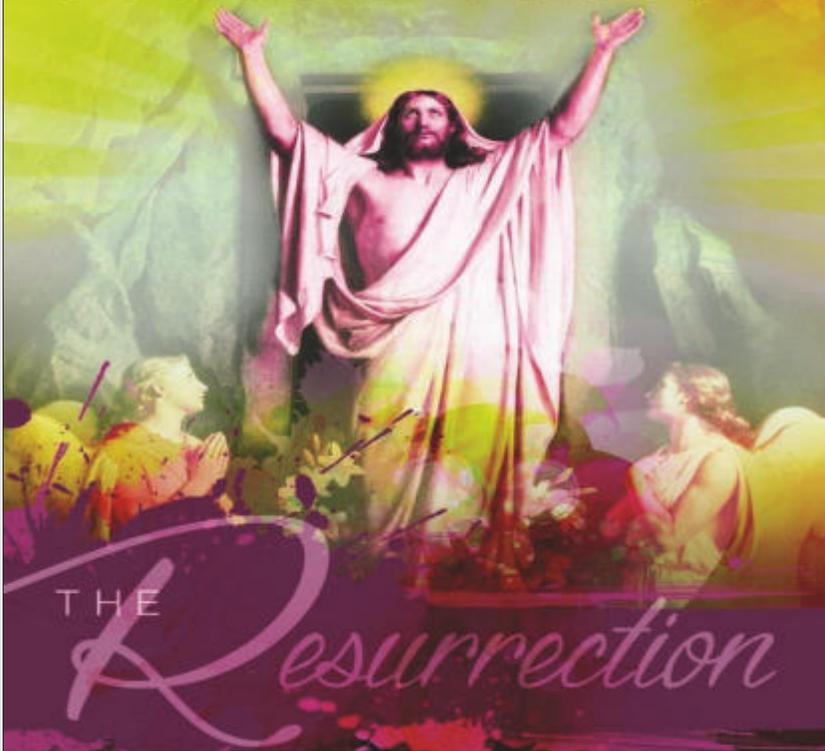


E A S T E R S U N D A Y



THE *Resurrection*

## Saint Mary Nativity

706 North Broadway Street  
Joliet, IL 60435

**Pastor:** Father Jerome Kish

**Weekend Associate:** Father Gerald Nicholas, O.S.A.

**School Principal:** Mrs. Gina Pestrak

**Music Director:** Mr. Donald Legerski

**Office Manager/Bulletin Editor:** Miss. Taylor Lofdahl

**Maintenance Supervisor:** Mr. Mick Joutras

**Maintenance Manager:** Mr. Larry Tomasic

**Business Manager:** Mrs. Mary Nemanich

### St. Mary Nativity Parking Lot Masses

Saturdays: 4pm

Sundays: 7am, 11am, 5:30pm & 9am in Polish  
Radio Station: 96.9 FM

### Weekday Masses in Church

8:30am: Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
at Holy Cross

8:30am: Tuesday & Thursday  
at St. Mary Nativity

7:00pm: Monday—Saturday in Polish  
at Holy Cross

### LiveStream

Monday—Friday 8:30am Mass & 6pm Rosary  
Sunday 9am Mass

[www.facebook.com/pg/SMNandHC](http://www.facebook.com/pg/SMNandHC)

### Parish Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Fridays 8:30am – 3pm

### **MASKS Required**

Rectory Office (815) 726-4031

Rectory Fax (815) 727-4393

School Phone Number (815)-722-8518

[www.stmarynativityholycross.com](http://www.stmarynativityholycross.com)



## Holy Cross

## Kościół Świętego Krzyża

830 Elizabeth Street Joliet, IL 60435

Mailing Address:

901 Elizabeth Street Joliet, IL 60435

Parochial Vicar: Father Tomasz Sielicki

Holy Cross Organist: Mr. James Grzadzinski

Polish Organist: Mr. Mariusz Madej

Business Manager: Mrs. Mary Nemanich

Polish School Principal: Dorota Grzegorzewicz



*The Resurrection of the Lord*

*April 4, 2021*

## A Letter From Fr. Jerome Kish



### *The Church is Not Essential: Part 2*

Happy Easter! Have you noticed anything different this year? I know I have. Last Easter we celebrated how escaped Christ from locked tomb, but we did so behind the doors of a locked church. In the midst of a strict pandemic lockdown, we were told that the Church is not essential.

Who were the essential workers and institutions? Almost everyone recognized the courage and generosity of healthcare workers to continue to care for those who are ill under those tragic conditions. Yet as important as their service was, it was not enough. It's not that they should have done more—it's that we need more. In the midst of physical illness we discovered that the emotional illness of isolation can be just as painful and harmful. Family and friends were not able to connect to their loved ones in their time of need and offer them comfort. Then came the even greater illness of death, that no earthly doctor can cure. Sadly, our catholic priests were barred from administering the final sacraments to our beloved brothers and sisters. We could not strengthen them and prepare them for their meeting with our Lord. Jesus is the only doctor who can cure death; he is the Divine and heavenly physician.

Is that really true? Can Jesus Cure death? Because we have funerals and burials for Catholics, just like we do for atheists. Is there any evidence that people can rise from the dead? For starters, let's look at the burial of some of our amazing Catholic saints; we call them the incorruptibles. You can read all about them in the book of the same name by Joan Carroll Cruz. My favorite incorruptible saint is Bernadette Soubirous, the young woman who saw Our Blessed Mother at Lourdes. She died in 1879, but some thirty years later, they exhumed her body and it was found to be untouched by the rottenness of death Her skin still had the same color as that of a living person! Ten years later, she was again exhumed and her body was still fresh. In fact, if you travel to her convent in Nevers, France you can see her inside a glass case where she simply appears to be sleeping.

If dead, incorrupt body of Bernadette does not convince you, how about a live body, one that has survived even death? Well, the death of Jesus certainly was a real death. He had a real burial, too, into a sealed tomb with a guard posted outside of it. That didn't hold him back. St. Paul told the Corinthians how Jesus appeared to Peter, "then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. After that he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one born abnormally, he appeared to me." (1 Cor 15:3-8)

Do you see the connection here, between Jesus and Paul and Bernadette? Christ rose from the dead to share his divine life with us. This is not something that happens automatically. It is gift poured out through the sacramental life of the church. Hundreds of people saw it happen after the days of the first Easter Sunday. Thousands and millions not only believed it—they experienced it through the ministry of Christ's Church. No doctor can cure of death—but Jesus can. Human life is essential. But his divine life is SUPER-essential; it comes from above. It cannot be constructed in a laboratory or developed through research. But it can be given by Christ through his Church. It's why we call his church super-essential, too. And it's why we can't isolate people from Jesus who is as close as his Sacraments.

Do you see how necessary the Church is for our salvation, she who is this wonderful gift from God? We think the worse that could happen to us is sickness and death. We fear it. But affordable health care for all and the perfect vaccine only delay the final sickness we call death. We will all wind up rotting in a grave, even eventually our catholic incorruptibles. Actually, the worst that could happen to us is sin and eternal death, that everlasting miserable life God calls hell. It's why the saints looked forward to the resurrection of their bodies and embraced, here and now, through the Sacraments of his Church. Through Confession, Jesus forgives sins which can separate us from his life in heaven. Through the Anointing of the Sick, Jesus heals and strengthens us to carry our cross so that if we die with him, we can rise with him. Through the Holy Eucharist, Jesus himself, the Conqueror of death, gives us the very food that will take us all the way to heaven. Through his death and resurrection we look forward to the day when he will transform our very bodies into the pattern of his risen and glorified body.

So yes, let our doctors and nurses and researchers do all that they can to help preserve our human life. And let us support them, because God has given them the talent to do those things. But they cannot give eternal life—only God can. May they then support us in being signs and bearers of the life that is from above. The Church is superessential because she bears within herself the Living Jesus. That is a gift to us together. It is also a personal gift to you, given at your Baptism, when you were first born into his life. This Easter let us remember how Christ appeared in the midst of a locked room to his disciples. Our open church doors give us access to the very same and living Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. As we renew our baptismal promises this Easter Sunday, may we grow in this life of Christ for the good of all those around us. The Risen Jesus calls out to you!

Wishing you a Happy and Holy Easter from myself, Fr. Tomasz, and all who serve you at our parishes,

Fr. Jerome

PS: This week we begin work on the sanctuary at St. Mary Nativity Church. Under the carpet is marble terrazzo, waiting to be uncovered and restored to its original beauty. So all daily Masses from April 5 to April 9 will be at Holy Cross. Your generous Capital Campaign donations are helping fund these campus improvements. May God bless you for your generosity.

## St. Mary Nativity & Holy Cross Mass Intentions

### Saturday April 3rd

7:30 PM † Christopher Vining by Friends & Family (SMN)

† Domingo Devenecia by Daughter (SMN)

8:00 PM No intention (HC)

### Sunday April 4th

7:00 AM For the People of the Parishes (SMN)

9:00 AM For the sick of St. Mary Nativity & Holy Cross Parishes (Live Stream)

9:00 AM † Józef Klikuszowian (zam. parafianie) (SMN)

† Mieczysław Sokołowski (zam. rodzina) (SMN)

† Krystyna Strojny (15. roczn. śmierci) (SMN)

† Maria, Stanisław i Józef Janik (SMN)

11:00 AM † Judith Ann Harrison by Jack & Lauren Witkowski (SMN)

12:30 PM For Peace in the World (SMN)

### Monday April 5th

8:30 AM † Ann & Joseph Cunico by Denise Adelman (HC)

7:00 PM † Jan Zając (zam. Koło Różańcowe) (HC)

### Tuesday April 6th

8:30 AM Holy Souls of Purgatory (HC)

7:00 PM † Tadeusz Zagórski (34. rocznica śmierci) (HC)

### Wednesday April 7th

8:30 AM † Ray Page by wife, Jean (HC)

7:00 PM † † Mariusz Mucha i Władysław Mąka (HC)

### Thursday April 8th

8:30 AM † Fran Hakey by Rich & Deanna Serdar (HC)

7:00 PM † Zofia Szaflarska (zam. rodzina Janik) (HC)

### Friday April 9th

8:30 AM † Gerald Scheffler by Family (HC)

7:00 PM Za Parafian (HC)

### Saturday April 10th

4:00 PM † Sr. Gregory Skrtich by Nephew (SMN)

† Joseph Jelinek by Family (SMN)

7:00 PM O łaskę macierzyństwa dla Moniki (HC)

O szczęśliwe rozwiązanie dla Patrycji (HC)

† Jan i Janina Skotniccy (HC)

† Rozalia Ligas (HC)

### Sunday April 11th

7:00 AM † Joseph D'Atri by Carolyn Baitinger (SMN)

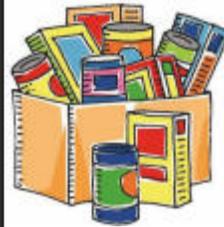
9:00 AM † James Putrich (Anniversary) by Mary Lou Rutherford (Live Stream)

9:00 AM † Krystyna Kubiak (6. rocznica śmierci) (SMN)

† Józef Piorun (16. rocznica śmierci) (SMN)

11:00 AM For the People of the Parishes (SMN)

5:30 PM † Fran Hakey by Dyann & Family (SMN)



## Monthly Food Collection

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,”

April 3<sup>rd</sup> - April 4<sup>th</sup>

Look for *the blue marked container*

**Needed:**

**Any food items including baby food**

**Diapers**

**Baby clothes**

\*No other clothing is being accepted at this time\*

All donations will be given to our neighbors, the St. John's Food Bank.

# SUPPORT

*Have you lost a loved one recently?  
Are you having a difficult time handling their absence?*

You are invited to join a Grief Support Group at St Mary Nativity. This is a peer support group, where we will help one another by providing emotional, moral, and spiritual support. Anything that is shared or discussed at these sessions is strictly confidential. This support group will be organized around people who have similar experiences. No matter what the loss, everyone has experienced one time or another loneliness, pain, fear, loss, anger, and joy. This is an eight week program. With your participation we will validate feelings, give hope and share similar experiences. Patricia Weiskop a trained facilitator will facilitate these sessions.

If you have suffered a loss from four months ago or longer and are struggling from that loss please come and join us.

ST MARY NATIVITY CHURCH  
in the Nativity Room  
Thursday April 15 2021 1:30 to 3:00 P.M.  
**At this time face masks must be worn and reservations are a must as we have room for only so many people.**

If you would like to take part in this support group please call Pat Weiskop at 815-723-7141 or e-mail [paweiskop@icloud.com](mailto:paweiskop@icloud.com) to confirm your spot or if you have any questions. You may also call the rectory office to make reservations at 815-726-4031. If you have other family members or friends, that would like to come, please let them know they are welcome. I look forward to being with you.

# St. Mary Nativity & Holy Cross News



Thank you to everyone who has already pledged a gift to the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Every gift, large or small, brings us closer to our St. Mary Nativity parish's goal of \$40,200.00 and our Holy Cross parish's goal of \$10,300.00.

If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support the CMAA. If we raise more than our goal, 70 percent of the amount over goal will be returned to us for our use. This is an amazing opportunity for our parishes.



## Stewardship in Faith Collection

Sunday - March 21, 2021

St. Mary Nativity	\$ 9,866.00
Holy Cross	\$ 2,037.00

## Catholic Relief Services

St. Mary Nativity	\$ 1,391.00
Holy Cross	\$ 317.00

# Thankyou



## Catholic Elementary School Teachers and Instructional Assistants Needed

As they prepare for a 2021-2022 school year marked by an unprecedented growth in Catholic elementary school student enrollment, Principals of Diocese of Joliet Catholic Elementary Schools are seeking passionate and dedicated professional educators to fill 100-125 full and part-time teaching and Instructional Assistant positions. Applicants must hold appropriate state licensure and be devout and practicing Catholics who exhibit a passion for and commitment to Catholic Education. Please view complete vocation descriptions and apply online at [www.applitrack.com/diocesefojoliet/onlineapp](http://www.applitrack.com/diocesefojoliet/onlineapp). Should you have questions, do not hesitate to contact Karen Udell, Assistant Superintendent of Leadership & Personnel, at 815-221-6123.



Stress in Your Marriage? – Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness.

Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for our next program beginning with a weekend on April 16-18, 2021 call 815-351-6968 or email: [retrouvaillejoliet@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvaillejoliet@gmail.com) or you can visit our web site at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com)

**RSVP NOW**

**April 11: Divine Mercy Sunday Reservations required.**  
SMN: 3pm Holy Hour (not a Mass). HC Polish 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Mass.



**8:30 AM Mass on Tuesday April 6th and Thursday April 8th will be held at Holy Cross Church.**



Week of April 4, 2021

## Flame of Faith Candle Saint Mary Nativity

Skeldon Family

Holy Cross

For Those Who Are Sick

*Today is filled with Hope and Promise.*

**Trivia Knight Raffle Basket Winners!!**



- #1 JCA Spirit Basket - Laurie Knick
- #2 Coffee & Breakfast - Jane Mihelich
- #3 Fun in a Basket - Margaret Doom
- #4 Theatre/Merichka's - Denyale Brown
- #7 Chicago Fire #2 - Mary Nemanich
- #8 Chicago Fire #3 - Judy Olson
- #9 Harrah's Casino - Ron Pawlowski
- #10 Crockpot-1 - Karen Ferrero
- #11 Crockpot-2 - Jerry Olson
- #12 Providence Catholic - Jennifer Martinez
- #13 Milano Bakery - Ron Pawlowski
- #14 It's Coffee & Donuts - Amy Martinez
- #15 Let's Grill - Jerry Olson
- #16 Accelerate Speedway - Carol Stiff
- #17 Pamper Yourself - Margaret Doom
- #18 Domino's Pizza - Edith Mihelich
- #19 Michael Kors - Mary Samusevich
- #20 Sherwin-Williams - Katrina Colbert
- #21 Joliet Park District - Marge Lucko
- #22 Spring Decor - Laurie Knick
- #23 Italian Dinner - Ron Pawlowski
- #24 Weekend Getaway! - Jessica Boe
- #25 Divas and Metro - Emily Dickow
- #26 More Fun in a Basket - Amy Martinez
- #27 Italian Basket - Anne Grzetich
- #28 Family Fun Night - Judy Olson
- #29 Delicious Local Dining - Maria Torres
- #30 Cash Calendar Tickets - Katrina Colbert
- #31 Principal for a Day - Jessica Boe
- #32 Dress Down and Pizza - Anabel Perez





"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever."  
- Psalm 118

We are most thankful to our families and friends  
at Saint Mary Nativity and Holy Cross  
who continue to faithfully support  
with the upkeep of our campuses.  
*We are blessed too for those who play a part  
in the life and ministry of our parishes.*



**February Monthly Maintenance Expenses**

**Holy Cross**

Circulating Pump—School Boiler

**Saint Mary Nativity**

Master Clock System Inspection—Church

Kindergarten Bathroom Repair—School

**February Monthly Capital Campaign Expenses**

**Saint Mary Nativity**

11 New Church Doors—Balance Due \$18,415

**Holy Cross**

Maintenance Fund	\$857
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(Period February 25 to March 24, 2021)

**Saint Mary Nativity**

Maintenance Fund	\$3,498
------------------	---------

(Period February 25 to March 24, 2021)

**Maintenance Fund**

Balance as of 2-28-2021

**St. Mary Nativity**

\$26,807

**Holy Cross**

\$9,866

**Capital Campaign**

Balance as of 2-28-2021

**St. Mary Nativity**

\$247,772

**Holy Cross**

\$11,617

**School Educational Appeal**

(Period February 25 to March 24, 2021)

\$3,494

\$205

Thank you to our parishioners who continue to support our parishes during this uncertain time.

**Our Easter Sequence**  
**Victimae paschali laudes**

The Easter sequence Victimae paschali is attributed to Wipo of Burgundy (d. 1048).

This sequence resounds with praises of the Paschal Victory over sin and death. In the first part, all are called to praise the risen Christ: the Lamb has redeemed the sheep and has been victorious in the struggle between life and death. In the second part Mary Magdalen gives personal testimony: she saw the empty tomb, the glory of the risen Christ and the angels who bore witness. We know (*scimus*) that Christ has indeed risen and we seek mercy from the Conqueror and King (*Victor Rex*).

This sequence is regarded as the primary inspiration for the development of miracle plays and morality plays of medieval liturgical drama, which in turn set the stage for modern drama.

Perhaps we can take the time this Easter Season to meditate upon the text of this poetry. This sequence is sung during the Liturgy on Easter Sunday. This is an example of Syllabic chant which only uses one or two notes per syllable.

Each Christian receives the saving power of the Redemption, beginning with Baptism, in which we are buried into the death of Christ in order to become sharers in his Resurrection.

In light of this teaching, we see still more clearly the reason why the entire sacramental life of the Church and every Christian reaches its summit and fullness in the Eucharist.

Many composers throughout music history have used this sequence for a source of inspiration to compose organ compositions based on this Plainchant Melody. The Original plainchant was composed using Mode I. Modal harmony is different than what our modern ears are used to hearing, of all the Modes it is most close to what our modern ears perceive as minor.

May the Risen Christ Bless you and your families this Easter.

Mr. Donald Legerski  
Director of Music



**Congratulations to the following winners.**



<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Seller</u>
Frank Krumpoch	Tuesday	March 23rd	\$20 Self
David Gorman	Wednesday	March 24th	\$20 Self (Donated to Church)
Ted Zolecki	Thursday	March 25th	\$20 School Family
Justin and Jennifer McCarthy	Friday	March 26th	\$20 Supergan Family
Susan Samek	Saturday	March 27th	\$40 Self
Greg DeNardis	Sunday	March 28th	\$200 School
Jean Page	Monday	March 29th	\$20 Self (Donated to Church)

Winners' Names will be posted on the school's Facebook page at  
<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryNativitySchool>  
and on the school website at [www.stmarynativity.org](http://www.stmarynativity.org)

*Please pray for our troops*

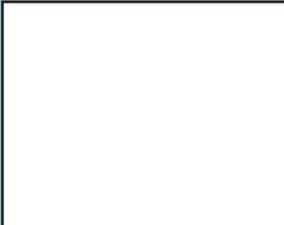


Pfc. Paul Roder, USM  
Jacob Gregurich, USMC  
Chris McCarty, USMC  
LT Alex Aguilera, USMC  
2ND LT Kevin A'Hearn  
Capt. Marcos Aguilera, USMC 1st  
Sgt. Christina Romero USMC ,  
Cpl. Anthony Gutierrez, USMC  
Pfc. Michael McCallister, USA  
Joe Miller, USMC Sgt.  
Tommy Hanks, USMC  
Sgt. Christina Hanks, SMC  
Alexander Gregurich

Pfc. Lawrence Washington  
Sgt. FC Jay R. Martin, USA  
E5 Kathleen Sullivan, USN  
SRA Michael Wilson  
Arellano  
CPL. Christopher Wesoly,  
Brent Moot  
Justyn Moot  
Jeremy M. Close, USMC  
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