

St. Mary Nativity and Holy Cross Parishes
706 North Broadway Street and 830 Elizabeth Street - Joliet, Illinois 60435

PARISH FEAST DAYS

CELEBRATION

SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 8, 2024



**10:00am Mass at St. Mary Nativity
with Croatian music**

**10:30am Polish Mass at Holy Cross
Eucharistic Procession to St. Mary Nativity**

**12:00 pm to 8:00 pm
St. Mary Nativity Grounds**



Delicious Food and Drink

**Polish Food Tacos American Food
Domestic and Imported Beer**

Entertainment

12:00 to 3:30 pm

**Tony Blazonczyk's
New Phaze Band**

3:30 pm

Measner Magic Show

4:00 to 8:00 pm

Strung Out Band

**Kids' Games & Crafts Bake Sale Face Painting
Raffle Items Money Raffle 50/50**

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

2

From the Pastor

Parish Feast Days Celebration!



Please join us!



**Family
Friendship
Fun**

See you there!





Faith Formation Registration

Classes Begin this week!

Registration is online at
www.stmarynativityholycross.com
(navigate to the Faith Formation page)
or call the Parish Office

Classes are held on Tuesdays from
**5:30PM – 7 PM beginning on
September 10.**

Contact Craig Mazur for more
information at
cmazur@stmarynativity.org

Are you being called to share your faith
with our young Church? A catechist is
needed for 1st & 2nd grade. Contact Craig
in the Faith Formation Office for details.



Welcome! In Baptism, the child, freed from
original sin, becomes an heir to the Kingdom of
God, receiving the theological virtues of faith,
hope, and charity, and the gifts and fruits of the
Holy Spirit. Through Baptism, the child becomes
a member of the Body of Christ and has access to the other
sacraments. Please contact Craig at cmazur@stmarynativity.org
or at (815) 726-4031.



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING AN ALTAR SERVER?

Altar servers are a *silent witness* to the mysteries of
the altar. Their action in the liturgy draws people
deeper into the mystical realities of the Sacrifice of
Jesus. Altar Servers are very necessary for the liturgy.

We are seeking altar servers to assist the priests in the celebration of Sunday
Masses, Weddings, Funerals and other special Liturgical events.

All children in grades 4 and above are invited to be Altar Servers.
Please complete the section below and return to the Church or school Office.
Training will be scheduled soon!

As a parent/guardian for:

in grade _____, I hereby grant permission for him/her to be an altar server

Signature: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____



Calling all Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist:

All existing ministers and new members discerning to join either of
these ministries are requested to attend a training/refresher on

Thursday, September 12, 2024

6 PM at St. Mary Nativity Church.

The lector has the honor to proclaim the Word of God to the congregation at
each Mass. The lector should have a good understanding of the scripture
passages and then successfully communicate them to the congregation.

Ordinary ministers of the Holy Eucharist are the priests and deacons.
Assisting the clergy to distribute Holy Communion during Mass is the
service of Extraordinary ministers. There is no ministry in the Church that
holds a greater responsibility or privilege!

These ministries require a loving commitment.

**Fr. Clive will facilitate necessary training for both
ministries or a refresher for existing ministers.**

If you have a calling to use your gifts and talents in this way or have any
questions, contact Craig at cmazur@stmarynativity.org.

Faith Formation

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Catholic Kids Column BE OPEN

In today's Gospel, Jesus heals a man who was both deaf
and had a speech impediment. Imagine how hard life must have
been for him. He couldn't hear the voices of his family,
friends, or community, and he couldn't clearly express himself
either. Communication, something we often take for granted,
was a constant struggle for him. But when Jesus commands the
man's ears to be opened, everything changes. Suddenly, he can
hear and speak plainly. His world opens up in ways he probably
never imagined.

God also wants to communicate with us, just as He did
with this man. But sometimes, like the deaf man, we have our
own issues that make it hard for us to hear what God is saying.
It might not be a physical problem, but there are definitely
things that can block us from truly listening to God's voice.
These obstacles can make it difficult for us to understand
God's Word and His plan for our lives.

One of the most common reasons we struggle to hear God
is because we're simply too busy. We have so much going on—
school, sports, hobbies, friends, social media—that we don't
make time to listen to God. We might pray quickly before
meals or at bedtime, but often we're just rushing through it,
not really pausing to hear what God might be saying to us.

Another reason we might not hear God is because of our
prejudices or preconceptions. We might think we already know
what God is going to say, so we don't even bother to listen. We
think we have the answers, so we stop listening. But God often
speaks in unexpected ways, and if we're not open, we might
miss out on something important He's trying to communicate
with us.

Being open to God's voice is a journey. It takes time,
patience, and a willingness to let go of our own plans. But as we
grow in our ability to listen to God and share His Word, we'll
find that our relationship with Him deepens, and our lives
become more aligned with His will. So take the time to be
open, listen, and let God speak to your heart.



Young-catholics.com

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This first full-length feature movie on Augustine uses a
historic backdrop to tell the true story of one of the Church's
most beloved and well-known Saints. Its message of sin,
conversion, redemption is as timely today as it was in the
5th century of Augustine. It is the story of a gifted man who
pursues fame and fortune without a moral compass - and
the dramatic changes that occur in his soul when challenging
events lead him to see the light of truth. It also chronicles
the collapse of the Roman world and how Augustine laid the
intellectual foundations of what became Europe.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.
Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and IGNATIUS PRESS

Upcoming Events

The Week Ahead

Sunday, September 8

10:00am Mass St Mary Nativity with Croatian Music

10:30am Mass Holy Cross in Polish

Eucharistic Procession After to SMN

12:00-8:00pm Parish Feast Day Celebration-SMN Grounds

Tuesday, September 10

9:30am Bible Study - SMN Nativity Room

1:00pm Rosary - SMN Church

6:30pm Parish Council Mtg. - SMN-Nativity Room

Wednesday, September 11

8:30am School Mass - SMN Church

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal - SMN Church

Thursday, September 12

Fall Pictures - SMN School

1:00pm Rosary in Spanish - SMN Church

6:00pm Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors

Training (SMN Church)

Friday, September 13

12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration - SMN Church

Sunday, September 15

8:35am Pro-Life Rosary - Holy Cross Church

10:30am Monthly Pro-Life Rosary



**Food
Pantry**

Non Perishable Items
may be dropped off at
St. Mary Nativity
in the Church vestibule
on September 7 and 8.
Thank you!



Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Novena continues to September 13

Saturday – September 14 at Holy Cross

4:00 pm Mass in English

5:30 pm Mass in Polish

Veneration of the relic
of the True Cross



English Spanish (Livestream)

PRAYER GROUP



SPEND TIME WITH JESUS

**Eucharistic Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament**

at Saint Mary Nativity
every Friday - Noon to 3:00pm

All are welcome!

Both regular adorers and substitutes
are needed for these times.

Please contact Laurie at (815) 370-4533 to sign up.

The church is open for personal prayer

**Monday – Thursday 8am to 4:30 pm
and Friday 8 am to 3:00 pm.**



Pro-Life Rosary Every Month Third Sunday

Holy Cross before the 9 am Mass, starting at 8:35 am

St. Mary Nativity before the 11 am Mass,
starting at 10:35 am.

**The next meeting of the St. Mary Nativity
Pro-Life Committee:**

Sunday, September 29th at 10:00am at SMN Church in the Nativity Room.
We are thankful for your continued help and look forward to your
participation in our events from now until that date.

For questions or for more information, contact Mike Hansen at
815-212-3661 or mikehansen@mikehansenlaw.com



**Mass
Schedule**

St. Mary Nativity Church

Saturday - 4:00 pm

Sunday - 7:00 am 11:00 am 12:30 pm 5:30 pm

Weekday - Tuesday Wednesday (School Mass) Thursday 8:30am

Holy Cross Church

Saturday - 4:00 pm English and 5:30 pm Polish

Sunday - 9:00 am English and 10:30 am Polish

Weekday - Monday and Friday 8:30 am English

Tuesday 8:30 am Polish

Monday Wednesday Thursday Friday 7:00 pm Polish

**St. Mary Nativity
and Holy Cross
Confessions:
Saturdays
3:15pm to 3:45pm
or by Appointment.**



Saturday - September 7

4:00 pm Mass (HC)

† Veronica Marie Mahalik by Linda Lee (Treasure) Offerman

† Marian Yasko by Lisa Mahalik (Friend)

Rose Priebay by Husband, Leonard

4:00 pm Mass (SMN)

† Tom Phelps by Gerry Troppe

† Nick Kirincich & Dick Boban by Family

† Jeanine Gauer by Terry Gruber

5:30 pm Mass (HC)

Dziękczynna za otrzymane łaski i o dalsze Boże błogosławieństwo dla Anny i Roberta z okazji rocznicy ślubu

† Tadeusz Gotard

† † Stanisław, Aniela i Wincenty Haber oraz + Stanisław Gąsienica

Sunday - September 8

7:00 am Mass (SMN)

† Lorraine Popovich "Anniversary" by Larry & Laurie Pottorff

9:00 am Mass (HC)

† Catherine Mueller by Family

10:30 am Mass (HC)

O zdrowie i Boże błogosławieństwo dla Magdy Janik z okazji 21. urodzin

† O zdrowie i Boże błogosławieństwo dla Aleksandry z okazji 15. urodzin

† Aniela Matyga

† Anna i Czesław Styrzula

10:00 am Mass (SMN)

† Veronica Mahalik by Hospitality Team

† Jim Flanery by Daughter Stephanie

† Charles Horvath "Anniversary" by Family

12:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes

5:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes

Monday - September 9

8:30am Mass (HC)

† † Nancy & Kathleen O'Reilly

7:00 pm Mass (HC)

NO 7:00pm MASS at HC

Tuesday - September 10

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

† Jim Videtic by Fred & Diane Hafner

8:30 am Mass (HC)

NO 7:00pm MASS at HC

Wednesday - September 11

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

† Mary Ann DeNardis "Wedding Anniversary" by Family

7:00 pm Mass (HC)

O Boże błogosławieństwo dla Davida z okazji 5. urodzin

Thursday - September 12

8:30 am Mass (SMN)

† Mary Meyer by Richard & Deanna Serdar

7:00 pm Mass (HC)

† † Ewa, Helena i Wacław Sędaccy

Friday - September 13

8:30 am Mass (HC)

For the needy and poor of the World

7:00 pm Mass (HC)

† Aleksandra Gałagus (14. rocznica śmierci)

Saturday - September 14

4:00 pm Mass (HC)

† Brian Caldwell by Dan Lajcin Family

Rose Priebay by Husband Leonard

4:00 pm Mass (SMN)

† Margaret Kirincich by Family

† Bob Tierney "Anniversary" by Family

5:30 pm Mass (HC)

† Józef Klikuszowian

Sunday - September 15

7:00 am Mass (SMN)

† Lisa Mauntel by Connie & Dave Lane

9:00 am Mass (HC)

† Charlie Durbin by Larry & Laurie Pottorff

10:30 am Mass (HC)

† Józef Klikuszowian

Dziękczynna i o dalsze Boże błogosławieństwo z okazji 25. rocznicy ślubu

† Maria Bujalski

† Jerzy Mróz (zmarł w Polsce)

11:00 am Mass (SMN)

† Michaeline LaBuda by Frank & Caryn Daughter

† Frank Ozella "Anniversary" by Traina Family

† Zachary Lofdahl by Sue Mammosser

12:30 pm Mass (SMN)

† † Ann and Len Fumagalli by Family

5:30 pm Mass (SMN)

For the People of the Parishes

Thank You to Our Parish Feasts Day Sponsors

Rick Hakey
Insurance Agent



Mary Frances Bajt
Lisa Costa
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Judy & Jerry Olson

Trivia Knight Committee
Anonymous (4)
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Maria Pervan
Bill & Josie Petan

Margaret Kelly
Nancy Horwath
Monica Kanta
Jim and Joyce Traina
Susan Nonnie

We couldn't do it without you.

Thank You to Our Parish Feasts Day Donors!

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Art and Julie Paul
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Sue Gulas, Joliet Park District
Sports Clips
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Pat Flanery
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Debbie Martincich
Jayne Shaw
Lisa Costa
Nina Gaspich
Al's Steakhouse
Todd and Peggy Doom
Dana & Toni DeBenedetti
Geneya & Tony Kovalcik

grateful · thankful · blessed



THE NINE MONTHS OF THE CHILD, JESUS IN THE WOMB OF MARY

Each year on December 25th, we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. For centuries the Church has also celebrated his conception on *March 25, the feast of the Annunciation. (*Even though the feast of the Annunciation is designated as April 8th of 2024, we will continue to use the March 25th date. This will make our Christmas gift to our Lord timely.) Our parishes have once again begun our 'Spiritual Adoption' program. Each month we will keep you up to date with the development of your baby.

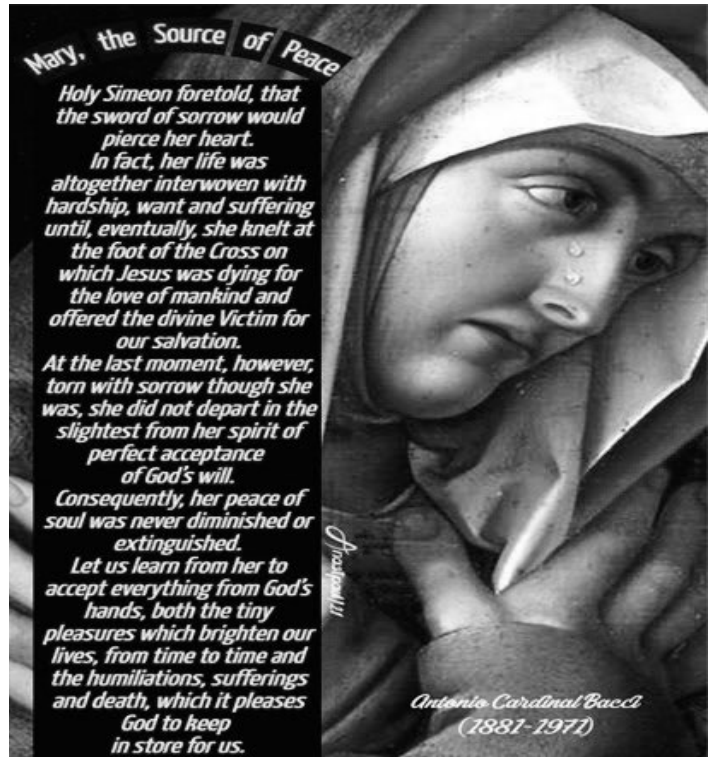
THE FIFTH MONTH – AUGUST 25 TO SEPTEMBER 25

Mary now feels the quickening of the Child Jesus that proclaims his presence within her womb. She sings to him and feels his response. At six months, a special covering (vernix) forms to protect the baby's skin from the fetal waters. The baby's eyes, closed since the seventh week, are now open to its surroundings. The infant is now 12 inches long and weighs 1 ½ pounds. This baby could survive birth. Despite the fact that a child of six months has a chance at life, women may legally abort their unborn at any time throughout the nine months of their pregnancy. Pray for all physicians, midwives and nurses that they may recognize the sanctity of life and God as the author of life.

Parish Prayer

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September - Month of Our Lady of Sorrows



Please Keep in Your Prayers Those Serving in the Military



Pfc. Paul Roder, USMC
Sgt. FC Jay R. Martin, Army
Jacob Gregurich, USMC
Kathleen Sullivan, Navy
Lt. Alex Aguilera, USMC
SRA Michael Wilson Arellano
2nd Lt Kevin A'Hearn
CPL. Christopher Wesley
Captain Marcos Aguilera, USMC
Alexander Gregurich, PFC
First Sgt. Christina Romero, USMC
Justyn Moot
Cpt. Anthony Gutierrez, USMC
Brent Moot
Jeremy M. Close, Army
Pfc. Michael McCallister, Army
David Walters, Army
Joe Miller, USMC Sgt
Tommy Hanks, USMC
Sgt. Christina Hanks, USMC
Jonathon Schroll, USMC Special Forces
Petty Officer 1st Class Tyler Hintzsche, Navy

Heavenly Father, we pray for...

Ann	Janet Horvath	Paul Norris
Bill	Janet	Gliceria Nunez
Mary Bellos	Jacqueline H.	Mildred Pruss
Vietta Bews	Harriet Kazlauskas	Ronald Pruss
Sheri Bokholdt	Tony Keating	Armando Rodriguez
Christopher Borsom	James Kozar	Father Pete Rossa
Denise Boudreau	Marilyn Lajcin	Steve Senisais
Tyler Centorbi	Jerry Lakota	Nancy Serdar
Dianne Cerpen-Verlare	Lou Lakota, Jr.	Ashly Smith
John Drnek	Kathleen Lepacek	Adam Speirs
Gerald Drobick	Darlene Likar	Scott Speirs
Bob Eberhard	George MacZura	Mary Suarez
Dosse Houseaj Elise	Lois Mance	Thomure Family
Charlotte Friehe	Gabby Matlake	Joseph Trubich
Kelly G.	Phil May	Jim Thompson
Anthony Gregory	Alex McKeel	Margaret Thompson
Matthew Gregurich	Charlene Molnar	Sister Elaine Teders
Nicholas Gulas	Robert Nasenbenny	Susan Ward
Anthony Harmes	Raymond John Nickel	Sarah Weber

Need prayers or know someone who does,
please call Pat Weiskop 815-723-7141





Bishop Hicks' Column

September 2024

*God Blessed the Seventh Day
and Made it Holy*



All are invited in celebration bringing people together in honor of our anniversary. Bishop Hicks will celebrate the Masses, along with priests from the local areas. Receptions will follow each of the liturgies, featuring entertainment and food for purchase.

September 14

**Montini Catholic High School
Lombard
(DuPage County)
at 4:00 pm**

September 28

**Lewis University
(Will County)
(Kendall County)
at 4:00 pm**



"I don't have time for this!" These were the words that were on replay in my head as I drove from Joliet to Mundelein Seminary a few weeks ago. I was headed to a 3-1/2 day regional retreat for all the bishops from Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. In my justified view, my saturated work schedule simply did not leave any room for this spiritual "indulgence." Yet, motivated mostly by duty, I checked into my room and asked the Lord to help me check my bad attitude at the door.

As God would have it, my prayer was immediately answered. We were introduced to our retreat director, Reverend Ron Rolheiser, OMI. You may know of him. He is a Catholic priest, theology professor and prolific author. You might be familiar with a number of his books on spirituality, the most popular entitled "The Holy Longing."

One of his thought-provoking talks was about the Sabbath. He reminded us that the Sabbath is a day of rest and religious observance that is rooted in the biblical creation narrative, where God rested on the seventh day after creating the world. Henceforth, by God resting on the seventh day, this day of rest was declared and ordained for everyone, forever.

Practically, in Judaism, the Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday and ends at nightfall on Saturday, during which work is prohibited. The Sabbath is devoted to rest, prayer, and family. For Catholics, we honor the seventh day on Sunday, commemorating the resurrection of Jesus, with a focus on worship and rest. Even the word "Sabbatical" comes from the word "Sabbath."

Father Rolheiser tested us: "How many of your flock truly take Sundays as a day of worship and rest?" "How many of them have replaced worship and rest with work, shopping, sports, entertainment or traveling?" Then he questioned, "Bishops, how many of *your* Sundays include not only worship, but also some rest? Hmmm?"

Father provided us with some simple and clear guidance of what sabbath time should look like in Catholic life and culture. I found it enlightening, and so I'll share:

1. Rest: We live in a 24/7 culture. We are busy all the time. If God rested on the seventh day, then so too shall we who are made in His image and likeness. We each need to take a day to rest and recharge our batteries.

2. Change it up: Sunday is a special day to stop all the ordinary things in our lives and do something unordinary. The Sabbath is an invitation to do something that you do not do during the week. And what we do or don't do will be different for each of us depending on our different lives and circumstances. For example, if you work in an office all week, it might be good on Sunday to go outside, cut the grass and work in your garden. Whereas if you are a farmer, you might prefer one day away from your fields, lawn, and garden to instead sit inside and read a book. The point is to stop what we typically do throughout the week and take one day to do something unordinary, or even extraordinary.
3. Celebrate: Sabbath is a time for special celebrations. Years ago, the Sabbath was the day to stop normal work, take a bath, put on your best clothes, go to mass, come home, and eat a big dinner at the dining room table with family and friends. These days, we may not dress up in fancy clothes and our meals might be simpler or taken at a restaurant, yet we can all make sure that attending Sunday mass is always part of our Sunday celebrations.

Do you ever echo my words, "I have no time for this!" It is all too easy to use that excuse in the busyness of our weeks. But then we risk becoming workaholic, burned out machines who have no "off-switch" or downtime. At the end of my 3-1/2 days of sabbath time at the bishops' retreat, I thanked God for leading me to the precious time to pray, reflect, sleep, read, learn, walk around the grounds, and socialize.

We all need – in fact, instinctively crave- sabbath time! So please join me by reflecting on your own life and asking yourself, "How do I honor the Sabbath?" You may realize your Sundays still need to include some work, shopping, sports, entertainment or traveling. But please don't let those activities replace participating in Sunday Mass. Treat yourself, every Sunday, to the greatest gift Jesus gave us: the Eucharist. Nourished and refreshed by the Eucharist and celebrating our faith as a community, we can be energized to go out living our faith in the world on the road to salvation.



Saint Mary Nativity

2024 Goal	\$41,000
Amount Pledged	\$38,658
Amount Paid	\$35,252
Balance Due	\$3,406
Donor Count	164
2024 Rebate	\$0

Holy Cross

2024 Goal	\$12,900
Amount Pledged	\$19,500
Amount Paid	\$18,009
Balance Due	\$1,491
Donor Count	71
2023 Rebate	\$3,576

Once our parishes reach their goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to the parish.

Thank you

Stewardship and Support

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TREASURES
— FROM THE —
HEART

*Thank you for attending
for serving, and for giving!*

*Thank you
for growing with us!*

Sunday, September 1, 2024

St. Mary Nativity \$8,468.00 Holy Cross \$3,169.00

With the simple click of a button from your computer or smart device, you can securely set-up one-time or recurring donations.

You can also donate by visiting our website at <https://stmarynativityholycross.com>

Scan now to donate!

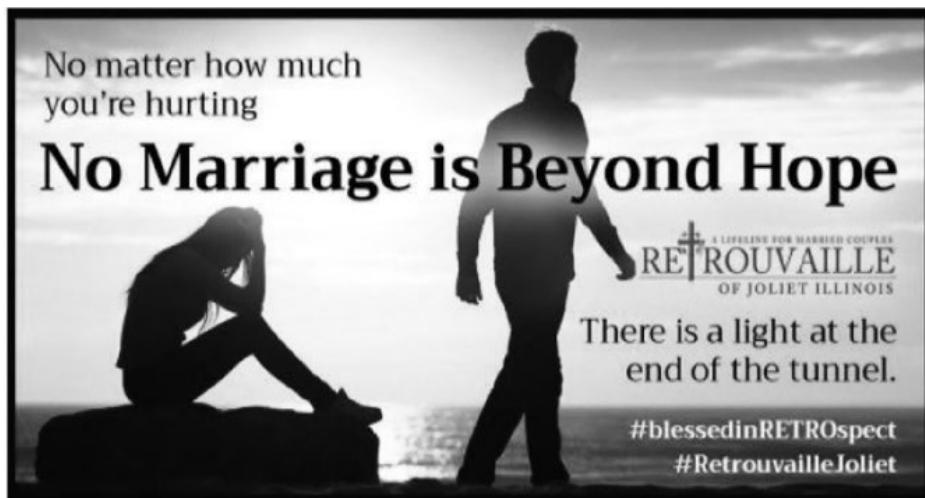
May God Bless You!



**"You have the words
of eternal life."
Learn God's plan
for your marriage
on an upcoming
Worldwide Marriage
Encounter Experience
on or October 12-13
in Geneva, Illinois.**



For more info
go to:
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or scan the QR Code



Retrouvaille is a program designed to help married couples who are struggling. We will help you learn to communicate on a deeper level, approach conflict constructively, build a stronger marriage, and rediscover the love you once had for each other.

Our Joliet area weekend is coming this September 13th - 15th, 2024

For more information, call us at 815-246-2080
or visit us at HelpOurMarriage.org

HelpOurMarriage.org



815-246-2080

10 Parish School



Calendar Raffle 2025

150 Days of Winning!

Tickets available in mid October!



WHERE EVERY CHILD ACHIEVES MORE





**706 North Broadway Street
Joliet, Illinois 60435**



**830 Elizabeth Street
Joliet, Illinois 60435**

Parish and School Centers

11

Meet Our Staff...

Father Clive Otieno, Pastor

frclive@stmarynativity.org

Father Tomasz Sielicki, Parochial Vicar

sielicki59@gmail.com

Father Gerald Nicholas, OSA, Weekend Associate

Donald Legerski, Director of Music

dlegerski@stmarynativity.org

Mariusz Madej, Polish Organist

Mary Nemanich, Business Manager

mnemanich@smnccs.com

Susan Mammosser, Parish Secretary

smammosser@stmarynativity.org

Craig Mazur, Director of Faith Formation

cmazur@stmarynativity.org

Allen Kramerich, Facilities Manager

facilities@stmarynativity.org



**Monday - Thursday
8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Friday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm**

Parish Office (815) 726-4031

Parish Fax (815) 727-4393

Office Hours



**Find us on:
facebook®**

Visit us at www.stmarynativityholycross.org

DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE

**Submit Articles by Monday
no later than 2 pm
for the upcoming Sunday Bulletin.**

**Please send all articles for the bulletin
to smammosser@stmarynativity.org**

Thank you for your cooperation!

Diocese of Joliet Office of Child and Youth Protection

Reporting Sexual Abuse: Anyone with reason to believe that a child has been abused or is being abused should report their suspicions to civil authorities.

Contact: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services: 1-800-25ABUSE or local police. The Diocese of Joliet Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help victims/survivors of child sexual abuse by a cleric, employee or volunteer of the Catholic Church. The Victim Assistance Coordinator will report to Bishop Hicks and coordinate efforts of pastoral support and outreach to assist in the healing process.

The Victim Assistance coordinator can also assist
in making a report to civil authorities.

Contact the Diocese of Joliet Victim Assistance Coordinator at 1-815-263-6467.



St. Mary Nativity Catholic School

702 North Broadway Street Joliet, Illinois 60435

(815) 722-8518 www.stmarynativity.org

Hours : Monday– Friday 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

Dr. Elias Alonzo, School Principal

ealonzo@stmarynativity.org

Christina Hinojosa, School Secretary

chinojosa@stmarynativity.org

**Polskiej Szkoły im.
Świętego Krzyża
w Joliet**

**Barbara Szuba,
Polish School Principal
polkaszkolajoliet@gmail.com**

Croatian Cultural Club
1503 Clement St., Joliet, IL 60435
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