



*What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard,  
and what has not entered the human heart,  
what God has prepared for those who love him.*

*1 Corinthians 2:9*

## 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

**FEBRUARY 15, 2026**

**SIXTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

## OUR MISSION

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



# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends:

Many years ago when I was a much younger priest, I remember making one of my first silent retreats. It was at a Trappist monastery. I remember walking into the chapel for the first time. It was so quiet. No one around yet. "Just me and God," I thought. Yes, just me and the Lord. In fact, as many of the monks walked in for prayer, they too were also reminded: "God be present." Just "me" and God.



As we begin this Lenten Season, we are reminded of this. We begin this journey by being marked with ashes, in the form of a cross. We are reminded that we are baptized followers of Jesus and one day we will die to meet the Lord in eternity. A day when it will be just "me" and the Lord, face to face.

The Church gives us this time of Lent to remember this and to make this journey by doing three things: Praying, fasting and giving alms. My hope is that all of us will make good use of this time with the Lord. Take the time to pray and make an effort to join in the many times available in our Lenten Schedule. Sunday Mass, daily Mass, Bible Study, Stations of the Cross, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration. Remember to fast on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and also from all forms of sin and temptation. Finally, remember to give alms. Give to those who are poor or less fortunate. Give of time or talent to help in our own parish ministries. Give of your treasure to help our parish grow.



This is a journey. A time to be with the Lord Jesus and renew the commitment to be the beautiful person God has created you to be. A baptismal commitment once again renewed at Easter. But for now, let the journey begin. Just "me" and "You" and God. Make it a good journey! May God be present!

---Fr. John

## Ash Wednesday- February 18

Masses at 9:00am, Noon & 7:00pm

Word Service with Distribution of Ashes at 4:00 pm & 5:30pm

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## Stations of the Cross with Adoration

(Followed by Benediction)

Fridays, February 20, 27 & March 6, 13, 20, 27 at 7:00pm

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## Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, April 3 at 3:00pm

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## Lenten Confessions

Saturdays, 3:30-4:00pm

Sunday, March 15 following 11:00am Mass until all are heard

Saturday, March 21 from 2:30pm-4:00pm

Saturday, March 28 from 3:00pm-4:00pm

No Confessions Saturday, April 4

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## St. Joseph's Table

Saturday, March 21, after 4:30pm Mass





# PRAY WITH US



## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Saturday, February 14

4:30 pm + James Fabian

### Sunday, February 15– Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am People of Holy Spirit Catholic Church

9:30 am + Theresa Ptaszek

11:00 am + Deceased Members of the Buciak Family

### Monday, February 16

9:00 am + Christopher Mathew

### Tuesday, February 17– The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

9:00 am + Paula Pestka

### Wednesday, February 18– Ash Wednesday

9:00 am + Kay Siblik

12:00 pm + Faye Denise Custodia

4:00 pm Word Service with Distribution of Ashes

5:30 pm Word Service with Distribution of Ashes

7:00 pm + Theramma Chirayil

### Thursday, February 19

9:00 am + John Skrip



Auxiliary Bishop Dennis Spies has been named the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Joliet until a new bishop is appointed by Pope Leo. Please keep Bishop Spies as well as the selection of a new bishop in your prayers.



The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, February 16th.**

Mass will still be celebrated at 9:00am.

## Lenten Regulations for Fasting & Abstinence

- Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, 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.
- 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.
- 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.



# COMING UP AT HOLY SPIRIT

## Sunday, February 15

9:00am OCIA, Multipurpose Room

## Monday, February 16

6:00pm K of C Council Mtg, Gathering Place

## Tuesday, February 17

12:30pm Parish Leadership Team Mtg., Gathering Place  
1:00pm Seasons of Hope, Multipurpose Room

## Wednesday, February 18

9:00am, 12 Noon, & 7:00pm– Ash Wednesday Mass  
4:00pm & 5:30pm- Word Service with Distribution of Ashes

## Thursday, February 19

9:45am Gathered in Prayer, Multipurpose Room

## Friday, February 20

5:00pm Fish Fry, Gathering Place  
7:00pm Stations of the Cross & Adoration, Church

## Saturday, February 21

7:00am Men's Ministry, Multipurpose Room  
7:00am That Man is You, Gathering Place  
9:00am "God Chose You for Me", Gathering Place

## Sunday, February 22

9:00am OCIA, Multipurpose Room  
12:00pm Rosary, Church

## Tuesday, February 24

12:30pm Parish Leadership Team Mtg., Gathering Place  
1:00pm Seasons of Hope, Multipurpose Room  
6:30pm Finance Council Mtg.

## Wednesday, February 25

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

## Thursday, February 26

9:45am Gathered in Prayer, Multipurpose Room

## Friday, February 27

7:00pm Stations of the Cross & Adoration, Church

## Saturday, February 28

7:00am Men's Ministry, Multipurpose Room  
7:00am That Man is You, Gathering Place  
9:00am Hooked on the Spirit, Gathering Place

## Seasoned Spirits

We are a vibrant social ministry for parishioners ages 55 and over, focused on building community, friendship, and fun. Through a variety of events—from dinners and shows to picnics and ball games—this group brings people together to enjoy life and each other's company. Whether you're looking to make new friends or reconnect with familiar faces, there's always a place for you at the table. **Please join us on at Noon in the Gathering Place on the first Sunday of each month! Our next gathering is Sunday, March 1st.**



## Pledge your gift to the CMAA

This is commitment weekend for the 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). The appeal is a powerful way to put our faith into action.

This year's theme is *Beyond all Expectations: Faith that Elevates!* When we care for those in need, we answer this call. Our parish joins with other parishes to serve the vulnerable, grow children in faith, and strengthen vocations. We cannot foster these ministries alone. This is a diocese-wide effort. We receive 70% of any amount raised over our goal to reinvest in our parish.

Please prayerfully consider your gift and help our parish reach \$103,600. Complete and return a pledge envelope in church today. Thank you for your support!

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

# LENTEN FISH FRY FRIDAYS!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH & FRIDAY, MARCH 13TH  
5:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M. ★ GATHERING AREA

**DINNER OPTIONS (DINE-IN OR TO-GO)**  
Cash, check, and credit card are all accepted!

**FISH DINNER: \$17**  
Cod fillets, coleslaw, potato chips, French bread/butter, and condiments

**SHRIMP DINNER: \$19**  
Large butterflied shrimp, coleslaw, potato chips, French bread/butter, and condiments

**COMBO FISH/SHRIMP DINNER: \$18**  
Large butterflied shrimp, cod fillet, coleslaw, potato chips, French bread/butter, and condiments

**MAC & CHEESE DINNER: \$5**  
Mac & cheese bowl and French bread/butter

**DESSERTS: \$2**  
Wide variety available

**BEVERAGES: INCLUDED!**  
Water, soda, or coffee

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT K OF C CHARITIES!

**PRE-ORDER ONLINE & GET MORE INFO:**  
LINK:  
<https://holyspiritknights.square.site/2026fishfry>

DINE-IN: Pay at door or online  
TO-GO: Pay at door or online

**BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS STARTING AT 7:00 P.M.**

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 15037



# 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




worldwide  
marriage  
encounter



SCAN ME

Please register by February 18th  
at [www.imetevents.org](http://www.imetevents.org)

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



**It takes a whole flock to have an AWESOME VBS!**

**Any adults interested in volunteering come by from 10am-11am on Sunday, February 22 to learn about the different volunteer opportunities!**

## 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@hssc.us](mailto:deaconsteve@hssc.us)

**Retreat Leader Brian Bartz:** [bbartz27@gmail.com](mailto:bbartz27@gmail.com)



# GET INVOLVED

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

### HELP SAVE LIVES IN OUR COMMUNITY!

#### February 18-March 29

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion. Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

**Vigil location:** Waterleaf Women's Center, 3055 E. New York Ave. Aurora, IL (*Park behind AutoZone*)

**Vigil hours:** 8 am to 5 pm Mon - Sat

**Local contact:** Pat Burke, 630-470-1507, pburkel4@live.com

Learn more and sign up for prayer times by visiting [40daysforlife.com/en/Aurorail](http://40daysforlife.com/en/Aurorail)



Congratulations to Holy Spirit council's new Sir Knights of Columbus, Ebenezer (Benz) Jereos, George Parthemore, Jeff Widmann, and Ron Cizek for their induction into the Fourth Degree Exemplification of Patriotism!

In addition to charity, unity, and fraternity, new Sir Knights seek to foster love of country, and to impress upon its members the duties of faithful citizenship... patriotism, purpose and pride.

The Knights of Columbus Northern IL District (of IL-WI-MN Marquette Province) held the exemplification ceremony and Mass for 64 area new Sir Knights on February 7<sup>th</sup> at St. Dennis Church in Lockport.

## 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](mailto: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@hssc.us](mailto:rbalsewicz@hssc.us)

Bernadette Beyer  
[beyerbh@gmail.com](mailto:beyerbh@gmail.com)

Kathy Hohnstedt  
[spedtcher1@comcast.net](mailto:spedtcher1@comcast.net)



## High School Teens

### What's Coming Up

<p><b>FEB 22</b></p>  <p><b>Make &amp; Take Rosary</b> After 11 a.m. Mass</p>	<p><b>MAR 22</b></p>  <p><b>Learn to Make Palm Crosses</b> After 11 a.m. Mass</p>
<p><b>MAR 29   Palm Sunday</b></p>  <p><b>Help Make Palm Crosses</b> After all Masses</p>	<p><b>APR 18 &amp; 19</b></p>  <p><b>Clothing Drive</b> St. Vincent de Paul After all Masses</p>

**Bring a friend!**




## STAFF DIRECTORY

### Pastor

Rev. John Sponder  
frjohn@hssc.us

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Richard Smith  
frsmith@hssc.us

### Permanent Deacons

Deacon Eric Alvarez  
deaconeric@hssc.us

Deacon Steve Boffa  
deaconsteve@hssc.us

Deacon Tim Roberts  
deacontim@hssc.us

Deacon Mike Ryba  
deaconmike@hssc.us

### Music Director

Christina Eubank, ext. 8  
ceubank@hssc.us

### Adult Choir Director

Debbie Dujsik, ext. 8  
ddujsik@hssc.us

### Youth Choir Director

Sadie Wynne, ext. 8  
swynne@hssc.us

### Director of Evangelization

Roberta Balsewicz, ext. 7  
rbalsewicz@hssc.us

### Religious Education Coordinator Grades K-5

Lauren Nelson, ext. 61  
lnelson@hssc.us

### Religious Education Coordinator Grades 6-8

Kim Kroeze, ext. 62  
kkroeze@hssc.us

### Business Manager

Leslie Bejna, ext. 91  
lbejna@hssc.us

### Director of Parish Life

Danielle Plotke  
dplotke@hssc.us

### Administrative Assistant

Kathy Mackowiak, ext 92  
kmackowiak@hssc.us

### Parish Administrative Assistant

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

### Maintenance

Victor Velazquez  
maintenance@hssc.us

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

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

Monthly Offering	#of Donors	Jan. 2026
WeShare Online Giving:	142	\$17,197
Electronic Funds Transfer:	155	\$17,593
Envelopes & Loose Cash:	181	\$57,264
<b>Total January Collection:</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>\$92,054</b>

### Year-to-Date July 1, 2025 - January 31, 2026

Sunday Offering:	\$663,297
Fiscal Year Budget:	\$618,000
Surplus:	\$45,297

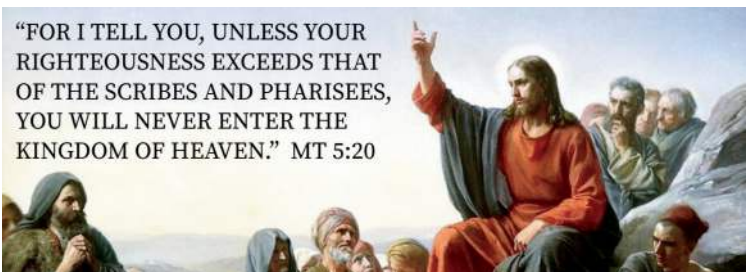
### Special Offerings - January 2026

Building & Maintenance Fund:	\$6,506
Church in Latin America:	\$913

### *Consider Electronic Giving!*

For information and to select the option that works best for you, please visit [www.hssc.us/donation](http://www.hssc.us/donation)

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



The Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law, and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart, for God and others, that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules to the letter and not out of love, does not necessarily put you on the path to heaven. Attending Sunday Mass and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner in the parking lot is an example of being a modern-day Pharisee.

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