



# MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN

426 West Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

Phone: 630-279-5700

Email: [parishoffice@maryqueen.org](mailto:parishoffice@maryqueen.org)

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

**FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

**2ND SUNDAY  
OF LENT**



## LITURGY SCHEDULE

### Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30 pm

Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am

### Weekday Masses

Monday -

Communion Service 8:30 am

Tuesday to Saturday 8:30 am

### Rosary

Monday to Saturday 8:00 am

## SACRAMENTS

### Reconciliation

Saturday 9:00 am

### Baptism

1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 12:00 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 4:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

### Pre-school Information

Phone: 630-833-9500

Email:  
[mqhpreschool@maryqueen.org](mailto:mqhpreschool@maryqueen.org)

Website:  
[www.mqhpreschool.org](http://www.mqhpreschool.org)

### Religious Education Information

Phone: 630-832-8962

Email: [re@maryqueen.org](mailto:re@maryqueen.org)

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

- Mk 9:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Every Friday During Lent at 7:00 pm**

**PASTORAL STAFF****CLERGY**

Phone: 630-279-8700

**Rev. Santos "Sunny" Castillo****Pastor**

parishoffice@maryqueen.org

**Deacon Alex Grozik**

Baptismal Coordinator and Vocations

deaconalex@maryqueen.org

**Deacon Tim Taylor**

timasintaylor@att.net

**MINISTRY OF CARE****Mimi Nolan**

Mimiot\_mqh@hotmail.com

**Minister of Bereavement****Mary Ann Reed**

Maryann.reed@icloud.com

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Director of Faith Formation

re@maryqueen.org

**Heather Raffae**

RE Administrative Assistant

**PRESCHOOL****Genet Pinkerton**

Director of Preschool

mqhpreschool@maryqueen.org

**MUSIC****Ed Nowak** - Music Director

musicdirector@maryqueen.org

**BUSINESS OFFICE****Deacon Matt Novak**

Business Manager

businessmanager@maryqueen.org

**PARISH OFFICE**

parishoffice@maryqueen.org

**Bulletin Editor**

mqhbulletin@maryqueen.org

**Facilities**

facilities@maryqueen.org

**Communications Coordinator****Kathy Dummer**

kdummer@maryqueen.org

**BULLETIN DEADLINES****for March 3, 2024****MON. 1:00 PM 2/26/24****for March 10, 2024****MON. 1:00 PM 3/4/24****THOUGHTS ON TURNING 80..... By Fr. Tony Taschetta**

I am penning this on February 2, 2024...Groundhog Day. I hope when I wake up tomorrow it will be February 3. (I'm sure Bill Murray would approve). Today is also the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord when Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple. While they are two of my biblical favorites, Simeon and Anna did their incredible thing... They got ready for the next step. In a very short time now, I too, will be getting ready for my next step. I will be turning 80 and, please God, I will be ready for wherever God wants me to go and whatever He wants me to be.

In a nostalgic mood I earlier today listened to Frank Sinatra sing, "IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR." I am sure the Lord will allow me a little reminiscence as I look over the years past and where I (and by extension all of us) will be as we travel along the paths that God has laid out for us.

When I was 25, it really was a very good year. I was in graduate school at Indiana University in Religious Studies and on my birthday, March 3 (a day I share with Alexander Graham Bell) I walked around with a sign on my neck that read, "serving the public for a quarter of a century!" Ah, youthful arrogance! (It was the late 60s you know.)

On my 39th birthday I rejoiced in running the 8 1/2 miles from Christ The King parish in Lombard to my home in Wheaton. On my 40th birthday I was at Saint Anne in Oswego and woke up crying on my pillow. I had just become middle aged! I didn't want to get out of bed but forced myself down to the 8 AM Mass where I was greeted with a cake and 41 lit candles. (I cried again.)

I turned 50 during my years at St. Teresa in Kankakee. It was there that I got the best compliment of my life from a young altar girl who whispered to her trainee, "he's really old... but he's cool!"

Since I was more than halfway through, we threw a party and I invited 500 of my closest friends and, of course, the theme was the fabulous 50s... Poodle skirts, DA's and all. That year I wrote an article, "Thoughts on Turning 50." What I remember most was that I was reminding myself that I was not going to write the great American novel or climb Mount Everest and somehow that was just fine.

Tennis players and swimmers reach their prime at a very young age. I don't believe priests reach their prime until their 50s. By the time you're 50 you have some idea of what you're supposed to be doing and still have the energy to do it. My 12 years at St. Teresa were among my most fruitful. It was there that I adopted my son, Luis, and buried my granddaughter, Ange Michelle, the daughter of my daughter Tu Anh. It was there that I began to mature into my priesthood.

After my tenure at St. Teresa, I went kicking and screaming to St Isidore in Bloomingdale which proved to be my most challenging assignment of all. It was not that the people were not good, they were great! It was just that it was a parish of 6000 families, 22,000 individuals and a staff of 72. I had no idea of how to pastor a parish that large. I still don't. But, obviously God does. Thank you Jesus!

At the age of 60 I checked off one of the things on my bucket list... the full Chicago Triathlon. To my surprise I completed it. We also used it as a fundraiser... on the shirt we gave to the donors was printed, "I told my pastor to jump in the lake... And I paid for it!"

## CALENDAR

**2/24/24 SATURDAY**

6:30 am That Man is You in  
Barrett Hall  
6:30 am CRHP Weekend  
8:30 am Mass  
9:00 am Reconciliation  
4:30 pm Mass  
7:00 pm CHR

**2/25/24 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT**

6:30 am CRHP Weekend  
8:30 am Mass  
9:30 am OCIA  
10:30 am Mass  
10:30 am Children's Liturgy of  
the Word

**2/26/24 MONDAY**

8:30 am Communion  
Service  
6:30 pm Prayer Group

**2/27/24 TUESDAY**

8:30 am Mass  
9:00 am YOGA  
6:30 pm CCW Meeting  
7:00 pm Choir Practice

**2/28/24 WEDNESDAY**

8:30 am Mass  
3:00 pm Religious Ed Classes

**2/29/24 THURSDAY**

8:30 am Mass

**3/1/24 FRIDAY**

8:30 am Mass  
9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration  
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

**3/2/24 SATURDAY**

6:30 am That Man is You in  
Barrett Hall  
8:30 am Mass  
9:00 am Reconciliation  
4:30 pm Mass

**3/3/24 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:30 am Mass  
9:00 am Family Faith K-5  
9:30 am OCIA  
10:30 am Mass  
10:30 am Children's Liturgy of  
the Word  
3:00 pm El Shaddai Charismatic

## THOUGHTS ON TURNING 80..... By Fr. Tony Taschetta

In my late 60s God gave me a dream parish... Mary Queen of Heaven in Elmhurst. It was as good as it gets for an aging priest as he prepares for the next leg of his journey. At the age of 70 it was time to retire from, not active ministry, but from administration. Being a priest and doing ministry for me is like breathing. You have to do it to live. Running a parish is a whole other thing. (Those of you who know me, know how good I am at meetings.)

In 2014 I left the parish and headed for a Big Sur California to live with the Camaldolese Hermits. It was time to discern my next step. I loved living with the hermits but "Hermit" is not my middle name. I am a parish priest through and through. We are the worker bees of the clerical set. After three months I found myself back home doing parish ministry which I am doing to this day. (Praise God.)

Now I am turning 80. If 70 is the youth of old age, what is 80? It's just plain old age. I am an old man and don't mind it at all. I have no desire to be 16 again (God forbid.) So what's next? What are the thoughts of turning 80? The first is that life is short. The Psalmist tells us that 70 is the sum of our years or 80 if we are strong. Well, relatively speaking so far I'm pretty strong... now what?

Since the time of writing the great American novel is over, what am I called to do? A number of years ago I realized that my life is not just about what has happened or what I have done but what is still yet to come. We pray for the coming of the Kingdom and my job is to help usher it in. More and more I find myself living for the next generation which follows me. I live for the children and the children's children. One of my greatest joys is to celebrate Mass with the school children of St. Michael in Wheaton. In any way I can pass on to them what it means to be a child of God and to know that we are being held by a Love beyond words. That you cannot be separated ever from God... Well... That's enough.

I have no idea how many years I have left. I do say my three Hail Mary's every day for the grace of a happy death. But when or how it will be is way beyond my pay grade. That's not my call, it belongs to the Master.

And at 80 my life is still a rather open book with the final chapters yet to be written. Wherever He leads me, please God, I will go. It has so far been an incredible journey and where we go from here is not really up to me. Lord, just give me the grace to embrace it.

For those of you who wish, Fr. Agustin Ortega, pastor of Divine Savior Parish in Downers Grove (67th and Main Street) will be holding an 80th birthday celebration for me. It will be on Saturday, March 2 with a Mass at 4 PM and a reception to follow immediately afterwards in the parish hall. All are cordially invited to attend.

Thank you all for making me the priest who I am today. You have taught me well. And God has been very, very good to me.

In Jesus, my way, my truth, and my life, Fr. Tony Taschetta

PARISH NEWS

SPRING IS UPON US!

CCW SPRING WREATH MAKING

All the ladies of our parish and their friends are invited to join us on THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH AT 7:00 P.M. in Barrett Hall to make Spring Wreaths for their front doors or inside their homes. Peggy Garvin of Garvin Greenhouses in South Elgin will be at Mary Queen to instruct us on how to make a Spring Wreath. The fee for the evening is \$35 and will include all the necessary materials needed. *Please sign up for this event after the Masses beginning this weekend February 24 and 25th.* Should you have a glue gun and or wire cutters at home, please bring them along. Refreshments will be provided by CCW. We are looking forward to seeing you and if you have any questions, please call Phylis at 630-279-6239 or Sheila at 630-833-6657.

SAVE THE DATE

VACATION BIBLE "CAMP"



When: June 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>

Time: 9 to 11:30 am

Who: children ages 3 - 10

*"Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you." (Psalm 56:3)*

Registration Opens March 1<sup>st</sup>



**Mary and the Eucharist** presented by Katie Choudhary  
at 7pm on Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024

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Mary leads us to Christ. Katie will give witness to encounters she has had with Jesus in the Eucharist.

*Katie Choudhary has been called to ministry in many ways in our Diocese. She was the coordinator of the BE FORMED series and currently a speaker for parish missions, days of reflection and a facilitator for Called and Gifted.*

Thursdays at 6:00pm  
3040 Finley Rd., Suite 200, Downers Grove

Starting  
March 14th

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Questions? Email [counselingreferrals@cc-doj.org](mailto:counselingreferrals@cc-doj.org)



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## PRESCHOOL NEWS

FROM GENET PINKERTON, DIRECTOR

### St. Valentine's Day Celebration and Ash Wednesday

We had an Ashes service with Fr. Sunny. Many of our families came to join us for Ash Wednesday. Father's explanation of Lent for the children was perfect for them. We sent home the "Rice Bowls" to help give the students a tangible way to learn about Lent.

In our classrooms, we are emphasizing being kind, doing good deeds, and making good choices. We make the connection to how Jesus lived his life and how we should live ours. The 3's class made forgiveness flowers to use with each other when someone needs to say, "I'm sorry" and "I forgive you." After a discussion about how we all make mistakes, the 4's students made a bulletin board showing themselves with Ashes "After we fall, we get back up and try again."

Celebrating St. Valentine fit in well for Ash Wednesday as we showed our love, kindness, and friendship to our classmates with a valentine exchange and some winter fun activities.

## PARISH NEWS

### Eastern DuPage Deanery of the Joliet Diocese Liturgical Enrichment Day

#### Eucharistic Revival in our Deanery Experiencing God's Presence during the Jubilee Year

All those who participate in liturgical ministries, including ExtraOrdinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Musicians, Greeters, and Ushers are invited.

Please register at [easterndupagedeanery.org](http://easterndupagedeanery.org)

Saturday, March 2nd

Ascension of Our Lord Parish

15314 Summit Avenue, Oakbrook Terrace

Mass will be celebrated from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

9:00 – 9:30 Check-in will continue with Continental Breakfast

Mass Presider Fr. David Mowry

Presentation, Fr. David Mowry 10am-10:45am

"Reviving Our Hunger: Why We Receive the Eucharist."

We desire to be known, to be loved, and to belong.

Jesus satisfies those desires in the Eucharist.



Fr. David Mowry has spent his priesthood sharing his enthusiasm for the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a preacher and mission speaker. He was raised in the faith at St. Petronille in Glen Ellyn and served his first assignment as a priest at Immaculate Conception in Elmhurst. He recently received his Doctor of Ministry degree from the Aquinas Institute of Theology in Saint Louis, MO. He currently serves as assistant professor of homiletics at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary.

Presentation Dr. Mary Amore 11am-11:45am

"Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist: Pathway to Spiritual Healing and Wholeness"

Dr. Mary Amore, Executive Director holds a Doctor of Ministry Degree in Liturgy and Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies from Catholic Theological Union. Dr. Amore is the author of four books published through Our Sunday Visitor: *Primary Symbols of Worship and the Call to Participation*, *Every day with Mary*, *Every Day with Joseph*, and *Every Day with Jesus*. She is the creator of two DVD Series: *Eucharist: Pathway of Transformation, Healing and Discipleship*, and *From Mary's Heart to Yours*, published by Pauline Media. Dr. Amore has served for 15 years as the full time Executive Director of Maystake Ministries, a Catholic non profit in Chicago. Dr. Mary Amore is a proud member of the Catholic speakers bureau, CMG Booking.

Final Blessing will be at 12 Noon

To register, visit [easterndupagedeanery.org](http://easterndupagedeanery.org) Or scan the QR code

#### What is Our Deanery All About?

"Whenever we do something together, something good, something beautiful, everyone changes, all of us change in some way and this does us good." This quote from Pope Francis reminds us that change can be good. Today we find ourselves in the midst of change and so we work together to embrace this change to help us grow closer to God, to our Church and to our parishes. The Eastern DuPage Deanery of the Joliet Diocese consists of 16 parishes that collaborate to provide the best discipleship, evangelization, and charity that we possibly can with our pooled resources. This process of greater collaboration is God's project.

**MASTERING  
WHAT  
MATTERS**

A HALF-DAY MEN'S RETREAT AT ST. MICHAEL - WHEATON  
18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
**SATURDAY 09 MARCH 2024**  
A HYBRID CONFERENCE IN PARISHES NATIONWIDE

Begins with Mass at 8:00 am  
Donuts and coffee/juice after Mass  
Presentations begin at 9:00 am  
Confessions available from 9:00-11:00  
Pizza lunch provided  
Conclusion at 1:00 pm

Video presentations by:  
Bishop Ronald Hicks – Diocese of Joliet  
Sam Blair – Former Navy Seal  
Fr. Mark Bernhard – Joliet priest

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## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

FROM MARY GLAUDELL, DIRECTOR

**Joliet Youth Day – June 1<sup>st</sup>**

You have heard of World Youth Day and the spiritual awakening that invokes. Now, you have a chance to participate in a similar experience on a smaller & local scale. **The Diocese of Joliet is hosting a day long Youth Day on June 1<sup>st</sup>.**

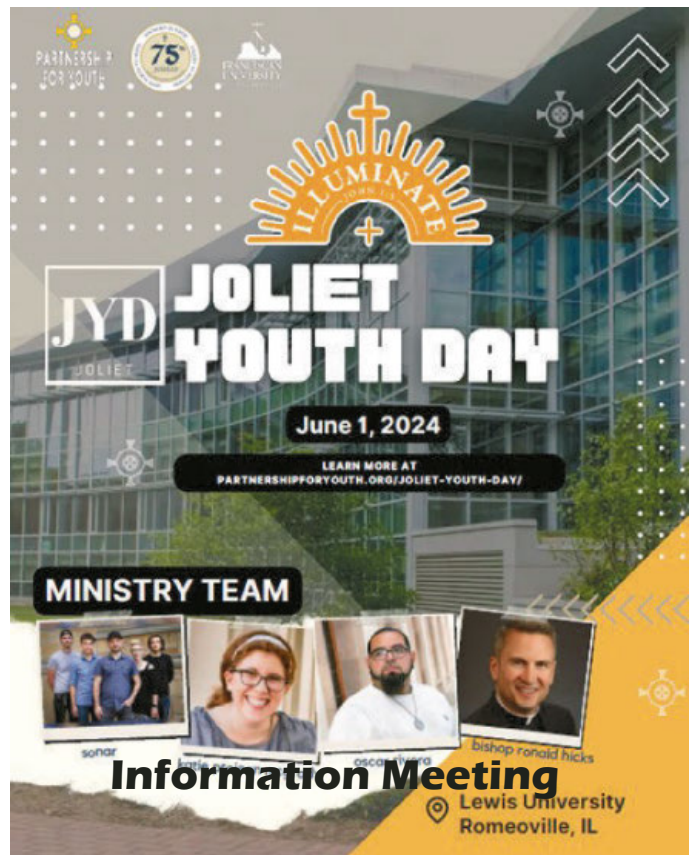
Let the Holy Spirit light fire up your faith and discipleship in a day designed to be both lively and deeply spiritual.

**When: March 10<sup>th</sup> at noon**

**Where: Barrett Hall**

**Who: Current 7<sup>th</sup> graders to 21-year-olds.**

**Learn what is a Youth Day and how you can join our group!**

**Director of Religious Education – Woodridge IL**

St Scholastica Catholic Church in Woodridge is seeking to hire a par-time Director of Religious Education. This position is a non-benefitted 29-hour a week position (requires some evening and weekend work). Full-Time, benefitted position is a consideration if willing to take on our RCIA and Adult Faith Formation programs. Job responsibilities include, but not limited to the management of religious education programming for grades 1-7, Sacrament preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist (including St. Scholastica School and children beyond normal sacrament age), oversee Children's Liturgy of the Word and collaboration on other parish activities. Participate regularly at parish staff meetings. Since this is a formal ministerial position, candidates must be a fully initiated and practicing Roman Catholic in good standing, and must know, profess and act consistently in accordance with the doctrinal and moral teachings of the Catholic Church. A degree in education, theology or a related field is not required but helpful. Experience in parish religious education and a collaborative approach with good communication and computer skills are necessary. To view a complete job description, visit: [The Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet in Illinois](https://www.dioceps.org/joliet). If interested in this amazing opportunity, please send a cover letter and resume to Jean Palasz at [jpalsaz@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:jpalsaz@stscholasticaparish.org).



**Sunday, February 25, 2024**  
 8:30 am † Anthony Del Santo  
 10:30 am † Kevin Kopp  
**Monday, February 26, 2024**  
 8:30 am Communion Service  
**Tuesday, February 27, 2024**  
 8:30 am People of Mary Queen of Heaven Parish  
**Wednesday, February 28, 2024**  
 8:30 am World Peace  
**Thursday, February 29, 2024**  
 8:30 am † Anthony Del Santo  
**Friday, March 1, 2024**  
 8:30 am † Raffaele and Carmin Di Balsamo  
**Saturday, March 2, 2024**  
 8:30 am First Responders  
 4:30 pm All God's Children  
**Sunday, March 3, 2024**  
 8:30 am James Constertina  
 10:30 am † Anthony Del Santo and † Anna Frank



**Michelle Shufelt, Russ & Lynn Kubychek**  
 Requested by MQH Parishioners  
**Kathleen Anselmo, Nicolas Freer & Rachel Thompson**  
 Requested Sheila Reiter

**VOCATION PRAYER CALENDAR**

2/25 - Francesca-Cynthia Riddick, Margaret M. Trepal, Margaret Gisburne CONSVIRN  
 2/26 - Sr. Lucina Aguilera, Sr. Maria del Rocio G, Castillo, Sr. Maria Teresa Gaytan, Sr. Maria Teresa Gonzalez HJ  
 2/27 - Dcns. William Crane, Michael Crowell, Daniel Culloton, Gregory Cummins, Terry Cummiskey  
 2/28 - Fr. William G. Dewan  
 2/29 - Sr. Esperanza Herrera, Sr. Araceli Perez, Sr. Judith Perez, Sr. Maria Romera Zavala HJ

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

Saturday, March 2, 2024 & Sunday, March 3, 2024

	SATURDAY 4:30pm	SUNDAY 8:30am	SUNDAY 10:30am
<b>LECTORS</b>	D. Harrington	W. Woolard	P. Taylor
<b>EUCARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	K. Vicary-C E. Ruiz T. Sabel  C-indicates the captain	J. Weigel-C M. Mooney	P. Twardowski-C G. Nieves M. Nieves D. Styka R. Styka

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK of FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

**Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent**  
 26: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 / Ps 116:10, 15-19 / Rom 8:31b-34 / Mk 9:2-10  
**Monday: Lenten Weekday [2]**  
 230: Dn 9:4b-10 / Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13 / Lk 6:36-38  
**Tuesday: Lenten Weekday [2];**  
 231: Is 1:10, 16-20 / Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23 / Mt 23:1-12  
**Wednesday: Lenten Weekday [2]**  
 232: Jer 18:18-20 / Ps 31:5-6, 14-16 / Mt 20:17-28  
**Thursday: Lenten Weekday [2]**  
 233: Jer 17:5-10 / Ps 1:1-4, 6 / Lk 16:19-31  
**Friday: Lenten Weekday [2]**  
 234: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a / Ps 105:16-21 / Mt 21:33-43, 45-46  
**Saturday: Lenten Weekday [2]**  
 235: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 / Ps 103:1-4, 9-12 / Lk 15:1-3, 11-32



WEEKLY OFFERINGS REPORT	Sunday	\$ 5,271.00
<b>SUNDAY, February 11, 2024</b>	Mail in	\$ 930.00
	Electronic	\$ 1,617.50
THANK-YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,818.50</b>

If you have already pledged your support to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we sincerely thank you! If we all join together, we can meet our parish's goal of \$41,600. Each and every gift, regardless of size, truly matters and makes a difference. If you still plan on making your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how best you can support the CMAA this year to help those in need throughout our diocese, *For the Glory of God*. Pledge envelopes are still available in the church, or you can use the envelope you received in the mail from the diocese. We also welcome online gifts at [jolietdioceseappeal.org](http://jolietdioceseappeal.org) Remember, if we raise more than our goal, the diocese will return 70 percent of the amount over goal to us to reinvest in our own parish. This is an incredible opportunity and blessing!

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