm

Scan for tickets & info



WHERE BIG SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES MEET SMALL SCHOOL VALUES.

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Join us Sunday, November 2 from 1:00pm - 3:30pm for Open House!

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- Harmony
- Meridian

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Use los beneficios de su seguro antes de que acabe el año!

Llámenos para hacer una cita pronto!

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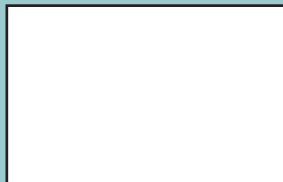
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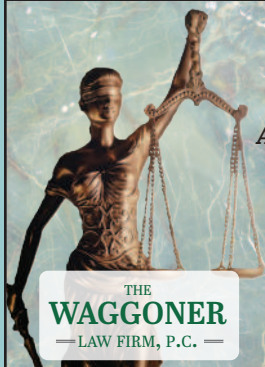
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