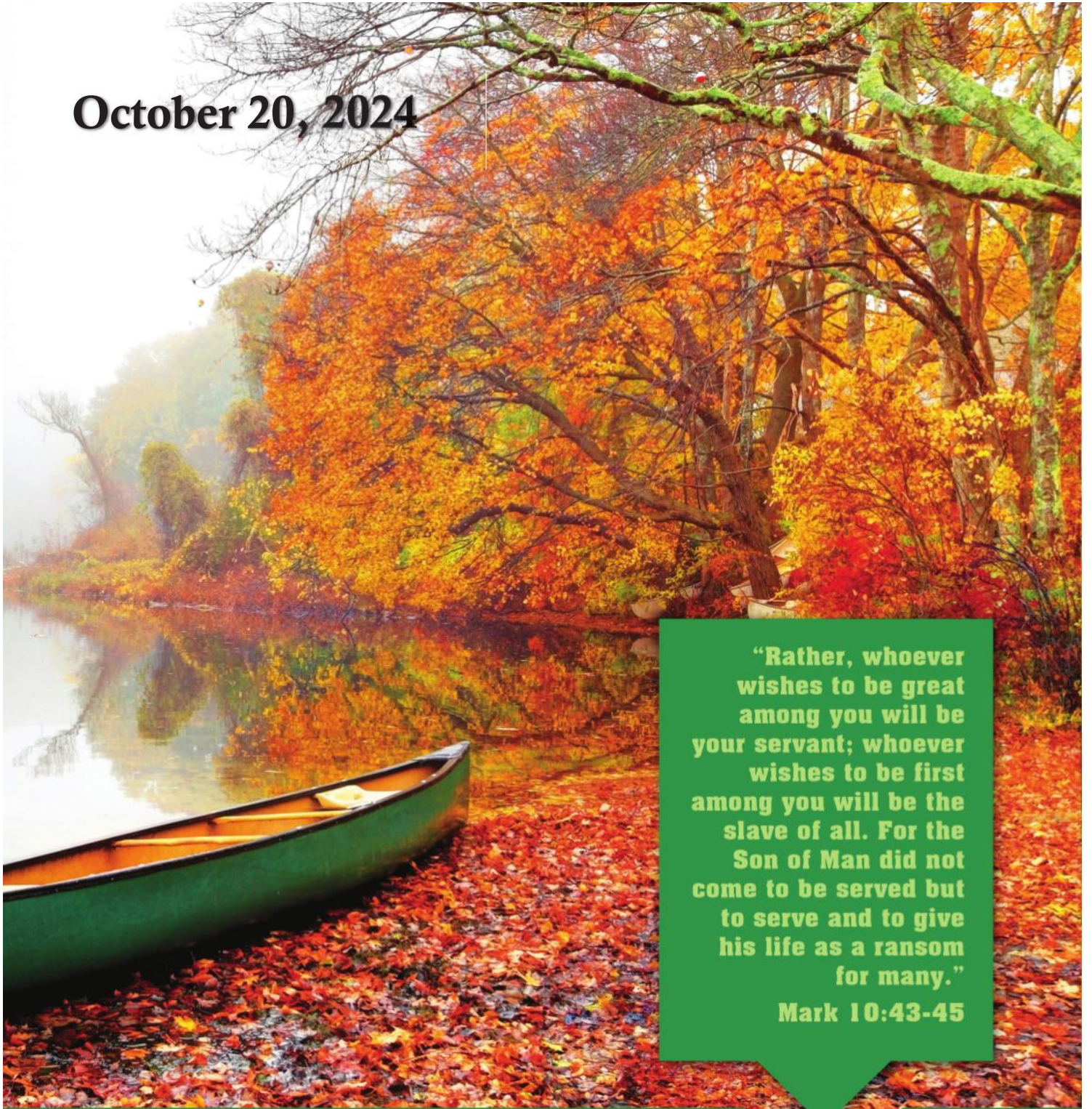


October 20, 2024



“Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:43-45



29
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TIME

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Bishop Hicks' Column October 2024

A prayer answered: Our new Auxiliary Bishop



Sometimes I get the impression that many people view the Diocese of Joliet as a "small" diocese. Perhaps this is because we border the mammoth Archdiocese of Chicago. However, to refer to us as "small" is rather misleading and inaccurate.

The Joliet Diocese serves over half a million Catholics in a geographic area of 4,218 square miles throughout DuPage, Kankakee, Will, Grundy, Ford, Iroquois, and Kendall counties. We are blessed with 117 parishes, 7 missions, 43 grade schools, 8 high schools, and 3 universities within our diocesan boundaries. To put the geographical size and scope into perspective, when I worked as Vicar General in the Archdiocese of Chicago, I put about 6,000 miles per year on my car visiting parishes, attending meetings, presiding at masses and celebrating sacraments. Now, I average over 20,000 miles per year attending to the same essential ministries.

In a diocese as large as ours, there has been an unwritten understanding that we would always have an auxiliary bishop. An auxiliary bishop is a bishop who assists the diocesan bishop in the administration and pastoral care of the diocese. Over the years, we have been blessed with six auxiliary bishops, including Daniel W. Kucera, Daniel L. Ryan, Raymond J. Vonesh, Roger L. Kaffer, James E. Fitzgerald, and Joseph M. Siegel. Bishop Siegel departed from our diocese and was installed in the Diocese of Evansville, Indiana, on December 15, 2017. Since that time, we here in the Diocese of Joliet have been patiently waiting, petitioning, and praying for a new auxiliary bishop.

On Friday, September 27, 2024, at 5:00 a.m. Central time, the Vatican announced that Pope Francis had appointed Rev. Dennis E. Spies as our new Auxiliary Bishop. Since that announcement, many people have asked me, "Who is Father Spies, and what is he like?"

Let me share some information. Bishop-elect Spies is 56 years old and is a native son of the Diocese of Joliet. He was raised on a farm in the small town of Ashkum, Illinois, and attended Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish. He was ordained a priest in 2002 and has both a Master of Divinity degree and a Sacred Theology degree from the University of St. Mary of the Lake. Following ordination, he ministered in a variety of assignments, including as parochial vicar at St. Walter's in Roselle and St. Mary Immaculate in Plainfield. He was pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes in Gibson City, St. George in Melvin, and Immaculate Conception in Roberts, as well as at St. Liborius in Steger, Mother Teresa Catholic Academy in Crete, and St. Mary Parish in Park Forest. He also served on the faculty at Mundelein Seminary and is currently the Vicar for Clergy for the Diocese of Joliet.

Besides his impressive education and wide variety of assignments, there is a consistent narrative shared by most who know him: he is hardworking, prayerful, and "down to earth" with a very relatable manner. He loves God and has a true friendship with Jesus. He wants the best for the Church and for God's people and works toward these goals in a sincere and humble way.

The evening before the big announcement of his appointment as Auxiliary Bishop, Father Dennis told his mom, Rose Mary, that the next day she was going to hear some big news about him. Not knowing what this big news was all about, Rose Mary talked with the wife of her son's best friend. With the keen instincts only a mother has, she said, "I think my son is going to be named a bishop!" The friend disagreed. So, they made a friendly wager as they anticipated the news. Later, when it was revealed that Father Dennis was indeed being named a bishop, the friend handed \$20 to Rose Mary. Mom was right! However, when they both gleefully realized Father Dennis was actually staying within the Diocese of Joliet and not being relocated to another diocese, Rose Mary handed that same \$20 right back to her friend!

Many of us find ourselves appealing to God for something specific: a definite decision in a definite time frame with a definite outcome. Here within our Diocese, besides our fervent asks of God, we tried to guess and predict who, when, and where a new bishop might be named. Why, I found myself doing the same, as much as I entrusted God with the decision. Despite our prayers and good intentions, we all eventually come to realize we are not in control of any process, even within the Church. Like all junctures in life, we have to rely on God's providence and timing. Even a bishop needs to be reminded once in a while that God's wisdom and timetable will always prevail and will be eminently right.

I thank God for the appointment of a new auxiliary bishop. Not only will he be a tremendous support for me with Confirmations, Masses, events, and the multitude of pastoral and administrative responsibilities, but he will also be a great gift to the Diocese of Joliet.

Please join me in congratulating Bishop-elect Dennis Spies and thanking the Holy Father for this appointment as our new Auxiliary Bishop. With gratitude and anticipation of his ordination on November 6, 2024, in unison we ask God to bless our soon-to-be Auxiliary Bishop, as we pray, "Come Holy Spirit."

Mass Intentions



Saturday, October 19

4:30pm + Georgiana Soumar

Sunday, October 20

8:00 am + Lester N. Moore

9:30 am People of Holy Spirit Catholic Church

11:00 am + Lorraine Comparato

Monday, October 21

9:00 am + Ann Kulig

Tuesday, October 22

9:00 am + Sylvia Mills

Wednesday, October 23

9:00 am + David Jenco

Mass Schedule

Monday - Wednesday...9:00 am

Saturday...4:30 pm

Sunday...8:00 am, 9:30am, and 11:00 am

Adoration

Tuesdays following the 9:00 am Mass until 12 noon.

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30pm -4:00pm



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Parish Stewardship

	# of	
Monthly Offering	Donors	Sep-24
WeShare Online Giving	137	\$11,985
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)	161	\$17,623
Envelopes & Loose Cash	192	\$52,677
Total September Collection	490	\$82,285
Special Collections - September 2024		
Mortgage Donations		\$6,615

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025		
YTD Budget		\$248,534
YTD Sunday Collection		\$240,986
Surplus/(Deficit)		(\$7,548)
Holy Spirit Mortgage	Date	Balance
Original Mortgage Loan	1/1/2005	\$3,590,755
Current Loan Balance	9/30/2024	\$78,988

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For information and to select the option that works best for you, please visit www.hsccl.us/donation

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



It is with grateful hearts that we thank you for your continued support of the parish!

Stewardship Reflection

“For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (MARK 10:45)

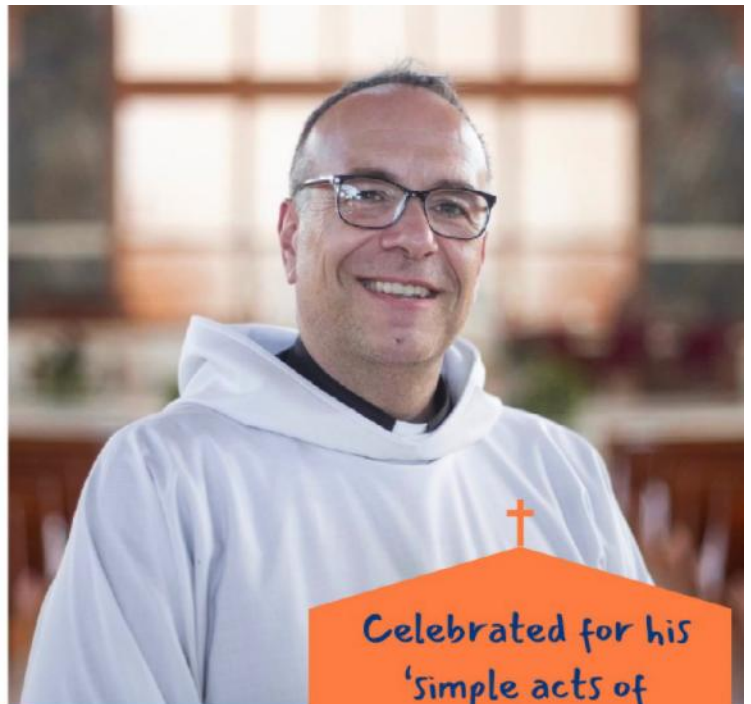
If you held a mirror up to your life, would it reflect God’s love and mercy? If you are struggling with this, try changing your attitude from “I want more” to “thank you God for everything you have given me, I have enough to share”. This change in perspective will bring you joy through service to others. Pray daily to become less self-centered and to become more God-centered.

60 Minutes for Jesus

with Fr. Jim Sichko

Papal Missionary of Mercy

Hear real life experiences,
personal stories, and humor, to
**motivate and recognize the
good within yourself and others.**

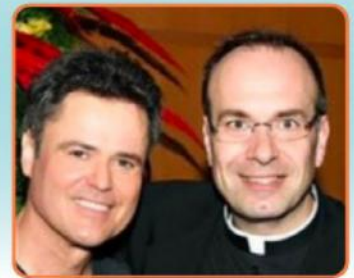


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**3 Nights
3 Unique Discussions**

Sunday, October 20th
Monday, October 21st
Tuesday, October 22nd

7:00 - 8:00 PM

Roberta @rbalsewicz@hsccl.us

Experience

- Practical tips for living a better life
- A deeper understanding of your purpose
- Skills to better discern Divine Providence at work

Join Us

MEN'S MINISTRY

Meetings
Every Saturday
7:00am to 8:30am.
General Purpose Room

You are welcome to participate when you can

What does this ministry/group do?

- United in growing in their faith through informal study of mass readings and related scripture.
- Supports the church as needed in other activities

Who is invited to participate?

All adult men who are seeking to expand and grow in their faith and seek a better understanding of scripture in a very informal setting. I

What volunteer opportunities are there?

We support many other church ministries as needed. Some specific to this group include Samaritan Network, Mission Trips, Hesed House, and more.

Contact

LUPE ALVAREZ
eldirector@yahoo.com
630-674-7690

The Glories of Ireland

July 19 to 30, 2025

Pilgrimage Hosted by

Fr. Richard Smith and Fr. John Sponder

We are planning a pilgrimage of faith and journey of discovery to all the highlights of the Emerald Isle. From the cradle of Irish Christianity at the Rock of Cashel, we follow in the footsteps of St. Patrick from the place where he baptised Ireland's king to his grave in Downpatrick. The Ring of Kerry, Cliffs of Moher and Giant's Causeway are just some examples of Ireland's stunning scenery.

We experience Irish culture at Blarney Castle, Bunratty Folk Park, Kylemore Abbey and Trinity College with the Book of Kells. All this and so much more!

There will be an informational meeting with Fr. Smith, Fr. Sponder and Trans World Travel on November 21st at 7PM at Holy Spirit Church, 2003 Hassert Blvd, Naperville. Brochures are available from Holy Spirit Church.

For additional information and an online brochure, please contact:
Trans World Travel Inc. on 847-432-2400,
25677 N. Hillview Ct. Mundelein, IL. 60060



A Grief Support Group

TUESDAYS
Starting October 29th
At 1:00 - 2:30 pm
RSVP by October 18th

seasons of hope

THE 7 INTENTIONS OF MOURNING

A Guided Pathway to Healing and Hope

- P**RAYER the soul of the Christian life
- R**EMEMBERING & HONORING treasuring the gifts they left us
- A**CCCEPTANCE coming to terms with what has happened
- Y**IELD TO THE PAIN facing our suffering
- E**NDURING CONNECTION: death ends a life, not a relationship
- R**EBUILD & REDEFINE building a new relationship with the world
- S**UPPORT receiving and giving

Any parishioner who is mourning the loss of a loved one is encouraged to attend and invited to bring a guest.

MEETING DATES

Oct. 29
Nov. 5
Nov. 12
Nov. 19
Nov. 26
Dec. 3
Dec. 10

Contact

Bernadette Beyer
beyerbh@gmail.com

Roberta Balsewicz
rbalsewicz@hscc.us
630-922-0081 x7



Visit National Shrine of St. Therese

DARIEN, ILLINOIS

Discover the rich heritage and inspiring legacy of one of the Catholic Church's most beloved saints.

Tuesday
October 29, 2024
10:00 a.m.

Join Faithful Explorers for a day of peace, reflection, and spiritual growth.

Reserve Your Spot Today!

\$15
per person

- INCLUDES**
- Guided Tour of Museum
 - Mass
 - Prayer Gardens
 - Gift Shop
 - Picnic Lunch*

Register by October 25th

Submit \$15 payment by cash or check to:
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
Attn: Faithful Explorers/ St. Therese Visit
CONTACT: Rbalsewicz@hscc.us

Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face is the youngest of all the "Doctors of the Church"



*Please bring your picnic lunch. We will dine together on the grounds.

TRUNK OR TREAT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

FROM 4PM-6PM AT HOLY SPIRIT!
WEATHER PERMITTING- WE WILL BE OUTSIDE, INDOORS IF IT RAINS.



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REGISTER TO
ATTEND.



DO YOU WANT TO HOST A TRUNK?

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

FROM 4PM-6PM AT HOLY SPIRIT!
WEATHER PERMITTING- WE WILL BE OUTSIDE, INDOORS IF IT RAINS.

YOU WILL BE ASSIGNED A PARKING SPOT FOR THE EVENT,
AND WE WILL LET YOU KNOW WHEN THE EVENT GETS
CLOSER HOW MUCH CANDY YOU WILL NEED. LOOK FOR A
DETAILED EMAIL AS THE EVENT GETS CLOSER.



SCAN THIS
QR CODE TO
REGISTER TO
HOST A TRUNK.



This Week's Meetings

Monday, October 21

7:00pm Parish Mission with Fr. Jim Sichko, Church

Tuesday, October 22

12:30pm Parish Leadership Team (PLT),
Multipurpose Room

7:00pm Parish Mission with Fr. Jim Sichko, Church

Thursday, October 24

10:00am Gathered in Prayer, Chapel

Friday, October 25

4:00pm Trunk or Treat, Parking Lot

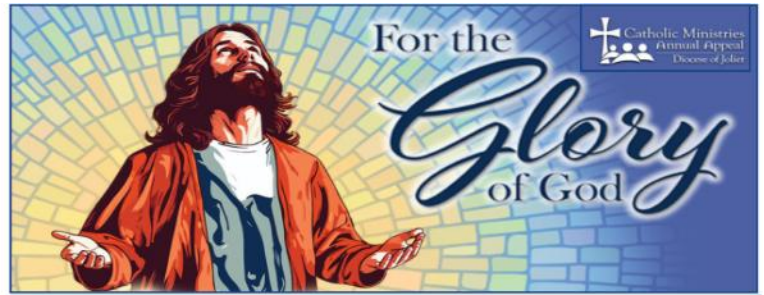
Saturday, October 26

7:00am That Man Is You, Gathering Place

Sunday, October 27

9:30am OCIA, Gathering Place

*See the parish website for all upcoming event information;
www.hscc.us*



2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

	As of 9/29/2024	Final 2023
Goal	\$99,000	\$94,300
Amount Pledged	\$133,423	\$135,028
Amount Paid	\$128,761	\$132,798
Balance Due	\$4,663	\$2,230
Donor Count	317	350
2024 Rebate	\$20,832	\$26,949



Parish Information

Pastor

Rev. John Sponder
frjohn@hscc.us

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Richard Smith
frsmith@hscc.us

Permanent Deacons

Dcn. Eric Alvarez
deaconeric@hscc.us
Dcn. Steve Boffa
deaconsteve@hscc.us
Dcn. Tim Roberts,
deacontim@hscc.us

Music Director

Christina Eubank, ext. 8
ceubank@hscc.us

Adult Choir Director

Debbie Dujsik, ext. 8
ddujsik@hscc.us

Youth Choir Director

Sadie Wynne, ext. 8
swynne@hscc.us

Adult Faith Formation & OCIA

Roberta Balsewicz, ext. 7
rbalsewicz@hscc.us

Religious Education

Coordinator Grades K-5
Lauren Nelson, ext. 61
lnelson@hscc.us

Religious Education

Coordinator Grades 6-8
Kim Kroeze, ext. 62
kkroeze@hscc.us

Business Manager

Leslie Doherty, ext. 91
ldoherty@hscc.us

Administrative Assistant

Kathy Mackowiak, ext 92
kmackowiak@hscc.us

Parish Administrative Assistant

Mary Beth Owens, ext. 93
mbowens@hscc.us

Maintenance

Victor Velazquez
maintenance@hscc.us

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
(closed 12noon-1pm)
Friday 8am to 1pm

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturday, 3:30pm -4:00pm

Baptisms

12:30pm on the 1st and 2nd
Sunday of each month.
For more information, please
visit hscc.us/infant-baptism.

Weddings

Please contact the parish office.

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