



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND

Saturday
4:30pm

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

WEEKDAY

Monday-Thursday
9:00am

CONFESSION

Saturday
3:30-4:00pm

ADORATION

Tuesdays
9:30am-10:30am

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

M- Thurs 8:00am-4:30pm
Friday 8:00am-1:00pm

JANUARY 25, 2026

**THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

OUR MISSION

Holy Spirit Catholic Church exists to bring people into a heartfelt relationship with Jesus Christ.



Bishop Hicks' Column January 2026



One Last Column, Ever Grateful

For more than five years, I have been blessed to share my thoughts with you in this monthly column. When I first began writing, it took me a very long time to craft each reflection. I often wondered if anyone was reading them or if they would make any difference at all.

But at parish visits and events, many of you told me that you read these reflections and that they helped you understand my mind and my heart. Some of you offered positive comments and others offered constructive suggestions. All of that feedback helped me grow in gratitude. I stopped seeing these columns as a task and started seeing them as a privilege. They became one of the ways we shared our faith journey together.

Now I write my final column. It is a bittersweet moment. I am excited for my next steps to New York. At the same time, I am going to miss this ongoing exchange with you.

As we come to the conclusion of this written dialogue, I would like to reflect with you on a few thoughts I shared at my farewell Mass on January 11, 2026.

In my homily, I expressed my sincere gratitude for the faith and love you have shown me throughout my years as your bishop. Together we have shared significant moments. We have celebrated the sacraments. We have strengthened our mission to be a vibrant and evangelizing Church. Through Confirmations, ordinations, graduations, the Chrism Mass, baptisms, funerals, community service, and our care for the most vulnerable, I saw Jesus Christ revealed in you. And each time we gathered for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, you strengthened my faith and drew me closer to God. And I pray that I have done the same for you.

I am deeply grateful to our priests who faithfully serve with pastoral hearts and leadership. To our deacons, wives, and families, thank you for your steadfast ministry of charity and your service. To our religious women and men and consecrated virgins, your prayerful presence and collaborative ministry have been a constant blessing. I am grateful for every sacrifice and every quiet act of love that often goes unseen but never goes unnoticed by God.

I also want to thank our diocesan staff and all employees who work as a vocation to ensure that the Church continues its mission. Our administrators, teachers, catechists, and youth ministers form disciples in classrooms and parish halls. Our musicians, liturgical ministers, and countless volunteers give life and beauty to our worship and mission. And to every parishioner across our seven counties, please know how grateful I am for your generosity and witness to faith in your homes, parishes, and workplaces.

Through baptism, we are all called to continue living the mission of Jesus Christ. I now move forward to serve in New York, trusting that the good work we have begun together will continue to bear fruit here in the Diocese of Joliet.

Many have asked who will become the next bishop. Soon, an administrator will be appointed who will continue to guide and govern the diocese while the apostolic nuncio and the Dicastery of Bishops offer recommendations to our Holy Father, Pope Leo. In due time, he will appoint the seventh Bishop of Joliet. Please join me in prayer for that discernment process.

Even though my ministry will continue in another place, I believe that prayer keeps us close. Every time we pray for one another, we remain closely united in Christ. So let us keep lifting each other up before God. I will carry you with me in my heart and in my daily prayer, and I humbly ask you to remember me in yours.

I also encourage you to be disciples who make disciples. Please continue to embrace my pastoral letter entitled MAKE. Pray with it. Reflect on it. Share it. Put it into practice every day. The Church grows when every one of us answers the call to live the Gospel with conviction and joy.

You remain in my heart and in my prayers with great love and deep gratitude. May God bless you and bless us always with His Spirit of peace and all good things. Paz y bien.



[Scan the QR code below to listen to the bishop's homily from his January 11th Mass of Thanksgiving.]



Farewell and Thank You Bishop Hicks!



May God bless you in your ministry as Archbishop of New York.



COMING UP AT HOLY SPIRIT



Inter-Parish Marriage Enrichment Team (IMET) Invites You To

GOD CHOSE YOU FOR ME

Presenters:
Tony and Sue Morris
Fr. Robert "Rosy" Rosebrough

Saturday, February 21, 2026
9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Holy Spirit Catholic Church

A one-day experience created by Worldwide Marriage Encounter to deepen the spiritual connection between a married couple.

Participants will create a personal prayer for their marriage that they can continue to use at home.



\$100 per couple
Includes lunch/materials



SCAN ME

Please register by February 13th at www.imetevents.org

For more information, contact Mark & Sue Bonucchi at 630-936-3296



Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, February 8th
Gathering Place
After ALL Masses

Free-will donations will benefit One Family Illinois, a unique foster care organization that keeps siblings together to help provide for a safe and bright future, partnering in the development of communities.



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus





COMING UP AT HOLY SPIRIT



You will notice these stickers in the church pews this weekend! A new way to connect with us here at Holy Spirit with a simple tap of your phone. Be sure to have your NFC turned on!

Sunday, January 25

- 9:00am OCIA, Multipurpose Room
- 12:00pm Rosary, Church
- 12:15pm Convalidation Talk, Gathering Place
- 12:15pm High School Teen Group Gathering

Wednesday, January 28

- 9:30am Bible Study, Gathering Place
- 7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal, Church

Thursday, January 29

- 9:45am Gathered in Prayer, Multipurpose Room

Saturday, January 31

- 7:00am Men's Ministry, Multipurpose Room
- 7:00am That Man is You, Gathering Place

Sunday, February 1

- 9:00am OCIA, Multipurpose Room
- 12:00pm Seasoned Spirits, Gathering Place

Monday, February 2

- 6:00pm K of C Officers' Mtg, Multipurpose Room

Wednesday, February 4

- 9:30am Bible Study, Gathering Place

Thursday, February 5

- 9:45am Gathered in Prayer, Multipurpose Room

Saturday, February 7

- 7:00am Men's Ministry, Multipurpose Room
- 7:00am That Man is You, Gathering Place
- 5:30pm Rosary, Narthex

Saturday, February 8

- Pancake Breakfast After All Masses
- 9:00am OCIA, Multipurpose Room

Wednesday, February 11

- 9:30am Bible Study, Gathering Place
- 7:00pm Mass for Our Lady of Lourdes, Church

Thursday, February 12

- 9:45am Gathered in Prayer, Multipurpose Room
- 6:30pm Buildings & Grounds Mtg., Multipurpose Room
- 7:15pm Ministers of Care Mtg., Church

Saturday, February 14

- 7:00am Men's Ministry, Multipurpose Room
- 7:00am That Man is You, Gathering Place
- 9:00am Parish Leadership Summit, Gathering Place
- 7:00pm Young Adult Game Night, Gathering Place

Sunday, February 15

- 9:00am OCIA, Multipurpose Room



Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

Please join us for Mass on Wednesday, February 11th at 7:00 pm. A blessing with Lourdes Water will conclude this special liturgy.

HSCC 2025 Contribution Statements

If you have not already received your 2025 Contribution Statement and you need a copy, please contact Kathy Mackowiak at KMackowiak@hsc.us. Your statement will be emailed to you, or you may pick it up at the parish office during regular office hours.



Young Adult Game Night

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 7:00 PM

Holy Spirit Gathering Place

Calling Young Adults 21-30s!

Bring your friends, your competitive spirit, and come ready to connect as a faith community.

Join us for an evening of prayer, food and fun!



GET INVOLVED

Building and Grounds Committee Kickoff Meeting Thursday, February 12th at 6:30pm HSCC Multipurpose Room

Holy Spirit Catholic Church is blessed with a beautiful 22-year-old church building and parking lot on ten (10) acres of wonderfully landscaped grounds that serve as a place of worship, fellowship, and community. As good stewards of the gifts God has entrusted to us, we are forming a Building and Grounds Committee to help oversee the care, maintenance, improvement and future development of our parish property.

All parishioners are invited to attend who have experience or interest in areas such as:

- Facilities management or building maintenance
- Landscaping or grounds care
- Construction, engineering, or architecture
- Budgeting, project planning, or fundraising
- A willingness to help and a heart for stewardship!

The committee will meet periodically to assess needs, prioritize projects, and make recommendations to the pastor, parish leadership team and the finance committee.

Together, let us care for our parish home so it may continue to welcome and serve all who enter.

“According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it.” - 1 Corinthians 3:10

HOLY SPIRIT MEN’S WELCOME RETREAT



A SPECIAL INVITATION FOR MEN

- ? Do you sense something is missing in your life?
- ? Do you feel that if you weren't so busy, you'd be happier, healthier, more fulfilled, and even a better person?

Take a break from the everyday and join us for an incredible weekend experience during the holy Lenten season.

WHAT YOU’LL GAIN

- **Rediscover** what’s missing in your life and what to do about it.
- **Deepen** your prayer life and spiritual connection.
- **Connect** with other men in the parish community.
- Take time to **relax, reflect**, and have some fun!

DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE TO RENEW, REFLECT, AND RECHARGE!

RETREAT DETAILS

WHEN: Saturday, March 7, 2026 8am-7:30pm
Sunday, March 8, 2026 8am-12:30pm

WHERE: Holy Spirit Catholic Church meeting rooms

COST: **FREE** (Meals provided)

**TO RSVP, PLEASE USE
THE QR CODE**



For questions, please contact:
Deacon Steve Boffa: deaconsteve@hsccl.us
Retreat Leader Brian Bartz: bbartz27@gmail.com



PRAY WITH US

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday, January 24

4:30 pm + Raymond Gockman

Sunday, January 25– Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am + Judith Hougas

9:30 am + Barbara Gaffke

11:00 am People of Holy Spirit Catholic Church

Monday, January 26– Saints Timothy & Titus

9:00 am + Bonnie Corwin

Tuesday, January 27– St. Angela Merici


9:00 am + Antonio Alunan Jr. and Intentions
of Anastasia Nosisi and Family

Wednesday, January 28– St. Thomas Aquinas

9:00 am Intentions of Matthew Peters

Thursday, January 29

9:00 am + Dick Seen



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Celebrate Catholic Schools Week
January 26 – 31, 2026

National Catholic Educational Association
www.NCEA.org/csw
#CSW2026

Word of God Sunday 2026



All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness... (2 Timothy 3:16)

Seasons of Hope

A Bereavement Support Group

TUESDAYS

Starting February 17, 2026

In the Multi-Purpose Room from 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Register by February 3rd to
Bernadette Beyer at beyerbh@gmail.com



Any parishioner who is mourning the loss of a loved one is invited to join us and bring a friend for a new faith-based series:

“Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart”

Based on the companion model for understanding grief by Dr. Alan Wolfelt



MEETING DATES

Feb. 17 & 24

March 3, 10,
17 & 24

April 14,
21 & 28

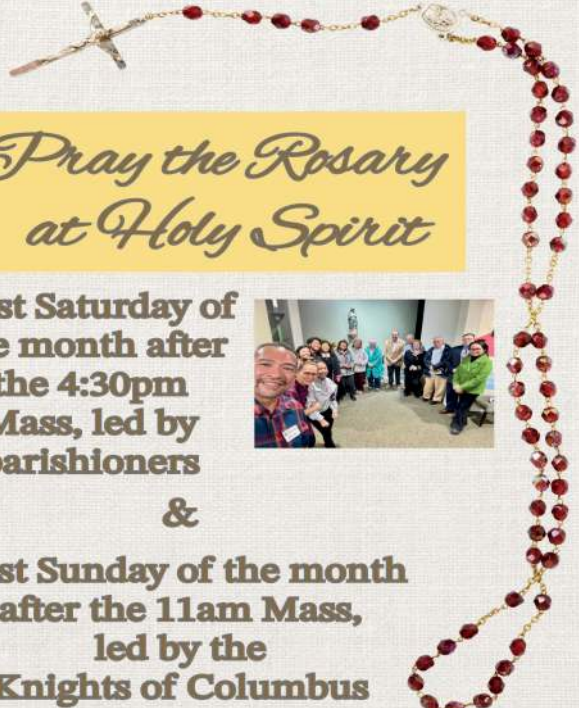
May 5

For questions, contact

Roberta Balsewicz,
Director of Evangelization
rbalsewicz@hscc.us


Bernadette Beyer
beyerbh@gmail.com

Kathy Hohnstedt
spedtcher1@comcast.net



Pray the Rosary at Holy Spirit

First Saturday of the month after the 4:30pm Mass, led by parishioners



&

Last Sunday of the month after the 11am Mass, led by the Knights of Columbus



STAFF DIRECTORY

Pastor

Rev. John Sponder
frjohn@hsc.us

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Richard Smith
frsmith@hsc.us

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Eric Alvarez
deaconeric@hsc.us

Deacon Steve Boffa
deaconsteve@hsc.us

Deacon Tim Roberts
deacontim@hsc.us

Deacon Mike Ryba
deaconmike@hsc.us

Music Director

Christina Eubank, ext. 8
ceubank@hsc.us

Adult Choir Director

Debbie Dujsik, ext. 8
ddujsik@hsc.us

Youth Choir Director

Sadie Wynne, ext. 8
swynne@hsc.us

Director of Evangelization

Roberta Balsewicz, ext. 7
rbalsewicz@hsc.us

Religious Education Coordinator Grades K-5

Lauren Nelson, ext. 61
lnelson@hsc.us

Religious Education Coordinator Grades 6-8

Kim Kroeze, ext. 62
kkroeze@hsc.us

Business Manager

Leslie Bejna, ext. 91
lbejna@hsc.us

Director of Parish Life

Danielle Plotke
dplotke@hsc.us

Administrative Assistant

Kathy Mackowiak, ext. 92
kmackowiak@hsc.us

Parish Administrative Assistant

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

Maintenance

Victor Velazquez
maintenance@hsc.us

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

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

Monthly Offering	#of Donors	Dec. 2025
WeShare Online Giving:	197	\$22,010
Electronic Funds Transfer:	158	\$17,918
Envelopes & Loose Cash:	183	\$117,155
Total December Collection:	538	\$157,083

Year-to-Date July 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Sunday Offering Thru 12/31/25:	\$567,898
Fiscal Year Budget Thru 12/31/25:	\$535,600
Surplus:	\$32,298

Special Offerings - December 2025

Building & Maintenance Fund:	\$1,713
Retirement Fund for Religious:	\$2,573

Christmas 2025	Goal	Actual
Christmas Collection:	\$51,000	\$52,968
Christmas Flowers:		\$2,531

Consider Electronic Giving!

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

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



Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.

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