



## Mass Intentions

(+Deceased, L-Living)



### March 24—March 30, 2024

#### Sunday, March 24—Palm Sunday

8am + Carmen & Bernice Fiorentino  
10am + Providence Brencic  
12pm People of Holy Spirit Parish

#### Monday, March 25

9am + MaryAnne Duffy

#### Tuesday, March 26

9am + Andrea Racibozynski

#### Wednesday, March 27

9am + Sam Izzo

#### Thursday, March 28—Holy Thursday

7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

#### Friday, March 29—Good Friday

7pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

#### Saturday, March 30—Easter Vigil

7pm Intention of the Presider

## Lenten Regulations

- Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- All from the age of 18 years up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
- To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is sinful.
- Lent is the principal season of penance in the Church year. Therefore, all of the faithful are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial. All Catholics are encouraged to support generously the charitable works of the whole Church, pray and perform works of charity and mercy.
- Those who are sick, pregnant, or nursing, or whose health would adversely be affected by fasting or abstinence, should not consider themselves bound by these norms.

## Please Pray For

**All those who are in our hearts facing illness.**

We ask our Lord Jesus Christ to bring healing, comfort, and peace to them. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of His love. Amen

**All those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.**

O Lord, may they find light, happiness and peace in Your presence. Amen.

**Our Parishioners who serve our country with pride and valor.**

**All first responders and law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line to keep us safe at home.**

**Vocations** (Prayer for Vocations by Pope Francis)

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that you inspire young people whom You call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



## From the Pastor's Desk...

### PALM SUNDAY

Dear Parishioners:

In one of the greatest moments in Scripture, Jesus enters the Garden of Gethsemane with the disciples and asks that they keep watch with him at least one hour. He asks that they stay close with him in the greatest time of need. As we now enter this Holy Week with the Lord, the same is asked of us.

My hope and prayer is that we do all we can to keep this week Holy. Please come to as many or all of the Holy Week and Triduum services as we prepare to enter the Easter Season.

Let us all stay close to Jesus this week!

Fr. John





# Bishop Hicks' Column

March 2024

## SUPER BOWL SURPRISE



ON A SUNDAY IN FEBRUARY, I gathered with my family and friends to watch the Super Bowl. It was entertaining hearing everyone's reasons for gathering around the game that day. Some were cheering on a particular team or player. Others couldn't

wait to view the halftime show or catch a glimpse of Taylor Swift. A few just relished being in the company of friends and family and indulging in the abundance of food and drink. Regardless of each person's motivation, the Super Bowl provided us with an opportunity to come together in the spirit of fun and camaraderie.

I enjoyed the gathering and the game for all those reasons, but I must admit many of the commercials left me confused! I found myself asking, "What was that commercial about?" or, "What product were they trying to sell? I just don't get it!" Thankfully, there were plenty of younger people around to explain curious ads to me.

Then, to my surprise, a 30-second commercial popped up featuring the actors Mark Wahlberg and Jonathan Roumie. I did a double-take and blurted out in surprise, "Wait a minute! Did they just actually run a positive, CATHOLIC commercial?!" I convinced my family and friends to rewind it and rewatch it with me three times. Amazingly, the commercial urged viewers to take a break from the game, thank God, and enjoy a moment of prayer on this Sunday. The ad highlighted a 40-day Lenten prayer challenge to be found on the Hallow app. The last three words in the commercial nudged us to "Stay prayed up." If you have not yet seen this commercial, you can find it on Hallow's YouTube channel ([hallow.com/youtube](https://hallow.com/youtube)).

I'm already a subscriber to the Hallow app. But I immediately clicked to join the 40-day prayer challenge which began on Ash Wednesday. It seems I was not alone in heeding that call! The day after Ash Wednesday, the Hallow app reached the number-one spot in Apple's App Store. I'm liking this structured and intentional Lenten challenge; it has enhanced my further spiritual growth during this season of Lent.

Here's what's stirred me: the Pray40 Community Prayer Challenge offers a different, well-prepared meditation or reflection from a variety of presenters, including Mark Wahlberg, Jonathan Roumie, Sister Mary Bernice, M.C.; Sister Miriam James, S.O.L.T.; and Father Mike Schmitz. Many of the days guide us through the astonishing, spiritual classic, *He Leadeth Me*, written by Fr. Walter J. Ciszek, S.J. Fr. Walter was a Jesuit priest and missionary, imprisoned for more than 20 years in the Soviet Union. Amidst horrific and brutal conditions, Fr. Walter underwent a profound spiritual journey. He surrendered his life to God and gifted us with an extraordinary example of faith, humility, and hope in Christ.

I've noticed several testimonials about the positive, spiritual effects of using the Hallow app this Lent. One that was moving was from a man who shared "Hallow right now is bringing me back to my faith and I will see where it goes. I abandoned my Catholic upbringing because I struggle with religion being the root of so much division and war in our world. I've just recently introduced Hallow and am taking great comfort in welcoming God back into my life."

This Lent, I've been trying to spend less time on social media and more time in quiet and meditative prayer. So it seems like a paradox to me that Hallow's Lent Pray40 challenge is leading me back to my phone. Yet, using this particular app doesn't make me feel like I just wasted a large chunk of time—instead, it's guided me to feeling nourished, inspired, and blessed during my Lenten journey.

This Lent, I've noticed how many people are seeking to go deeper spiritually. So many yearn to return to God and the Church. The Church gives us so many beautiful paths to do so. Astoundingly, this year's Super Bowl commercial, which was broadcast to millions throughout the world, just might have been the voice of the Holy Spirit whispering with a megaphone to each one of us! We have been invited to draw closer to the Lord this Lent and become more fully the person God created us to be. So, here's my commercial: if you have not already done so, I encourage you to download the Hallow app and start following the Lent Pray40 challenge daily. It's never too late to stay prayed up!

## DIOCESE OF JOLIET





## Holy Week and Easter

*At Holy Spirit*

**Saturday, March 23** (*Palm Sunday anticipatory*)  
(No Confessions) Mass, 4:30 pm

**Sunday, March 24 – Palm Sunday**  
Masses 8am, 10am, 12noon

**Monday, March 25**  
Mass, 9:00am

**Tuesday, March 26**  
Mass, 9:00am + Adoration until 12noon  
Tenebrae Service, 7:00pm

**Wednesday, March 27**  
Mass, 9:00am

**Thursday, March 28 Holy Thursday**  
Mass, 7:00pm  
Adoration following mass until 10pm in Narthex

**Friday, March 29 Good Friday**  
Stations of the Cross - 3:00pm  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion/  
Veneration of the Cross – 7pm

**Saturday, March 30 Holy Saturday**  
Blessing of the Easter Baskets – 10am  
Easter Vigil Mass – 7:00pm  
*No Confessions will be heard on Holy Saturday*

**Easter Sunday Mass Schedule, March 31, 2024**  
8am, 10am, 12 noon

## Catholic Weddings AND OTHER RELATED ISSUES

with Fr. John Sponder  
and  
David Salvato, JCD  
Chancellor for Diocese of Joliet

**SUNDAY, April 21st**  
12:30 - 2:00 pm

Join us  
for  
answers to all  
your wedding  
and any other  
related  
questions.

What is a  
Catholic  
wedding?

What is a  
con-  
validation?

How do I get  
my marriage  
blessed?



Contact  
Roberta Balsewicz  
rbalsewicz@hsc.us



HSCC Parish Offices  
will be closed  
Good Friday through  
Easter Monday,  
March 29—April 1.

Offices will reopen  
Tuesday, April 2, 8am.



**SEASONS OF HOPE**  
A Grief Support Group



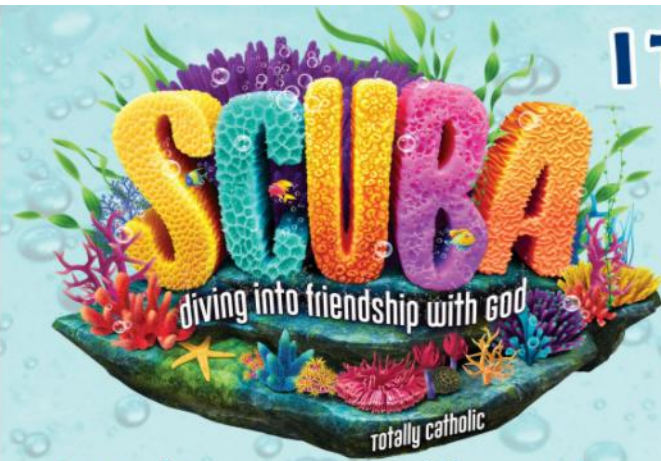
**Tuesday, April 9th, 2024 -- 1pm-2:30pm**

Join our grief support group as we explore the "common" expressions of grief as studied by five experts in the field. There will be special emphasis on the encouraging work of resilience in grieving individuals by Dr. George Bonanno. Learn about readjusting and moving forward with our lives while honoring our loved one/s.

RSVP to Roberta Balsewicz (rbalsewicz@hsc.us) or Bernadette Beyer (beyerbh@gmail.com)



# IT'S HAPPENING!! REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR VBS 2024!!



**Let's dive into friendship with God this summer!**  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**will be held June 24-28, 2024**  
**from 9:30am until noon at HSCC.**  
**VBS is open to any student**  
**entering grades K-6 in the Fall**

**Spots are limited! Register by April 15**  
**for early bird rate of \$40 per child**



Scan the QR Code  
to register



**Southern France, Lourdes, and  
Barcelona**

**September 22 to October 3, 2024**

Hosted by *Fr. Richard Smith and Fr. John Sponder*

**Nice ... Avignon ... Nimes ... Pont du Gard ... Car-**  
**cassonne ... Lourdes ... Montserrat ...**  
**Barcelona**

We are planning a pilgrimage of faith and a journey of discovery to all the classical highlights of Southern France and Barcelona. From the Cote d'Azur, we follow in the footsteps of great artists and writers to St. Paul de Vence and see Matisse's masterpiece at the Rosary Chapel. Then we follow the 14<sup>th</sup> C. Popes to Avignon and explore the Roman heritage and expert engineering of Pont du Gard and Nimes Arena. After the medieval charm of Carcassonne, the highlight will be our pilgrimage to Lourdes to follow in the footsteps and embrace the spirituality of St. Bernadette before we end our journey in the vibrant city of Barcelona.

**Brochures are available at the  
Holy Spirit Parish Office.**

For additional information, contact:  
Trans World Travel Inc.  
734 Central Avenue  
Highland Park, IL 60035  
Phone 847-432-2400



## HOW THE PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION IS USED



What is the Pontifical  
Good Friday Collection?

**It supports the people of the Holy Land**  
and the pilgrims that visit.

At the request of the Holy Father, the Franciscans of the Holy Land promote the Pontifical Good Friday Collection in the United States and other parts of the world. Funds are distributed at the direction of the Vatican's Congregation for the Oriental Churches. A portion of the funds are directly allocated to the educational and ecclesial projects in the Middle East. The rest of the funds collected in the United States and a number of other countries support the ministries and programs entrusted by the Holy See to the Holy Land Franciscans. The Franciscans have served in the Holy Land for 800 years.

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides, Humanitarian, Liturgical, Pastoral, Archaeological, Charitable, Educational services, as well as care for the Holy Places.

**Special Collection**  
**Good Friday, March 29, 2024**

Serving those in  
need in the Holy Land

- 250 friars 11 countries
- 65 sanctuaries and 23 parishes
- **6 guest houses for pilgrims**
- 30 youth served by Bethlehem Boys' Home
- 63 apartments restored for families in need
- 1,020 employees in Israel and Palestine
- 17 schools with more than 10,000 students
- 509 university scholarships
- **56 Friars preparing for the priesthood**
- 700 refugees aided on the island of Rhodes
- 8,000+ Syrian families aided
- 650+ families in Lebanon assisted
- Construction of a Catholic school in Cana

**Help us continue to serve!**

Commissariat of the Holy Land  
1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017  
[www.MtFranciscan.org/good-Friday](http://www.MtFranciscan.org/good-Friday)





## This Week's Meetings March 24—March 30, 2024

### Sunday, March 24

9:30am OCIA, Multipurpose Rm

### Tuesday, March 26

7pm Adult Choir, Church

### Wednesday, March 27

5pm Youth Choir, Church

### Friday, March 29

3pm Stations of the Cross, Church

### Saturday, March 30

10am Easter Basket Blessing, Parking Lot/Narthex

See the parish website for all upcoming event information; [www.hscc.us](http://www.hscc.us)



The Inter-parish Marriage Enrichment Team  
Presents our 16th Annual Event

**WE'VE PLANNED A PERFECT DATE NIGHT...  
SO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO!**

*Date Night Comedy  
Love, Relationships &  
Other Confusing Things*

An entertaining night of hilarious skits and  
improvisation featuring Acts of Renewal

Acts  
of  
Renewal

Friday, April 19, 2024

St. Scholastica School Gym in Woodridge, IL

Doors Open at 6:15pm. Show starts at 7:00pm

Registration \$30 per couple

Beer, Wine, Soda and Snacks Available (Cash Only)



Dr. Jim and Carol Shores have delighted couples across the country as they enhance their presentations with comedy and theatre communicating in a most entertaining, practical way about relationship issues. Funny, accessible and real, they speak to couples of all ages to help marriages thrive. If you like to laugh, learn and reconnect, you'll thoroughly enjoy Jim and Carol Shores.



IMET is grateful for the financial support of the Diocese of Joliet

Register by on our website at  
[www.imetevents.org](http://www.imetevents.org) or scan  
the QR Code.



2024 EVENTS

# THEOLOGY ON TAP

Young Adult  
Ministry



WEDNESDAY

APRIL 17



**Michael Gormley**  
"The Lay Evangelist"

Michael currently serves as the Mission Evangelist for *Paradise Dei*, a ministry dedicated to helping men, couples, and families discover the superabundance of God. He is also the founder and creative director of *LayEvangelist.com* and the co-host to two successful Catholic podcasts: *Catching Poses* and *Every Knee Shall Bow*.

Bring all your friends and join us for appetizers, drinks, faith and fellowship!

THURSDAY

JUNE 13



**Reverends Jeremy Leganski, Alex Lorang, and Jared Rutnicki**  
Newly ordained priests of the Diocese of Joliet

Fathers Jeremy, Alex, and Jared were ordained to the priesthood in May 2023. They are excited to share their vocation stories as well as remark on the tenets of the current celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Diocese of Joliet: founded in faith, called to witness, sent forth to serve.

All events will be held from **6:30 to 9:30 p.m.** at the  
**BLANCHETTE CATHOLIC CENTER**  
16555 Weber Road  
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403

THURSDAY

OCT 24



**Most Reverend Ronald Hicks**  
Bishop of Joliet

Bishop Ron Hicks was ordained to the priesthood in 1994. He served at several parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago before serving as regional director at *Nuestros Papeles Hermanos* in El Salvador. He was Dean of Formation at Mundelein Seminary before he was appointed Vicar General, then auxiliary bishop. He was named bishop of the Diocese of Joliet in 2020.

This Theology on Tap event series is part of the 75th Anniversary of the Diocese of Joliet. For a listing of events and activities, visit [diojoliet.org/75th](http://diojoliet.org/75th).



Department of  
Catechesis and  
Evangelization

Jim Elias  
Lifelong Lay Formation  
(815) 221-6134  
[jelias@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:jelias@dioceseofjoliet.org)

DIocese of Joliet  
[diojoliet.org](http://diojoliet.org)



# Parish Information

## Mass Schedule

### **Weekdays:**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday... 9am

### **Weekend:**

Saturday...4:30pm

Sunday...8am, 9:30am, and 11am

## Adoration

Tuesdays, following the 9am mass until 12 noon.

## Sacraments

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday, 3:30pm -4:00pm

### **Baptisms**

12:30pm on the 2nd Sunday of each month unless otherwise noted

### **Weddings**

Please contact the parish office

## Parish Office Hours

**Monday - Thursday** 8am to 4:30pm

(closed 12noon-1pm)

**Friday** 8am to 1pm

## Parish Priests

**Pastor**, Rev. John Sponder

frjohn@hsc.us

**Parochial Vicar**, Rev. Richard Smith

frsmith@hsc.us

## Permanent Deacons

Dcn. Eric Alvarez, deaconeric@hsc.us

Dcn. Steve Boffa, deaconsteve@hsc.us

Dcn. Tim Roberts, deacontim@hsc.us

## Music Ministry, ext 8

Music Director, Christina Eubank

ceubank@hsc.us

Adult Choir Director, Debbie Dujsik

ddujsik@hsc.us

Youth Choir Director, Sadie Wynne

swynne@hsc.us

## Adult Faith Formation & OCIA, ext 7

Roberta Balsewicz,

rbalsewicz@hsc.us

## Religious Education

Coordinator Grades 1-5

Lauren Nelson, ext. 61

lnelson@hsc.us

Coordinator Grades 6-8

Kim Kroeze, ext. 62

kkroeze@hsc.us

## Business & Administration Office

### **Business Manager**

Leslie Doherty, ext. 91

ldoherty@hsc.us

### **Administrative Assistant**

Kathy Mackowiak, ext 92

kmackowiak@hsc.us

### **Parish Administrative Assistant**

Lisa Brancato, ext 93

lbrancato@hsc.us

### **Maintenance**

Victor Velazquez

maintenance@hsc.us

## Consider Electronic Giving

Interested in moving to electronic donation versus envelopes, and don't know where to start?

For information and to select the option that works best for you, go to the parish website, [www.hsc.us/donation](http://www.hsc.us/donation).



- Automatic Debit or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)
- WeShare OnLine Giving
- Donating Stock
- QR Code (one time or reoccurring offering)



*It is with grateful hearts, we thank you for your continued support of the parish.*

## Parish Stewardship

Monthly Offering	# of Donors	Feb-24
WeShare Online Giving	114	\$9,942
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)	162	\$18,473
Envelopes & Loose Cash	200	\$48,671
<b>Total February Collection</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>\$77,086</b>

### **Special Collections - Feb 2024**

Church in Central/Eastern Europe	\$602
Mortgage Donations	\$14,232

HSCC Mortgage	Date	Balance
Original Mortgage Loan	1/1/2005	\$3,590,755
<b>Current Loan Balance</b>	<b>2/29/2024</b>	<b>\$248,203</b>



Diocesan is proud to be printing

# Holy Spirit's Sunday Bulletin

You are invited to help support our Parish!

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