



# St. Walter Catholic Church

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet

A COMMUNITY OF JOYFUL DISCIPLES, MAKING JOYFUL DISCIPLES

CHANGE + GROW + SERVE

DECEMBER 22, 2024

**MONDAY**

December 23  
Advent Weekday  
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24  
Lk 1:57-66

**TUESDAY**

December 24  
Advent Weekday  
2 Sm 7:1-5,  
8b-12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67-79

**WEDNESDAY**

December 25  
Nativity of the  
Lord (Christmas)  
Is 52:7-10  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18  
or 1:1-5, 9-14

**THURSDAY**

December 26  
St. Stephen,  
First Martyr  
Acts 6:8-10;  
7:54-59  
Mt 10:17-22

**FRIDAY**

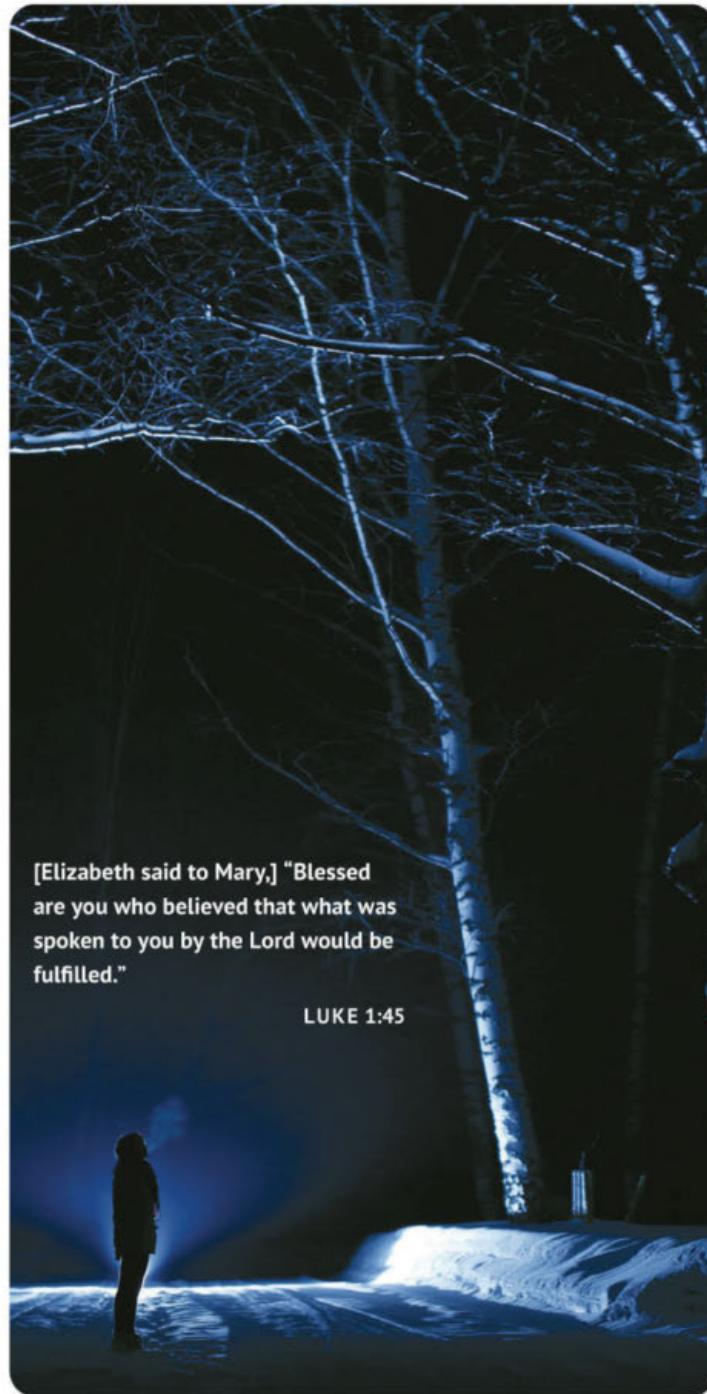
December 27  
St. John, Apostle  
and Evangelist  
1 Jn 1:1-4  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**SATURDAY**

December 28  
Holy Innocents,  
Martyrs  
1 Jn 1:5-2:2  
Mt 2:13-18

**SUNDAY**

December 29  
Holy Family  
of Jesus, Mary  
and Joseph  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14  
or 1 Sm 1:20-22,  
24-28  
Col 3:12-21 or  
3:12-17 or  
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24  
Lk 2:41-52



[Elizabeth said to Mary,] "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

LUKE 1:45

## Feeling Our Way

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Most of the time we find ourselves backing our way into the will of God, or maybe even feeling our way into it. There are times when the will of God is quite clear: Should I lie or tell the truth? Should I steal or not? Most often, however, the will of God is not so clear. Too often it becomes a question of how to negotiate an aspect of life that's been handed to us, often a reality we cannot escape. It may be an unwanted divorce, or a son or daughter in a questionable relationship, or an illness that dismantles one's life plans. On the one hand, it is not as if God hands out scripts that we are expected to live by. On the other hand, God is part of all that unfolds. Somewhere in the midst of that is the will of God, which is another way of saying somehow you and I need to negotiate what we never chose, but is now served up by life. Or is it served up by God? Or by our own doing? Or all of that? That's what I mean when I say we feel our way into the will of God.

It is what Jesus sorted out in the desert when he was tempted, "I come to do your will, O God." It is Elizabeth's story of an unexpected pregnancy in her old age. It is Mary saying "Yes" to an uncharted path. Living God's will seems mostly to be a sorting process. ●

**Reflect**

**Have you responded with a whole-hearted "Yes" to God's will for you?**



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



@RoselleSaint



(630) 894-2461



saintwalterchurch



[info@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:info@stwalterchurch.com)



@saintwalterchurch

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**H**

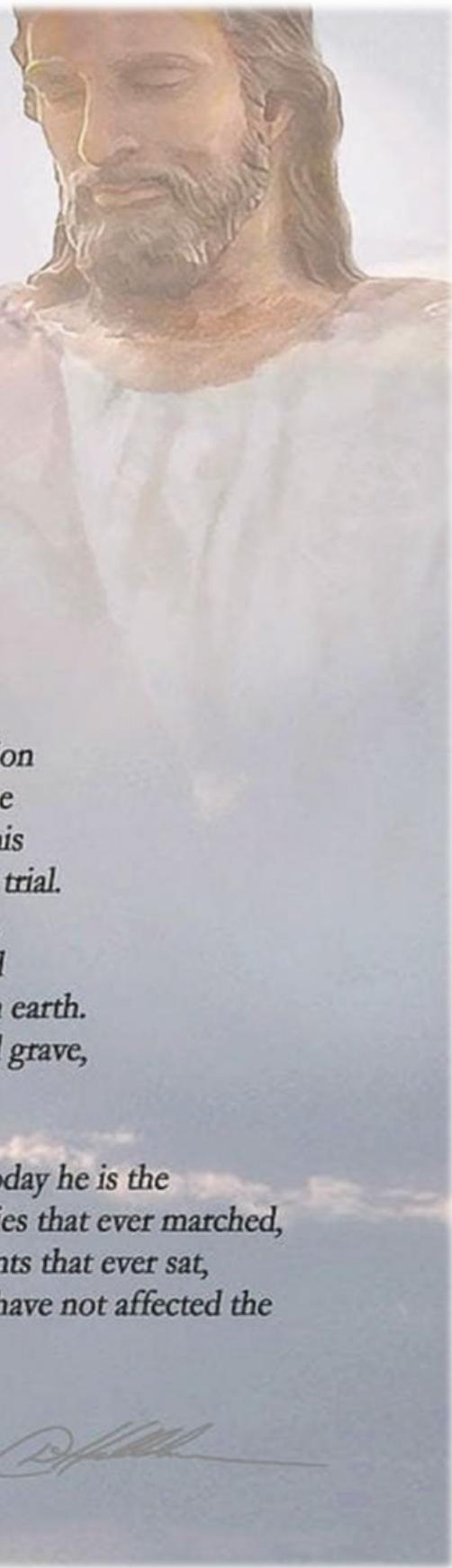
*e was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant. He grew up in another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was 30. Then, for three years, he was an itinerant preacher.*

*He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a home. He didn't go to college. He never lived in a big city. He never traveled 200 miles from the place where he was born. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but himself.*

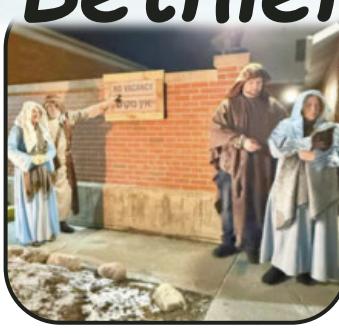
*He was only 33 when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied him. He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his garments, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave, through the pity of a friend.*

*Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned—put together—have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that*

**one solitary life.**



## A Night in Bethlehem



See more "A Night in Bethlehem" pictures on pages 12 & 13, in future bulletins, & online.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## THIS WEEK AT ST. WALTER

Sunday, December 22

OCIA Meeting	9:00 AM	Marian Room
Simbang Gabi Mass	4:00 PM	Church

Monday, December 23

Men's Cursillo Formation Meeting	6:00 PM	Wagner Hall
Music Rehearsal	6:00 PM	Church
Marian Rosary	7:00 PM	Marian Room

Tuesday, December 24

Wednesday, December 25

Thursday, December 26

Legion of Mary	7:00 PM	Guiney Center Chapel
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Friday, December 27

Saturday, December 28

Knights of Columbus Family Mass	5:00 PM	Church
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Sunday, December 29

OCIA Meeting	9:00 AM	Marian Room
Adult Volleyball	7:00 PM	Mac Center

Please See Page 7 for the Christmas Mass Schedule

Please remember to pick up your ordered  
Knights of Columbus Christmas Pies!

Christmas Pie Pick-up is from

1:00 — 6:00 PM on Monday, December 23,  
in the Mac Center.



You are invited to attend and celebrate with  
St. Walter parish every Saturday at the 8:30 AM mass  
and afterward, offering the Sacrament of Anointing  
of the Sick and providing an opportunity to venerate  
and spend time in prayer before a first-class relic of  
St. Peregrine, patron saint of cancer.

**Please Note:** In observance of Christmas, the Parish offices  
are closed on December 24 through December 27.  
The offices will reopen on Monday, December 30.

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5pm; Sunday: 7:30, 9, and 11am  
(The 5pm, 9 & 11am Masses are livestreamed)

### WEEKDAY MASS

Monday - Saturday: 8:30am (In Person & Livestreamed)

Thursday ONLY: 8:15am

### CONFessions

Saturday — 3:30pm

### ST. WALTER OFFICE HOURS:

Monday — Thursday: 9am - 5pm

Friday — 9am - 4pm



Subscribe to our YouTube channel

St. Walter Church Roselle, Illinois

### HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, the Holiness Commission, our clergy, and staff will lift up your prayers. Send requests to:  
[prayer.request@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:prayer.request@stwalterchurch.com). If you would like to include your loved ones name in the printed bulletin *Pray for the Sick* and those in the *Military*, please contact [Linda@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:Linda@stwalterchurch.com). These lists are updated regularly.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 21

5:00 PM	† Joe & Stelle Tremback by Family
	† Mike Bucaro by Mario Rizzi & Family
	† Stelle Tremback by Beverly & Bernie Zeromsky

Sunday, December 22

7:30 AM	† Lois Nelson by Jim Grady
	† Jean Pantaleo by Rachalle Spears
	♦ Intentions of Judy Miller by the Miller Family
9:00 AM	† Stephanie Engel by Paulina Engel
	† Salvador Barrutia by the Barrutia Family
	† Marcel Msciwajewski by Joanna Msciwajewski
	† Nick Ruggieri by Angela Mostaccio
11:00 AM	† Winston D. Bactat by Marina Bactat
	† Romeo Bul-lalayao by Marina Bactat
	† Gary St. Pierre by Marilyn St. Pierre
	† Natalie "Dolly" Svendsen by the Svendsen Family
	† Loretta Anton by Joan Figley
	† Joe & Stelle Tremback by Family
4:00 PM	<b>SIMBANG GABI Mass</b>

Monday, December 23

8:30 AM	† Angeline Gironda by Jim & Maryrose Longo
	† Eutiquano de Claro by the Rodriguez & Solomon Family
	† Salvador Barrutia by the Barrutia & Gianfortune Family
	† Joe & Stelle Tremback by Family

Tuesday, (Christmas Eve) December 24 — Christmas Vigil

3:00 PM	In Church
3:00 PM	At Lake Park West
5:00 PM	In Church
10:00 PM	In Church

Wednesday, (Christmas Day) December 25

8:00 AM	In Church
10:00 AM	In Church
12:00 PM	In Church

Thursday, December 26

8:15 AM	† Joe & Stelle Tremback by Family
	♦ Intentions of Paulina Engel by Cursillo Group
	♦ Intentions of Jac & Josie Lynch by Cathal, Grace, & Boys

Friday, December 27

8:30 AM	† Delores B. Gervais by Sheila Hermansen
	† Zofia Paruch by Veronica Kicinski
	† Joe & Stelle Tremback by Family

Saturday, December 28

8:30 AM	† Joe & Stelle Tremback by Family
	† Trinidad & Paulina Estonina & Lope by Tess Mendoza
	† Luminada, Cristina, Gervacia & Tito by Tess Mendoza
	† Pablo & Mercedes Mendoza & Evelyn by Tess Mendoza
	♦ For those Sick and Struggling with Cancer
5:00 PM	† Rita Gagliano by Bill & Joan Durante
	† Christine Ippolito by Toni Noti
	† Bryan Clark by Jackie & Terry Clark
	† Jerry Vohasek by Terry & Virnia Vohasek

Sunday, December 29

7:30 AM	♦ Intentions of the homeless during this holiday season
9:00 AM	† Owen Deasy by the Deasy Girls
	† Jozef Miesiarczyk by the Pospisil Fam
11:00 AM	† Edward Kalucki by the Korman Family
	† Joe & Stelle Tremback by Family
	† Tony Uhlen by Ronald & Sherri Uhlen

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION



### Please Pray for the Sick

Mary Baclig	Sharon Graczyk	Doreen Poremba
Monica Balbarin	Sue Hall	Gilbert Porsovigan
Greg Barone	Peter Healy	Dorothy Prohaska
Joan Barr	Jayne Howard	Mitchell Prowica
Maria Basler	Diane Kozil	Kevin Rossi
Brian Carani	Ernie Kozil	Steve Ryba
Ryan Cauley	Barbara Kriaris	Brandon Schmidt
Tom Della Penna	Jim Leix	Anthony Scrivani
Joe Dillon	Carrie Lindemann	Camila Engel Serwon
Lauren Duffy	Maureen Lindstrom	Belinda Sobucki
Andrew Dux	Kathi Looze	Marilyn St. Pierre
Greg Everhart	Gerry Maida	Shannon Sullivan
Meredith Everhart	Kathleen Moravek	Karla Svendsen
Lynn Figiel	Lawrence Naughton	Erlinda Villaeva
Pat Frasco	Sue Neigebauer	Jackie Whyle
Laura Gerace	Fred Polacek	Tony Wiers
Tony Gnutek	Mary Polacek	Tistan Wright
Michael Goetsch		



### Please Pray for those in the Military

Cameron Andre	Ryan Nelson	Trent Winters
Johnathan Chiano	Tyler Potenza	
Mark C. Lawicki	Matt Schrack	

### Please Pray for the Recently Deceased

& their families & friends

(Services held during the month of November)

Mercedes Alvana



## Adoration

### Attention Liturgical Ministers:

Please consider signing up to minister for the upcoming Christmas & New Years Masses.



### A Call to Stewardship

*"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." (LUKE 1:44)*

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading at Mass, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.



**The Hospital Ministry is available to visit parishioners who have been admitted to nearby hospitals. Families should call the Parish Office if they would like a visit from one of our Hospital ministers. These are care visits, not specifically Communion calls unless requested.**

## GOOD TO KNOW

Thank you!  
Give Days 2024



On behalf of the, faculty, staff, and especially the students of St. Walter School, we want to thank you

for your generosity on Giving Tuesday. We are humbled and honored that you were among those who chose to further the mission of St. Walter School. Collectively, we raised over \$8,000. Please be assured that we will be responsible stewards of your donations and put each dollar to use in the best way possible.

The Giving Tuesday concept has certainly grown exponentially in recent years. For St. Walter School, it is a day that we gratefully accept your donations, but also appreciate the love and commitment so many of you demonstrate to Catholic education and our amazing school.

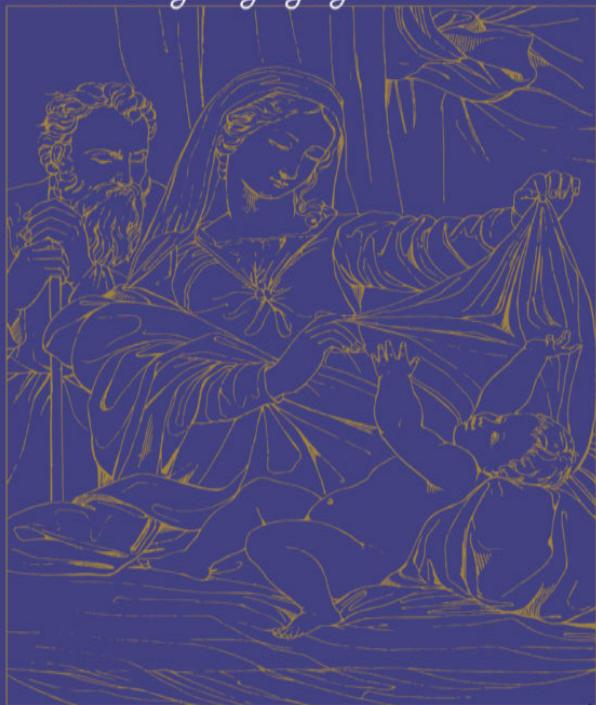


If you would like to make a donation today, please scan the QR code to the left. If you prefer to give in person or through a check, please send to the school office

If you have any questions please email Mrs. Warco at [swsoffice@stwalterschool.com](mailto:swsoffice@stwalterschool.com)

FROM OUR SPARTAN FAMILY, TO YOURS

*Blessings of Joy and Peace*



*Merry Christmas!*



### SWYM

# Lock-In

Join us for this special overnight lock-in where we will have open gym, games, food, prizes, prayer, and other fun activities.

Who: Teens ages 12-18

When: Jan 17-18 Where: SWC Campus

Time: 6:00pm - 11-pm (7-8th grade only)

Register Overnight (9-12th grade only)

Here

**Register by Jan 4th**

cost: \$30

or bring a friend and each pay \$20

Q's email: [evelyng@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:evelyng@stwalterchurch.com)



### SWYM

JUNE 27-29, 2025

# WE ARE GOING TO steubenville JOLIET

At Steubenville Youth Conference, teens experience a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ that ignites their faith, strengthens their prayer life, and empowers them to live on mission long after the conference ends.

COST: \$300

LOCATION: BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY

WHO: TEENS 14-18

Q'S: [EVELYNG@STWALTERCHURCH.COM](mailto:EVELYNG@STWALTERCHURCH.COM)

REGISTER BY FEB 5TH

Register Here



# Come Celebrate Christmas with us

Christmas Eve Masses

Church - 3pm, 5pm and 10pm

Lake Park West - 3:00pm

Christmas Day

8am, 10am and 12noon

All in the Church

For more information call 630-894-2461

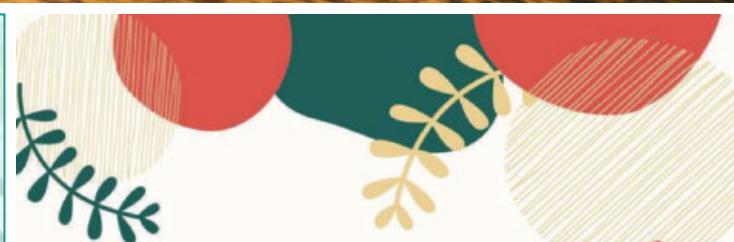
or visit [www.stwalterchurch.com](http://www.stwalterchurch.com)

2024

## A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

Many thanks to so many joyful disciples  
who made this happen especially the  
St. Walter Performing Arts Ministry!

Hundreds of young families at all  
4 sessions, plus hot cocoa and cookies  
afterwards! Bravo!



## SIMBANG GABI

DIOCESE OF JOLIET

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 - 4PM

MASS PRESIDED BY BISHOP

RONALD HICKS

ST. WALTER CHURCH

Live Streamed on St. Walter Church website



# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING



UPCOMING  
EVENT

## Women Seeking *Holiness*



**SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 28, 2024  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**

140 N. Oakwood Avenue  
West Chicago, IL 60185

Cost: \$20 (Lunch & snacks will be served.)  
(Please contact us if the cost is a hardship.)

Please register at the QR code by December 24th.



Questions?  
Debbie Camp  
(815) 221-6171  
vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org

**A**ll young women (18+) are invited to join Vocations Director, Fr. Steven Borello, and Fr. Andrew Buchanan for a one-day retreat that will include:

- Prayer/Rosary
- Discussions
- Discernment on the life of holiness
- Mass
- Adoration
- Confession

DIOCESE OF JOLIET  
Office of Vocations



UPCOMING  
EVENT

## Men Seeking *Holiness*



**MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 30, 2024  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church**

36 North Ellsworth Street  
Naperville, IL 60540

Cost: \$20 (Lunch & snacks will be served.)  
(Please contact us if the cost is a hardship.)

Please register by December 27th.

Questions?

Contact us at [vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org) / (815) 221-6171

**A**ll young men (18+) are invited to join Vocations Director, Fr. Steven Borello, and Fr. Jared Rutnicki for a one-day retreat that will include:

- Prayer/Rosary
- Discussions
- Discernment on the life of holiness
- Mass/Adoration/Confession
- Recreation (Bring athletic attire for activities.)



Scan QR Code for Itinerary and more information

## Jubilee of Young People PILGRIMAGE to Rome

**JULY 27 - AUGUST 4, 2025**  
with Optional Italy Pre-Tour



For information or to make a reservation, contact:  
Penny Borello | [Inteletravel.com](http://Inteletravel.com) | 630-309-1851 | [pborello@gmail.com](mailto:pborello@gmail.com)

Anyone registering must be turning 18 by July 1, 2025 and not older than 39 years old by the time of travel to participate in the Jubilee events.

## Creation Care Corner

### God With Us

In the Encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, Pope Francis reminds us how deeply present God is in our world always, reminding us of His love and commitment.

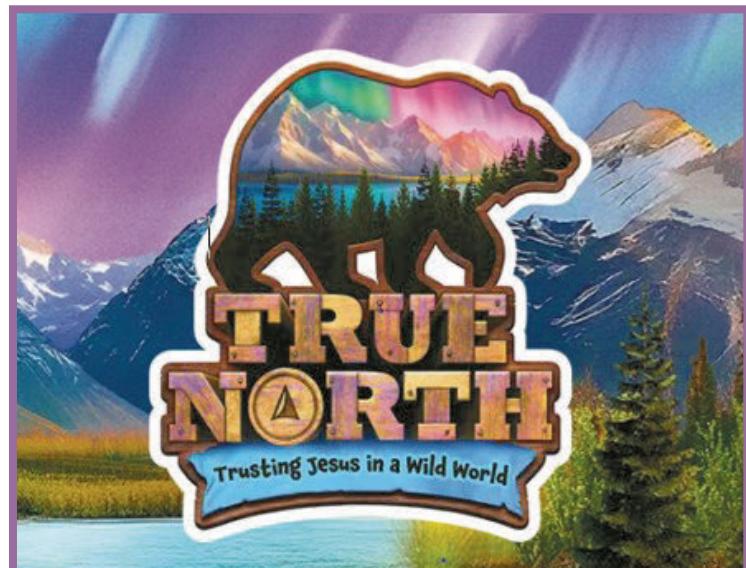
Worrying about the world's many, serious problems can take away the joy that our Lord intends for us, even during this season. On this, the Pope teaches that we can all cooperate with our Creator for a better world, and that even "simple daily gestures which break with the logic of violence, exploitation and selfishness" can help heal our hearts and our planet.

The Holy Father encourages us to "come together to take charge of this home which has been entrusted to us, knowing that all the good which exists here will be taken up into the heavenly feast...Let us sing as we go," for "...the Lord of life, who loves us so much, is always present....he has united himself definitively to our earth, and his love constantly impels us to find new ways forward."

(*Laudato Si'*, para. 230, 244 & 245).

**Peace on Earth, and Good Will to all  
this Christmas Season!**

## LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING!



### SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School

Pre-K - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

June 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>



CLOW, or also known as CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD, is offered at the 9am mass for children ages 4 to grade 2 only. These children are invited to participate in this special time where they leave the sanctuary at the start of Mass to hear the Word of God proclaimed and explained at an age-appropriate level. Children will be invited to come up in front of the altar for a special blessing before being dismissed with their CLOW leaders. Please understand this is available only for children ages 4 through grade 2. We appreciate your understanding.

Parent volunteers are always needed and welcome! Contact Valerie Della Penna at [valeried@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:valeried@stwalterchurch.com) on how to get involved with CLOW.

### Substitute Catechists Needed

The Family Faith Formation Program is in need of Substitute Catechists for our Tuesday and Wednesday Programs.

This is perfect for those who are interested in being a Catechist on a limited basis.



Please contact Valerie at [valeried@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:valeried@stwalterchurch.com)

or 630-439-3019  
for more information.

# CONGRATULATIONS!



**Siena Mara Alimondi**  
(Robert & Marisa)



**Stella Annalisa Zambetti**  
(Robert & Claire)

**Congratulations to our  
Newly Baptized Joyful Disciples!**



**Luciana Pellegrino**  
(Gianluca & Marina)



**Sofia Anne Forys**  
(Tomasz & Kayla)

# CONGRATULATIONS!



**Connor Patrick Hock, Jr.**  
(Connor & Lindsey)

**Joshua Daniel Lyons**  
(Samuel & Christine)



**Nora Belle Balice**  
(Vito & Ariana)



**Also Baptized, but not pictured:**  
**Blake Kimber Hegarty**  
**Violet Grace Hegarty**  
(Colin & Valeriya)



## Blessing Baptism Families

Every 11am Mass, we invite families who will have their babies baptized to attend this Mass and be blessed by our community of Joyful Disciples. So awesome!!

## A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM



## A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM



# PARISH INFO

## STAFF DIRECTORY + REGISTRATION

### ST. WALTER PARISH HOUSE - PHONE: (630) 894-2461

130 W. Pine Avenue, Roselle, IL 60172

Website: [www.stwalterchurch.com](http://www.stwalterchurch.com)

Rev. Mario Quejadas, Pastor, [frmario@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:frmario@stwalterchurch.com)

Rev. Robert Basler, Parochial Vicar, [frrobert@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:frrobert@stwalterchurch.com)

Deacon Michael Kowalchik, [kowalchikm@gmail.com](mailto:kowalchikm@gmail.com)

Deacon Bob Esposito, [espo1960@gmail.com](mailto:espo1960@gmail.com)

Deacon Joseph Pusateri, [dcn.joe.pusateri@gmail.com](mailto:dcn.joe.pusateri@gmail.com)

*You can dial the staff directly using the number printed with their names.*

Liz Barone, Sacramental Secretary,

[\(630\) 439-3002](mailto:ebarone@stwalterchurch.com)

Linda Wasserstrom, Asst. to Pastor & Bereavement Coord.,

[\(630\) 439-3003](mailto:linda@stwalterchurch.com)

Frances Radencic, Coordinator of Worship

[\(630\) 439-3020](mailto:francesr@stwalterchurch.com)

Colleen Anderson, Bulletin Editor

Bulletin Submissions: [bulletin@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:bulletin@stwalterchurch.com)

Annette Spezio, Pastoral Counselor,

[\(708\) 743-9729](mailto:annettes4@yahoo.com)

Mass Intentions

[\(630\) 439-3004](mailto:mass.intentions@stwalterchurch.com)

### GUINEY MINISTRY CENTER - PHONE: (630) 894-5880

*You can dial the staff directly using the number printed with their names.*

Donna Burke, Discipleship Coordinator,

[\(630\) 439-3014](mailto:dburke@stwalterchurch.com)

Valerie Della Penna, Director of Family Faith Formation,

[\(630\) 439-3019](mailto:valeried@stwalterchurch.com)

Joan Figley, Director of Music,

[\(630\) 439-3017](mailto:jfigley@stwalterchurch.com)

Evelyn Garfias, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator,

[\(630\) 439-3018](mailto:evelyn@stwalterchurch.com)

Richard Klemundt, Business Manager,

[\(630\) 439-3013](mailto:rklemundt@stwalterchurch.com)

Julie Majovsky, Communications and Technology Director,

[\(630\) 439-3012](mailto:juliem@stwalterchurch.com)

Amy Magnus, FFF Administrative Assistant

[\(630\) 439-3015](mailto:amym@stwalterchurch.com)

Rachel Karlovitz, Early Childhood & Sunday Coordinator, FFF

[\(630\) 439-3011](mailto:rachelk@stwalterchurch.com)

### ST. WALTER SCHOOL - PHONE: (630) 529-1721

WEBSITE: [www.stwalterschool.com](http://www.stwalterschool.com)

EMAIL: [swsoffice@stwalterschool.com](mailto:swsoffice@stwalterschool.com)

Mary Kate Warco, Principal, [mkwarco@stwalterschool.com](mailto:mkwarco@stwalterschool.com)

## COME JOIN OUR PARISH!

We welcome all to join us as members of St. Walter Parish.

There are three ways to sign up:

- Online at [stwalterchurch.com](http://stwalterchurch.com). From the *Home* tab select **Become a Joyful Disciple—New Membership**.
- At the Faith Network Desk in the Narthex (*gathering space*) before or after Sunday Masses.
- At the Parish House — Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Friday: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

### BAPTISM

Parents wishing to have their child baptized at St. Walter need to complete an online parent formation course and attend a Zoom Meeting with the Baptism Team. To begin the process, parents should go to our parish website and submit a request: [www.st.walterchurch.com/sacraments/baptism](http://www.st.walterchurch.com/sacraments/baptism). For baptism of children 6 years of age or older, please contact Valerie Della Penna at (630) 439-3019.

### FIRST EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION FOR CHILDREN

Children enrolled in St. Walter School, or the St. Walter Family Faith Formation (FFF) receive preparation for, and celebrate the sacraments as part of their religious formation.

### BECOMING A CATHOLIC

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the journey by which non-baptized persons, and persons baptized in another Christian faith tradition, are invited to consider becoming Catholic. This process is also open to baptized Catholics who haven't received the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Please contact Deacon Joe Pusateri via email - [dcn.joe.pusateri@gmail.com](mailto:dcn.joe.pusateri@gmail.com) or call him at (630) 708-0612.

### RECONCILIATION

Saturdays at 3:30 PM; you may also call (630) 894-2461 x3002 to make an appointment with a priest.

### MARRIAGE

Diocesan law requires a minimum of 6 months preparation in advance of the wedding date. However, as soon as a couple determines that they want to marry at St. Walter Church they must contact the pastor to schedule an informational meeting. A wedding date will not be confirmed until the couple meets with the pastor. To schedule a meeting email: [frmario@stwalterchurch.com](mailto:frmario@stwalterchurch.com). In the email include your name, a telephone number at which you can be reached and your email address.

### HOLY ORDERS

If you are considering the priesthood, you are encouraged to participate in vocation events offered in the Diocese of Joliet. Visit the Diocese of Joliet Vocations Office website [dioceseofjoliet.org/vocations](http://dioceseofjoliet.org/vocations) for more information or contact Fr. Steve Borello at (815) 221-6100.

### ANointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick is scheduled quarterly at weekend liturgies, Saturday mornings during the 8:30 AM Mass throughout the year and by appointment. Call the parish office, (630) 894-2461.



# Dear Padre

December 22, 2024

## Where does the Hail Mary prayer come from?

The Hail Mary owes its origin to the rosary. The traditional story of the rosary was that Mary herself appeared to St. Dominic in the twelfth century and gave him the rosary with the promise that if he spread devotion to the rosary, his religious order would flourish. In the twelfth century, religious orders recited together the 150 psalms as a way to mark the hours of the day and the days of the week. In order to pray the psalms, though, people had to know how to read. People who didn't know how to read wanted to share in the practice, so the rosary, or praying on beads, began as a parallel prayer practice. It was a way that illiterate people could remember the Lord and his Mother throughout the day.

The first rosaries consisted of a string of 150 beads, and, much as we do now, a person would pass over each bead after saying a prayer, usually the Our Father. Later, people added the Archangel Gabriel's greeting—"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee"—and later still, Elizabeth's prayer we hear in today's Gospel—"Blessed art thou among women." Finally this prayer was added in the sixteenth century: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death." ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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## THE PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

DECEMBER

"For pilgrims of hope"

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



## Matthew 7:12



"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets".

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