



MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN

426 West Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

Phone: 630-279-5700

Email: parishoffice@maryqueen.org

Website: <http://www.mqhelmhurst.org>

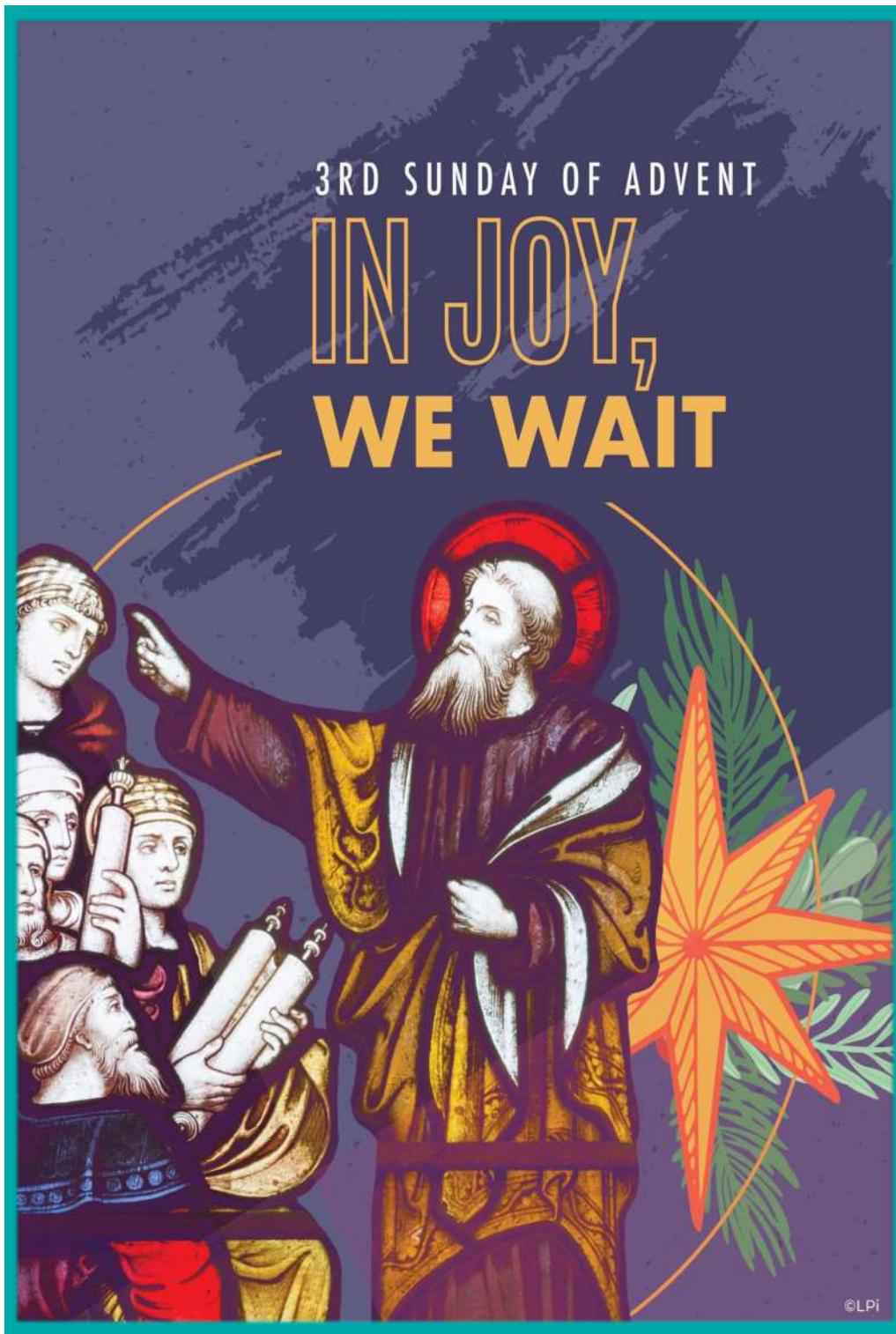
Pastor Rev. Sławomir "Sławek" Ignasik

Inspired by the Holy Spirit and nurtured by our sacramental life, Mary Queen of Heaven Catholic Church provides a welcoming and inclusive parish home.

We bear witness to the Gospel of Christ through prayer and worship, catechesis and spiritual growth, outreach and social action.

DECEMBER 14, 2025

**THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday - 4:30 pm

Sunday - 8:30 am, 10:00am and 11:30 am (Polish)

Weekday Masses

Monday Communion Service 8:30 am

Tuesday to Saturday Masses 8:30 am

Rosary

Monday to Saturday 8:00 am

Eucharistic Adoration

1st Friday of each month from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm with Benediction at 7:00 pm.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Saturday 9:00 am

Baptism

1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 1:00 pm.

Required Baptismal preparation on the 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm. Call Parish Office to register.

Marriage

Please contact the Pastor at least 6 months in advance.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Friday

Closed



CONTACTS

CLERGY

Rev. Sławomir "Ślawek" Ignasik
Pastor
Pastor@MaryQueen.org

Deacon Alex Grozik
Baptismal Coordinator/Vocations
deaconalex@maryqueen.org

Deacon Tim Taylor
OCIA/Right-to-Life
timasintaylor@att.net

PRESCHOOL

Genét Pinkerton
Director of Preschool
Website:
www.mqhpreschool.org
630-833-9500
mqhpreschool@maryqueen.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mary Glaudell
Director of Faith Formation
630-832-8962
re@maryqueen.org

Heather Raffe
RE Administrative Assistant

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Business Manager
businessmanager@
maryqueen.org

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Music Director
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hollymusicministry@gmail.com

MINISTRY CONTACTS

Ministry of Care
Fr. Ślawek Ignasik
Pastor@MaryQueen.org

Minister of Bereavement
*please contact parish office

BULLETIN DEADLINES

January 4th, 2026

Thursday, December 11th

January 11th, 2026

Friday, January 2nd

January 18th, 2026

Friday, January 9th

mqhbulletin@maryqueen.org

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER ŚŁAWEK



Praise be Jesus Christ... Now and Forever!

This weekend we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. The name comes from the Latin word Gaudete, meaning rejoice. In the midst of Advent's quieter, penitential preparation, the Church invites us to step back and remember that the Lord is near. The rose candle on the Advent wreath and rose vestments at Mass are joyful signs that the dawn of Christ's coming is breaking through the darkness.

Advent is a season of hope, but it is also a season that asks something of us. We prepare our homes for Christmas, but even more, we prepare our hearts. Today's readings remind us that joy is not something shallow or sentimental. Christian joy springs from the deep conviction that God is faithful, God keeps His promises, and God enters into our lives in unexpected ways.

In the First Reading, the prophet Isaiah speaks words that lift up the weary: "Strengthen the hands that are feeble... Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not!" Isaiah reminds us that God's presence transforms deserts into gardens and sorrow into gladness. When we invite God into the "dry places" of our lives, we begin to see new life grow.

The Gospel shows John the Baptist pointing away from himself and toward Christ. Even from prison, John remains faithful to his mission. He sends his disciples to Jesus, and the Lord responds by revealing His works: the blind see, the lame walk, and the poor hear the Good News. Jesus is telling John—and us—that the Kingdom is already among us, even if we cannot fully see it yet.

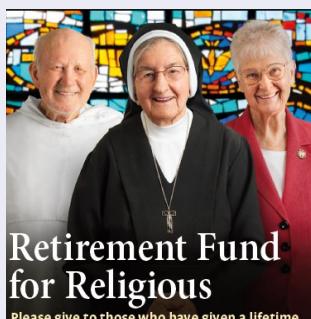
Gaudete Sunday also invites us to ask a simple question: Where is God inviting me to find joy right now? Joy is not the absence of difficulties. It is the presence of Christ in every circumstance. Sometimes joy appears in small, quiet ways—a kind word, a moment of prayer, a simple act of charity. When we slow down long enough to notice, we discover signs of God's grace all around us.

This week, let us take time to practice gratitude. Even amid busy schedules and heavy responsibilities, naming our blessings renews our hearts. Advent joy grows when we recognize what God has already done for us and trust in what He is still doing. As we move closer to Christmas, may we cultivate a spirit that is patient, hopeful, and ready to welcome the Lord.

As we light the rose candle on our Advent wreaths, may it remind us that Christ is near. Let us open our hearts to His healing presence and share His joy with those around us—especially those who feel tired, anxious, or alone during this season. May this Gaudete Sunday strengthen our parish family and prepare us to receive Christ with renewed faith and gladness.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Ślawek



**Retirement Fund
for Religious**

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

This weekend, December 13th & 14th,
parishes are participating in the annual
Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying, and serving those in need.

Many are now facing retirement without sufficient savings. Your support ensures they receive the care they deserve. Your generosity today is not just a donation - it's a way of thanking them for their lifelong service.

Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious!

CALENDAR

12/13/25 SATURDAY

2nd Collection - Retirement Fund for Religious
Final Weekend - Xmas Food & Giving Tree Drives

8:30am Mass
 9:00am Reconciliation
 4:30pm Mass
 6:00pm Indian Catholic Community

12/14/25 SUNDAY

2nd Collection - Retirement Fund for Religious
Final Weekend - Xmas Food & Giving Tree Drives

~ 3rd Sunday of Advent - Gaudete

Sunday ~

8:30am Mass
 8:30am RE Family Faith Formation
 10:00am Mass
 11:00am OCIA
 11:30am Polish Mass
 5:00pm Focolare
 6:00pm Youth Ministry

**12/15/25 MONDAY**

8:30am Communion Service
 3:00pm Brownie Troop 56719
 6:00pm Xmas Food Drive Sorting

12/16/25 TUESDAY

8:30am Mass
 9:00am Gentle Stretch
 10:20am Mom and Tot Playgroup
 6:30pm CRHP Women
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft

12/17/25 WEDNESDAY

8:30am Mass
 3:00pm RE Faith Formation

12/18/25 THURSDAY

8:30am Mass
 6:30pm Handbell Choir, Choir Loft
 7:00pm Parish Pastoral Council

12/19/25 FRIDAY

8:30am Mass

12/20/25 SATURDAY

8:30am Mass
 9:00am Reconciliation
 4:30pm Mass

**12/21/25 SUNDAY**

~ 4th Sunday of Advent ~

8:30am Mass
 8:30am RE Family Faith Formation
 10:00am Mass
 11:00am OCIA
 11:30am Polish Mass
 1:00pm Baptisms



FINAL WEEKEND FOR CHRISTMAS DRIVES!



MQH SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL
CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Please bring in food or gift cards by Sunday, December 14th.

We will sort the food on Monday, December 15th

**CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE**

Wrapped gifts with the tags attached must be returned by; **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH**

Gifts will be sorted on Monday, December 15th

Any questions on Christmas Drives, please contact:



Sheila Reiter (630) 833-6657 or



Phyllis Twardowski (630) 279-6239

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MQH CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS LITURGY SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE**Wednesday, December 24th**

Mass Times: 3:00pm Vigil | 6:00pm Vigil |
 10:00pm Vigil (Polish)

CHRISTMAS DAY**Thursday, December 25th**

Mass Times: 12:00am (Midnight Mass) |
 8:30am | 10:00am

NEW YEARS EVE**Wednesday, December 31st**

Mass Times: 4:30pm Vigil

NEW YEARS DAY**Thursday, January 1st**

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 Mass Times: 9:00am |
 11:00am (Polish)

O Come, Let Us Adore Him

**WE ARE ONE IN SPIRIT**

Come to the next Christ Renews His Parish Women's Weekend

February 21– 22, 2026

A 2 day Spiritual commitment that will fill you with joy, love and peace.

Saturday 8:00AM ~ 9:30PM and Sunday 7:00AM ~ 4:00PM.

For more information please contact:

Siobhan Nolan - Spiritual Director (630) 263-4396 - sbhnolan@yahoo.com or
Anna Criddle - Lay Director (313) 909-7374 - annaiotten@gmail.com

FAITH FORMATION NEWS - MARY GLAUDELL, DIRECTOR

On Black Friday, MQH Faith Formation families and other parishioners gave up their afternoon to help others by packing "Manna Pack" meals at Feed My Starving Children. As a group we packed 108 boxes consisting of 23,328 meals and we had a whole lot of fun too.



MQH MOM & TOT TUESDAY PLAYGROUP

NEXT GATHERING ~ DECEMBER 16TH



Join us for our Mom & Tot Craft Days, dates and themes listed below. This is a great way for your little ones to begin socializing and communicating while having fun. The play group is a FREE program that Mary Queen of Heaven facilitates. Donations are accepted to offset the program costs. While the program is free, registration is required prior to the events so we can be properly prepared.

Who: Parents/Caregivers with children 0-2 years old.

When: Tuesday morning 10:20-11:20am (see below for details).

Where: Mary Queen of Heaven Rm 2/3-come to the "parish office" entrance located on West Ave. Ring the doorbell & let them know you are there for the play group. Or enter through the back preschool entrance & ring the doorbell there.

12/16 - Holiday Craft

3/17 – St. Patrick's Craft

1/13 - New Year's Craft

4/14 - Easter Craft

2/10 – St. Valentine's Craft

5/5- Summer Picnic

Register: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4AAAAA29A1F9C70-54329367-mqhmom>

Email mqhmomandtots@gmail.com for registration/questions.

7 Hours of Confession

When was the last time you received Reconciliation?

Was it recently? In the past year? Awhile ago?

You are invited to prepare your heart and soul for Christmas.

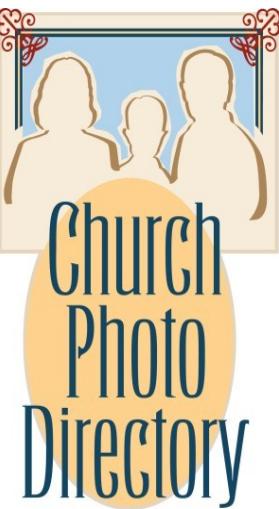
The priests of the 14 parishes of Eastern DuPage County will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Forgiveness of sin.

Saturday, December 20, from 8am until 3pm

There will be select times when the Sacrament will be offered in Spanish and Polish. These times will be available the week of the event. For specific information, you may visit our website icelmhurst.org

All Catholics are invited to receive God's grace

Please come to St. Peter's Church
551 N. Rush Street, Itasca



MQH PHOTO DIRECTORY PHOTO SESSION SIGN UPS

Session scheduling for the new Mary Queen Parish Photo Directory that was spoken about last weekend, will begin taking place after Masses for three consecutive weekends this month;

December 6th/7th

December 13th/14th

December 20th/21st

A table will be located at the back of church after Masses where someone will assist with scheduling, provide further information and answer questions.

SIMBANG GABI

Advent Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 6PM

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Catholic tradition of the "novena" consisting of nine evening masses allowing us to prepare our spirits and celebrate the coming of Christmas during the Advent season.

The Visitation Church Filipino Simbang Gabi committee invites everyone to this Mass, followed by a fellowship get-together.

COME AS YOU ARE, LEAVE WITH PURPOSE

ST. RAPHAEL'S PARISH
1215 MODAFF RD, NAPERVILLE, IL 60540
JANUARY 10, 2025 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
(VIGIL MASS INCLUDED)

GRADES 9-12

RECHARGE

FEATURED SPEAKERS
KATIE CHAUDHARY FR. ALEX LORANG

THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET INVITES ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS (GRADES 9-12) TO A 1-DAY RETREAT TO HELP YOU FIND AND GAIN FOCUS ON THE VOICE OF THE LORD SO THAT YOU CAN LEARN WHERE HE IS CALLING YOU

COST: \$25 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

ADULT LEADERS CAN REGISTER A GROUP USING THE QR CODE OR THE LINK BELOW



[TINY.CC/TDNT001](https://tiny.cc/tdnt001)

FOR ANY QUESTIONS
[VOCATIONS@DIOSCESEOFJOLIET.ORG](mailto:vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org)
PHONE: (815) 221-6171

Readings of the Week

THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 14TH, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday:

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday:

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday:

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 17/Mt 1:18-25

Friday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

DONATIONS

WEEKLY OFFERINGS REPORT

Week of November 30, 2025

Sunday	\$ 3,569.00
Mail in	\$ 1,280.00
Electronic	\$ 2,957.00
TOTAL	\$ 7,806.00

**Thank You
for Your Generosity!**



Mary Queen of Heaven Monthly Sunday Giving Collection Analysis

(rounded to nearest \$)

	<u>November</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Sunday Collection	\$ 30,713	\$ 130,050
Mail in	\$ 7,066	\$ 16,959
WeShare	\$ 14,843	\$ 63,113
Total Collections	\$ 52,622	\$ 210,122
Budget Total	\$ 55,000	\$ 189,000
Over(Under) Budget	\$ (2,378)	\$ 21,122



Have you seen the 4 ft. sign of the **Divine Mercy**, in the church's front lawn, or the 8 ft. version in front of the rectory? On display in the gathering space near the parish office are samples of the same & similar signs. They are available to order for display at your home. There are 3 sizes, a variety of pictures & most are available in English, Spanish & Polish. All are weather resistant and come with mounting posts. Please come take a look at what is available! Order forms with instructions are available & as well a basket for collecting completed order forms. Payment due at time signs are delivered to the church. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.

Znaki Miłosierdzia Bożego

Prawdopodobnie widzieliście 1,2-metrowy znak Miłosierdzia Bożego na trawniku przed kościołem. Możliwe, że widzieliście też 2,4-metrową wersję przed plebanią. Teraz, w miejscu spotkań w pobliżu biura parafialnego, prezentujemy próbki tych samych i podobnych znaków. Można je zamówić do powieszenia w domu.

Dostępne są w 3 rozmiarach, z różnymi obrazkami, a większość z nich jest dostępna w 3 językach (angielskim, hiszpańskim i polskim). Wszystkie są odporne na warunki atmosferyczne, przeznaczone do użytku na zewnątrz i wyposażone w słupki do montażu w ogrodzie lub na podwórku.

Zapraszamy do zapoznania się z naszą ofertą. Następnie zastanówcie się, jak chcielibyście wyrazić swoją wiarę. Na stoisku w pobliżu miejsca wystawy znajdują się formularze zamówień wraz z instrukcją, a także kosz na wypełnione formularze. Płatność będzie należna po dostarczeniu znaków do kościoła.

W razie pytań prosimy o kontakt z biurem parafialnym.



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

December 15

Sr. Patricia Skowronski OSF
Sr. Rose Marie Surwilo OSF

December 16

Fr. Thomas Logue

December 17

Pope Leo XIV

December 18

Dcn. Joseph Urso
Dcn. Glenn Vanek
Dcn. Joseph Verdico
Dcn. Herbert Waldron

December 19

Seminarian Chris Oyoo Otieno

December 20

Dcn. Randy Waring
Dcn. Charles Woods
Dcn. Robert Wallace

December 21

Sr. Helen Vahling OSF
Sr. Rita Vahling OSF

CMAA Pledge Report

157 - Mary Queen of Heaven Parish - Elmhurst
Results through 12/7/2025

	2025	2024	Inc/Dec	2024 (Final)
Parish Goal	\$45,800	\$41,600	\$4,200	\$41,600
Amount Pledged	\$75,174	\$84,902	(\$9,729)	\$86,211
Amount Paid	\$72,355	\$81,297	(\$8,942)	\$83,971
Balance Due	\$2,818	\$3,605	(\$787)	\$2,240
Donors	198	213	-15	218
Rebate	\$18,589			

An Electronic Version of the 2025 CMAA Closing Impact Report can be found on the MQH Website @ www.mqhelmhurst.org/bishop-hicks-letters

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

BINGO FUNDRAISER

Join us for our annual Purse Bingo fundraiser benefitting St. Vincent DePaul and CCW parish efforts.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9 7:00 PM

Barrett Hall
\$30 / 5 Cards or \$220 / VIP Table of (8) Guests

SIGN UP: Back of Masses December 20/21 and January 3/4

QUESTIONS?

Contact Dayna (630-362-5651 | dayna.pierzchala@gmail.com) or Karen (630-279-4108 | klicic@comcast.net)

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One coupon per visit. Expires 12-31-25 Q

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695 W St Charles Rd
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298A W Roosevelt Rd

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